



MLCA NEWSLETTER

CULTURAL EDITION

Summer 2022

LEARNING, UNABRIDGED.



Above, the winners of the 2nd Annual MLCA Olympics, Sparta!

Happy Summer! In this special edition of the MLCA Cultural Newsletter, we look back on the final trimester of the 2021-2022 school year. The students were able to showcase all they have learned and achieved this past year during our STEM Showcase, Poetry Days, Humanities Evening, Science Fair, Musical Evening, and Macbeth performance. We also celebrated our second graduating Lower School class. Please browse the newsletter to learn about all these events and more! Thank you for your support of our school!

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EXCITING NEWS

WIGHT MARTINDALE IN WALL STREET
JOURNAL, April 2022

Much as I admire his intentions (Teach 1619.....), I disagree totally with his conclusions. I am a middle school American History teacher at the moment, quite aware of the difficulties of teaching history to a generation with little consciousness of or interest in the past.

But by addressing the issues of 1619 and CRT, you give their horrible issues and motives legitimacy. Forget the "issues," just teach the history. That's challenging enough.

Our kids need to be taught in school— because they may not have picked this up at home—who the early settlers were, what their challenges were, their problems with Native Americans, the difference between Virginia and Boston, religious issues, creating a practical currency, forming a government, the changing face of slavery from the 17th century to the 18th century, the French and Indian War, the founding fathers.....all the stuff that makes up American History. What happened? Why one way and not another?

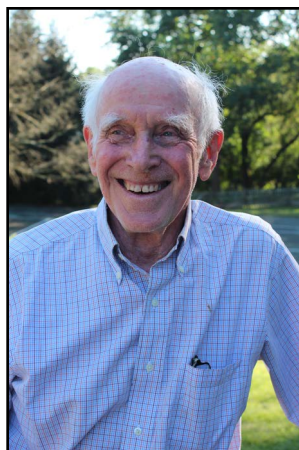
The musical "Hamilton" helps, because many kids have seen that, and it is good. The Ken Burns "Civil War" documentary helps too.

But there is simply too much to learn about our past— about railroads, about settling the west, about the destruction of the buffalo, about the civil war and Reconstruction, about the men and women who shaped the country—to afford the distraction of today's non-sensical tempest in today's overheated teapot. It is junk history, a distraction.

Let's settle for what's real. That is challenge enough.

Wight Martindale, Jr.
Norristown, Pa.

Dr. Martindale taught 8-9th grade history this past year.



KIPLING WRITING PRIZE

Evelyn Carpenter, 4th grade, is the winner of the John McGivering Kipling Writing Prize 2022 out of all the children's entries.

She submitted her story 'Parugan' and the writing society said this about her entry: "Lively, vivid story about the adventures, trials and tribulations of two king cobra brothers, neatly structured into four chapters and told with energy and brio. We think RK would have enjoyed this story – as, surely, would one of his own literary heroes, Robert Louis Stevenson!"

Ben Shpilman, 5th grade, was highly commended for his work 'Papaya.'

You can read the full report here: <https://www.kipling-society.co.uk/news/writing-with-kipling-report.htm>

MATH COMPETITION RESULTS

MOEMS

This was the fourth year that MLCA students participated in the MOEMS (Mathematical Olympiads for Elementary and Middle Schools) competition. There are two levels of this competition, E for grades 4 to 6 and M for grades 6 to 8.

All students in grades 4 through 6 participated in the level E competition. Out of the 26 participants, 17 received a Patch for placing in the top 50% of all participants nationwide, with 9 of them placing in the top 20%

Special congratulations go to Tiago Ferreira for receiving the top score at MLCA. We further congratulate Nicole Fedorov, Zoe Fradkin, and Ben Shpilman for receiving the next two highest scores. All four received a Silver Pin, awarded to the top 10% of all participants nationwide.

The level M competition was taken by all the students in grades 7 and 8. Out of the 14 participants, 12 placed in the top 50% of all participants nationwide and received a Patch. Katie Fradkin, Ari Shpilman, and Marshall Zafiriou received a Silver Pin for placing in the top 10% of all participants nationwide.

