



Garden School Newsletter



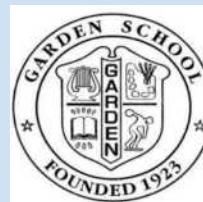
Richard Marotta, Ph. D., Headmaster

Volume 97: Number: XXII

"Cultivating Success in Every Child"

Thoughts for the Week

By: [Richard Marotta, Ph.D.](#),
Headmaster



Friday, February 14, 2020

I want to wish all members of our community a wonderful winter vacation, filled with activities, rest and renewal. Our school year follows the progressive calendar, which allows us to have periodic breaks during which we can refresh and renew our energy for the coming months. Enjoy every moment of the week and come back ready to move into the spring semester. Have a wonderful winter holiday!!



Students in Mrs. Ahfeld's First Grade class bid *bon voyage* to our group of international student travelers going to Senegal for the February Break - led by Mr. Gomis, Mrs. Renner, Mrs. Ferreria, and Mr. D..



TOAST THE TWENTIES

Friday, April 24th at Terrace on the Park

The 2020 Garden Gala, "Toast the Twenties," will take place on Friday, April 24th at Terrace on the Park in Flushing Meadows Park. We are excited to share our theme for this Gala, "The Twenties," and yes, you may dress in 1920's attire if you wish! So, let's get creative and dress to impress!

The Gala Committee will be hosting our annual invitation mailing on Saturday, Feb. 29nd in the Library following the Meet the New Head of School. Join us and find out how the gala is progressing.

The 2020 Gala will celebrate the career of Dr. Richard Marotta, who has spent the last almost 30 years making Garden School the formidable educational institution it is today.

We are accepting donations to the Silent Auction and Journal Ads are on sale. Please visit the Gala page (gardengala.givesmart.com) for more information. Auction donations can be dropped off in the main office. Individual Tickets are \$145.00 and can be purchased in advance [online](#). RSVP by April 10! Thank you to those who have already purchased tickets, journal ads and made auction donations.

Please contact the Gala Committee if you have any questions or suggestions. (gala@gardenschool.org) Our committee is open to new members so consider joining us. Our meetings take place on Tuesday evenings at 6PM in the Library. Join us after Mid-Winter Break.

Please come celebrate with us and make this Gala the best party ever.

TICKETS: Gala Tickets are on sale [online](#) now. Tickets are priced at \$145 per person or \$1,450 for a Table of Ten. Can't attend? Donate a ticket for a teacher. Young Alumni tickets (Class of 2009-2019) are priced at \$95 and Senior Class tickets are \$75.

AUCTION DONATIONS: The Gala is collecting donations for the Silent Auction. Suggested donations range from Sports Tickets, Theater Tickets, Museum Memberships, Gym Memberships, Wine and Spirits, Men's and Women's accessories and jewelry, restaurant gift certificates, gift certificates to children's activities, gift certificates to classes for children and adults (cooking, pottery, yoga, spin, knitting and crocheting, glass blowing, wall climbing). Use your imagination and think outside the box. **Our auction donations deadline is April 3.**

JOURNAL & CLASS ADS: Journal Ads are on sale as well as Class Ads. Purchase a personal advertisement in the Journal Book to congratulate Dr. Marotta or take out an ad to advertise your business! Order your ads [here](#). **Class Ads** – Every year each class pools together funds to create an ad to be published in the Gala Journal Book. This year as we celebrate Dr. Marotta's career, we hope that every class will participate. Ads can be emailed to gala@gardenschool.org

Our Ad deadline is March 27. Need help or suggestions creating the ad? Design help is available through the Gala Committee. If you haven't seen last year's Journal Book, you can view an online version of the 2019 Journal [here](#). If you have any questions regarding the Gala, please reach out to us! (gala@gardenschool.org). See you at the 2020 Garden Gala honoring Dr. Richard Marotta on Friday, April 24 at Terrace on the Park!





