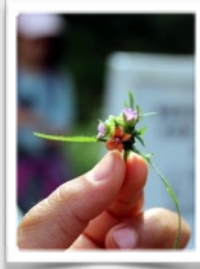


GFS PTA NEWS

Learning Together | Working Together | Playing Together

Garden Update



We have had an exciting month in the garden! The quest for our "garden

foes" continues as we protect ourselves against underground assault (plans to dig out and re-bury wire under our raised beds) as well as launching an active campaign against the terrestrial attacks. This week, we caught a squirrel! The children have been working on coming up with creative solutions to squirrel removal, and the live-trapping has begun. With success! Ask your children about their new garden pal, Rackker.

We've also been focusing our lessons on learning about our "garden friends" -- namely the FBI (fungi, bacteria, and invertebrates) that live in our compost.

Sayward Halling, Garden Educator

Election Results

The Ides of March have arrived and it's official: the 2017-2018 GFS PTA elected officers will be:

President: Leslie Hogan

VP: Mike Clapinski

Treasurer: Rebekah Bardakos

Secretary: Katie Joiner



Those CRAZY Leprechauns!
What mess will they leave this year?

While the terms of office roll over on July 1, now that we've held elections, we can start planning for next year. The point is not to stress anyone out, by adding to our spring workloads, but rather to allow *more* time to make plans, so that it's not all front loaded in August. At the PTA meeting on Monday, March 6, we agreed that it would be a good idea to have a planning meeting for 2017-18 prior to the calendar meeting on May 31. Instead of using the calendar meeting as a place for brainstorming about tweaks to what we've normally done, we'll do that beforehand and use the calendar meeting as a place to simply fill in the calendar. I will be consulting with our outgoing and incoming officers as to a date, in April or May, and then *anyone* who wants to participate in the conversation will be welcome to attend. We'll talk about programs, which as always will be firmly rooted in the GFS philosophy and goals, as outlined in the Operating Agreement, and the fundraising we will do to support those programs. It will be on a Saturday or Sunday afternoon so that we can have a longer conversation and not be worrying about it being a school night. It will be OK to bring kids, as there will be things for them to do—art, games, puzzles, running around outside. Watch Parent Square for more information. ~ Leslie



What delicious food is in store this year? Come to the Gala to find out!

Appreciations

- **Everyone who attended the March PTA Meeting**, making our earlier-than-usual elections a success: Katie Joiner, Courtney Ewart, Ursula Iturrino, Teri Briggs, Brian Thompson, Lauré Brecher, Dina Clapinski, Mike Clapinski, John Rickey, Shanda Hill, Sophie Spier, Beth Kanne-Casselmann.
- **Felicia Roggero and the Foothill PTA Gala Committee**, for working with us to make it possible to sell Disneyland Raffle Tickets to the Foothill Community.
- We appreciate the **Outreach Tribe** for collecting bottles of wine for the wine raffle, and *especially* for coming to people's houses to pick them up!
- All of the families who have donated or secured items for the Silent Auction.
- **Katie Joiner and Mike Clapinski**, for agreeing to serve as PTA officers next year.

Denim & Diamonds Gala



GFS Gala, March 18

Theme: Denim & Diamonds - wear your fanciest jeans with your sparkliest baubles.

Cost: \$40/person

Time: 5:00pm-9:30pm

Where: Rancho Embarcadero Clubhouse, 224 Vereda Leyenda

Tickets: On Sale Now! Available online, or from a Unity Tribe member.

Menu: Hearty & fresh dinner of California-Tex fare

Details: Silent auction, live auction of classroom projects and an amazing **Eco Surf Trip and Sailing Adventure to the Channel Islands**, fresh cocktails served by Brian Thompson, beer & wine, dance party.

Reimbursement Form Available Online

The Payment Authorization form for a reimbursement request is available as a downloadable, fillable PDF on the Goleta Family School website! Please feel free to use this form to fill out and submit reimbursement requests, just be sure to continue to attach your receipt to the form when submitting it for reimbursement. The form can be found here:

<http://www.goletafamilyschool.com/parents/procedures-and-forms/>

Just an update from the Demboski Family. Adrienne's recovery from double jaw surgery is very going well! She is feeling better and better every day. A big thank you to all of the families who have so generously offered their time to drive the Demboski kids home from school, to activities and/or bring meals. Our community has been so helpful during this challenging time and it is truly appreciated!!

Wine Raffle Tickets and Disneyland Raffle Tickets still available!

\$5 each or 5 for \$20 Contact Camilla <camilla.fiorina@yahoo.com>, if you'd like to buy tickets and haven't had the opportunity yet to do so.

Campout Contributions

Both Natasha's class and Teri's class have camping trips coming up this spring, Natasha's in April and Teri's in May. Natasha's class will be camping at Cachuma Lake, where they will continue to learn about pioneers. Teri's class trip is Science Camp - a full week of amazing experiential learning. In support of those activities, the GFS PTA asks families in those classrooms for an additional voluntary contribution. For Natasha's class, we request \$50 per student; for Teri's class, we request \$100 per student. If you are in either class, you'll receive additional information from your Room Parent.

Financial Status Report

Rebekah Bardakos, <rjpeake@hotmail.com>

GFS PTA Financial Summary	February-17	
As reported in the March newsletter and at the March 6, 2017 PTA Meeting		
Beginning Balance (as of February 1, 2017):	\$	54,177.40
Ending Balance (as of February 28, 2017):	\$	54,086.82
Revenue Received:	\$	929.39
Expenditures Incurred:	\$	1,024.06
dividends earned	\$	4.09
Check numbers processed (5 checks):	Check 3582	\$ 47.69
	Check 3585	\$ 85.60
	Check 3589	\$ 22.69
	Check 3590	\$ 82.73
	Check 3594	\$ 100.69
Total dollar amount of checks processed:		\$ 339.40
Voided Check numbers:	no voided checks	

Upcoming Events, March 15 - April 26

Images: Collaborative classroom Art Projects are a Highlight of the Live Auction!

Tuesday, March 14 - Friday, March 17

Parent Teacher Conferences, Early dismissal.

Saturday, March 18

Gala Fundraiser! 5:00 - 9:30 PM, Rancho Embarcadero Clubhouse, Goleta

Wednesday, March 22

Natasha's Campout Meeting, for Room 8 parents, 6:30 PM

Friday, March 24 - Friday, March 31

Spring Break - NO SCHOOL

Thursday, April 6

Science Camp planning meeting, for Room 7 parents, 6:30 PM

Monday, April 10

PTA Meeting, 6:30 - 8:30 PM, Location TBD

Wednesday, April 12

All School Restoration Site Day, celebrating Natasha's 3/4 Birthday

Monday, April 24 - Wednesday, April 26

Natasha's Class Campout, Cachuma Lake

