

Park Day Post

Park Day School • Thursday, Jan 21 at 5:34 PM



Dear Park Day Families,

What a week it has been since our last Park Day Post last Thursday! Here is a little snapshot of this whirlwind of a week (pun intended!)

Martin Luther King Day Assembly

Last Friday, we gathered as a K-8 community to celebrate and honor the life and legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. We highlighted our coordinated work this fall centered around “Exploring Identity” and heard from several of our 8th graders as they shared about their identity podcast projects. We then discussed our new focus for the spring “Envisioning Justice” and how we can all be agents of change.

A Windstorm! Really?

We woke up on Tuesday morning to a campus that had been ransacked by gale force winds. Tents and outdoor classroom spaces were tossed around like doll furniture and branches and debris were strewn everywhere. And, true to Park Day form, this community rose to the occasion and in less than 12 hours put everything back together. Thanks to all of you for your flexibility and patience as we had to quickly pivot to distance learning.

Please also join me in thanking Jennifer Cooper and her team along with a host of parent volunteers for this herculean feat!

A Peaceful Exchange of Power, Inauguration Day

On Wednesday, our students and staff all entered the gates donning their

UPCOMING EVENTS

1/21

- **Signups for Curative COVID-19 Testing on Sunday Open**

1/24

- **Curative COVID-19 Testing**

1/28

- **Signups for Curative COVID-19 Testing on Sunday Open**

1/31

- **Curative COVID-19 Testing**

2/4

- **Signups for Curative COVID-19 Testing on Sunday Open**

2/9

“rep” Oakland gear in anticipation of the celebration of Oakland’s own Kamala Harris being sworn in as the first woman of color to hold the office of Vice President of the United States. I believe all of the adults were braced for the possibility of a distraction at best and renewed violence at worst and everyone breathed a collective sigh of relief and, dare I say hope, when the Inauguration went off flawlessly. We, then, gathered as a K-8 community to reflect on this historic day, to share our hopes and dreams for the future, and we sang a very moving and multicultural rendition of “Lift Every Voice and Sing”, the Negro National Anthem.

A Young Changemaker Owns the Stage

Since the Inauguration, students have also been reading and analyzing the powerful words of the 22-year old poet phenom, **Amanda Gorman**, in many classes. Her poem, **The Hill We Climb**, stirs and challenges us all:

*We will not march back to what was, but move to what shall be:
A country that is bruised but whole, benevolent but bold, fierce and free.
We will not be turned around or interrupted by intimidation because we
know our inaction and inertia will be the inheritance of the next
generation.
Our blunders become their burdens.
But one thing is certain:
If we merge mercy with might, and might with right, then love becomes
our legacy and change, our children’s birthright.*

I Got to Share the Stage with a Hero of Mine!

Today, I got to share a virtual stage with renowned author and abolitionist activist, **Dr. Bettina Love**, at the 11th annual **Women+Leadership Conference** which brings together educators from schools throughout California. Dr. Love’s new book, **We Want to Do More Than Survive**, pushes educators to truly see students of color and to work to dismantle a school system that doesn’t nurture them to meet their highest potential.

This year’s conference theme was focused on leveraging and harnessing the power of intersectionality to create transformative and systemic change for staff and students in independent schools. I had the honor of being a part of a panel discussion about leaders of color being the originators and catalysts for change. It was a humbling experience to be among so many passionate and outspoken educators who were all aligned around centering the voices and experiences of those most marginalized.

Understanding and Handling Microaggressions in the Age of Black@

For those of you who might not be aware, after the murder of George Floyd last May, many students of color in independent schools across the country started using social media to shine a light on their hurtful and painful lived experiences at the hands of white classmates, teachers, and administrators. Those students created accounts using the name of **Black@ with the**

- DJA Meeting

2/11

- **Signups for Curative COVID-19 Testing on Sunday Open**

2/14

- **Curative COVID-19 Testing**

2/15

- **No School - Presidents' Day.**

2/16 - 2/19

- **No School - February Break**

2/18

- **Signups for Curative COVID-19 Testing on Sunday Open**

2/21

- **Curative COVID-19 Testing**

2/22 - 26

- **K-8 Distance Learning Week**

2/25

- **Signups for Curative COVID-19 Testing on Sunday Open**

2/28

- **Curative COVID-19 Testing**



names of their schools. While Park Day School did not have a Black@ account created, many teachers and families of color shared their stories with me. As a part of our strategic planning process and our AIM process, these stories have come to the fore again.

