



Southeast Delco School District

# *Knighly News*

Collingdale ★ Darby Township ★ Folcroft ★ Sharon Hill  
Communities

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## *Autumn at Longwood Gardens*

On October 23, students in the gifted program spent the day learning and exploring Longwood Gardens. The elementary and middle school students surveyed the beautiful gardens while using maps and compasses to navigate an orienteering course. They developed their mapping skills and cardinal directions to interpret their location on the Earth's surface.



*Finn Schrader, Logan Fritchey,  
Bryant Peacock, and Nathan Frazier*



*Nathan Frazier during orienteering exercise.*

The high school students traveled “behind the scenes” to the research and production greenhouses where they learned about how horticulturists propagate plants, and each of the students propagated their own plant from a cutting.

Noah Harrell (grade 4) stated, “It was extraordinary, exciting and interesting”, while Ne-Vaeh Carthon (grade 5) revealed, “I felt as if I was part of a fantasy where magic was possible.”

## *Gardens of Distinction*

The rain gardens at Academy Park High School, Darby Township School, and Harris School were awarded the Garden of Distinction Award in the 2019 Philadelphia Horticultural Society (PHS) Gardening Contest!

The gardens were selected from over 400 entries this year. PHS applauded our gardening efforts and enthusiasm and celebrated our contribution to creating sustainable, healthy and beautiful communities for all to enjoy. The district was presented with a sign recognizing this accomplishment at a celebration held on October 14 at the Terry Shane Teaching Garden at Swarthmore College.

Congratulations to the students for all their hard work and thank you to enrichment teacher Colleen DiMaggio for bringing this award-winning program to Southeast Delco.

## ***Academy Park High School***

### ***Book Tour***

Two Academy Park students accompanied 9<sup>th</sup> grade English teacher Erica Ganther on a trip to Washington DC to attend a book tour for New York Times best-selling author Nic Stone (author of Dear Martin) who was promoting her new book Jackpot. This particular tour stop included additional best-selling authors Tiffany D. Jackson, Ashley Woodfolk and Dhonielle Clayton. Being big fans of these authors and their writing, Hynefa Wilkins-Hill (grade 10) and Reem Tanane (grade 9) were lucky enough to meet their writing idols, get their autographs and enjoy their discussions and conversations.



***Ms. Erica Ganther, Reem Tanane, Hynefa Wilkins-Hill, and author Nic Stone***



***Authors Nic Stone, Ashley Woodfolk, Tiffany D. Jackson, and Dhonielle Clayton***

It was a small event at an intimate setting and the trio from Academy Park enjoyed listening to the authors discuss their histories, writing goals and how they came into the writing profession. A great time was had by all!

### ***Cross Country Team Wins Del Val Title***

For the first time since 1982, the boys' cross country team won the Del Val title. The girl's team had a great season, as well, despite technically not having enough girls to qualify for any league wins. Congratulations to the students and coaches on their fantastic accomplishment. The boys' and girls' times for the day are as follows:

#### ***Boys Team***

Alex Jaje - 18:59  
Sean Kan - 19:00  
Godfrey Odallo - 19:3  
Felix Sando - 19:48

John Ross Flowers - 19:57  
Ryan Kirchoff - 20:32  
Josh Myers - 22:48  
Ian Francis - 23:18  
Kramoh Mansalay - 24:36

#### ***Girls Team***

Laila Ivory - 24:13  
Ava Nguyen - 29:25  
Jada Pate - 32:54

## *Student Achievement*

Academy Park seniors Kramoh Mansalay and Shyaira Whitest were both admitted to Cheyney University during Academy Park's Instant Admission Day on October 15.

Kramoh was accepted into the Honors Program and awarded the Keystone Scholarship, which will allow him to attend Cheyney absolutely free! Shyaira was awarded a tuition-based scholarship where her tuition will be completely paid for by Cheyney.