GARDEN GALA

— TOAST THE TWENTIES —



— CELEBRATING THE CAREER OF —

DR. RICHARD MAROTTA

HEAD OF SCHOOL
1991-2020

FRIDAY, APRIL 24, 2020 | 6:30-11:30 PM
TERRACE ON THE PARK

COCKTAILS & OPEN BAR
HORS D'OEUVRES & STATIONS
MOBILE SILENT AUCTION
DJ & DANCING

BUY TICKETS ONLINE NOW

CONGRATULATE DR. MAROTTA IN THE GALA JOURNAL BOOK
PREVIEW THE MOBILE SILENT AUCTION
MAKE A DONATION

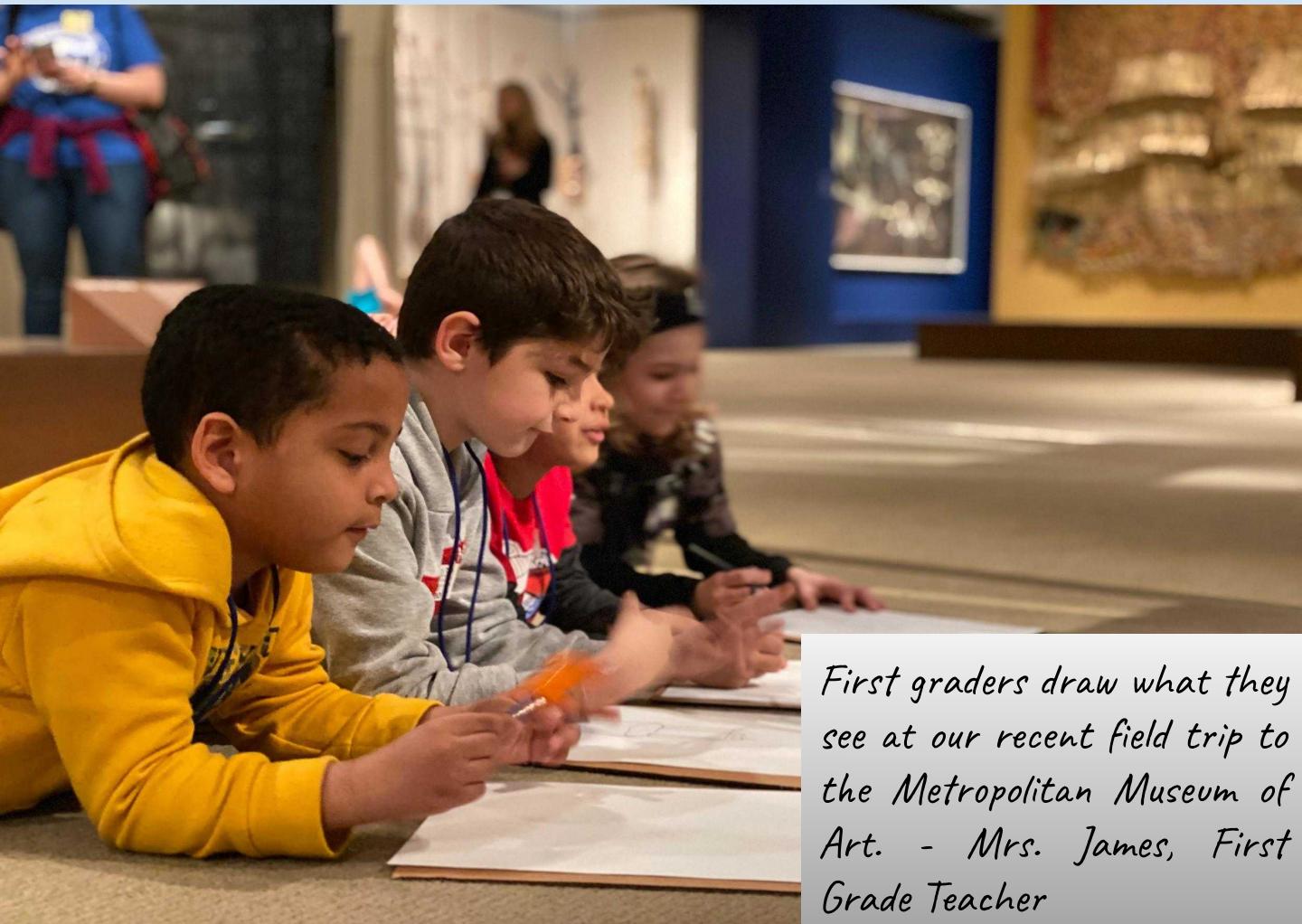
WWW.GARDENGALA.GIVESMART.COM

#GARDENGALA



Dates To Remember

- **February Break - Monday, Feb. 17 – Friday, Feb. 21 (School Closed)**
 - Garden School Senegal Trip (see Mr. Gomis)
- **Monday, February 24 (Classes Resume)**
 - **100th Day of School (Let's celebrate!)**
- **Spring Student/Teacher Conferences for Upper School Only - Tuesday, February 25**
- **Friday, March 13, Faculty Workshop (School Closed)**



On Monday the second and third graders went to the MET for a program about art and storytelling. The highlight of the trip for many was a sculpture of Andromeda and the Sea Monster. The children were first brought to the back of the sculpture and asked about what they saw. They were then asked to predict what they thought the front of the sculpture would look like. As they walked around to the front, they were surprised by what they saw. The thing that looked like the tail of a fish from behind, was not part of the woman, making her a mermaid - but instead, it was the tail of a sea monster. The sculpture is a representation of Andromeda, daughter of a mighty king, and the sea monster, sent to devour her. The myth says that Andromeda's mother bragged endlessly that her daughter was the most beautiful. Poseidon, the God of the sea, became tired of hearing this for he thought his daughters were the most beautiful. Poseidon created a flood and sent a sea monster to kill everyone. The king, father of Andromeda, didn't know what to do. So, he consulted with the oracle which told him to sacrifice his daughter, the beautiful Andromeda. Perseus, who falls in love with Andromeda, agrees to rescue her if he is allowed to marry her. It is agreed upon, and the two marry.

