

# THE SOULARD SCHOOL

## COMMUNITY NEWS

### Notes From the Leadership:

By Kerri Fair, Principal

## REFLECTION

“Many things can wait. Children cannot. Today their bones are being formed, their blood is being made, their senses are being developed. To them we cannot say “tomorrow”. Their name is today.”

*Quote from Gabriel Mistral (Chilean teacher 1899 – 1957)*

How often do we get caught up in our present day? We focus on current projects, time pressures that come with our profession, and meeting the immediate needs of our children and families. It takes a good amount of will-power and, often, planning to stop and focus our attention backward to reflect. Our children keep us in the present also; finding beauty every day and every moment in the simple things of life that we often take for granted. There are some moments with our children, though, that send us to that reflective place. That lost tooth sends us back to the time when they were babies and cut their first tooth. Listening to our children read a book more fluently might remind us of a time when we could clearly understand their spoken word. Just recently, my youngest daughter Emma showed me that

she could write her name and I vividly recalled the moment when I took her chubby hand in mine and helped her learn to hold that pencil. With planned time for reflection, though, we can see a deeper growth and appreciate just how much they have changed. This past week, you were able to sit down and listen as your child lead their conference; reflecting on the learning they had done as well as sharing their own perspectives on their growth.

*Continued on next page.*



← Art from Quietude. More on Page 4

### In This Issue

Notes from the Leadership:  
REFLECTION: (P 1-2)

Soulard Swing: (P 3)  
a soiree to benefit  
The Soulard School,  
Sunday, April 27th at  
John D. McGurk's

INSIDE/OUTSIDE THE  
CLASSROOM: (P 2, 4-5)

- MUMS
- QUIETUDE
- THRIVE

The Soulard School  
BIRTHDAY PARTY: (P 6)  
Friday, April 4th

FROM THE PA: (P 6)  
Supporting Our School  
Funding Initiatives  
Annual Giving Match  
Pasta Fundraiser

CAMP SOULARD: (P 7)  
The whole scoop!

SUPPORTING OUR  
SCHOOL: (BACK PAGE)

Thanks to those that help  
make it happen for us  
every day!

## FROM THE MUMS



### "With hard work, you can become whatever you want to in life"

On Wednesday, March 5th, Dr. and Mrs. Lashley visited the Mums classroom. Dr. Lashley is a Veterinarian, and Mrs. Lashley runs an animal boarding facility in Illinois. They are the parents of Brook (Lashley) Lynch, Ava Lynch's stepmother. The visit connected with our study of careers and helping professions, along with our study of animal classification. Dr. and Mrs. Lashley brought two special four-legged friends, Paddi and Apollo. They are two large breed dogs, and were excellent test 'patients' for our students who had opportunities to listen to a dog's heartbeat through a stethoscope, check a dog's eyes, and examine the inner ear of a dog. We all enjoyed petting the dogs at the end of the visit, which was also a treat for our furry friends. The visit concluded with a very positive message from Dr. Lashley: "With hard work, you can become whatever you want to in life".



## REFLECTION

*Continued from Page 1*

This year, our school has undergone a planned state of reflection as we complete the accreditation process. Administrators, staff, and the accreditation team analyzed the school's past and present in order to thoughtfully generate goals for future development. The visiting team from the Missouri Nonpublic School Accrediting Association recently shared their own perspective of our school and its mission and philosophy. Below are a few written pieces from their longer report.

"As guided by the school Mission Statement, the members of The Souldard School build a warm, welcoming community dedicated to educating its children; one in which children and adults are encouraged to ask questions and broaden their understandings of themselves, others, and the world."

They go on to write, "respect for each person, for each student's individuality, and for their learning style has been evident during our visits to the classrooms. Students are confident and show enthusiasm for their learning..."

We have much to be proud of and appreciate within our school community. It is uplifting, validating, and encouraging to hear such positive comments from other educators outside of our community.

The background features a hot air balloon with a red and orange striped pattern at the top. Below it, a girl with brown hair, wearing a red dress and brown pants, is swinging happily on a blue mat. The scene is set against a light green and yellow background with a subtle pattern.

# SOULARD SWING

*McGurk's*  
SUNDAY  
APRIL 27

An Afternoon  
of Merrymaking  
to benefit  
THE  
SOULARD SCHOOL

SILENT & LIVE AUCTIONS • SIGN UP PARTIES • BUFFET & BEVERAGES WITH ADMISSION  
PURCHASE YOUR TICKETS NOW: [SOULARDSCHOOL.ORG](http://SOULARDSCHOOL.ORG)



## QUIETUDE – ART AND THE CITY

In beginning of our current study on New York City, we asked Quietude students what they already knew about the city, and what they wanted to know more about. We started with New York's most well-known landmark, the Statue of Liberty.

