

The Learning Project Bulletin #35

Friday, May 27th, 2022

Upcoming Events

Monday, May 30th - Memorial Day - No School

Tuesday, May 31st - Kindergarten Spanish Play and Non-Fiction Project Presentations - 8:05am

Wednesday, June 1st - 6th Grade Spanish Play and IRS Presentations - 8:10am

Thursday, June 2nd - 1st Grade Spanish Play and Playground Coffee - 8:10am

Friday, June 3rd - 3rd Grade Spanish Play and IRS Presentations - 8:10am

Friday, June 3rd - 5th Grade to the Boston Children's Museum

Monday, June 6th - 2nd Grade Spanish Play and Playground Coffee

Monday, June 6th - School Picnic - 6:00pm - Sunset - Castle Island

Tuesday, June 7th - Rainbow Day

Wednesday, June 8th - 4th Grade Spanish Play and IRS Presentations - 8:10am

Thursday, June 9th - 5th Grade to the Arnold Arboretum

Tuesday, June 9th - 5th Grade Overnight at The LP

Friday, June 10th - 6th Grade Shakespeare Play - 8:05am

Saturday, June 11th - Art Festival

Dismissal Locations

As the weather improves, we have more parents and caregivers picking up by foot – which is great! However, as a reminder, it is important that all those picking up wait along the **street side of the sidewalk**, rather than along the fence where our classes line up for dismissal.

Also critical is that we do not infringe on our neighbor's property or stairs. As a city school in a residential neighborhood, The Learning Project prioritizes being good neighbors. Please help us to maintain these positive relationships, and also to keep the sidewalks clear for safety and efficiency by following these protocols.

If you are driving, a reminder not to leave your car double parked. Continue to pull forward until we walk your child to you.

Parents, please be sure to pass these reminders along to anybody who may be picking your children up from school. Thank you for your cooperation.

End-of-Year School Picnic - 6:00pm - Sunset

The Castle Island Picnic is back! On Monday evening, June 6th, we invite our entire community to join us at Castle Island for a gathering as we celebrate the culmination of a wonderful year together. While this is certainly not a mandatory event, we welcome all for this evening of fun and community building.

There is plenty of parking, a bathroom, a takeout stand, and the location is available by MBTA bus. We never want a child to miss an event due to transportation, however, so if carpooling would be helpful, please do let Claire Toker know and we can try to pair you up with another LP family.

We have used this site for many years and the children love the freedom of the open space with a big hill to climb (and roll down), the playground, beach, and simply the experience of playing with friends until what is likely well past their usual playtime. And for the parents, it's a chance to watch the children enjoy themselves while chatting with one another.

Bring a picnic dinner, balls, frisbees, etc., and layers to wear – it is often cooler on Castle Island, and breezy. The path to our picnic location is the main path to the right of Sullivan's, along the water for 150-200 yards to a picnic grove on the right. We look forward to seeing you there.

A Special Guest

Students were greeted by a special guest speaker at All School Meeting this week: Elaine Chow, parent of Theo in 1st grade. As part of our focus on sustainable living, Elaine spoke to our students and staff about her new business, [Chop Value Boston](#), which focuses on collecting used chopsticks and recycling them into homeware, decor, and more.

Elaine spoke about how chopsticks are typically made, used and disposed of, the impact on the environment, the benefit of recycling, and also how these materials are transformed into new, beautiful, usable items. After watching a [video about the process](#), children asked insightful questions and shared practical ideas. Elaine then announced that she would be placing a chopstick collection box in our lobby for children to drop new or used chopsticks for repurposing through Chop Value. The box is already here, so please do take advantage of it, and help to reduce chopstick waste. Thank you, Elaine, for the inspiring and enlightening presentation for our children, faculty and staff.

Pride and Rainbow Day

Prior to the pandemic, The Learning Project celebrated Pride Month by marching in the Boston Pride Parade. As the original parade is not happening again this year, we wanted to find a way to celebrate Pride as a whole

school, and we will do so on Tuesday, June 7th. On this day, we invite children to wear colorful clothing, in order to be part of a "Rainbow School." This can be a rainbow shirt, a favorite bright red t-shirt, yellow socks, or any sort of colorful clothing. Students don't need to look like a "rainbow" on their own, but will be part of our colorful rainbow school community.