EXCITING NEWS

MATH COMPETITION RESULTS, CONT.

MATHCOUNTS

Congratulations to the MLCA MathCounts team of Mara Ankenman, Katie Fradkin, Ari Shpilman, and Marshall Zafiriou for placing 2nd in the Delaware County Chapter MathCounts competition!

Katie Fradkin (8th grade) advanced to the State MathCounts competition by placing among the top four individuals in the chapter and Ari Shpilman (7th grade) placed 5th in the chapter.

MathCounts is the most prestigious and well-known middle school math competition in the US with over 100 thousand participants nationwide.



AMC 8

Congratulations to Katie Fradkin for being on the Honor Roll for this year's AMC 8 competition, awarded to the top 5% of participants nationwide. Further congratulations to Mara Ankenman, Maria Butterworth, Ari Shpilman, and Marshall Zafiriou for placing in the top 25%.

The AMC 8 is the middle school version of AMC 10 / AMC 12, the competitions that are the first steps in the series that lead to the USA Math Olympiad.

PURPLE COMET

Congratulations to the MLCA MS division Purple Comet Team of Mara Ankenman, Katie Fradkin, Lilly Sigelman, Ari Shpilman, Marshall Zafiriou, and Nicholas Zafiriou for placing 1st in PA and in the top 20% internationally in Small Schools (under 400 students) Category.

Congratulations to the MLCA HS division Purple Comet Team of Katie Fradkin, Ronan Myers, Ari Shpilman, Marshall Zafiriou, and Nicholas Zafiriou for placing 5th in PA and in the top 20% internationally in Small Schools (under 1200 students) Category.

Purple Comet is a team competition with olympiad-style problems.

KANGAROO

The Math Kangaroo results are in and we would like to congratulate Raphael Sommers for being a 3rd place national winner in level 4! Further congratulations go to Vikram Ponnuru and Alexander Weinstein for also being among the national winners in levels 5 and 4, respectively.

The Math Kangaroo is an international math competition that is known for its logic-type and spatial reasoning problems.



EXCITING NEWS



SCIENCE OLYMPIAD

Ronan Myers & Raica Tarr: 2nd Place, the Solar System Event, SE PA Regionals

DELAWARE COUNTY SCIENCE FAIR

Newsa Butterworth & Ari Shpilman: 1st Place, Team Projects; DCIU Special Award

Caleb Sigelman: 1st Place, Behavioral Science; DCIU Special Award

Malcolm Weinstein: 1st Place, Environmental Science; PSPE Special Award

Nicholas Zafiriou: 1st Place, Engineering; PSPE Special Award

Mara Ankenman & Katie Fradkin: 2nd Place, Team Projects

Noah Posner & Marshall Zafiriou: 3rd Place, Team Projects

Julius Gormley: Honorable Mention, Behavioral Science

DELAWARE VALLEY SCIENCE FAIR

Caleb Sigelman: 1st Place, Behavior & Social Science; APA Award; Broadcom MASTERS

Newsa Butterworth & Ari Shpilman: 2nd Place, Team Projects

Mara Ankenman & Katie Fradkin: Honorable Mention, Team Projects; 1st Place (\$300), Philadelphia Society for Coatings Technology Special Award



