

News for GCS Families from the Board of Directors



On Board Newsletter, Spring 2016

Happy spring! We are so excited to see the flowers blooming and enjoy the warmer weather.

It was a busy winter: welcoming new families to the school at the annual Open House; hosting a community presentation by Dan Scheibe, Head of School at Lawrence Academy, teaching us how to bring mindfulness into our homes, work, and school; and beginning a new family photography fundraiser with Erin Chapman, a GCS parent and alumna!

Thank you to everyone who has contributed to the Annual Fund. This is a critical fundraising component which enables GCS to offer a high-quality program. We appreciate your generosity! If you have not had a chance to contribute, there is still time to donate for this school year. Please stop by the front desk or visit [GCS Annual Fund](#) to learn more.

Mark your calendar for all the upcoming events mentioned later in this newsletter (and check out the [full school calendar online](#)):

- Registration for our very popular [Camp Kaleidoscope](#) is now open.
- The [Spring Spruce-Up](#) is being held this weekend, April 30th and May 1st.
- [Class Photographs](#) will be taken on Thursday, May 5th and Friday, May 6th.
- Join our next [Board Meeting](#) on Monday, May 9th at 7:30 p.m.
- Our end-of-year [Family Picnic](#) will be held on Friday, June 3rd.

At GCS, we share the mission to create a positive and nurturing early childhood experience for children and their families. You will soon receive an email asking for your feedback on the annual GCS Family Survey. We carefully review your input and incorporate it into planning.

As always, we welcome your feedback, questions, and participation anytime! Please talk to any member of the Board of Directors or email me at boardofdirectors@grotoncommunityschool.org.

Best wishes,

Jenn Greenwood

President, Board of Directors



P.S. The superb new GCS website is coming soon!! It will be even easier to access school announcements and information from your phone or computer.



Buildings and Grounds Update

Please join us for the **Spring Spruce-Up** this weekend, April 30th and May 1st, 9 a.m. - 2 p.m. Come for an hour or any time you can spare, and choose a project you enjoy. Work alongside other GCS families and local community members. Our talented bakers will keep us energized! Enter to win a door prize. Every job we accomplish translates into tuition savings for you. For safety reasons, this is a high school and adult volunteer event only. Thank you, in advance, for being part of this rewarding event!

Parent Representatives Update

So many fun class playdates were organized by our Room Parents throughout the year! Now it is time to mark your calendar for the **2016 Family Picnic** on Friday, June 3rd, from 5:30 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. (rain date June 10th). Join GCS friends, teachers, and staff at the gazebo behind the Groton Public Library for great entertainment and a fun kick-off to summer. Bring your dinner and we will serve popsicles for dessert!



Week of the Young Child

Before departing for vacation, our children enjoyed a special week celebrating [NAEYC's \(National Association for the Education of Young Children\) Week of the Young Child](#). It brings awareness to the needs of young children and their families, and emphasizes the importance of centers like GCS to meet those needs. Every classroom had wonderful activities, and the classes together shared a Peace Picnic and a fantastic finale concert by Philip Alexander of *Sing, Play, Grow!*

Fundraising Update

Our thanks to all the GCS families for your support during recent fundraising efforts. 2016 is off to a fabulous start:

- More than 65% of families participated in **Square 1 Art**, raising over **\$1,515**.
- The **Spring School Apparel Sale** was an unprecedented success, raising almost **\$975**.
- Please keep clipping your **Box Tops!** It is a wonderful way to earn money for the school with **no cost for you**. We earned over **\$160** from our March submission, very generously counted by parents Danielle Biehler and Andrea Barrett.
- **Amazon Smile** is another great fundraiser that has **no cost for you!** It has raised over **\$180** this year. Please remember to use the link (<http://smile.amazon.com/ch/04-2111386>) each time you shop on Amazon so that 0.5% of all purchases are automatically donated to GCS.
- The new **Family Photo Fundraiser** earned over **\$500** for the school. Many thanks to **Erin Chapman Imagery** for her time and talents, and to all our families who participated.
- Please submit your orders for our **Scraps Gift Card Fundraiser**. Due to ongoing demand, we have extended the deadline to this Friday, April 29th. Get gift cards for restaurants and stores for Father's Day, graduations, and teacher gifts.
- Be on the look-out for more information on **Class Photographs**, to be held on Thursday and Friday, May 5th and 6th. They are a wonderful way to preserve your child's memories of their time at GCS.



Camp Kaleidoscope

There are still spaces available at **Camp Kaleidoscope** this summer. It will be a fun-filled underwater adventure exploring the way of life in and around the ocean through crafts, cuisine, and the study of sea life. Each summer we have over 100 campers (ages three through eight) in four two-week Half-Day Sessions or for the whole summer in our Full-Day Program. Return your camp registration form to reserve your spot!

Come On Board!

The **Board of Directors** supports day-to-day school operations and assists the staff in creating a strong community for the entire school. Members play an important role in fundraising efforts and spearheading many fun events. You are welcome to attend one of our upcoming meetings or contact **Jenn Greenwood** for more information.

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Like us on Facebook 

Check out [Groton Community School, Inc.](#) on Facebook to stay up-to-date on all the fun and exciting activities that are happening every day at GCS. We welcome your feedback and invite you to review our [Social Media Etiquette Policy](#) under the About section on our Facebook page.

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