

April 5, 2019

Dear Families,

As part of our school district's partnership with the **Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory**, the first graders enjoyed their visit to the lab where they participated in exciting science activities. They explored the properties of a mystery substance (*was it a solid or liquid?*), learned about chromatography, and even touched the brain of a sheep! The children loved learning about DNA and how it is a code for the proteins that make up the human body. It was a great scientific experience! We are so grateful that our students have the opportunity to learn from "real" scientists in our very own community.

Goosehill students love science! They engage in exciting investigations on a regular basis. It is wonderful to witness their delight as they explore light as it reflects and refracts or test objects to see if they sink or float. Our first graders love learning about their turtles and the kindergarten students thoroughly enjoyed the recent unit on force and motion. Here is a link for ideas for some simple science experiments you can conduct as a family at home:

<https://mommypoppins.com/kids/50-easy-science-experiments-for-kids-fun-educational-activities-using-household-stuff>

Our Spirit Day assembly yesterday was very special. First, we celebrated the fact that our students earned and donated **\$1,000.00** worth of coins to support the Little Shelter Animal Rescue and Adoption Center. Members of our SIT purchased laundry detergent, cat and dog toys and food with the money so the children could see the tangible results of their efforts. Arleen Leone, Director of Special Programs at Little Shelter, introduced *Buddy* to the children, thanked them for their kindness and generosity, and told them how their donations would be used to help other animals, just like Buddy. Next, Mr. Michael Vittorio, President/CEO of The First National Bank of Long Island (and Britton Travaglianti's Grandpa), and Branch Manager Colleen DeStefano, presented a check to Little Shelter in support of our students' fundraising efforts- in the amount of \$250! (The First National Bank of Long Island had also waived the coin-counting fee for us.) Mr. Vittorio praised the children for being heroes---kids who care about people, animals, and the planet Earth. Each of our guests told the children how impressed they were with their acts of kindness. We were all very proud. Thank you to the members of our School Improvement Team: Mrs. Gulino, Mrs. Lupinacci-Lawniczak, Mrs. Saladino, Mrs. Travaglianti, Mrs. Franciscovich, Mrs. Ranaldo, Ms. Golden, and Ms. McDevitt for all of your efforts in support of our school. Thank you, parents, for your support of this community service project. Your children are learning important lessons about kindness, generosity, and being a contributing member of a community.

Have a wonderful weekend!

Warm regards,

Lynn Herschlein