After researching Lady Liberty, this led us into discussion about NYC architecture and other famous buildings and landmarks. Within our research of notable places in New York City, we began to learn about the Metropolitan Museum of Art, which allowed a discussion on famous artists and their individualistic techniques to naturally emerge.

We started with Jackson Pollock and his technique of "drip painting" or "action painting", and then moved into studying Vincent Van Gogh and some of his most famous work, such as *Starry Night* and *The Bedroom*. We created our own versions of *Starry Night*, using similar shapes, colors and mediums as Van Gogh.

Pablo Picasso was the next artist we focused on, and we created our own Picasso-inspired portraits by cutting shapes out of magazines that could resemble facial features. Currently, our Quietude artists have their work displayed in our own classroom art museum.

We are excited to continue our study on New York City, and to see how it develops over the third trimester!



## Thrive attends Buffalo Soldiers Play

The THRIVE class has worked hard this year to explore opportunities outside of the classroom. They have used parent support, a bake sale, and community resources to fund field trips around the community. An opportunity came up to attend Buffalo Soldiers, a play at the Sheldon Concert Hall that related to their studies. THRIVE came to the PA and requested funds to attend the event. Their wish was granted, with the caveat that the students provide a review of the event.

### *This is what the THRIVE students had to say:*

- The Thrive class went to the Sheldon to see a presentation called Buffalo Soldiers. *Ella*
- It is about the Spanish-American War of 1898 in Cuba. *Liam*
- The play is historical fiction. *Ella*
- Buffalo Soldiers were black soldiers in the Spanish-American War. They were furious fighters. *Olivia*
- The main character's name is Jones Morgan, a veteran Buffalo Soldier. *Isaac*
- Morgan lied about his age to become a soldier at 15. *Ella*
- All of his experiences were kept in a journal. *Lydia*
- I learned that the black soldiers triumphed. *Enzo*
- The setting was in two time periods; the early 1890's and present day. *Addison*
- Morgan is accused of lying about being a Buffalo Soldier. *Jesse*
- The problem was that Morgan had no proof he was a Buffalo Soldier. *Holly*
- The press sent a letter to Morgan saying a statue was being built to show the Buffalo Soldiers were important to our country, our freedom, and free African American slaves. *Gianni*
- Morgan is invited to go see the Buffalo Soldier statue. *Olivia*
- A [present day] reporter tried to deny that Morgan was a Buffalo Soldier. *Xander*
- At the opening ceremony of the statue Morgan met a young journalist who knew about President Roosevelt's terrible lie about the Buffalo Soldiers and wanted to set the record straight. *Lydia*
- In the end they found a journal that Morgan had written that proved he was a Buffalo Soldier. *Harry*
- A reporter came over and gave Mr. Morgan his journal back. *Holly*
- When Morgan's journal was found he gets the credit he deserved. *Max*
- They found his journal from the war and then everyone believed that he was a Buffalo Soldier. *Leilah*
- The Buffalo Soldiers started to get their share of the glory because artifacts were found. *James*
- Morgan is a brave, African-American hero. *Ella*
- It surprised me that President Teddy Roosevelt called the Buffalo Soldiers cowards. That was a lie. *Harry*
- I am very mad at President Theodore Roosevelt for saying these great soldiers were cowards. *Holly*
- The play was about how hard the Buffalo Soldiers had to work for money, for education, and for a better life. *Rhiannon*
- The play was a great way to inform people of history and the Buffalo Soldiers. The play itself was wonderful, with great actors. *Parker*
- The play ties into our Civil War study. *James*
- We were the best behaved class in the Theater. Thank you PA for funding our Sheldon Trip. *Audrey*
- Thank you for the opportunity to watch this play. *Isaac*
- The Sheldon was amazing. *Xander*

**From the PA:***Hey Soulard School Students: Bring your Parents and Siblings to the Party!*

Mark your calendars for

**The Soulard School Birthday Party**

**Friday, April 4<sup>th</sup> from 6:30 – 8:00 at Soulard School**

Featuring songs with Celia!

Pot Luck – Please bring a dish to share.

Check Friday Notes for more details!

