

the

Argenziano Pride Journal

Winter is here!

We kicked off the winter season with our fabulous Winter Concert!

Students in grades Pre-K – 4, as well as Strings and Chorus students performed for an audience of students, parents and relatives who came to join us for the concert.

It was amazing! Thank you to all students who participated and for the music staff who worked arduously to prepare them.

In the pictures: Strings students performing during the Winter Concert and one of our parents showing she was ready for the holiday season!

We hope you all had a great holiday season!



Message from

Ms. Glenda Soto, Interim Principal &
Mr. Larry Silverman, Interim Assistant Principal

Every morning, two of our 2nd grade students join us to do the Pledge of Allegiance and the number of the day. They come up with creative ways to get to the number of the day by adding, subtracting, and multiplying. This January 22nd they reminded us that it was the 90th day of school.

We are officially halfway through the year!

**The Argenziano School
is
Somerville's PRIDE!**



Save the Dates!

**MLK Celebration
January 31st, 2019**

Students in grades 5 -8 and Band will perform in the cafeteria.

Parents welcome!
Event starts at
9:15am

**Parent Teacher
Conferences**

February 27th, 2019

Teachers will be sending notifications home to set up meeting times

In this issue

New Staff ... 2

Students' News 3

Celtics Challenge... 4

PTA News 5

Calendar 6

Anthony DeSousa: Spanish Teacher

Hello, my name is Anthony DeSousa and I am the new Spanish teacher here at the Argenziano School. I am an admirer of languages and I speak Spanish, Portuguese and French. I am also a soccer coach and a fan of the sport. I have been teaching since 1999, and most of my experience is at the high school level with 2 years experience in middle school level. I am originally from Lowell, Massachusetts and I now live in Nashua, NH. Not only do I love languages, but I am also a promoter of student travel, which is a great way to learn other languages and cultures. So far, I have had a great experience here at the Argenziano, with very welcoming students and staff. I am excited to be a member of the team and thank you for your support!

New Staff

Dalia Gommerstadt: 4th Grade



I'm Dalia Gommerstadt, the new 4th grade teacher at Argenziano. I'm so excited to be here! I come from Brookline, where I have experience as an elementary special educator, and Newton, where I was a substitute for two years. I also worked as a bilingual (Russian & English) math teacher at the Studio of Engaging Math, tutored students with autism and learning disabilities, and volunteered at many Boston-area schools. At all of these different places, I worked with students in grades K-8 in general education and special education settings, which provided me with invaluable experience going forward. In my spare time, I like to bike, do Zumba, and go ice-skating. I look forward to getting to know and becoming a part of the Somerville community!

Hello! My name is Molly Coon. I'm excited to be joining the Argenziano School as a long-term substitute with Ms. Yarmel's third-grade class. I am currently studying towards a Master's degree in Elementary Education from Lesley University; since September I have been working with Ms. Jaenicke and her second-grade students. Before enrolling in graduate school, I was the lead teacher at the Peabody Terrance Children Center (PTCC), a Reggio Emilia program affiliated with Harvard University, for four years. Prior to that, I worked with community organizations in Western Massachusetts focused on food security and emergency services. When I'm not teaching, I enjoy yoga and cooking. If we have not already met, I look forward to getting to know more students and families over the course of the winter and spring.

Molly Coon: 3rd Grade



Emily Stevens: Science 7th & 8th



Ms. Stevens is a recent graduate of Lesley University's Graduate School of Education. She has worked with students in several schools in Boston and spent the first half of the school year working with 7th and 8th graders as a student teacher at the Winter Hill Community School. Ms. Stevens values student-centered, hands-on learning and is looking forward to exploring the science curriculum with your students. Outside of school, she enjoys cooking, going to museums and exploring the Greater Boston area. Ms. Stevens is excited to continue working in Somerville and to join the community at the Argenziano School. If you see her, feel free to say hello and introduce yourself!

Students' News

All-State Treble Chorus

We are proud to announce that 8 of our students were accepted into the All-State Treble Chorus. These students will perform with 200 other students from across Massachusetts in a concert at the Boston Seaport Hotel on March 2nd as part of the Massachusetts Music Educators Association Conference.

Congratulations to all of them!

Catherine Kiely-Ilch (6th), Isa Membreno-Gomez (6th), Amelia Laguerre (5), Piper MacDonald (5), Cybele Miller (6th), Jack Quinonez (5th), Anarghya Rajbanshi (5th), Linmaea Sidel (4th)

Math Meet

A team composed of 7th and 8th grade students represented the Argenziano School on the Math Meet on Monday, January 14th. Our team performed really well and two of our students won first and second place overall.

Congratulations to all of them!

*Michael Timmins (7th Grade: 1st Place), Lucca Valdes (7th Grade: 2nd Place)
Ainsley Moulton (8th), Peter Lounsberry (8th), Justin Torino (8th), Shital Oli (8th)*

Martin Luther King Jr. Celebration: Essay

Every year the City of Somerville celebrates Martin Luther King Jr.'s legacy and invites students to write an essay related to the theme. This year's theme was "Celebrating the Strength of Our Differences". Two Argenziano students were selected as winners. In addition to reading the essay to the audience, both students will receive a citation from Mayor Curtatone.

Congratulations to Molly Millbury(5th) and Demerise Calzaretta (7th)!

Our teachers and staff recognize students who exhibit Argenziano **P R I D E**.

P erseverance

R espect

I nclusiveness

D etermination

E mpathy



Students who received a PAW during the 2nd quarter will be getting their PAW back along with a token for a Gracie's Ice Cream Cone!

Special thank you to Gracie's!