POETRY DAYS

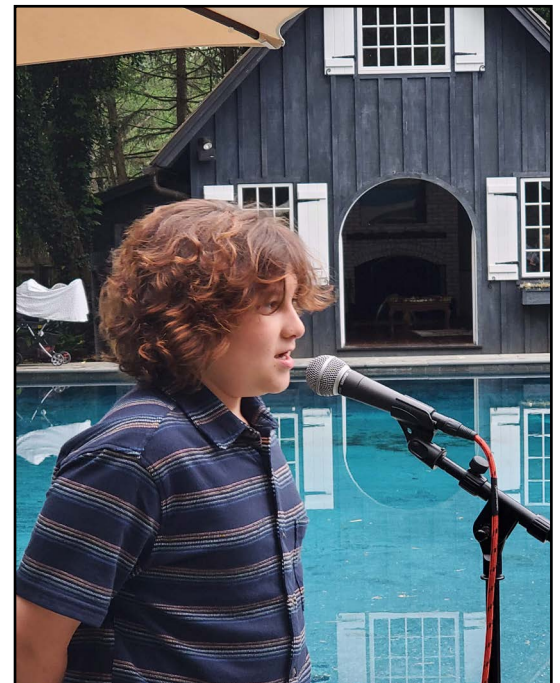
The K-5 Lower School students each memorized a poem to recite in school during Poetry Days on May 12-13. Students proudly recited their chosen poem to students in another grade and enjoyed a cupcake treat afterwards. Thanks to Dr. Tassone, Mr. Chilbert, and Ms. Woo, our English teachers, in