Junior Flower Show at Academy Park

The inaugural Southeast Delco Junior Flower Show was held on Friday, February 16th at Academy Park High School. Hosted by the Pennsylvania Horticulture Society (PHS), the Junior Flower Show is a horticultural exhibition by and for school-age children in the greater Philadelphia region.

Representatives from PHS visited Academy Park and joined with Southeast Delco teachers to judge the students’ entries and award ribbons. The event coordinator, gifted support teacher Colleen DiMaggio, and Southeast Delco parent and PHS employee, William Lighter are pictured above on the end of the row to the right.

Ms. DiMaggio, was instrumental in bringing the Junior Flower Show to the Southeast Delco School District by taking the Flower Show Teacher Training last fall at the Pennsylvania Horticulture Society. Ms. DiMaggio thanked the many teachers and administrators who helped to make the event such a success. She was also grateful to Southeast Delco parent and PHS employee Mr. William Lighter, for his help obtaining many of the materials the students needed to create their projects.
Best of Show - Crafty Creature category - created by Seventh graders, Syan Graves and Shaniya Robinson (Harris School).

Channel 6 Action News reported on the event in their evening broadcast. If you didn’t catch it the night it aired, visit: [http://6abc.com/community-events/high-school-students-showing-off-their-green-thumbs/3096129/](http://6abc.com/community-events/high-school-students-showing-off-their-green-thumbs/3096129/).

His face says it all. Second-grader Noah Harrell (Harris School) was filled with pride and enthusiasm after learning he received a 1st Place Ribbon for his terrarium.

Fifth-grader, Lindsay Tang (Delcroft School) won Best of Show in the Flower in Bloom category for her beautiful orchid, which was rescued from the trash and brought back to life.

The Junior Flower Show was a wonderful event and an excellent way to involve the whole school district in a community event. Several teachers commented that the show was an excellent and fun learning experience for their students and how excited they were to receive a ribbon. Students and staff are really looking forward to next year's flower show.
Academy Park High School

APHS Musicians Take Their Show on the Road

Academy Park band members participated in two amazing performances at the University of Pennsylvania. On February 17th, students rehearsed all day in preparation for the Band Extravaganza. The performance was held at the Philadelphia Episcopal Cathedral. The band played a diverse selection of music, including *Irish Tunes from County Derry* by Grainger and *This is Me* from *The Greatest Showman*.

On February 1st, students participated the Palestra Honor Band. Students were in rehearsals and clinics all day to get ready for the Penn vs. Harvard basketball game. They played a breathtaking rendition of *The Star-Spangled Banner*, as well as exciting music to support the Quakers.

**Slam Team Throw Down**

Poetic 101, Academy Park’s poetry slam team, participated in the Philly Slam League’s Kickoff on February 16th at the Free Library of Philadelphia. The Philly Slam League (PSL) is a non-profit organization that hosts poetry teams from Philadelphia-area high schools in a five-month intellectual and artistic competition. The mission of the program is to promote networking, teamwork, school pride, writing, public speaking, and most importantly, the growth of confidence in the students involved.
Teams come together weekly throughout the season to perform original poems in a three-round competition. The last team standing after the third round is declared the champion of the slam! Academy Park’s Poetic 101 slam team is comprised of 15 students and three coaches - Mrs. Sacrenty, Ms. Jetter, and Mr. Rob McFee.

At the February 16th kick-off, AP students Miatu Kormah and Sequora Stankiewicz took the stage with students from 23 other schools. Ms. Sacrenty confessed, “she may be biased” but in her opinion, “they SLAYED!!!!”

APHS is incredibly lucky to have gained entry into the league this year; and the best is yet to come. The team has been working tirelessly since September on poems that speak truth and power. You can follow PSL on Instagram @phillyslamleague or visit http://www.phillyslamleague.org/.

**Darby Township School**

**Perfect Attendance Counts**

DTS students who had perfect attendance for the first and second marking periods were rewarded for their efforts. Students baked cookies, played games, and colored Eagles coloring sheets. Students in grades 6 through 8 that maintain perfect attendance all year, will also earn a free Dorney Park ticket! As of February 1st, sixteen middle school students were still in the running for a free Dorney Park ticket. Perfect attendance rewards are given every month and marking period.

**Girls Lead**

Girls Lead is a free program offered at Darby Township School through the Women’s Resource Center. The program focuses on building communication skills, conflict-resolution, enhancing decision-making skills, and problem-solving.

On February 23rd, members of Girls Lead attended the annual conference at Radnor Middle School. The theme of the conference was *Unspoken Words* and concentrated on nonverbal communication and social media use. Students also had the opportunity to share their leadership projects with the other 8 schools that participated. Members of Girls Lead will be working on a homelessness / hunger project.
The conference provided students with an opportunity to associate with other members of Girls Lead and to develop their leadership skills.

**Black History Month**

Students participated in a Black History Month poster contest. The posters had to include the name of an influential African American, describe their accomplishments and include pictures or illustrations. Posters were judged on content, creativity and originality. Winners enjoyed a pizza party and winning posters are on display in the lobby, cafeteria and hallways for everyone to enjoy.

Congratulations Amar’e Drayton, Richard Crosby, Tiara Powell, Kaelyn Roundtree, Italia Bonilla-Islenos, Deion White, Naomi Ostorga, Amani Marshall, Makayla Van, and Jonell Okutoro

**Keep Up the Good Work!**

Students were honored at an assembly on Friday, February 2nd. Parents were invited to watch their children accept awards for Student of the Month and Citizen of the Quarter. Students in grades 1 through 8 were honored for their hard work in their core and special classes. During the assembly, teachers also issued awards for Student of the Month based on acts of gratitude, kindness and service.