*Kramoh Mansalay Receiving Award*

Kramoh Mansalay was also selected as the Rotary Club Student of the Month and was awarded a book scholarship.

## *Darby Township School*

### *Pink-Out*

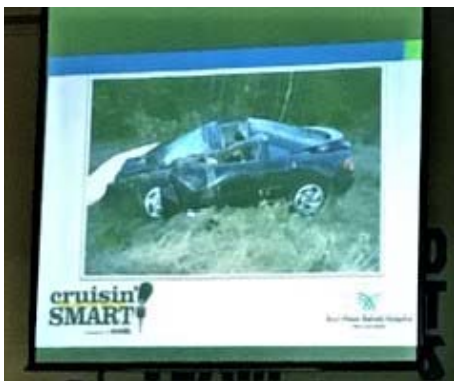
Darby Township School's Student Council organized a *Pink Out* to recognize Breast Cancer Awareness Month. Students were encouraged to wear a pink shirt and pink accessories with their jeans or uniform pants on Friday, October 18. Students and staff from all grade levels showed their support. The \$133 that DTS and student council collected will be donated to the Unite for Her organization.

### *Red Ribbon Week*

To kickoff Red Ribbon Week, No Place For Hate hosted a Mix It Up Day on Tuesday, October 22. Different colored bracelets were randomly distributed to students in grades 4 and 5. The students were then seated at lunch tables according to the color of their bracelets. This provided students with an opportunity to eat lunch, socialize and make new friends.



Red Ribbon Week was celebrated from October 23 through October 31. Students in every grade level were excited to participate in the school-wide dress down themes – wear a red shirt to “Be Red-y”, wear jeans to “Be a Jean-ious” and “Team Up Against Drugs” by wearing a sports shirt or jersey and school pants.



On October 23, students in grades 7 and 8 attended the *Cruisin' Not Buisin'* assembly. The following day, students in grade 5 attended a presentation from Holcombe on the dangers of nicotine and vaping and on October 25 students in grade 6 attended a cyber-safety assembly presented by the district attorney's office.

## *Haunted Hallway*

Darby Township School's Home and School Association held their annual Haunted Hallway on October 25. In addition to exploring the school's haunted hallways, the fundraiser included snacks and fall themed arts and crafts activities. The students enjoyed spending time with their families and it was a great fundraiser for the home and school association.

## **Delcroft School**

### *Inaugural Word Parade at Delcroft School*

On October 31, Delcroft School held its first ever Word Parade. The event is a celebration of words and the creativity of our grades 1-3 students. Students choose from a list of words contained in their grade level curriculum and create a costume that represents their selection. The student's ideas included a student with stretched out cotton batting wrapped around them with miniature lights to make a *web*, a girl wearing a dinner table set with plates of food to represent the word *feast*, and a student with a working clock sandwich board to represent *mid-night*. Several students wrote their word on a sign and then decorated it with their interpretation of the word.



The parade wound through the building and the older students lined the walls supporting the younger kids as they marched through the hallways. The original parade route was planned to go out of the building and down the sidewalk in front of the building. However, the weather didn't cooperate so parents were invited into the gym to see the parade.

The inaugural Word Parade at Delcroft School was a great success and enjoyed by all. The students put a lot of effort into making their costumes, and parents and staff were very impressed with their representations of the words and the creativity they displayed. The teachers are already discussing how to build on the experience for next year's parade.

## *Red Ribbon Week*

During the last week of October, Delcroft celebrated Red Ribbon Week, which is an alcohol, tobacco, drugs, and violence prevention awareness campaign. Red Ribbon Week is a big event at Delcroft School and one of the ways students and staff promoted awareness was by highlighting a unique theme for each day of the week. Red shirts for *Red Ribbon Day* on Monday, team shirts or jerseys for *Team Up Against*

*Drugs Tuesday*. Wednesday was *Dress for a Career Day* and *School Pride* was celebrated on Thursday and students wore a college, military, trade-school, or Delcroft shirt.