Thanks to the time and effort from all of our Soulard School families, we were able to evaluate and support a variety of funding requests that came before the Parents Association.

**Here is a sample of what the PA has supported this year:**

- Thrive field trip to Buffalo Soldiers – see page 5 for review.
- Professional Development for teachers and administration on a variety of topics from techniques to teach gifted students, to promoting successful executive function in students, and the school's Buddy Circle program.
- Several improvement projects around the school including fixing the chain on the driveway gate, replacing faucets in the restrooms to facilitate more successful hand washing and a more germ-free environment, improving the McGurk's Room door, and providing resources for the playground.
- Assisting the school library with a software program to manage library assets.
- Landscaping resources, carpet cleaning, snow removal, etc.
- Back to School and Holiday goodie bags, and Soulard School t-shirts, for teachers and staff
- Discretionary classroom resource funding
- Matching Gifts for School Families Annual Giving donations
- More chairs for the McGurk's room so all students and staff have a place to sit during lunch!

**\$2,500 Annual Giving Match: WOW**

In the process of evaluating requests we were able to meet several needs by finding resources within our school community without spending cash. Thanks to the members of the PA and the administration and teachers who came together to make this happen. Special thanks to Shannon McGrath (Arianna in Enigma and Henry in Nursery) who has done a great job as treasurer in helping make all of this happen!

**One More Chance to Make a Difference!** The PA is holding a **Pasta Fundraiser** with the help of David Burmeister (Vera, Quietude) and Midwest Pasta. *Look for order forms coming home in backpacks!*

**Open PA Meeting | Thursday, May 1<sup>st</sup> in the McGurk's Room**

**Agenda: Election of Officers for 2014-15 School Year.** If you are interested in becoming an officer in the PA next year please contact Beth Hyser at 314.608.8299 or speak with a current officer of the PA. If you want to know more about what we do, please check out the PA docs on Base Camp. All are welcome to attend and participate. **Babysitting will be provided.** We hope to see you there.

## Camp Soulard

**At Camp Soulard, our playground is the city of St. Louis!**

Get ready to explore, build, experiment, create, and devour all this great town has to offer. Our themed camps take advantage of our proximity to the Historic Soulard Market, AB-InBev Brewery, several city parks, and so much more to give campers the chance to unplug summer and get their hands dirty, all while learning new skills and making new friends.

[Download the brochure & application to mail in.](#)

**Camp Soulard is open to students entering Grades 1 - 6.**

**All camps are held from 9am-3pm, Monday through Friday.**

### EARLY-BIRD RATES!

**IF YOU REGISTER BEFORE MARCH 21ST:**

One-Week Sessions: \$150 | Two-Week Sessions: \$290

### AFTER MARCH 21ST:

One-Week Sessions: \$175 | Two-Week Sessions: \$325

Early Morning Care is available at 8:00 at no charge.

Extended Day is available until 6:00 p.m.

## Urban Camping

**June 2-6 & 9-13**

Explore the great outdoors without leaving the city! This camp will focus on outdoor camping in an urban setting. Campers will learn skills such as fire building, orienteering, outdoor cooking, and creating shelter. Outdoor camper safety will be taught throughout the sessions. Campers will navigate our neighborhood and find the wild in our urban world. We will take field trips to Club So III Climbing Gym and city parks, and all of our new skills will culminate in a campout in our tents at the Soulard School!

## Camp: Construction

**June 16-20 & 23-27**

Who doesn't love building a cushion fort or creating worlds with Legos? This camp will fuel that instinct for innovation through individual and team building challenges that utilize everything from the lowly toothpick to pool noodles, the contents of the recycling bin to a pile of sheets, and even our own playground. We will also hear from local architects, design our dream houses, and take a walking tour of Historic Soulard architecture. A trip to the quintessential architectural feature of St. Louis, the Gateway Arch, will cap our construction experience!

## Science of Summer

**July 14-18 & 21-25**

What happens in your body when it's hot and you play a rousing game of capture the flag? How fast do tadpoles turn into frogs? What do seeds look like underground when they're starting to turn into plants? What seasonal fruit combinations make the best smoothies and popsicles? These are just a few of the questions we will explore during the Science of Summer. We'll head to nearby parks, as well as to the St. Louis Science center and the A-B/InBev Brewery to experience science and talk to experts.

