



Southeast Delco School District

Knighly News

Collingdale ★ Darby Township ★ Folcroft ★ Sharon Hill
Communities

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Don't Scare the Chicks

Not something you would normally expect to see posted on a classroom door in Southeast Delco. But as the 21-day incubation period of the Embryology project came to an end, little baby chicks starting pecking their way into the world.

Prior to hatching, the eggs were cared for by the gifted and fifth grade students and have now hatched in all four schools that participated in the program - Darby Township, Delcroft, Harris, and Sharon Hill Schools.

The 27 newly hatched chicks were adopted by a local farmer and are now free to roam and peck for the rest of their days. Everyone involved in the project thoroughly enjoyed the process and were more than excited to care for the baby chicks and sad to see them go.



Thank you to Ms. DiMaggio for bringing this memorable program to the district. It was an experience the students and teachers will always remember.

Click [HERE](#) to view a video of Sharon Hill School students in Mr. Moors' class meeting the chicks for the first time. The reactions of the students are priceless.

Students Display Ribbon Winning Orchards at the Philadelphia Flower Show

Under the guidance of enrichment teacher Colleen DiMaggio, students enrolled in the district's gifted program started caring for Phalaenopsis orchids in the beginning of the school year with the intention of showing them in the 2020 Philadelphia Flower Show. Exercising their green thumbs, the students used critical thinking and problem-solving skills to provide the best possible environment and conditions for their treasured orchids.



Leading up to the event, the students followed the strict guidelines set forth by the Pennsylvania Horticulture Society in preparing their orchids to be judged. Those that bloomed in time were selected to show in the prestigious Philadelphia Flower Show in a special Youth Class category.

We are so proud of our students and the amazing efforts they made for this unique opportunity.

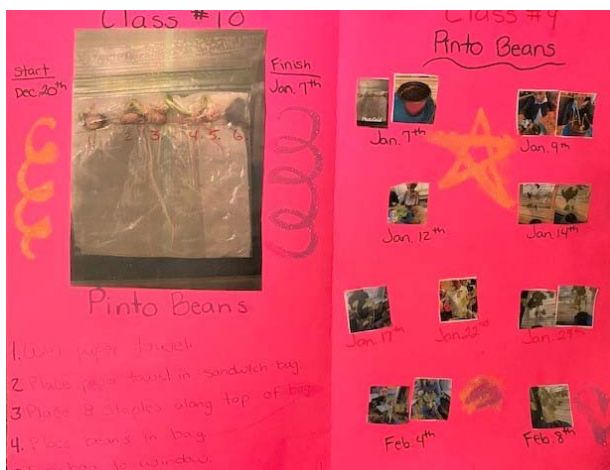


DTS student Trinity Okutoro (grade 5) stated, "I felt privileged because I got to participate in this event." Autumn Sitvarin (grade 3), also from DTS, shared, "I felt really proud of myself because I won a first place ribbon."

PHS Junior Flower Show

The 3rd annual Junior Flower Show was held on February 14th at Delcroft School. Students throughout the district participated and were awarded ribbons for their entries that centered on a common theme - Horticulture Holiday.

Enrichment student, Alanna Kimbrough, won “Best of Show” for her “Seed View” entry where she demonstrated her knowledge of the anatomy of a seed and the germination process. Alanna’s project was on display at the Philadelphia Flower Show.



The PHS Junior Flower Show is a horticultural exhibition for school-age children in the greater Philadelphia region. Participating in this year’s show were students throughout the district in grades 1 through 12.



The Junior Flower Show is a free program for students from pre-school through high school that fosters an awareness of horticulture and the natural environment among youth and encourages active participation in growing, gardening and sustainable practices.

Academy Park High School

Fairy Godmothers Are Magical

The Fairy Godmothers of Southeast Delco gave Academy Park's Lady Knights the royal treatment at their annual formal wear giveaway on February 5 at Academy Park. This team of extraordinary women transformed Academy Park's gym into a shopping boutique. The young ladies arrived to a red carpet welcome and from that moment on were treated like celebrities preparing for the Oscars.

In addition to planning, soliciting donations, setting-up, acting as floor and dressing room assistants, re-racking dresses, shoes and accessories, these amazing women also established The Mrs. Jill Ortiz Prom Present.