I know this community shares my hope that our social justice mission is not only a lovely sentiment but the foundation for how we treat one another all the time. To that end, we just received confirmation that we will be able to take nine Park Day teachers/staff members to attend the **Understanding and Handling Microaggressions in the Age of Black@** workshop on February 2 and 4. This workshop will focus on the following:

- Developing a broader and deeper understanding of implicit bias, particularly as it manifests in microaggressions
- Understanding the current context more deeply and how, despite a great deal of work being done by independent schools around equity and anti-racism, students and adults are still experiencing microaggressions
- Developing and practicing individual, class, and school strategies for managing a situation where microaggressions occur

Moving forward, we would like to add a similar training to our summer teacher work weeks and as a standard training for all new hires. We would also like to create and codify our school policies and practices for how these microaggressions are handled at all levels.

In community,
Angela



REMINDERS / TIPS

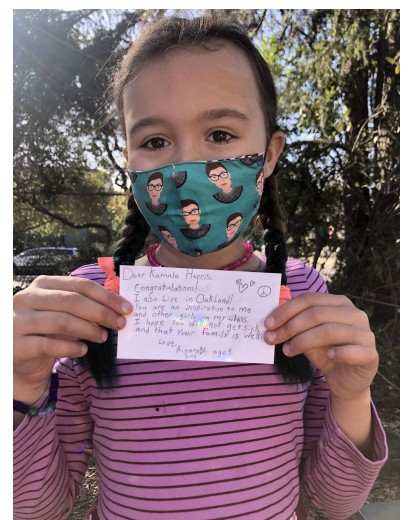
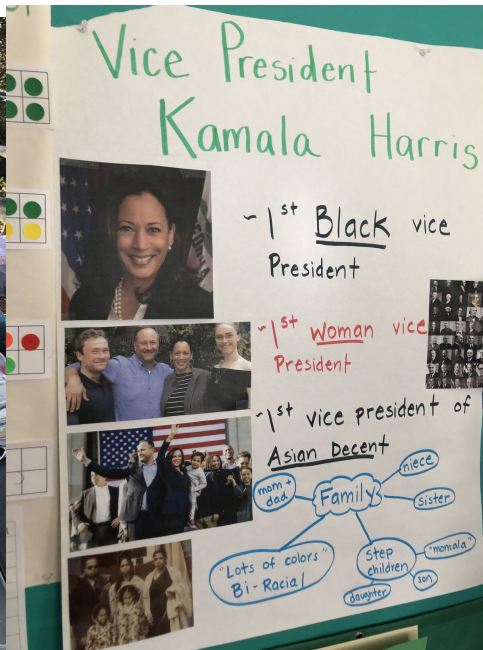
Check out all the **Opt-In Community Groups** on ParentSquare and find folks with similar interests!

Navigate school-related tech issues on the school's **Technology & Tips** section of the website.

Panneto Kitchen Catering

We love the deliciousness, convenience, and value of Panetto Kitchen's catering program at Park Day. Nels continues to offer pick-up dinners on **Catering Program page of the website.**





SCHOOL NEWS

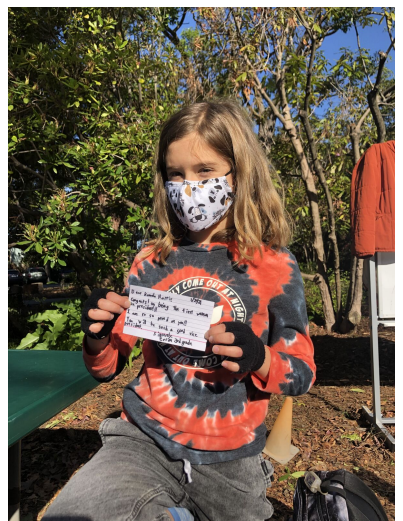
Titan App Green Screen

As students return to campus, it is important to remember to complete the daily screening questionnaire ahead of time and be able to show your green screen as you pull in for morning drop-off.

Each family has one Titan HST account that all family members can share.