Friday was *Grade Level Buddies* and the theme was healthy eating and exercise and students in different grades worked together to design ribbons with their favorite healthy foods and activities. They also played games together and did peer reading.

Red Ribbon Week activities at Delcroft School helped raise student awareness of the benefits of making good choices and many thanks go to school counselor Mrs. McDonald for her work on decorations and the week's activities.

## **Harris School**

### *Trick or Treat*

On October 23, Harris hosted the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Trick or Treat Hallway event. Over 350 students and their family members walked the spookily decorated and haunted hallways of Harris School. Special thanks to the many staff members who donated decorations, created displays, dressed in costume, and handed out treats along the haunted hallway pathway.



Collingdale Police Department donated and distributed candy for the event and members of Collingdale Borough Council handed out pencils to attendees. Students and their families enjoyed all of the decorations and had a great time stopping by the various treat stations.



## *Annual Word Parade*

The highly anticipated annual Word Parade was held on October 25. Students in grades 1-4 dressed up as vocabulary words of their choice. The parade path took students through the 5-8 grades hallways and outdoors through the neighborhood. All participants enjoyed this special event, which celebrates the connection between vocabulary words and literacy.

## *Energy Conservation*

Students in grades 1-6 participated in a special assembly focusing on energy conservation. Presented by PECO, students learned many ways to conserve energy in their homes, schools and community. The students really enjoyed the various skits performed to show students the importance of conserving energy.



## *Sharon Hill School*

### *Character Parade*

Students and staff participated in a book character parade on October 28, bringing students' favorite book characters to life. Students selected a book and dressed as a character in the book.



The children were encouraged to read the book with their parents and be prepared to answer questions and provide information about the character they represented. The children arrived to school dressed for the parade and walked around the Sharon Hill community, allowing neighbors to gaze in amazement at their character costumes.

## *Kindness IS Cool Challenge!*

Students of Sharon Hill School are creating videos with an anti-bullying message. Students are charged to work together and collaboratively with their teacher to create video performances that convey an anti-bullying message.

## *Skin in the Game*

The Skin in the Game grant hosted a board game night at Sharon Hill School on October 9. This event was open to every grade and family in the building. Families learned about the grant, enjoyed dinner and played games with their families.

## *Student Council*

Student council is an organization conducted by students and supervised by staff. The purpose of the council is to give students an opportunity to develop leadership by organizing and carrying out school activities and service projects.

In addition to planning events that contribute to school spirit and community welfare, the student council is the voice of the student body. They help share student ideas, interests and concerns with the school-wide community. The function of the student council is based upon parliamentary procedures. Ideas are presented, voted upon and confirmed by the student body president.



**Fata Kaba**  
**Student Council President**

Student council nominations were held in October and concluded with an electoral voting process. The 2019 / 2020 Student Council President is Fata Kaba.

## *Kindergarten Center*

### *Stop, Drop and Roll*

District kindergarten students enjoyed the fresh air and sunshine as they walked to the Briarcliffe and Good Will Fire Houses for presentations on fire safety in October. The students practiced safety techniques such as *stop, drop, and roll* and how to *stay low* if there is smoke and explored a fire truck and ambulance. The children each received a goodie bag as they left the fire house.



The district is very grateful for the volunteers that gave up a significant amount of time for our students to learn these important safety tips!

### *Rapping About Prevention*

Kindergarten students enjoyed an assembly by Sterlen Perry Barr entitled *Rapping About Prevention* on October 24. The 45-minute presentation focused on drug prevention, healthy choices and exercise. The students enjoyed singing and dancing with the five performers while learning important lessons on a healthy lifestyle.

The assembly was extremely engaging and the Kindergarten Center staff members look forward to having the group back next year to educate and entertain a new class of students.



## **SOUTHEAST DELCO SCHOOL DISTRICT**

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