Back in the classroom, the third graders read about this famous Greek myth. They had many questions. One of which was, "Why did the Greeks make up stories?" They thought it was interesting to learn that the Greeks used storytelling to teach morality and to explain natural phenomena that they couldn't yet understand. We discussed the characters in this story – who they are and what they represent. In language arts, the third graders chose a character from the myth Andromeda and the Sea Monster to interview. The third graders had to travel back in time to ancient Greece. Where could they find Poseidon or Andromeda? What would they ask him/her? How would he/she respond? David interviewed Perseus, and wrote, "How did you feel when you saw Andromeda chained to a tree?" Perseus (David) responds, "I fell in love with her immediately, but then I saw the expression on her face.... I used my magic sickle and cut the chains. Andromeda couldn't thank me enough!"

Storytelling at the Metropolitan Museum of Art



by [Rachel Vidal](#)
(Third Grade Lead Teacher)

Garden School Yearbook Sale
Buy your yearbook today. Have memories forever. It's not too late. Click the griffin to order your copy.

Go Griffins



Healthy Bodies and Plenty of Movement in Nursery

By [Joanne Vogel](#) (Science Teacher)

Nursery has proudly identified who Abraham Lincoln is in American History. So, on Wednesday, February 11, we also played outside (which reminded us that even Presidents were once children too!). We enjoyed climbing up the steps and going down the slides. We even balanced ourselves across the beam. This week's topic is Health and Movement. When we came back to the classroom we put away our jackets and washed our hands. Then we reread an old favorite *Germs are not for Sharing!* We remind the children daily to use a tissue, wash their hands, and to cover coughs and sneezes with their sleeves.

February is also Dental Health Month. We have started to talk about taking care of our teeth. We learned a new song sung to the tune of Row, Row, Row your Boat

Brush, brush, brush your teeth.

Brush them every day.

Up and down and all around Brush the germs away

We also shared a tooth brushing chart to help the children remember to brush at least twice a day.

Remember to support these healthy habits at home. And of course, you can include healthy snacks and foods, as well as proper clothing when going out. Here's to an early spring!

Annual Sixth Grade Mousetrap Racecar Project

For the past few weeks, the 6th-grade science class has been investigating the principles of force and motion. This culminated with their designing and building of Mousetrap Race-cars. They designed and constructed their racecars out of reused material. All the students were to design, build, and test their cars, powered by the spring of a mousetrap at least 10 feet.

