

Park Day School



PS

Park Day Post

Park Day School • 7 days ago • Thursday, Feb 10 at 7:12 PM • **Park Day School, Board of Trustees, External**

Community Members



Dear Park Day Families,

What a wonderful week it has been! Kindergarteners fishing for sight words in the garden, 3rd graders trying out character voices as Story Plays ramp up, 6th graders in the innovation workshop building a new installation for our ever improving campus landscape, and affinity group members preparing for a special Black History Month assembly next week are just a few of the engaging activities that have been happening around school.

I am also excited about the Playground Playdate we hosted on campus last Saturday. With nearly three dozen current family volunteers and close to 70 guest families enjoying tours, live music, art projects, and the warm Park Day atmosphere, it felt almost, dare I say it, normal. Thank you to all our volunteers who helped so many prospective families who are in the admissions process right now feel welcome here.

Next week we return to holding our Coffee with Angela events and hope to see many of you there. I look forward to many more in-person community gatherings in the coming spring.

In community,
Angela

UPCOMING EVENTS

2/11

- No School - Professional Development Day

2/19

- Coffee with Angela

2/21

- No School - Presidents' Day

2/22 - 2/25

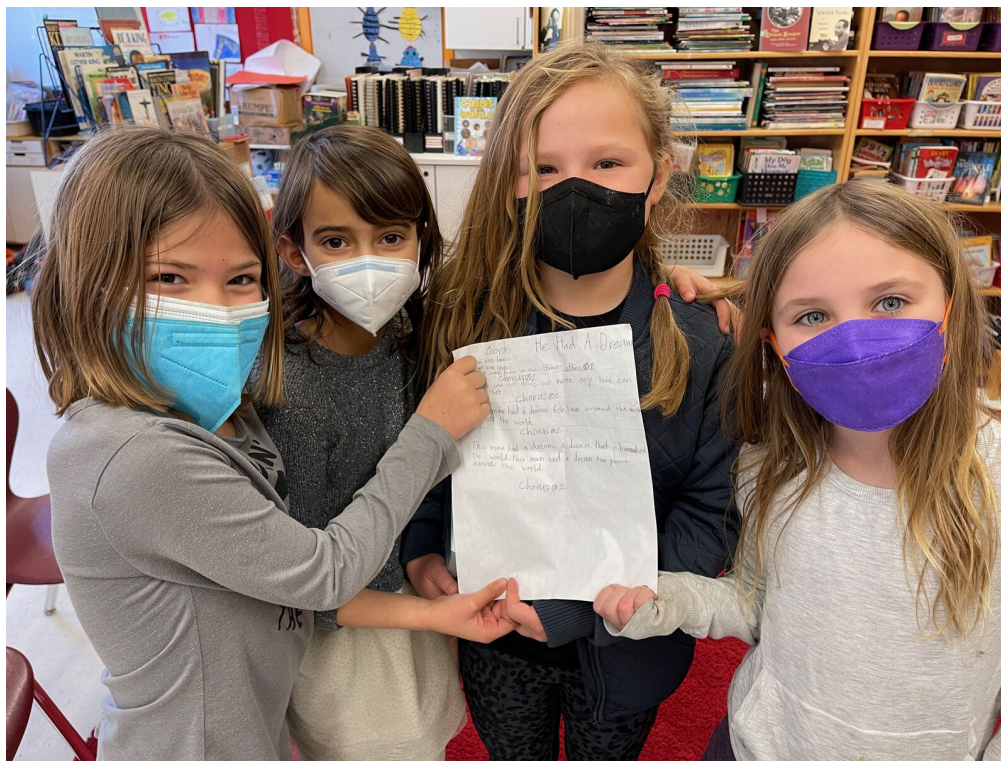
- No School - February Break

3/11

- Read-a-Thon

3/24 & 3/25

- No School - Family-Teacher Conferences



COVID UPDATE

Things are looking up as COVID case rates are going down! We are happy to report that all of the on campus PCR test results from Tuesday are negative, and there are no students or staff out with COVID. While the State and County are lifting indoor mask restrictions next week, masks are still required in schools.

Thank you to everyone who has completed the **Rapid Antigen Testing Consent Form** through ParentSquare. If you haven't yet, **please complete the form by tomorrow, Friday, February 11**, so that we can continue to provide this service and keep students safe, healthy, and on campus.