Mrs. Ortiz, who passed away in November, was a wonderful teacher who helped bring sparkle to her student's lives at Delcroft School and beyond. Jill attended last year's APHS prom and the students were thrilled to see her. Through this *Prom Present*, the Godmothers hope to keep that sparkle shining bright for years to come.

The Fairy Godmothers reported that enough money was donated to fund two Prom Presents. The first winners of The Mrs. Jill Ortiz Prom Present were Morgan Joner and Laila Ivory! Each girl received a Prom Present that included the following gifts and each gift had a note attached that expressed a sentiment or feeling:

Two Prom Tickets Purchased In Honor of How Hard She Fought
Happy Girls are the Prettiest (Makeup Bag with Lip Gloss)
Because Every Picture Has a Story (Prom Picture Frame)
Express Yourself with Flawless Nails and Sparkly Toes (\$50 Tina Nails Gift Certificate)
Live Life in Full Bloom! (\$50 Tunie's Florist Gift Certificate)
The Higher the Heels, the Closer to Heaven (\$50 DSW Gift Card)
May Your Hoop Earrings Always Whisper Confidence. The Bigger the Hoop, the Better (Hoop Earrings)

A heartfelt thank you to all the amazing Fairy Godmothers for their compassion, generosity and willingness to go beyond their lesson plans to impact the lives of our students. Thank you, as well, to everyone who donated to the Mrs. Jill Ortiz Prom Present. The two girls who benefited from your generosity were absolutely thrilled.

What's Your Passion? Festival

The 6th annual What's Your Passion? Festival was held on Saturday, February 29 at Academy Park High School. Close to 130 students attended and heard from 30 Academy Park alumni who shared their passions, careers and the journey they have taken to get to where they are today. They described their successes and failures, and what they learned from each.



The alumni challenged the students to discover what they are passionate about and to explore ways they can channel that enthusiasm into a career. Students were encouraged to consider what they could be doing right now to take them in the right direction. Inspiring conversations took place, excellent questions were asked and connections were made. Students left feeling inspired and hopeful for their future.

The first What's Your Passion? Festival was held in 2015 and was designed and coordinated by then AP senior Victor Ariyo and math teacher Susan Reutter.

Victor has since graduated from Penn State University and has launched his own website where musical artists can be connected to audio engineers, graphic designers, video producers, and other creative specialists. Victor returned this year as an AP alumnus to share with the students how he is living his passion.



Darby Township School

Perfect Attendance Counts at DTS!

Students with perfect attendance for the second marking period received a reward on February 13. Students listened to music in the gym while playing their favorite activities. The PBIS team at Darby Township School also provided soft pretzels for this special reward.



Black History Month Poster Contest

DTS students were invited to craft a Black History Month poster highlighting an influential African American of their choice. The posters included the name and picture or drawing of the historical figure and a description of their achievements and contributions. Posters were displayed throughout the building and the designers of the top 16 posters were treated to a pizza party on February 28.

Minding Your Mind

Darby Township School 5th graders had 4 lessons from Holcombe Behavioral Health entitled Keep a Clear Mind. The topics covered were alcohol, tobacco, marijuana and making good choices. Each lesson came with a booklet for students to take home so they can share the information with their parents.

Delcroft School

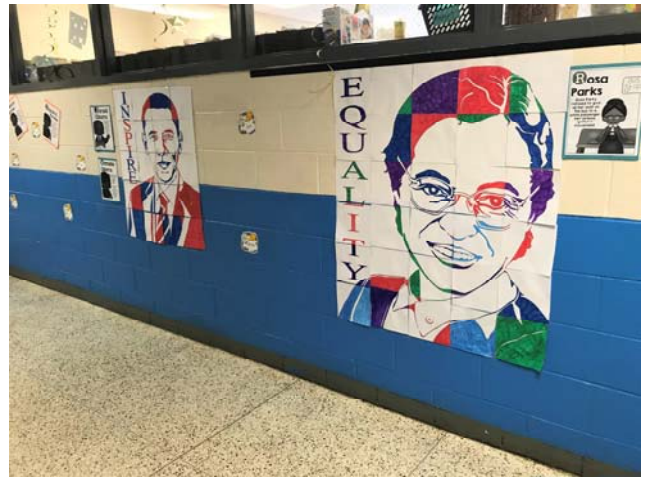
The Halls of Knowledge

During the month of February, students in Ms. Heaney, Mrs. Chestnut, Mrs. Schock, Mrs. Warner, Mrs. Livingston, Mrs. Condon, Mrs. Love and Ms. Pearse's classes worked collaboratively to create colorful murals of African American icons throughout history. The students created murals of Dr. Martin Luther King, Barack Obama, Katherine Johnson, Ruby Bridges, Maya Angelou, Jackie Robinson, and many other famous African Americans. The students then decorated the hallway with their beautiful murals to celebrate Black History Month.



