What a way to end the year! Wishing you the best possible summer, warm regards from your Fletcher PTA!

Congratulations Fletcher 8th Graders. You are now Promoted to 9th Grade!*

*Congratulations also to the new 8th, 7th and incoming 6th graders

*Here is Elger’s Pomp & Circumstance; if you’d like a musical accompaniment as you read; jumping to 1:40 min is acceptable!
Be like Kyle... Take your Photo in front of the Class of 2020 Congratulations Sign!

On to High School! Although you 8th graders have had an unusually memorable promotion ceremony (none!), hopefully you are filling that void with your own family celebration. We wish all our rising 9th graders the best possible high school experience, but before that, do dive into the many summer activities waiting for you and allowed until we’re free from sheltering-in-place: art, music, tinkering, exercise, writing, building, baking, math/logic puzzles, knitting/sewing, and________! Perhaps there is a way for students to stay connected by sharing their activities somewhere secure? In the meantime, here is a link to the Recognition Night Video in case you want to watch it over and over again. Let’s cross our fingers for some face-to-face learning next year!

Thank You to All our Awesome Teachers! Students, be sure to show your parents the culminating work and projects you’ve completed in your electives, English, Math, PE, Science, Social Studies, and subjects we’ve failed to mention during this historic—albeit hectic, uncertain, and difficult—time of remote learning due to the Covid-19 pandemic. Recognizing how much extra work your teachers have already expended, we’ve chosen not to add more by requesting submissions to this last TigerTalk issue. Much of the work you’ve done is private and not able to be shared, so if you’re someone who keeps your work to yourself, make an exception and share whatever you’ve managed to achieve during this time and give yourself some credit! What follows are links to readily accessible performances/work that would normally have been shared at the end of a typical year. These works are a celebration of everyone!

Broadcast Journalism Wow, wow, and more wow! Many thanks to our Broadcast students working together with their teacher Kelly Spicer under unusual remote-learning limitations to produce this fabulous last episode of the 2019-2020 year. Despite being in its second year, this piece is evidence of how a new program with dedicated staff and students can really improve. Please enjoy this extended 28-minute episode together as a family. It captures some of the spirit, opinions, and energy of our middle school students. Love
Musical Performance Arts  Our musical performing arts teachers Jessica Denny, Tiffany Ou, and Mark Dungan aren’t going to let a little pandemic get in their way of musical expression and collaboration! Since we were unable to enjoy these in person at the end of our school year, please enjoy the following virtual concerts:

- **Choir Spring Concert**
- **Orchestra Centrifuge**
- **Fletcher 7/8 What Orchestra Means to Me**
- **Spring Band Concert**

Visual Arts  Untraditional times call for untraditional art methods--painting with egg, coffee, tea, Hot Cheetos, and Snapple! Check out the amazing variety and quality of our **2020 Spring Selection** of 7th & 8th grade Student Art. Some of teacher Linda Papanicolau’s lessons might give you ideas for jumping into art this summer--see the SIP 3-D Toolkit Challenge, lessons on value-blending, and of course painting with untraditional materials. And if photography is more your thing, take a look at our student photo portraits (find Pongo) while quarantined. As Picasso is reported to have said, “Good artists copy. Great artists steal”!

Dramatic Arts  As you can expect, the Covid-19 pandemic was a major interruption to our drama students’ efforts to perform our spring play. Teacher-director Jennifer Ellington shared, “When we left for shelter-in-place, we thought we would be back to perform our play in April. Instead, students filmed and edited in their own homes to complete our show **WCKY**.” Unlike other courses which rely more heavily on independent work, collaboration and interaction are critical to dramatic arts. Here is a chance to peek into some of the process that goes into making a play. Enjoy page 1 of the **WCKY script** and the final dance scene filmed in early March! Thank you Drama for persevering through this major obstacle to give it your best shot.

The Tiger Times  Check out our student Newspaper Club’s May edition of **The Tiger Times**. What an excellent project during this SIP time, and their focus has improved the quality enormously. Well done students! As well as student interviews and other school news, this Tiger Times edition is filled with ideas to stay busy this summer through sports, games, summer reading, and enjoying comics. Don’t miss it!

Fletcher Library  Did your children miss the opportunity to return one of the **1000+ Fletcher Library books that were checked out**?! To confirm if they’ve turned in all their books, here is a short video showing how they can check their library accounts online. PLEASE hold on to any books you have at home, enjoy re-reading them, and return them to Fletcher at the beginning of the **2020-2021 school year**. There is no time like summer to curl up with a good book. Please browse our lists made especially for you:

- Screencastify video link - An overview of summer reading with explanations and links
- PAUSD Summer Reading List - Our PAUSD Middle School Library Staff has worked since January to bring you a 26 page list of these amazing summer reads!
- Fletcher Library Summer Reading Guide - New for this year from our Fletcher Library! Enjoy! And email any questions to librarian Kristen Lee>klee@pausd.org