Note that in an abundance of caution, we will be requiring all students to submit a negative COVID test result at the end of February break, similar to what was expected after Winter Break. PCR or Rapid Antigen test results can be uploaded through Titan on February 27-28.

If you are unable to find a rapid test or test appointment, please contact Cassandra McCraw in the main office (510-653-0317) as we have a small supply of at-home rapid tests available. More reminders will be forthcoming.

Take care,
Jennifer Cooper
Pandemic Coordinator



REMINDERS

Parking for Drop-Off & Pick-Up

Please use the drive through lane when possible. If you



ANNUAL FUND GIVING CHALLENGE UPDATE

The Annual Fund Giving Challenge ROCKS!

Wow! As of this afternoon, 54 Park Day families have accepted the Giving Challenge and helped unlock the \$50,000 gift. *HOORAY!* Further, their engagement raised our family participation rate from 49% to over 70%!

A massive *THANK YOU!* to the generous Park Day families who joined forces to create the \$50,000 Giving Challenge to inspire others to participate. And a huge *THANK YOU!* to everyone who answered the call and helped us meet the challenge! And a giant *THANK YOU!* to the leaders in our community who were among the first to contribute and support the Annual Fund campaign when we launched in the Fall.

We're thrilled with the progress we've made so far in increasing family participation to 70%, and there's still work to be done. If you haven't yet given to the Annual Fund, we invite you to [make a gift](#) online or by mail to the school or [make a pledge](#) to be fulfilled by June 1st, 2022.

Your participation sends a powerful message and your generosity is deeply appreciated!

With gratitude,

Chris Miller

Director of Development



choose to walk into campus, be sure to park legally and courteously for the sake of our neighbors.

Dismissal Pick-Up Windows

Please respect the pick-up window times. If you arrive early or your student isn't ready when you pull through, please drive back out and circle the block to keep the carpool lane moving.

2021-2022 School Day

Before-school program:

- 7:30 am – school start (no charge)

Grades K – 3:

- 8:45 am– 3:15 pm

Grades 4 & 5:

- 8:30 am–3:15 pm

Grades 6 – 8:

- 8:30 am–3:30 pm

Wednesday early dismissal

- Grades K-5: 2:15 pm
- Grades 6-8: 2:35 pm

After School Activities

Program:

- From school dismissal– 6:00 p.m.

Gate Codes

- 42nd Street Gate:
 - #SMILE (#76453)
- 43rd/44th Street Gates:
 - SMILE* (76453*)

Customize your **ParentSquare notification settings** so you get information the way that suits you best!

Check out all the **Opt-In Parent-to-Parent & Community**

Groups on ParentSquare and find folks with similar interests!



BEING GOOD NEIGHBORS

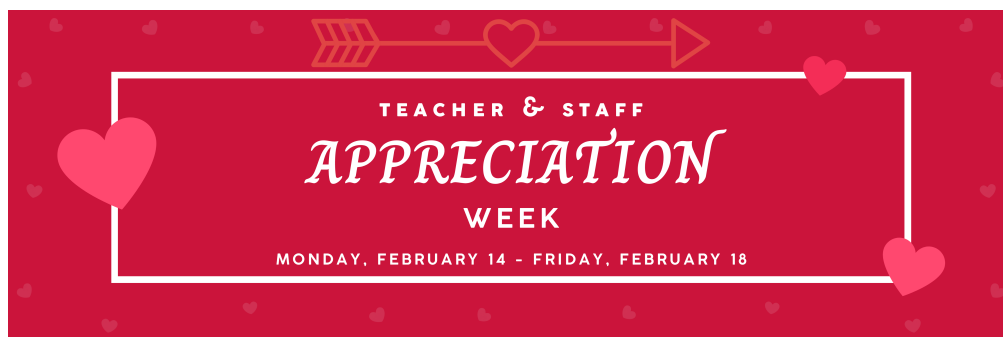
Please be mindful of our neighbors when dropping off and picking up your student. We've recently heard from neighbors on Opal Street, 42nd Street, and 43rd Street frustrated by Park Day families blocking their driveways and parking illegally during drop-off and pick-up times.