addition to Mrs. Rice and the HSA for helping facilitate this joyous occasion. You can watch the students' recitations [here](#).



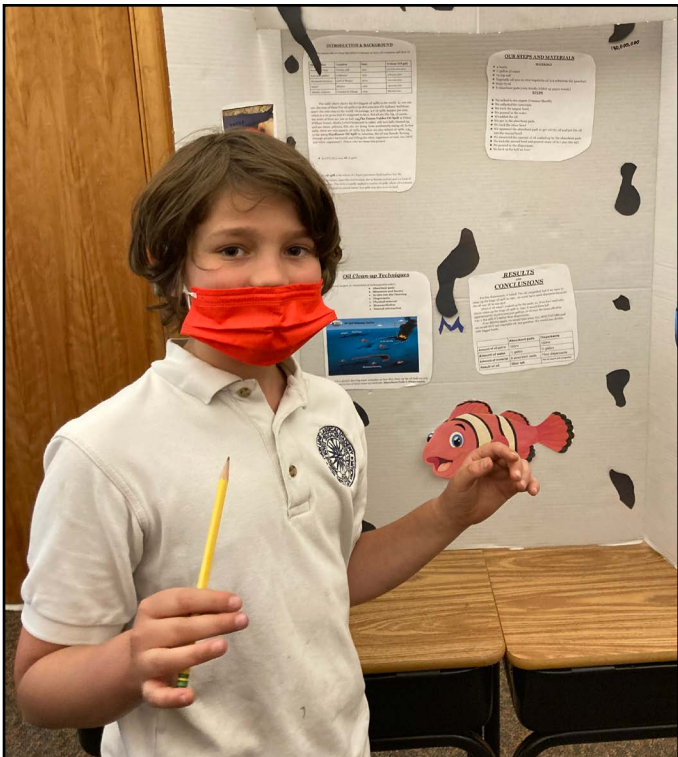
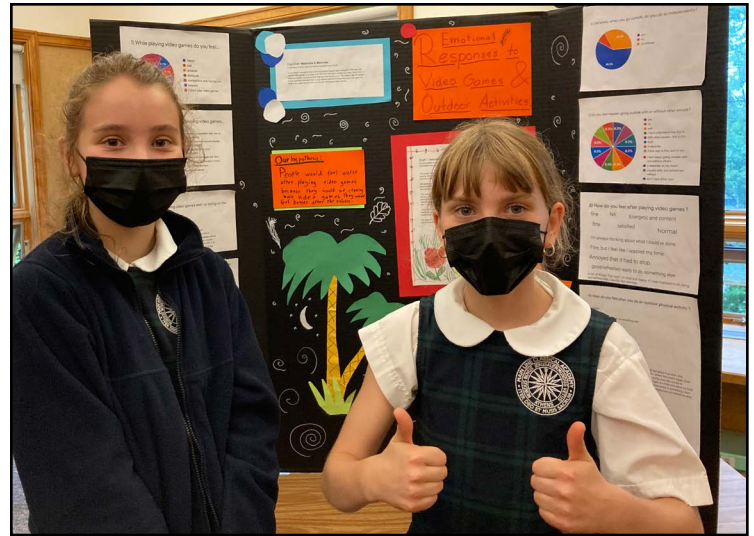
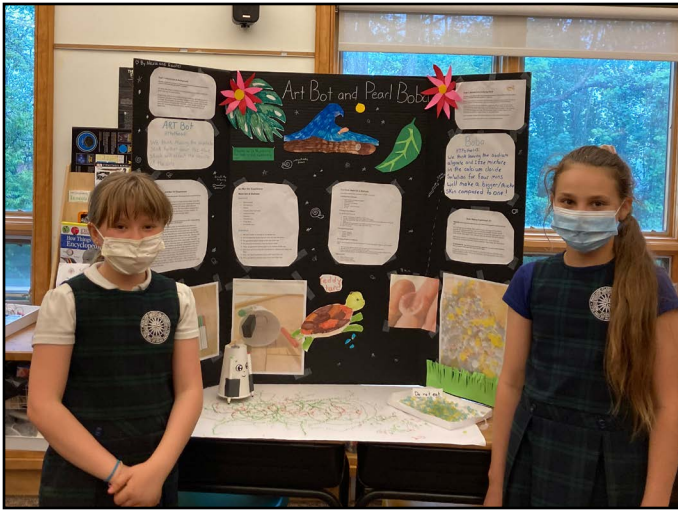
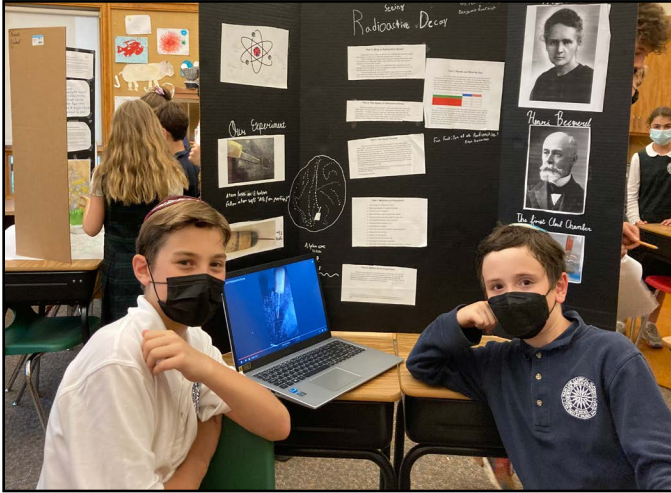
UPPER SCHOOL HUMANITIES NIGHT_____