**Delcroft School**

**Delcroft Students Participate in Junior Flower Show**

Delcroft gifted students in grades 3 - 5 and autistic support students in grades 5 - 8 participated in the 2018 Junior Philadelphia Flower Show on February 16th at Academy Park High School. Students in Mrs. Jennifer Livingston’s autistic support class worked on three projects in the Artistic category. First, Abby Smeltzer, Angel Logeman, Megan Burns, Amelia Olsen, and William Lighter, created waterscapes using a variety of beans donated by the Philadelphia Horticultural Society. The students dedicated many hours to their grain art projects and Delcroft walked away with 2 first place ribbons and 4 second place ribbons in the Grain Art category.
Some students created Eco Bouquets out of recycled jars and cans donated by Wes Gaylord. The students added fresh cut flowers to create beautiful flower arrangements. Elizabeth VanAuken, and Geo Rivera earned first place ribbons for their artistic Eco Bouquets and William Lighter, Toussant Ikpe, Colin Moore, Angel Logeman, and Naazim Lee took home second place ribbons. Ms. Cheryl Southard and Mrs. Zaida Richardson-Bey worked with the students on the Eco Bouquets to help the students create unique and expressive floral designs.

Many of the students chose to design Blooming Botanical Illustrations, using water colors, markers and pencil to create their incredible botanical sketches. Angel Logeman, Meghan Burns, Amelia Olsen, and Abby Smeltzer all won first place ribbons. Devine Fairley, Colin Moore and Jamielynn Kissling won third place ribbons.

Fifth grader Lindsay Tang, won Best of Show for all of her hard work in nursing a purple orchard that was found in the trash. Lindsay gave the orchard a lot of tender loving care and brought the orchard back to life. Lindsay also created a fascinator out of flowers and other natural materials that can be worn in the hair. Lindsay won first prize for her fascinating fascinator.

Finally, Hashim Khan and Tyler Bendell created a Wet and Wild Crafty Creature out of pine cones and natural materials and both won second place ribbons. Tyler also grew a potato in a flower pot in the Garbage Gardening category and won a second place ribbon. He also grew two flowers from bulbs and won a first place ribbon for his beautiful flower.

Harris School

Career and Wellness Day at Harris

Harris School held a Career and Wellness Day on February 22nd. Organized by guidance counselor Anthony Lorine, Career Day came to be as a result of PA School Code - Chapter 339, which requires schools to provide opportunities for students in grades K – 12 to explore a variety of careers. Mr. Lorine spent weeks planning and organizing the companies and organizations that participated in the event.
Sponsoring career days in schools is an excellent way for students to begin exploring career options as early as possible. By middle school, many students are aware of their interests, strengths and weaknesses. They may already have some ideas about the kind of career they might like in the future, and though it may seem early to be thinking about careers, starting early will allow them to make choices in high school that will help them on their path to college, technical / trade school or right into the workforce. The career fair offers the students insight into types of careers that may have never known about or thought could be an option for them.

This year, Mr. Lorine added a wellness component that gave students insight into health issues. Students in grades 5-8 attended 30-minute sessions where they could visit with company representatives and learn about the services they provide.

Students left with new career insights and as a bonus, each vendor gave the students information and prizes to take home. Overall, it was a great event and students are already looking forward to next year’s fair.

Thank you to the companies and organizations that participated in the Harris Career and Wellness Day: National Honor Society (NHS), My Life, YMCA of Ridley, Advanced Fitness, Austills Rehabilitation, Cupcakeology, Collingdale Athletic Association, Collingdale Police, Collingdale Fire / Rescue, United States Terrorism Prosecutor, N.O.P.E Task Force, Camp Erin, No Longer Bound, Terry Axler (Retired Sedelco teacher/ Mentor program coordinator), Wawa, Horsham Clinic, Temple University, Delaware
County Community College, Senior Scientist, Key Recovery, Outpatient Services, Independence Blue Cross, Delta T Staffing Services, Easter Seals, and Domestic Abuse Project.

**Sharon Hill School**

**High School Course Selection**
In preparation for next year’s move to Academy Park High School, 8th grade students met with high school counselors and administrators to discuss their 9th grade course selections. Students were excited to read and hear about the different electives and courses they would be taking as freshman and expressed that they were thrilled with the courses being offered to them in their first year of high school. Get ready Academy Park; the Class of 2022 is headed your way.

**Black History Month**
Students worked very hard preparing for Sharon Hill’s Black History Month assembly. Students created colorful representations of African clothing and artifacts, as well as biographical presentations on influential African Americans. Students and staff were very excited to see what other students had prepared.

**Giving Back**
Students are still collecting to support the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society, formerly the School & Youth Pennies for Patients and Pasta for Pennies programs. Students are moving closer to their school goal to raise $1700.

**Kindergarten Center**

**100th Day of School**
Kindergarten students celebrated the long awaited 100th day of school on February 9th. The students worked on special “100 items” projects that are displayed throughout the Kindergarten Center. Also, the teachers planned a variety of fun activities that included reading *The 100th Day of School!*
Rocky Bluewinkle Visits Kindergarten Center

On February 21st, the Kindergarten Center had a special surprise visit from Rocky Bluewinkle from the Wilmington Blue Rocks. He kicked off a reading challenge and read *Casey at the Bat* and *If You Give a Moose a Muffin*.

The reading initiative is for the students to reach the goal of reading ten books. If they meet the challenge, they will receive two free tickets to a future Blue Rocks game!