

THE SPIRIT

THE ALUMNI NEWSLETTER OF
THE MEADOWBROOK SCHOOL

Happy Holidays from the Meadowbrook School



We wish our alumni, parents and friends all the best this holiday season and peace and prosperity in the new year!

Development Update



The Meadowbrook Annual Fund is the largest source of fundraising for the school after the annual auction and the unrestricted dollars raised provide immediate relief for the general operating budget. We need your support.

Please [make a gift today](#). For gifts postmarked by today or received online you will be provided with a receipt for a charitable tax deduction for the 2016 tax year.

Thank you to all who have made their gifts to the Meadowbrook Annual Fund already!

We are also grateful to the many families who have supported Meadowbrook with restricted gifts and gifts in kind. This fall Meadowbrook students received a new swing set from an anonymous donor, a trip to the Franklin Institute's Jurassic World for the 2nd & 3rd graders from the Jackson family, computers from Rob & Susan Zaslow's company, Thomaston Mills, a new super copier machine for our faculty and coming in the spring, Lego robotics building kits for the Makerspace.

If you have something you would like to

CELEBRATING
100
YEARS

Did you know? We are planning for the Meadowbrook School's Centennial Celebration! Beginning in September 2019 through June 2020, we will be hosting events to commemorate our wonderful existence. Here is what we need YOU to do:

Get involved - email [Megan Brogan](#) to join the committee. Our first meeting will be held in March 2017. If you are interested in heading up a reunion for your class, contact Megan. She will be happy to send you class lists and help plan your event;

[Make a Gift](#) - \$100 for 100 years? It is easy to do and we are aiming for 100% participation from EVERYONE!

give to the Meadowbrook School students, please contact [Megan Brogan](#).



Meadowbrook Receives Grant

The Meadowbrook School is a proud recipient of a \$1,000 grant from Action for Healthy Kids® (AFHK) for the 2016-2017 school year. The Game On grant is provided through funding by Cargill to expand student access to physical activity and healthy foods in school, improve knowledge and behaviors around physical activity and healthy eating, and engage parents in activities that reinforce healthy habits at home.

Meadowbrook has used this grant to purchase yoga mats for our students to take Brain Breaks. Studies have shown that movement increases brain function. It's as simple as that. Using physical activity breaks in the classroom helps children get ready to learn and remember information better. Physical movement increases blood flow, bringing more oxygen to the brain and leads to improved concentration. Physical activity breaks can be used to energize a group after lunch or relax and calm a class before a test, after lunch or at the end of the day. Each floor of Walker Hall and the Early Childhood Learning Center has yoga mats available for the students use.

The Meadowbrook School is one of 50 schools in Iowa, Pennsylvania and Wisconsin receiving a Cargill-funded Game On grant as part of more than \$1.6 million in school breakfast and physical activity grants awarded by Action for Healthy Kids in the 2016-2017 school year.

Service Spotlight



Meadowbrook students continue the tradition of community service. We were so proud of the Meadowbrook family who raised over \$1000 for the Church of the Advocate Soup Kitchen this Thanksgiving. As we have done for the past 30 years, our 6th graders went down to 18th and Diamond Streets to deliver our gift and help serve those in

need.

In addition, the entire school participated in the United States Marine Corps Toys for Tots program this holiday season. That bin was overflowing with toys!

Finally, we continue to provide for those who are less fortunate than ourselves each month with each grade making a trip to the local food cupboard right here in Abington Township.



Winter Musical a Rousing Success!



Congratulations to Miss Lindsey Wooler and the Meadowbrook School 4th, 5th and 6th graders on the fantastic performance, *Once Upon a Dream*. This year's show was very different from years past and the students shown like the stars they are! For more pictures, visit our [website](#).



Winter Arts Festival



Join us on Saturday, January 21, 2017 for the annual Winter Arts Festival. All Meadowbrook alumni, parents and extended family members are invited to display their art work. If you wish to participate, please contact Meadowbrook art teacher, [Mrs. Mary Sawyer](#).

Admissions Open House

Are you ready to bring your child to the best elementary school in Montgomery County? We are accepting applications NOW for the 2017-18 school year. Join us on Sunday, January 22, 2017 for our [Winter Arts Festival Open House](#) from 1:00PM to 3:00PM. For more information, please contact [Karen DiFelice](#), Director of Admissions.