The Upper School students recited poetry at Upper School Humanities Night on May 26. Special thanks to Dr. Sigelman and Dr. Tassone, the English teachers, and the Shpilmans for hosting this event.



5TH GRADE SCIENCE FAIR



The fifth grade students presented the findings of their experiments during the Fifth Grade Science Fair. Students from different grades came to the fair to learn more and ask questions!

HOLOCAUST MEMORIAL ASSEMBLY _____



We held a Holocaust Memorial Assembly on the morning of April 28. It was very moving with a review of events surrounding the persecution of Jewish people, readings from the diary of Anne Frank, and solemn songs. Thank you to Rabbi Sinensky and Cantor Portnoy for leading and teaching the students.



MUSICAL EVENING

Our Lower School Musical Evening was held on May 31 at Proclamation Presbyterian Church. We enjoyed performances from the second and third grade violin ensemble and from K-6 piano and vocal students. Many thanks to our music teachers Mrs. Marina Voznaia and Mrs. Karina Butterworth! Click [here](#) to watch performances from the evening. Click [here](#) for the evening's program.



Above, a behind the scenes photo from a 2nd and 3rd grade violin ensemble rehearsal.

MACBETH

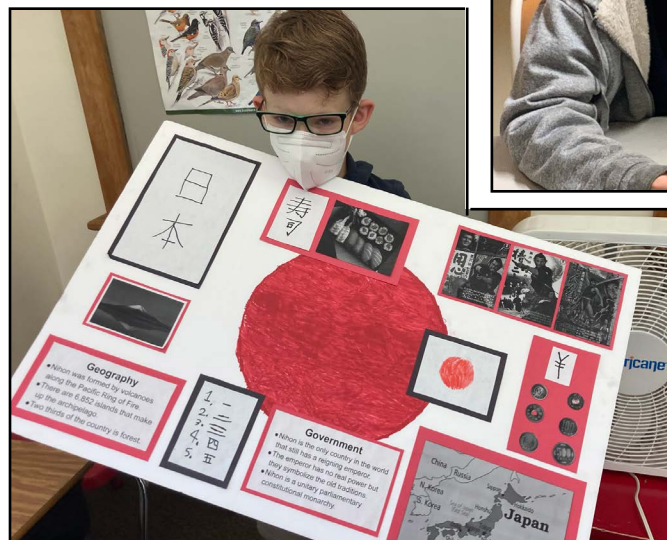
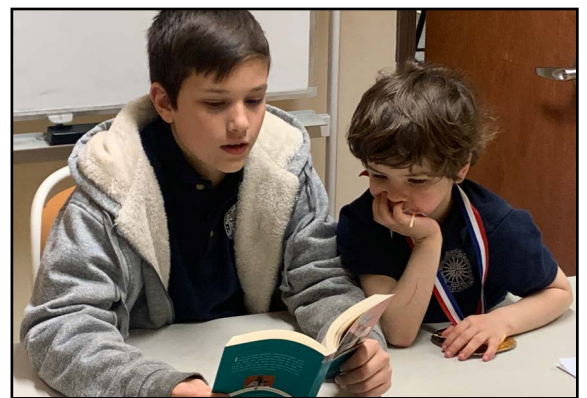


The Poetry & Shakespeare Club, made up of students in grades 4-7, put on a performance of "Macbeth" on June 9 at Wolf Performing Arts Center in Bryn Mawr. Thank you to Mrs. Rebekah Martindale and Ms. Sofia Na for directing the show and the HSA for helping put it on.

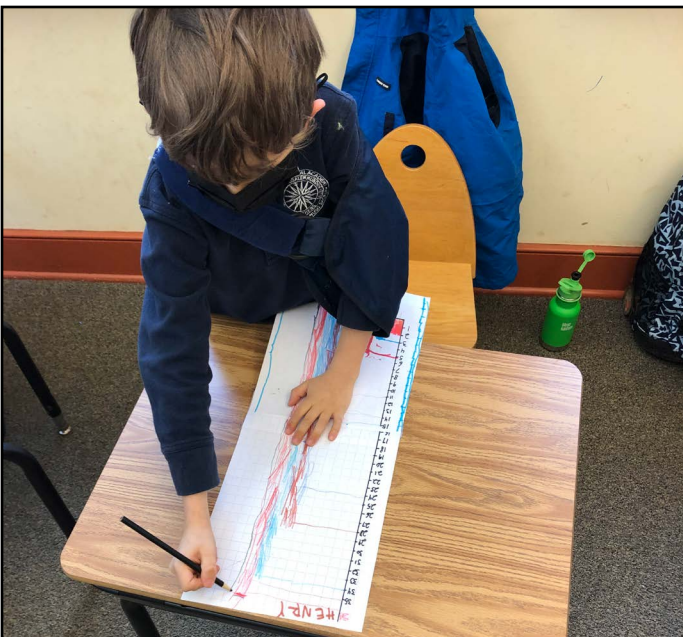
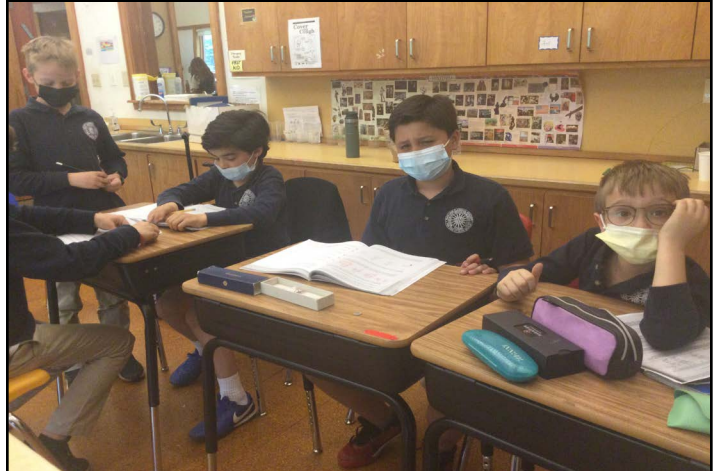
RECESS AND GYM