We know that our education around LGBTQ+ is happening in our classrooms throughout the school year, but teachers will carve out time to discuss Pride Month specifically ahead of June 7th. The month-long celebration was originally given the name "Pride" to encourage those feelings as a community comes together to celebrate and bolster LGBTQ+ rights movements.

We want to make sure we continue our tradition of celebration, and we look forward to celebrating as a school on June 7th.

Board Meeting Recap

The Learning Project Board of Trustees held its final meeting of the year on Wednesday evening, and the first in-person meeting in over two years. Before beginning our own work of discussing and caring for our school, the meeting began with a reflection on the recent shootings and a moment of silence. Following this somber moment, the Board got to work recapping the efforts to date since March.

Discussions were held pertaining to facilities, and then staff reported out regarding school operations. The Head's report included a recap of our many successful events over the past couple of months, staffing for next year, a summary of results for 6th grade outplacement this year, and a report on recent COVID-19 data. Ms. Zuflacht then reported on Annual Fund progress to date (we are 90% to goal!), and enrollment numbers (which are quite strong at 121 students attending next year). Ms. Adina provided an academic update regarding the many curricula occurring this spring, such as City Study, Sexuality Education, Sustainability, Thoughtful and Ethical use of Technology, as well as the many end-of-year assessments being held across the grade levels. The LP is a busy place!

Board committees then reported out regarding recent projects, and one of the highlights was a sneak peak at the new Learning Project website that is in development. While there is still lots to do, immediate reactions to the work to date was incredibly positive, and we look forward to announcing the completion of that major project in the months ahead.

Board Chair, Linda Seeley, shared tributes to our departing Board members, and Alex DeLaite, Chair of the Trustees Committee, led the nomination process for our new trustees. All were approved, and the members joining the 2022-2023 Board of Trustees will be:

Donnaree Grant (P'25, P'27, P'29)
Diane Lim (P'18)
Scott Savitz (P'14, P'16)
Emma Turner (Alum, '07)
Callon Walker (P'24, P'26)

The meeting concluded at 7:05, and members celebrated the conclusion of the year, and the welcome of new trustees, with a reception in the lobby.

Announcements

A Big Thank You



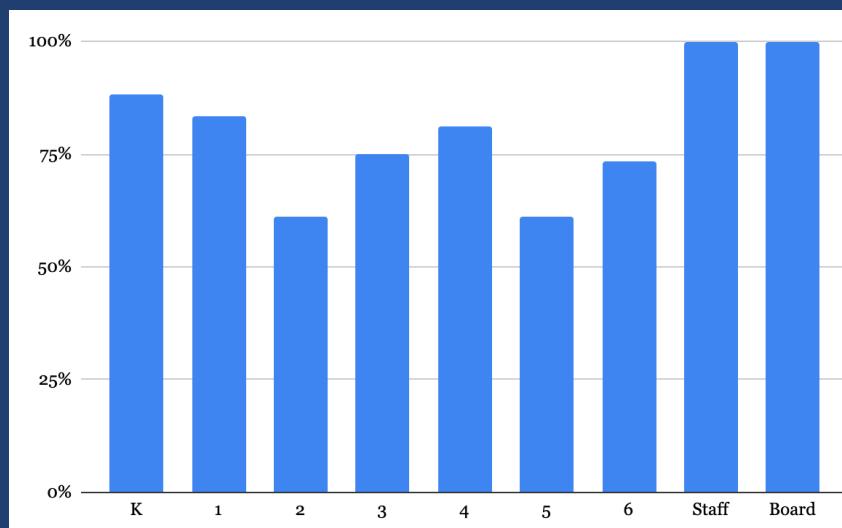
A big thank you to the Keepers of the Maypole, Bina Desai and Tara Vuono, for all of their hard work and support in making Mayfest the success it was!

Annual Fund - Striving for 100%

There is just about one month left before the 2021-2022 Annual Fund closes. We hope you will consider making a gift to help us reach that 100% parent participation milestone. Participation from all members of our community is a cornerstone of The LP's fundraising endeavors.

Not sure if you've made a gift yet? Please reach out to Sasha Zuflacht at szuflacht@learningproject.org. Thank you in advance!

[Make a gift today!](#)



The Art Festival



Artists of the Week

Click below to watch a video from Mx. Carlyle with this week's artists!

[Artists of the Week - May 27](#)

A Glimpse Into The LP

What a week! Sneak peek at Mayfest and Olympics photos below.







For more photos, check out The LP's instagram page!

The Learning Project Instagram

Power of the Week: *Creativity*