## Upcycling Studio

**July 28- Aug 1 & Aug 4-8**

Be a part of the latest craze in art and design--upcycling! Campers will turn found objects, recycled products, and thrift-store finds into beautiful and useful works of art. Campers will create sculptures, wearable art and jewelry, as well as collaborative projects. The summer weather will allow us to move outside and create big, messy works of art too! We'll take field trips to the Upcycle Exchange on South Grand and the St. Louis Art Museum.

## Be A Camp Soulard Counselor!

For students entering 7th-12th grade

[Download Brochure](#)

Camp Soulard seeks enthusiastic, energetic, creative, and compassionate young people to serve as counselors this summer. You will gain valuable work experience by working independently, with partners, and as a larger group of leaders to develop activities, organize groups of campers, attend to specific needs of campers, and assist camp staff in staying organized and on schedule. Your contribution is vital to the life of Camp Soulard, so please fill out an application today! These positions are volunteer, much like an internship. Counselors will need to turn in a \$25 fee per week to cover their training, daily snack, and any field trip expenses. If they are in need of aftercare, the \$60/week fee applies the same as for campers.

You may also call or email:

**Emily Bryan**

Out-of-School-Time Coordinator

[emily.bryan@soulardschool.org](mailto:emily.bryan@soulardschool.org)

(314)865-27999

## Thanks to our Donors

We are profoundly grateful to those who help The Soulard School build capacity through very generous multi-year pledges and major gifts.

### FOUNDING DONORS

(\$10,000 - \$30,000 per year, up to 5 years)

Anonymous

Joan & Lance Callis

Dr. William Danforth

Gray, Ritter & Graham, P.C.

James P. Holloran

Orville Middendorf

Andrew O'Brien

The Saigh Foundation

Today and Tomorrow Education Foundation

The John and Joan Vatterott Foundation

### 2013-14 MAJOR DONORS

(\$5,000 - \$25,000)

Anonymous

Michael Barr, Sysco St. Louis

Deaconess Foundation

Lucie & David Dempsey

James Dowd

Laura & Norman Eaker

John D. McGurk's

### DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Sarah Christman,

Co-Founder & Interim Executive Director  
Eleanor White,

Operations & Communications Manager  
Erin Quick,

Development & Events Manager

Nathan Beckett, Parent & Board Chair

Andrea Dunn, Parent

Todd Frankel, Parent

Michael Harrold, Parent

Rachel Kryah, Parent

Dave Stifacek, Parent

## Annual Appeal

Our families are simply phenomenal! This year's annual appeal **raised over \$38,000**, and we gained **TWO new Grandparent Scholars!**

Our beloved grandparents gave over **\$9,000**, which was matched dollar-for-dollar by an anonymous grandparent donor. **97%** of our families contributed, donating almost **\$12,000** - this included over **\$1,400** from new families and an almost **\$1,000** increase in returning family contributions! And for the first year, our PA proudly announced a matching gift, which totaled **\$2,500!!**

**THANK YOU** for your support of our Equitable Tuition Program!

## Trivia Night

Do you know who founded Soulard? You do if you went to our annual Trivia Night! Thank you so much to all who helped make this such a fun event, including **Mad Art Gallery**, our awesome event organizing committee, and our fabulous prize donors: **John D. McGurk's, Subterranean Books, City Museum, StL Cinemas, The Sweet Divine, 4Hands Brewing, Panera Bread, and Beth & Rob Hyser!**

We were able to **raise over \$3,500** - THANK YOU!

## Mardi Gras

Despite the dreary weather predictions, Soulard was hopping over Mardi Gras weekend! We raised **\$800 in tips** this year at the McGurk's booth. Thank you to our volunteers who braved the weather and the crowds, and to our long-time supporter John D. McGurk's for inviting us to help out and donating **#TipsfortheKids!**

*McGurk's*

## Grants Awarded

The Soulard School is incredibly grateful to the following foundations for supporting our innovative educational programs:

### The Saigh Foundation

AUGUST 2013: **\$10,000 grant**

[theSAIGHfoundation.org](http://theSAIGHfoundation.org)

### Play It Forward, John V. Rudebeck Foundation

OCTOBER 2013: **\$500 grant**



### Today and Tomorrow Education Foundation - tuition support

NOVEMBER 2013: **\$17,000**

MARCH, 2014: **\$19,000**



### Deaconess Foundation

DECEMBER, 2013: **\$5,000 grant**



### Missouri Arts Council

MARCH, 2014: **\$1,800 grant**



Our goal this year is **5,000 Box Tops** - help us get there!

A huge thanks to Dave Stifacek (TJ, Alchemy) for coordinating!