STORY TIME



IN SCHOOL LEARNING _____



OLYMPICS

The last day of school was a field day for the Lower School students. We divided into four different poleis: Athens (blue) led by Mr. Cialini, Corinth (gold) led by Ms. Hilburn, Sparta (red) led by Mr. Gabriel, and Argos (green) led by Ms. Na. We held the opening ceremony in the morning where we rallied the teams and showed off our artwork. Then, we played outdoor games such as relay races and four square. We also rotated through indoor games based on academic challenges (history, math, science, and English). After lunch, we enjoyed Ritast water ice and had one final relay race before announcing the victorious polis as Sparta! It was a wonderful end to the 2021-22 school year.



OLYMPICS CONT. _____



LOWER SCHOOL GRADUATION

We are so proud of our 2022 Lower School graduates!

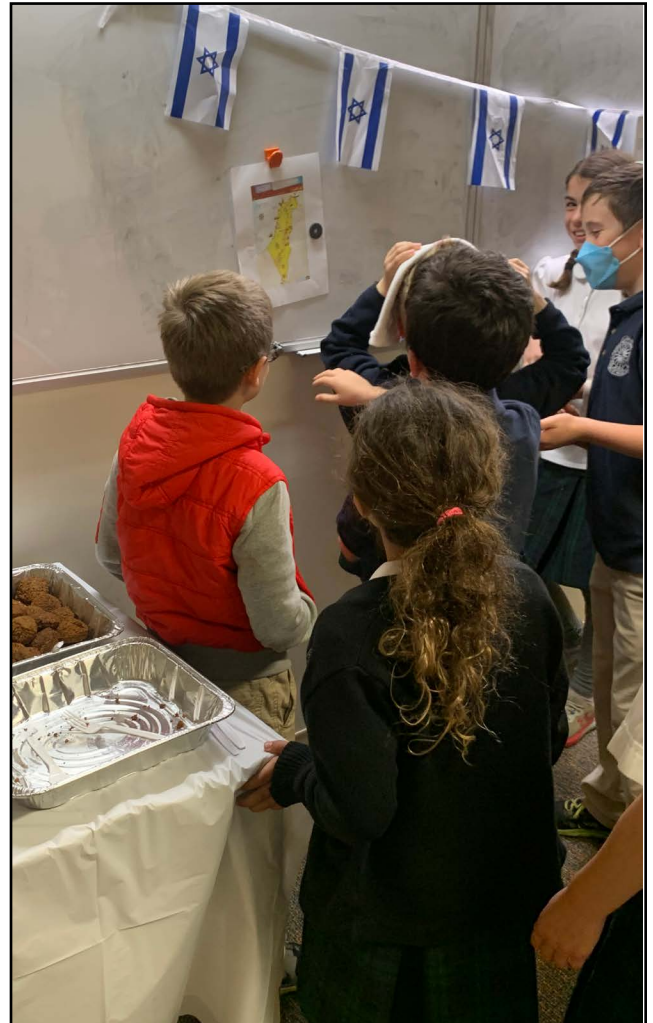
Emilio Chissell
Tiago Ferreira
Helene Gormley
Anne Martindale
Sasha Maslen
Matteo Posner