2020 Scholastic Art & Writing Awards  Congratulations to our own Fletcher 8th grade student **Vandana Ravi** on winning a National Gold Medal for her writing entitled, “What Writing will Teach You.” What a wonderful way to to end her middle school years and to represent our school. When the awards are uploaded to the Scholastic site we will be able to read her composition.
High School Library  Is your child a rising 9th grader going to Gunn or Paly? The Gunn and Paly Teacher Librarians would like to send you the following information:

- From the Gunn Teacher Librarian Mr. Daljeet Gill: https://youtu.be/z3CyhGd6McE
- From the Paly Teacher Librarian, Ms. Sima Thomas:
  - Introduction to high school overdrive
  - Summer reading list
  - Instructions for downloading sora app

Many Thanks & Farewell for Now  We’re not saying goodbye because we hope we see you back in our schools sooner rather than later! We cannot thank you enough for all your dedicated service to our school community. Whether it is a few years or decades, teaching is a very complex and demanding career with equally abundant rewards. Know you have made a difference in the lives of our students, and will be missed. Be safe! We leave you with the traditional Irish blessing, May the road rise up to meet you, may the wind be always at your back, and may the sun shine softly upon your face, until we meet again!

Kirsten Axberg • Lois Caires • Tony Escandon • Priscilla Kaplan • Raquel Rubalcada-Garrido • Kelly Spicer • Jeannie Tran • Nerissa Wong-Van Haren

QuaranTeen:  This summer check out a new resource created by local high school students for parents and students of all ages who are sheltering in place. The QuaranTeen site has something for everyone: forums, blogs, quizzes, and a pen-pal project for teens, a video storybook feature with local teens reading to young ones, and a parent blog section which includes book/film recommendations, TedTalks, politics, and opportunities to support social causes. If you’re looking for a trustworthy, thoughtful place to spend some time this is it!

A few Acknowledgements...

PTA & Parent Volunteers  We cannot do what we do without our giving parent volunteers. Here is a partial list of what they bring to our students and school community: Back to School Check-in Day, Welcome Back Social, Book-a-thon and Science Fair (both cancelled this year), Spring ice-cream Social, Winterlodge Ice-Skating party, Parent Education, Teacher Appreciation, Financial Secretary, Spirit-Wear, Community Outreach, Safe Routes to Schools, eNews Editor, Corporate Match, Parent Network Moderators, Environmental Action, Health & Wellness, SEL, Special Education/Inclusion, and 8th grade promotion.

A special thank you goes out to the 8th grade parents who donated their cancelled promotion party payments to the purchase of our Congratulations Class of 2020 banner and to our PACF (PA Community Fund) to support meals and needed supplies for our local families impacted more seriously by the SIP requirement.

Parent donations to our PTA fund many wonderful things at our school, including the much appreciated 8th grade Recognition Video and photo frames which had added meaning this year.

Thank you FMS 2019–2020 PTA Executive Board

Thank you to our super team of PTA exec board members for your commitment, enthusiasm, and dependability this year. We supported our students through many activities and programs, and will say au revoir not goodbye! Best of luck to those parents departing Fletcher.

President Audrey Gold • Executive VP Melissae Racz • Treasurer Jennifer Silva • VP Communications Greta Gize Olbrich • Secretary Jen Schultz • Auditors Paul Little and JuFen Hsu • VP of Advocacy Star Teachout • Financial Secretary Minal Vasanawala • co-VPs School Activities Sonia Gupta and Tami Nguyen • VP Community Activities Heewon Park and YanFeng Zhang • Parliamentarian Michael Nanevicz • Historian Matthew Hayes
Introducing our FMS 2020-2021 PTA Executive Board

Out with the old and in with the new! There is something comforting in letting go of the past to make way for the next group of volunteers. We really appreciate all the time and thoughtfulness you will give to your jobs. There is no better way to feel connected to our school and to build relationships than to join this team. We wish you the best year possible!

Co-Presidents Jennifer Silva and Melissa Racz • Co-Executive Vps Ginnie Noh and Tami Nguyen • Treasurer Sunny Hong • Auditor Mike Nanevicz • VP Community Activities Yanfeng Zhang • Co VPs of School Activities Anamari Eng and Natasha Nicol • VP of Communications Jen Schultz • Co-Secretary Tish Loeb • VP of Advocacy Rachel Gibson • Historian Matthew Hayes • Parliamentarian Paul Little

How Blissful! We’re just catching up with the first member of the Fletcher 2020 Tiger Cub Club. By the time social studies teacher Nicole Bliss returns to school this little one will probably be walking, be one of the best-read toddlers, and will have travelled virtually to all corners of the globe! “Linda Louise Bliss (named after our mothers) was born on 10/27 weighing a whopping 4 lb 12 oz! Lately she is smiling a ton, paying attention to more and more books, babbling a lot, and is loving bath time. We are so lucky Linda is a great sleeper (most nights she sleeps between 10-11 hours).” Congratulations Ms. Bliss and we hope you’ve enjoyed the extra family time that is one bonus of this memorable year!

Junior HiFi Ending this newsletter on the best possible note (pun intended!), we want to brag about our wonderful middle school choir teachers who have lifted our spirits during our remote learning with their cheeky, positive renditions of popular songs. I wonder if they’re ready for some old-time Allan Sherman? It’s A Whole New World. Have a great summer!!