

News for GCS Families from the Board of Directors



On Board Newsletter, Fall 2016

Welcome to new families and welcome back to returning families! Fall is such an exciting time and GCS is a perfect place for children and families to make new friends. As the Board of Directors, we work closely with the staff at GCS to plan a variety of events throughout the year. We embrace the community feel of the school as we plan gatherings and fun opportunities to work together to enrich the school with helping hands and fundraising.

I am happy to announce that our **Parent Social/Annual General Meeting Night** is coming up on **Monday, October 3rd at 7:30 PM** in the big room at GCS! This will be a fun time for parents to meet and mingle with the Board of Directors and learn about what we do. We hope you can make it! Please RSVP or email any questions to boardofdirectors@grotoncommunityschool.org.

We are also happy to announce our upcoming **12th Annual Groton Community Home Tour** on **Saturday, November 19th** (inclement weather date is November 20th)! The Home Tour has become a signature event in the community and is such a fun and unique way to share the day with friends and family, visiting beautiful homes while doing some holiday shopping! It is also the school's largest fundraiser for the year. This event would not be possible without the help and support of the community as well as the GCS Board of Directors, staff, and families. There are many different opportunities to be part of this spectacular fundraiser, including helping to organize the event, spreading the word, baking, volunteering on the day of the event and, of course, attending the Tour! Every year we are especially in need of volunteers to help in the homes for a few hours on the day of the tour. Volunteers in homes are also welcome to tour the other homes with a 1/2 price ticket! For additional details about the tour and/or volunteering, please visit our GCS School Website or email hometour@grotoncommunityschool.org.

As always, we welcome your feedback, questions, and participation anytime! Please talk to any member of the Board of Directors or email me at boardofdirectors@grotoncommunityschool.org.

We are all looking forward to another fun-filled and exciting year at GCS! Thank you for your support!

Best wishes,

Jenn Greenwood

President, Board of Directors



Welcome to a New Board Member

Please welcome Jeremy Chapman to the Board of Directors. We are excited to have Jeremy on the team; he will be joining Heather Spinney-Laidlaw on Buildings and Grounds.

Come On Board! Are you interested in learning more about GCS or how to become more involved? If so, please join us at one of our monthly Board of Directors meetings. These meetings are generally held on the second Monday of the month at 7:30 pm in the Big Room at GCS. All parents are welcome and encouraged to attend. Come see what you can do to help GCS reach its goals for this year!

Please reach out to Sarah Belcher or email boardofdirectors@grotoncommunityschool.org with any questions. We welcome new ideas and would love to hear from you!

Grotonfest was Fun!

We hope you had the opportunity to visit us at the GCS booth at Grotonfest this past weekend! It was a wonderful, fun-filled day! GCS Board of Directors and parents spent time providing information about our programs to interested parents in the community, while children created a fall-themed craft and enjoyed time exploring a sensory activity.



It was great to see prior, current and future families. Shelley Grove and Deb Penney, teachers at GCS were a highlight at our booth!

Many thanks to our volunteers who represented GCS at Grotonfest!



Buildings and Grounds Update

Buildings and Grounds is busy planning our **Fall Fix-Up** event, which is scheduled for **Saturday, October 15th from 9 am - 2 pm!** In the event of bad weather, the rain date is Sunday, October

16th from 12 pm - 5 pm. There will be plenty of delicious treats prepared by our own GCS Volunteer Bakers. If you don't think you have a lot of skill, don't worry! We can find something you can help with, or we can teach you a new skill. If you don't have a lot of time, don't worry! We appreciate you coming even just for an hour. It's a fun and rewarding day shared by GCS parents and high school students from Groton and our surrounding towns, making it truly a community effort!

To sign up to help at this event, please click here: [Fall Fix Up Sign Up Genius](#)

We are so happy to have our new Buildings and Grounds Co-Chair, Jeremy Chapman, on board! Welcome, Jeremy!

Parent Representatives Update

We hope everyone is having a great start to the school year! Room parents are critical and provide a tremendous amount of help to the classrooms, the school and our families. Please familiarize yourself with your room parent and keep your eye out for periodic email updates. Throughout the fall, room parents will be organizing class play dates. These play dates will provide a wonderful way for children and parents to socialize outside of the school day!



lobby.

Fundraising Update - Help GCS this Fall

Fundraising is in full swing with planning well underway for this year's **12th Annual Groton Community Home Tour!**

Additional colors of the **GCS Peace T-shirts** were introduced at the Apparel Sale during Orientation and were very popular! We are excited to announce **new GCS Camelbak water bottles** are for sale (\$14 child size, \$16 large size). All apparel and water bottles will be available for purchase the week of October 10th in the

Don't forget to clip your **Box Tops** and turn them in before the **November 1st** submission deadline. We'd love to have \$1000 in Box Tops earnings this year!

- Visit the [Box Tops website](#) for more information on the new bonus app for iPhone and Android and earn even more rewards. Shaw's Supermarket is running a Box Tops promotion through 10/30/2016! The following products will earn instant box tops: Cheerios and Honey Nut Cheerios, Cinnamon Toast Crunch, Chex Mix, Gogurt, Annie's products, Old El Paso/Taco, Scott's, Lysol Wipes, Motts, Hefty, Progresso soups and Totinos Pizza. Any General Mills cereal purchase with a 1 gallon milk purchase will earn 15 box tops!

Be on the look out for **Square 1 Art** and **Scrip Gift Cards** again this year.

Give back to our school every time you shop online at **Amazon Smile**. Use the link (<http://smile.amazon.com/>) so that 0.5% of all purchases are automatically donated to GCS.

We appreciate the support from all of our families and look forward to new and exciting ways to continue supporting our children's early education.

Volunteer for Home Tour 2016



Calling all volunteers! The [12th Annual Groton Community Home Tour](#) will take place on Saturday, November 19th. Please consider helping with our biggest fundraising event of the year. If you are interesting in planning the event, please contact Jen Burke (burkejen14@gmail.com) or Shagufta Rahman (sr7279@yahoo.com) for more information.

2016-2017 Board of Directors

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Please reach out to Sarah Belcher or email boardofdirectors@grotoncommunityschool.org with any questions or interests in joining the team. We welcome new ideas and would love to hear from you!

Stay Connected with GCS on Facebook



Check out [Groton Community School, Inc.](#) on Facebook to stay up-to-date on all the fun and exciting activities that are happening every day at GCS. We welcome your feedback and invite you to review our [Social Media Etiquette Policy](#) under the About section on our Facebook page.

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