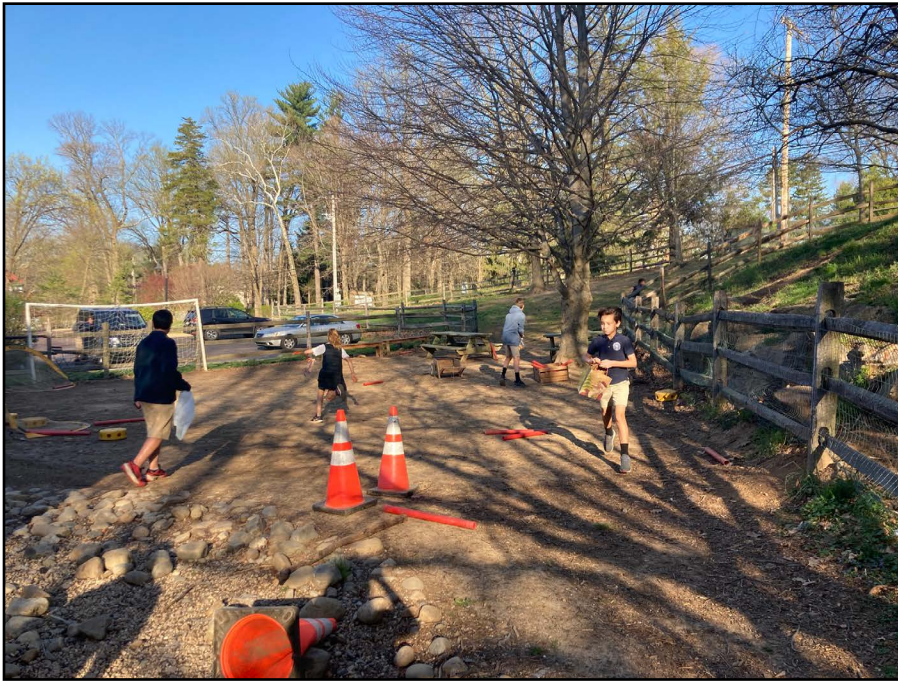
JEWISH STUDIES

ISRAEL INDEPENDENCE DAY

On the Israeli calendar, the memorial day for fallen soldiers intentionally precedes the celebration of Israel's independence. Students in 4th grade and above learned stories and songs about Israeli war heroes who died in action. All students learned about the essential sacrifices that were made to ensure the founding of the state, including the war that broke out on May 14, 1948, the day Israel was declared a country. Students learned the fundamentals of how the State came to be established, the role of major figures such as David Ben-Gurion, the founding prime minister of Israel, and numerous songs for the holiday. Our oldest students also studied the Israeli Declaration in the original Hebrew. Our celebration culminated with a special early afternoon celebration of Israel's independence, featuring Israeli-themed posters, tablecloths, and food, live music in celebration of the holiday, and a special competitive game about the modern State of Israel organized by the older Gur Aryeh students!



CHRISTIAN STUDIES



EASTER

Easter is the most important Christian holiday, which is a celebration of the resurrection of Jesus Christ. The students participated in a traditional Easter egg hunt, learning that eggs symbolize new life. The hunt took place in the school for the younger students and on the nature discovery trail for the older students. All enjoyed the treats found in the eggs.



PARENT SOCIALS



BIRTHDAYS

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO OUR MARCH, APRIL, MAY, JUNE, AND JULY BIRTHDAYS!!

March

Mrs. Martindale 3/8
Abigail Vuernich 3/29
Benjamin Vuernick 3/29

April

Mrs. Butterworth 4/2
Mara Ankenman 4/3
Elijah Mencin 4/9
Dr. Fradkin 4/12
Malcolm Weinstein 4/24
Vikram Ponnuru 4/26

May

Emilio Chissell 5/3
Isaac Martinson 5/7
Agnes Sigelman 5/8
Rosie LaRue 5/13
Mrs. Todd Harper 5/15
Covi Hungerford 5/16
Calvin Krellner-Oathes 5/18
Nicole Fedorov 5/25
Ms. Woo 5/27



June

Everett Yu 6/4
Mme. Le Pichon 6/9
Mme. Nselel 6/18
Paloma Weiner 6/22
Asha Ponnuru 6/22

July

Mr. Soto 7/1
Thea Brisson 7/1
Luca Grigoli 7/2
Elise Sigelman 7/8
Rachel Sommer 7/15
Mr. Cialini 7/17
Cylena Witoslawski 7/18
Wilbur LaRue 7/19
Bahar Kemiktarak 7/19
Caleb Sigelman 7/22
David Gartenberg 7/27