Now they will start their understanding of Machines and how we use them in our everyday life. They will learn about the six simple machines and how to combine them to make compound machines.

By [John Hale](#)
(Science Teacher)



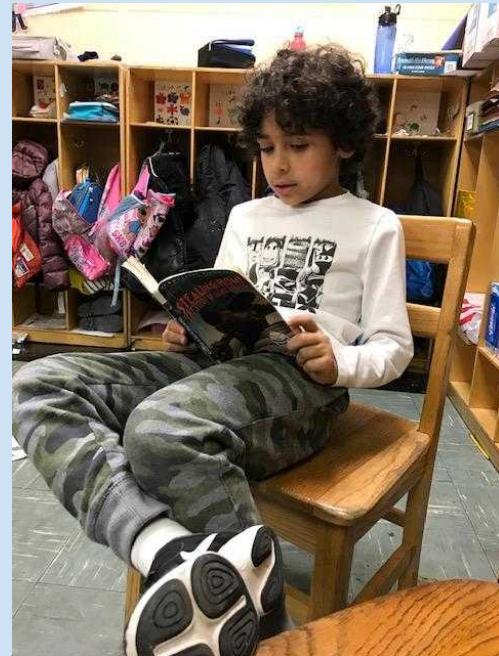
Nursery students at Garden receive a full mind and body workout every day!

Famous People in History by Paula James (Second Grade)

Our language arts and social studies lessons connect us to the lives of great inventors and famous personalities from the past and present. The second grade students have been reading about famous inventors in connection with Black History month and upcoming Women's History month. The students have chosen to read about important inventors and personalities such as George Washington Carver, Ella Fitzgerald, Patricia Bath, Jesse Owens, and Jackie Robinson. They will write and edit their own book report and then present it to their classmates. Learning and writing about famous people is just a part of what we will do. Once our book reports are completed and presented, students will work together in small groups to prepare an interview style script for each of the five personalities they have researched. The goal is to present their work to their classmates and to the first and third graders as well. We look forward to welcoming our audience to our upcoming presentation of "Famous People in History".



Mrs. Yandow's Paper Bag Players



Fourth Grade Science Construct Weathervanes

by [Marlene Dapice](#)

Students are currently learning about the Earth, its weather, cycles, composition, and natural resources. The class will perform several different activities as they proceed through this unit. Among the activities students will be performing to enhance their studies will include making fresh water from salt water (desalination), constructing weather vanes, designing a building to withstand a hurricane, examining rock types, and mimicking earthquakes. The effect of climate change on our planet will be an underlying theme throughout the unit, and will culminate in the completion of their Tundra project.

Pre-Kindergarten math newsletter article for 2/14/2020 on measurement

by Eileen Reyes (Pre-K Teacher)

Measurement and Data has been the math unit of study for the past couple of weeks. The students have been describing and comparing measurable attributes using vocabulary such as: small, big, tall, short, long, heavy, light, full, empty, etc. Knowledge of this vocabulary allows students to use this comparative language to solve problems and answer questions. Their vocabulary was extended even further to include words and concepts such as: tall, taller, tallest, and short, shorter, shortest, etc. Some of the ways these measurement skills were practiced were by comparing photos on paper and playing measuring games on the Smartboard. Length and height was measured in the math center when the students used non-standard objects to measure representations of pencils, glue bottles, crayons, and paint cans. Fairy tales such as *The Three Little Bears* and *The Three Billy Goats Gruff* also reinforced these important measurement skills. We read *Planning an Elephant's Party* by Raye Lankford, *Big and Small* by Elizabeth Bennett, and *Ants Rule the Long and Short of It* by Bob Barner. We took a picture walk through *How Tall, How Short, and How Far Away?* by David Adler.



¿Está frío? or ¿Hace frío?

