



Kitelet – News from the Director

May 2017

Dates to Remember

Friday, May 26th

Memorial Day Ceremony

9:15 AM

Monday, May 29th

Memorial Day

NO SCHOOL

Friday, June 2nd

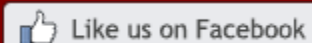
All Photo Orders Due

Friday, June 2nd

*GCS Family Picnic at the
Lawrence Memorial
Playground by the Groton
Library*

5:30 PM

[View full school Calendar](#)



Dear GCS Families,

We were true "Bucket Fillers" as we celebrated [NAEYC Week of the Young Child](#) together as a school community. Classrooms enjoyed special activities, and we ended the week with our annual school-wide "Peace Picnics" at our GCS Peace Pole.

A tremendous thank you goes to our GCS families for all of the generous Food Drive donations for [Kylee's Kare Kits for Kidz](#). Together we filled an SUV with donated foods and still had to bring another load over separately. We are so proud of Kylee, a young teenager, for being a founder and leader of this great cause and a role model to so many youngsters. As we all know, children learn by doing and seeing; and this was the perfect opportunity to help teach them about empathy and caring.

I hope you had the opportunity to see the exquisite art display at the Groton Post Office by the Aqua Room, as well as the many buckets of pansies that were decorated and planted by GCS children, and then distributed to area businesses and organizations around town. Finally, the entire staff was so appreciative of the delicious luncheon that was bestowed upon them by the Room Parents. This was truly a very special week!

Memorial Day

We are planning a special Memorial Day Remembrance Ceremony on Friday, May 26th at 9:15 AM outside at our GCS Memory Garden. Hopefully, the sun will be shining. We will be joined by Army Sergeant First Class John Moses, who will help us to share a message about the significance of this day with the children. It is far beyond that of a day off from school or a barbeque, and is a historic day to remember those who

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help to keep us safe. It is also a perfect opportunity to remind children of personal remembrances, as well as a time to reflect and instill values. Please join us if you are able (even if you do not come to school on this day) for some special songs, kind words, and lessons about honor.

GCS Events

We are nearing the end of the school year, but still have so many special events here at GCS to celebrate. Class photos are being processed, and we will have a display for you shortly in the front hall. Order forms have been distributed, but extra copies are available in the reception area, along with a collection box for your completed form and payment. Don't forget about the [Family Picnic](#) on June 2nd at the Lawrence Memorial Playground behind the Groton Public Library (a special pizza voucher will be coming your way soon). And we have only one board meeting left for the school year on Monday, June 12th. Please visit if you are interested in joining this dedicated and fun group of hard-working individuals, all working together to make GCS the best that it can be! Feel free to speak with me if you are interested.

A Message from Patty Barr - Imagimotion Kidz

In the [Imagimotion Kidz](#) classes (AKA "Patty Barr"), we have had a wonderful, fun-filled year. We have moved our bodies to a variety of themes with activities to help our bodies become stronger, more flexible, and more coordinated.

Some of the more popular activities this year have been the obstacle courses and parachute play. We maneuvered through obstacle courses themed to winter activities, outer space, gymnastics, Frisbees, and more. These provided the children opportunities to practice motor skills, build strength, balance, eye-hand coordination, all while having lots of fun. The parachute was fun to pop balls off of, with everyone shaking it up and down. The children also enjoyed climbing on top to "pop the bubbles" and sitting under the giant parachute "bubble".

With the warmer, sunny weather, we are now able to go outside and learn to play some simple playground games, as well as more active running. We will be bringing the giant beach ball out at the end of the year for our made-up version of beach ball volleyball.

Thank you for the wonderful opportunity to spend time with your children. Hope you have an enjoyable summer!

Greenhouse

Our school greenhouse has certainly proved to be such a fabulous learning environment, rich with science, math, and lifecycle opportunities of inquiry and discovery. Even in the cold winter months (thanks to the snow shoveling of Blue Room dad, Steve Robertson), seeds of kale, lettuce, green beans and carrots were planted, and the children were able to chart temperature readings, record growth charts, and track weather. It has also proved to be a wonderful outdoor classroom during these past several weeks of rain... for circle times, stories, music, and sensory listening to raindrops. The greenhouse is located outside the playground fence just

behind the dismissal area. Please feel free to poke your head in and take a peek - it is fascinating to see the wealth of learning that is going on!

Congratulations!

Congratulations to the D'Alessandro family on the birth of their daughter, Sienna (brother, Gunnar, is in the Aqua Room).

Thank You!

Thank you to Shagufta Rahman for her help with the Spring Spruce-Up, and the entire Pauly family for the use of their lawn tractor, but did not get mentioned in the last Kitelet. We really appreciate all of the efforts of everyone who participated and would like to thank them accordingly. Our apologies for the oversight!

We'd like to take this opportunity to thank all of the Room Parents who took turns this year decorating our front entrance each month: Cherise Edwards & Leslie Howard, Amy Begnoche & Amy Broadstone, Danette Johnson, Andrea Barrett & Sandra Malatesta, Marie Bearer & Emily Crouse, Caroline Bouris & Stacie Moeser, Amber Lynde & Laurel Shah, Nicole Pelletier & Kelli Robertson, and Melissa Ackerman & Donna Haggerty (June).

Many thanks from GCS Staff for the delicious luncheon provided by the following Room Parent volunteers: Melissa Ackerman, Jill Adamy, Andrea Barrett, Marie Bearer, Caroline Bouris, Emily Crouse, Cherise Edwards, Donna Haggerty, Leslie Howard, Danette Johnson, Sandra Malatesta, Stacie Moeser, Nicole Pelletier, Kelli Robertson, and Laurel Shah.

We would also like to thank the following bakers for food donations for the Groton Business Association meeting that GCS hosted: Jill Adamy, Amanda Barry, Lori Chabot, Kerry Cusick, Rebekka Freeman & Donna Haggerty.

Our thanks for the following donations during the past month: The Culley family for Band-Aids; the Kelly family for a potted geranium; George Moore for cards & stationery; Betsy Reeves for recycled materials; and to the Stelzer family for a children's book.



Linda Kosinski

Director, Groton Community School