Celtics and JN Phillips Recycling, Reducing and Reusing Challenge

The Boston Celtics and JN Phillips Auto Glass has given our school the opportunity to participate in a Recycling, Reducing and Reusing Challenge. Our school was selected amongst all other Somerville schools because of the recycling and composting initiative started in October. Our students participated in a whole-school assembly on January 4th to kick off our first challenge: *Recycle*. Our students took on a ten-day hunt for plastic bottles. Every day, we saw students marching in with huge bags full of bottles. Thank you to all parents who have helped collect bottles and to the students, teachers and custodians for working together to help the environment. Ms. Lamer's homeroom won the first challenge. They will be visiting the Museum of Science accompanied by a Celtics player on February 6th.

On February 4th, Celtics and JN Phillips representatives will return to launch the 2nd challenge: *Reduce*. Each student will receive a Celtics water bottle and tally how

many times they refill it over a 10-day period, thereby reducing their use of disposable plastic bottles.

The third and final challenge, *Reuse*, will begin on March 4. For this challenge, classrooms will compete for 10 days to turn Celtics players' "trash" into an art project or game. A panel of Celtics organization staff and JN Phillips employees will judge students' creations during the week of March 18th. The winning homerooms for the *Reduce* and *Reuse* challenges will receive tickets to an upcoming Celtics game, as well as transportation to and from the game.

Finally, to wrap up the competition and celebrate all students' accomplishments, the Celtics organization will hold a whole-school assembly on Earth Day, featuring the Celtics mascot in the *Lucky Dunk Show* and a "VIP pep talk with a Celtics Legend."



SHOUT OUT!

Our custodian, Robert, made sure everyday that all the bottles brought to school were properly recycled. This is how our back looked every afternoon during the competition.

Thank you Robert!



Albert F. Argenziano School
Parent Teacher Association (PTA)
 290 Washington Street, Somerville, MA 02143
 Email: afaspta@gmail.com
 Tax ID: 042781633
 President: Ilana Krapchin Vice-Presidents: Eric Yanovsky, Michele Ahouse
 Treasurer: Melissa Sawyer Secretaries: Elisa McDowell, Jocelyn Kasow

The Argenziano PTA will be hosting a panel to discuss the safer use of social media. Raising children in the age of smartphones and social media brings new challenges and concerns for all families. We are inviting you to join us on:

Date: Thursday, February 7th

Time: 6:30 - 8:00 pm

Location: Argenziano Cafeteria

Let's celebrate Safer Internet Day 2019, which **promotes safer and more responsible use of online technology and mobile phones among children and teens.**

During this event you'll learn about the importance of digital safety and the Smart Talk, an interactive website created by National PTA and LifeLock, a Symantec company, to help families and kids talk about using digital devices responsibly and decide a few important questions together, like:

- What are they allowed to post on social media?
- What should their privacy settings be and what apps can they download?
- How much screen time is ok?

March is Literacy Month!

In celebration of Literacy Month the PTA will be sponsoring several events in school and out of school. We look forward to having a Spirit Week, author visits, guest readers, book sale, Literacy Night, and the Reading Challenge, among other events.

- **Week of March 25 – 29:** *Book Sale from Porter Square Books.* This will be take place in the PTA room. It will only be open before school and afterschool. Young children can come and shop with their parents, older children can come shop themselves before and afterschool.
- **March 29:** *Literacy Night* 6-8 pm. Free pizza, Porter Square book sale, story teller, used book swap, free raffle.

Please contact us or keep in touch using:

- www.argenzianopta.org
- <https://www.facebook.com/argenzianopta>
- <https://www.instagram.com/argenzianoschoolpta>
- afaspta@gmail.com

Third Quarter Calendar of Events

January 23 – April 2

January 23: 3rd Quarter begins

January 30: MLK Celebration Dress Rehearsal.

For students only. Grades 5 – 8 and Band

January 31st: MLK Celebration. Grades 5 – 8 and Band. Parents welcome in the cafeteria at 9:15am

February 4th: Celtics Assembly. Reducing Challenge. For students only.

February 6th: Half-Day for all students.

Professional Development for Teachers

February 7th: Safer Social Media. Hosted by PTA in the Argenziano cafeteria from 6:30 – 8:00pm

February 8th: Superintendent Awards at 8:30 am in the cafeteria. By Invitation

February 12th: CTE Presentation for 8th Graders in the cafeteria

School Council Meeting from 5:30 – 7:00pm in Conference Room

February 18th – 22nd: Winter Recess. No School

February 25th: Classes Resume

February 26th: Report Cards go home in backpacks

February 27th: Parent Teacher Conferences 2:45 – 4:15. Teachers will send confirmations of meeting time

March 1st: Celtics Assembly: Reusing Challenge. For students only.

March 6th: Half-Day for all students.

Professional Development for Teachers

March 12th: School Council Meeting from 5:30 – 7:00pm in Conference Room

March 20th: Half-Day for all students.

Professional Development for Teachers

March 22nd: Joe Camara Drums Presentation.

For students only

April 2nd: 3rd Quarter Ends

April 3rd: 4th Quarter Begins

Tentative MCAS Schedule

***Subject to change**

Parents will receive notifications with final schedules the week prior to the tests.

April 2nd & 4th: 7/8 ELA

April 5th & 8th: 5/6 ELA

April 9th & 10th: 4th ELA

April 23rd & 24th: 3rd ELA

April 25th – 29th: ELA Make-Up Days

April 30 & May 1st: 7/8 Math

May 2nd & 3rd: 5/6 Math

May 7th & 9th: 4th Math

May 10th & 13th: 3rd Math

May 14th & 15th: 5/8 Science

May 16th – 21st: Math & Science Make-Up Days