By Agustín Melara (Chair, World Languages Department)

This week, students in Spanish 7 learned all about the multifaceted verb *Hacer*, which can express what someone does or makes. For example: "Yo hago la tarea en la biblioteca" (I do the homework in the library) or, "Tú haces planes para el fin de semana" (You make plans for the weekend). However, the verb *Hacer* is also used when referring to the weather on any given day, month, or season. Ironically, many native speakers erroneously use the verb *Estar* when referring to the weather. Example: "It is cold today" does not translate to, "Está frío hoy." Instead, the correct form is: "Hace frío hoy." So, when do we use: "Está frío"? --when stating that something is cold. Example: "El café **está frío**" (The coffee is cold). Upon returning from our February break, we will learn about the different parts of the house and prepositions of place to indicate where objects are generally located throughout the house.





BAKE SALE

Protect ourselves from the virus



Clean hands with soap and water or alcohol-based hand rub



Cover nose and mouth with tissues or inside of elbow when coughing or sneezing



Avoid close contact with anyone with cold or flu-like symptoms



Thoroughly cook meat and eggs



Avoid unprotected contact with live wild or farm animals

FEB. 25th, 2020!(it's the Tuesday after the break)

MAIN HALLWAY!

THE BEST BAKE SALE EVER!!!

Come and Support us!

Third Graders Hustle Bustle and Learn a Few Skills by Kristen Ahfeld (Science Teacher)

"Rose Robot Cleans Up" by Mary Anderson is a story in our reading series. In the story Rose and her brother make things from stuff they find lying around. The students greatly enjoyed reading the story and as literature extension, we set out to create things from "stuff" we found laying around school. The students teamed up and worked on their collaboration skills to engineer their project. They used wonderful imagination to build a variety of creations. Students were given large, reused corrugated boxes, along with other materials we found to transform their ideas into works of art. Students worked as busy bees and with great determination. Each group then presented their projects to each other with great enthusiasm. It's fun to read in first grade.

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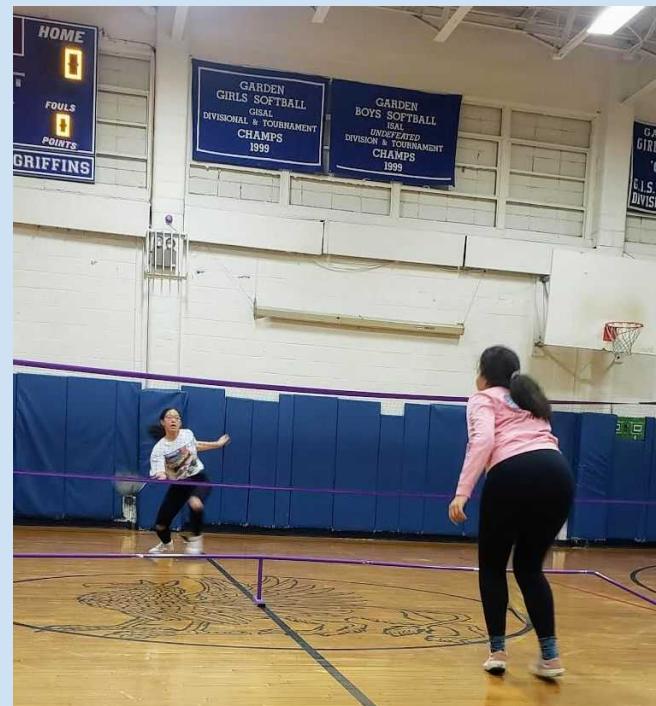
Ninth Grade P.E. - Badminton is a Fun Competitive Unit at Garden

by Michelle Ferreria

First, we go over rules of the game. Afterwards we start out our Singles Tournament, which we do randomly pick names and have a bracket that we created. So each student starts off with two lives, if you lose twice you're automatically eliminated. Each game is played till fifteen and you must win by two points.

Each time you win you more closer to the end of the Tournament but if you lose one game it takes longer and you play more people to get to the end of the Tournament. Only one person could win the whole thing and from the Singles it was Josephina Guervich (9th Grader).

We have now start Doubles where Mr. D and I get to pick their partner and its played exactly like the Singles but with an additional person. The students have so much fun in this unit. Our next unit which will start sometime in March will be Ultimate Frisbee. Everyone enjoy your break and be safe.



Josefina and Lorenne spar in a Badminton competition.