Alumni Notes

Kara Brownlie '11 has signed to play soccer at Cedar Crest College. Kara, a senior at Abington Friends School was recruited by colleges from across the country, including Divisions I and II schools. She said she chose Cedar Crest after a visit and meeting the soccer coach. Congratulations, Kara! We are so proud of you!

In Memoriam

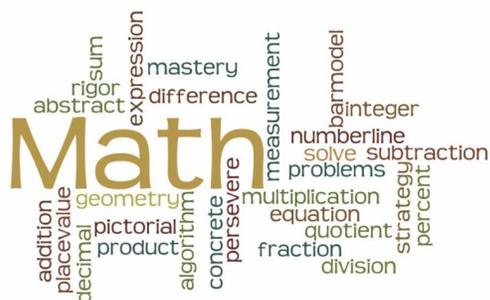
Steven Beck - grandfather of Rachel Zaslow '11



What is going on at Meadowbrook?



The faculty of the Meadowbrook School are constantly working to improve what we offer for our students. As part of our mission, we are committed to academic excellence and we are grateful to the faculty who have taken advantage of some wonderful workshops this fall.



Cardyn Trost, first grade teacher, attended a workshop focused on promoting math reasoning and problem solving in math for students in Kindergarten through 5th grade. Says Mrs. Trost, "This was a fantastic opportunity for me. It confirmed our teaching theory that daily problem solving activities is critical to teaching our students to understand concepts, not just computing." Meadowbrook students are taught not just to compute, but how to explain their thinking.

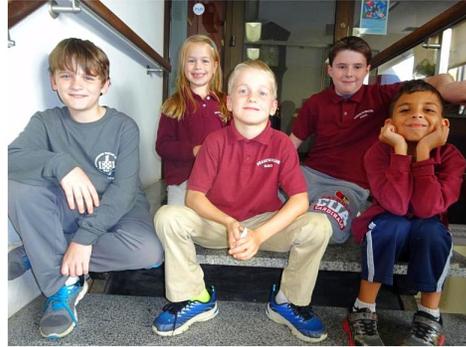
Be sure to visit our [Photo Gallery](#)

We have had a fantastic fall at Meadowbrook.

- POM's Fall Festival was a lot of fun. Thank you to Adrienne Fletcher for chairing and for being a super POM President;
- The annual *Tee Up Fore Meadowbrook* was a huge success and we are grateful to our sponsors and players who helped raise over \$28,000 for our students and faculty;
- Mrs. Mosteller's 2nd graders celebrated with the annual tradition *The Apple Festival*;
- Mrs. Fletcher and her 5th graders hosted the *Hall of President's Wax Museum*;
- Mr. Gaines and his fabulous 6th graders showcased their hobbies at the annual *Hobby Show*;
- Mrs. Mockaitis hosted another fantastic Chess Tournament and we were proud to have the Meadowbrook team represent;
- The whole school came together to give thanks at the annual Thanksgiving Feast;
- [Makerspace](#) made its debut under the guidance of Mrs. Becky Blumenthal. It has been a fantastic enhancement to our curriculum;
- The annual [Gingerbread Breakfast](#) brought our year to a beautiful close!

As you can see, we have been very busy this year! Maintaining traditions and making new memories, the Meadowbrook School is thriving because of its committed alumni and families! Be sure to join us on campus this spring to show your support!

In addition, (pun intended!), Cathy Langlois, Arlene Bowler and Diana Caramanico also attended a Math Conference at Montgomery County Community College. They learned about teaching math using a mix of inductive and deductive reasoning methods and finding ways to engage students with group tasks effectively.



Upcoming Events

- 1/21/17 - Winter Arts Festival
- 1/22/17 - Admissions Open House
- 1/27/17 - BINGO Night
- 2/21 - 2/24 - Scholastic Book Fair
- 2/24/17 - Family Reading Night
- 3/11/17 - Science Expo & Admissions Open House
- 4/22/17 - Annual Spring Auction
- 4/28/17 - Grandparents & Special Friends Day
- 5/6/17 - POM Meadowbrook Community Run
- 5/26/17 - Field Day
- 6/9/17 - 6th Grade Graduation



We aren't the only ones who think Meadowbrook is a wonderful place for your child. Take a look at this fantastic write-up in Hipster Henry's [blog](#)!

STAY CONNECTED



The Meadowbrook School | 1641 Hampton Road, Meadowbrook, PA 19046

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