Maintaining a good relationship with our neighbors is important for our school, and practicing good behavior when it comes to parking is the least we can do for our community. Here are some guidelines to keep in mind:

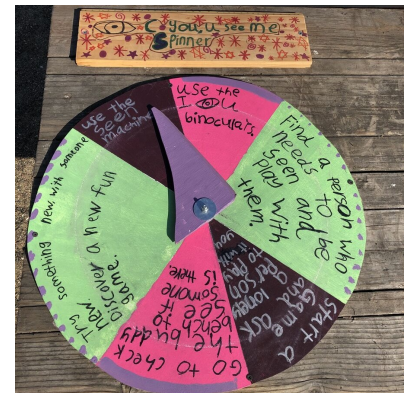
- Please **approach Park Day on 42nd Street from Broadway**
- Please **use the drive through lane** when dropping off or picking up
- Please **pull through and circle the block** if your student is not ready when you arrive to keep traffic moving
- Please **do not to block through traffic** from either direction along 42nd Street
- **Find legal street parking** in the neighborhood if you choose to walk into campus
- As a special request due to traffic congestion, we ask that you **do not park on 43rd Street** at all

Thank you for your care and cooperation!

APPRECIATION WEEK



With Valentine's Day as the inspiration, the Parent Stewardship Group is leading us in spreading LOVE & APPRECIATION around to our wonderful staff the week



before our February break! So much goes into behind the scenes to make our school run so smoothly. We want to thank and shower them with appreciation!

Teacher & Staff Appreciation Week is Monday, February 14 through Friday, February 18. Let's come together to shower our AMAZING AND DEDICATED teachers and staff with an act / gift of appreciation each day of the week. Thank you in advance for all for joining us in making this week so special!

[Click here for the game plan](#) of the upcoming Appreciation Week and see how your family can get involved. Our **[digital chalk art project](#)** will be shared with the staff on Monday morning, so **be sure to make your contribution** before then!



READ-A-THON UPDATE

The Read-a-Thon is coming up on March 11th and it's one of Park Day School's longest running and most beloved traditions. Making this year extra special, we have Park Day alum and current staff member Jalen Cole-Williams as our guest designer for the Read-a-Thon graphic! Jalen graduated in 2008 and now serves as our After School Activities Program Enrichment Program Coordinator and 4th Grade Teaching Assistant. He's also an awesome artist!

Because this special event and fundraiser is driven by the students, it's important to us that they have a voice in the planning of it. Students in grades 5th through 8th were invited this week to weigh in with their feedback and while it was a close race, *Nebular Bookshelf* was the clear winner.



Jalen will transform the rough draft into posters, postcards, and online graphics to promote the event. It will also be printed on commemorative tote bags as a gift to the Park Day community. Watch for the launch of the Read-a-Thon next week and Happy Reading!



COMMUNITY NEWS & EVENTS

Black History Month Happenings

Last week's Park Day Post outlined many online and IRL events happening in honor of Black History Month. [Click here if you missed it!](#)

Open Call for Quilters! Add Your Stitches to a Special Quilt for Angela!

Park Day parent Faye Stevenson (Liam, 4th) is leading the charge to craft a special quilt for Angela and invites the Park Day Community to add their stitches to the project. [Click here](#) to the Community Board post for a sneak peek of the quilt and to learn more about getting involved!

Coffee with Angela

Our Coffee with Angela events were a highlight of the fall, and we look forward to continuing this new program in 2022. The next Coffee with Angela is scheduled for Wednesday, February 16th, from 8:45 - 9:45 am. As with all things nowadays, this gathering is dependant on pandemic conditions. [RSVP here to join us!](#)

Used Book Fair at College Prep School

The College Preparatory School's used book sale is happening on February 26 & 27, 2022 and will have thousands of gently-used books for adults, teens and children, in addition to media, vinyl, puzzles and a small selection of vintage/antique books. Check out [this Community Board post](#) for more information.



VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Morning Drop-Off Volunteers Needed!

It takes a lot of us to get students safely through drive through drop-off efficiently, so we are asking those who are able and willing to please lend a hand. **Please [click here to volunteer!](#)** Thank you for sharing your time with us... we appreciate your teamwork!



Comments & Replies