PKFA News

by [Maria Victoria](#) (PKFA Lead Teacher)

This has been a very busy week for Pre K For All at Garden School. On Monday, we celebrated our 100th Day of Pre-School, students were given the choice to dress like they were 100 days old or in a homemade t-shirt with 100 items pasted on. Classes also continued exploring the Unit on LIGHT. Students explored the differences about light, darkness and shadows. They used their background knowledge to support their understanding of how the moon "shines" and what is sunlight or "natural light". They were invited to take some time and look at the painting, *THE STARRY NIGHT* by Vincent Van Gogh. They were asked the following questions: What do you notice about the painting? How does the painting make you feel? What do you see in the picture? Students shared their thoughts and then tried to replicate the painting in their own ways. Students were given the choice of where to paint their masterpieces; some students painted by lantern, others used the light table, and a few painted in natural light by the windows. We ended our week with a Valentine's Day theme; to celebrate friendship, students dressed in red, pink or white and shared Valentine's treats with their friends. Families were also invited to participate and complete a NYC DOE Survey, these responses will be used to provide information that will help our program improve its learning environment.



Juky in Ninth grade estimates the number of beans in the jar.



Shout-out to Mrs. Grere for setting up a "How-Many-Beans-Can-You-Count" counter in the main hallway.

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Go Griffins



**Mr. Kruczek's
Grade 11: AP US History Course**

What's Old is New...

We have just finished learning of the plight of the laborer and the farmer in the years 1865-1900. Capital fell into the hands of a very few, the workers, many of whom were new immigrants, were exploited and the farmers were bled dry by the railroads. Their efforts to rectify their situations all failed, said failure set in stone by pro-business Supreme Court decisions. The rhetoric coming from the left in this election cycle may as well have come from William Jennings Bryan, himself. The fact that these issues, though present in different forms, largely have never gone away stunned the students, and made for a healthy discussion of the present, as well.

**Mr. Kruczek's
Grade 12: Humanity Through Conflict
Course**

All Quiet - and Completed!

The students have just completed All Quiet on the Western Front, perhaps the seminal novel about war and its horrendous ripple effects. Everyone - on the home front and the Western Front - suffered. The students were taken aback at the horrors of war, but there were moments where the soldiers - in full-on, brutal survival mode - saw their humanity come flooding through them just as instinctively. The students fully grasped it all, and their writing has been absolutely spot-on brilliant. It's been a joy to watch this course unfold.

Ava Zamora

Tempest Sonnet

Whomever finds this, it's an urgent day.

My father's dead and I am at a loss.

It's quite a gorgeous island, I must say.

Big rocks, soft sand, clear waters, and green moss.

But I'm not sure what I should do, oh dear!

How do I flee this empty island lair?

If only help could swiftly travel here!

But some strange noise has floated through the air.

A voice so wondrous, like it's not from near!

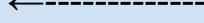
I guess it's something like an island god.

Sings nonsense words that fill me with such fear!

It made some sense, I listened as I trod.

A song about my father's death, I heard.

I'm begging you for help, please keep your word.



Mrs. Massand's Eighth Grade English Class has read Shakespeare's play *The Tempest*. Ava Z. has written a sonnet told from the point of view of Miranda, the daughter of the wizened wizard Prospero. Great job, Ava!



The Girls Varsity Basketball Team Won the Championship!

As some of you might have heard our Varsity Girls Basketball Team made it to the championship game and won the game against LREI. Congrats to Coaches Battaglia and Ferreira!

Olivia P.
Lorenne P.
Clarissa M.
Cecilia I.
Ilana Marengo
Jelieen Rivera
Josephina Guervich
Hayden Atwood
Bella Bandura - Videographer
Laura Mazuera - Bookkeeper

Greetings Garden Families,

The PTA will be hosting our annual **Garden School Book Fair** on **Tuesday, February 25th and Wednesday, February 26th in the library!!**

A wide variety of books will be available to purchase. **Please support** your PTA by participating in the book fair.

Books will be available for **EVERY** grade.

Volunteers are needed to assist with the book fair, so please consider donating your time!

Thank you,
Garden PTA