The initial set up instruction was sent to the primary email address in our registration system. That person sets up the account and adds the rest of the family members emails and phone numbers so everyone can log into the same account. That way, any family member can answer the daily questions for the whole household, and whoever comes to campus can show the green screen.

Thank you for helping ensure the safety and health of our whole school community!

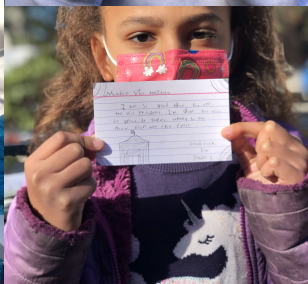
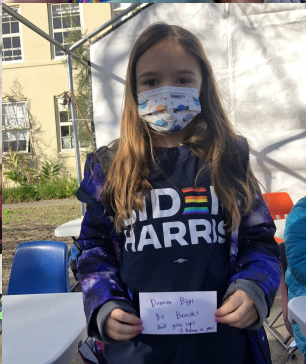
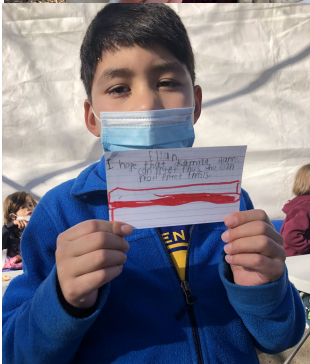
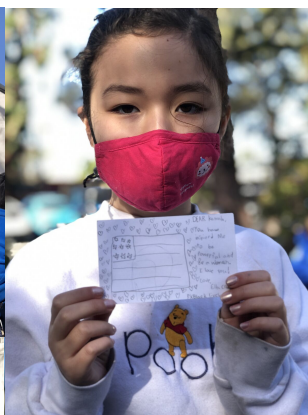
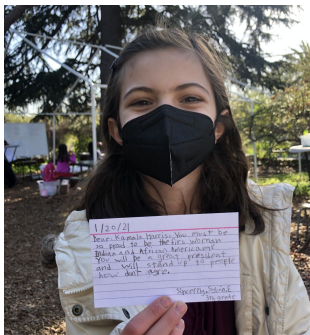
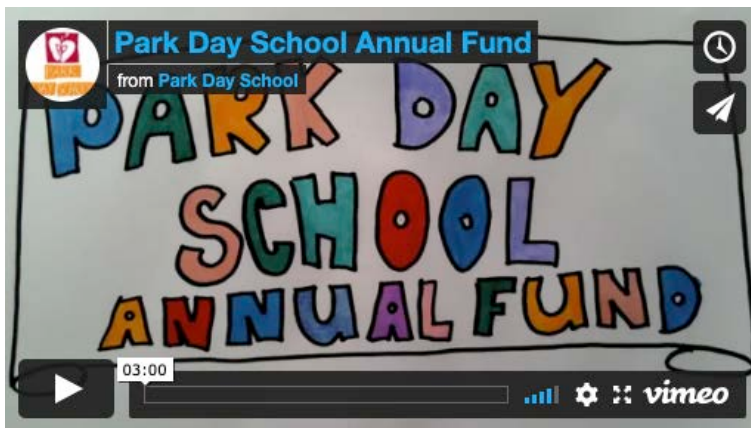




Annual Fund Campaign

This year's **Annual Fund** campaign is all about meeting the current moment to build for the future together through resilience and innovation, and so many of you have rallied around the cause already! Thank you to those who've answered the call, stretched, and dug deep to make an impact--our whole school community appreciates your generosity and dedication!

If you haven't made a gift to the Annual Fund yet, we invite you to join us in giving. [Click here for information on how to make your gift or pledge.](#) Together we can do great things! Thank you for your partnership!



Panetto Kitchen ParentSquare Group

Hello from your friends at Panetto Kitchen! Our catering program is in full force and we've created a ParentSquare group to keep you updated with news and reminders. We invite you to **opt in for updates and reminders here** and you can view each week's menu and **place your order by midnight on Wednesdays** here:

<https://www.parkdayschool.org/catering-program/>

Your support has helped Panetto Kitchen and its staff to stay afloat in these difficult times and we appreciate you. We look forward to seeing you on Fridays!

Thank you,

Nels