Delcroft students in grades 6 through 8 researched several African Americans and created books from their findings. Students studied Michael Jordan, Lonnie Johnson, Dianna Ross, Dr. Martin Luther King, George Washington Carver, Jesse Owens and many more.

Students gathered information on these prominent African Americans and the impact they had on society by watching short biographical films, researching information on the internet, and reading books and magazine articles. As a culminating activity, students shared the books they authored with their classmates. The students really enjoyed this activity a great deal!



Harris School

Black History Month

Harris School celebrated Black History Month with various activities throughout the school. Students in grades 1 through 3 participated in a coloring contest that recognized notable African American men and women throughout history, such as Sarah Breedlove Walker, Rosa Parks, Garrett Morgan, Dr. Martin Luther King Jr, Lewis Howard Latimer, and Ian E. Matzeliger, to name just a few.



Students chose an individual to honor and learned about their remarkable achievements. The completed works were then entered into a contest and this year's winners included Amina Newsome-Pitts and Divanee Carter (grade 1), Elissa Brown (grade 2), and Aliyah Gleen and Bonita Freeman (grade3). Each winner received a certificate and a special snack pass. Congratulations to this year's winners and all of the participants for their hard work.

Students in the middle school grades completed book reports on various African Americans, and select students presented their reports to students in grades 1 through 5.

Throughout the month of February, student Mohammed Sanoe (grade 8) took morning announcements by storm, sharing his research of notable African American men and women, including Aretha Franklin, Madam CJ Walker, the 6888th Central Postal Directory Battalion during WWII, and many more. Mohammed's morning presentations were a great way to kick-off each day, and were enjoyed by students and staff.

Bingo Night at Harris School

Over 75 families attended the annual Harris Bingo Night on February 12. Students and their families enjoyed refreshments, including soft pretzels and baked goods and Bingo winners received games and gift cards as prizes. Bingo night is a popular event at Harris School and all in attendance had a great time. Special thanks to the Harris School Parent Connection and PBIS Committee for planning this special event.

Sharon Hill School

Embryology Project

Fifth grade students have been working on an Embryology project over the course of the last three weeks, with the support of Ms. DiMaggio and PSU. Twelve chicken eggs arrived at Sharon Hill School in an incubator and students cared for the eggs while they prepared to hatch. Eight of the classroom's 12 eggs successfully bore chicks. The chicks were adopted by a local farmer on February 5 and he will update the students on their progress through the rest of the school year.



Celebrating Black Culture

To celebrate Black History Month and honor Black Culture, Sharon Hill students decorated their hallways with wonderful murals they created to highlight past, present and future icons in the black community.

To provide students with an opportunity to view all of the murals, walking tours were held on February 20 and 21. National Junior Honor Society members served as tour guides and escorted each class on a particular route through the building. The guides answered questions and offered information about each grade level's display.



Remembering an American Icon

SHS held an Athlete Day on February 24. The cost to participate in the event was \$1 and students were allowed to wear any sports jersey or a t-shirt of their favorite athlete. February 24 was also the day of Kobe Bryant's memorial and several students paid tribute by wearing a jersey or shirt honoring him.



As you may know, the date chosen for the memorial is purposefully symbolic: 2- Gianna Bryant's number, 24- Kobe's number, 20-Kobe's 20 years in the NBA.

Kindergarten Center

100th Day of School

District kindergarten students celebrated the long awaited 100th day of school on February 5. The students worked on special “100 items” projects that are displayed throughout the Kindergarten Center and participated in a variety of fun activities that included reading a book entitled The 100th Day of School!



Black History Month

In honor of Black History Month, the achievements of several African Americans were discussed throughout the month of February. Many teachers focused on the work of Ruby Bridges and did activities related to the biography of her life. Also, Mrs. Schloegel did a project on equity with Jesse Owens and Jackie Robinson.

SOUTHEAST DELCO SCHOOL DISTRICT

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