



### *A message from the Principal Paula Bodzioch*

We've had a great start to the 2017-18 school year! Students have adjusted to their new routines and they continue to work hard on their academic and therapeutic goals.

We've had several changes at Marklund since the school year began. We welcomed **Meghan Edwards** as our new Board Certified Behavioral Analyst. In this new position, Meghan will work with our Life Skills students, and serve as a consult for our Multi-Needs program, while also focusing on proactive strategies school-wide.

In addition, **Angela Williams** has taken on a new role as Assistant Principal, having previously served as Instructional Coach for Marklund. Angela will continue to support teachers in the classroom, as well as facilitate IEP meetings, conduct tours for new referrals, and assist with student programming.

Our new communications system, [ClassDoJo](#), is up and running. The site allows teachers to showcase highlights from their classrooms, send messages to parents, and post updates and photos from the school day. We encourage you to sign up for the mobile app or access it from a computer at [www.classdojo.com](http://www.classdojo.com), with the activation code provided by the classroom teacher.

I'd like to remind you that **we will be in session only on Monday and Tuesday during Thanksgiving week**. Looking ahead to next year, **we will be closed during the first week of June**. For more details about the upcoming school year, please view our [calendar](#).

Marklund Day School has been in the news over the past quarter. Click [here](#) to see a **Chicago Tribune** article.

We are all looking forward to a productive and enriching Second Quarter!

### *Did you know?*

**We recently opened a second location. The Marklund Day School in Elgin has two Multi-Needs classrooms and offers students a multisensory curriculum. Terry Wilkinson and Jennifer Riley are the classroom teachers. We are looking forward to serving students in Elgin this year! For more information, check out our [video](#).**

### *Life Skills Program*

#### **Early Childhood- Christina Cannistra**

We had a lot of fun learning about famous artists and creating our own interpretation of their artwork! Some of the famous works include Kandinsky's "The Circle" and Composition VIII. We have also explored Van Gogh's "Starry Night," "Sunflowers," and "Wheat field with Cypresses."

#### **Primary- Jessica Redmond**

What a great start to the school year! Both primary rooms have been busy learning about rules at school, home, and in the community, as well as force and motion. We've also explored rules, laws and the branches of government. Our classrooms completed thematic units on apples, pumpkins, and leaves. Jessica's room made apple boats, and both classrooms explored density with sinking and floating items. We have also been working on life skills, including making pumpkin cake and milkshakes, and practicing handwashing and dishwashing.

#### **Intermediate Life Skills - Irmira Jaskolka and Jaclyn Angioletti**

In Language Arts, we focused on rules and laws. Students learned about school and classroom rules, and how they keep people safe. During this unit students also learned about government laws, and comparing laws verse rules. In Math, students worked on matching, making, describing and recording patterns. The students learned about predictions, taking data and using symbolic representation to present information. We expanded our skills by making comparisons and describing them.

#### **High School and Transition - Sarah Weatherred and Cassidy Blair**

In **Reading**, students covered a variety of topics, including money, community helpers, shopping and making a meal. In **Science**, we focused on land forms



helpers, shopping and making a meal. In Science, we focused on land forms, mammals, and amphibians. This past quarter, we were able to go out in the community numerous times thanks to our new bus! Students shopped at Wal-Mart for cooking supplies, went out to lunch at Subway, and were able to go bowling a few times! Lastly, meals were prepared by students on Tuesdays and Thursdays. The menu included French toast sticks with sausage, egg bagel sandwich, spaghetti with meat sauce, and grilled cheese with tomato soup. We are looking forward to going out into the community more for both vocational and leisure activities in the future.

### *Multi-Needs Program*

#### **Early Childhood and Primary - Nancy Vincej and Lisa Fuesz**

In Reading, students continued to work on comprehension skills, phonemic awareness and phonics. In Math, students worked on numbers, rote counting, graphing, measurement, shapes, colors, and classification. In Science, students made apple and pumpkin volcanoes, learned about the season of fall and collected a variety of colorful leaves. We also completed fun crafts to learn about the eclipse. In Social Studies, students worked on "All About Me" activities to get better acquainted with their classroom peers. Students also learned about weather patterns and regions of the world, using a tactile globe.



#### **Intermediate -Jan Knudson**

In Reading, students have been working on fairy tales, folktales, tall tales and legends, such as Johnny Appleseed. Students used a variety of visual supports and voice output switches to access the story elements and answer comprehension questions. In Math, students used math stories to work on their addition and subtraction skills, and Unifix cubes for counting and playing addition games. We are working on measurement with a variety of manipulates and items around the classroom. In Science, students created a solar eclipse with shapes, and learned about the different phases of the moon. Students completed an experiment on chlorophyll and learned the true reason why leaves change color in the fall. We also focused on amphibians, reptiles, and insects. In Social Studies, students learned how to follow directions and read a map.



#### **High School - Allison Jenkins and Jill Fernandez**

Students continued to work on enhancing their Vocational Skills by completing various jobs, such as shredding paper using adaptive switches, doing laundry, crushing cans, and delivering blankets and sheets to different classrooms. In Math, students worked on their money skills by adding, sorting items and identifying coins. In Reading, they continued their book study of "Wind in the Willows," answering comprehension questions with voice output switches, visuals, and devices. In Science, students learned about fall leaves and why they change colors. Students also worked on sorting sensory words such as how you feel, hear, touch, and smell. For Social Studies, students continued to work on awareness of calendar components, such as dates, months, numbers, days of the week and the year.



### *A Message from the PTO President Ann Hacker*

Our parent teacher organization has kept busy over the past quarter! In September, we provided the table settings and created an awesome Lego-themed raffle basket for the Marklund Pancake Breakfast.

The holidays are just around the corner - so are class parties! We are looking forward to helping with those and other Marklund events in the future. Please feel free to contact me at [mikehacker@comcast.net](mailto:mikehacker@comcast.net) if you have any questions or suggestions. Thank you!



### **Behind the Scenes**

Last year, we implemented a new teaching approach for our students in our Multi-Needs program, using multisensory curriculum in lessons. This year, we are expanding multisensory teaching into our Life Skills program.

Students have benefitted from this method, which involves senses of sight, hearing and touch. This new technique has transformed lessons for our students, and has allowed them to learn in a new, exciting way.

### *Therapist of the Quarter: Tina McCue*

Tina McCue has experienced many joys since becoming school social worker at Marklund Day School almost two years ago. "I feel privileged to get to know each and every student, witness their growth and be part of their lives," she said. "It is also a joy to work with a team that continually strives to meet our students' needs and give them supports, so they can be successful."

Tina's overall goal is to be a voice for students. "I want to meet each student where he or she is, and use their strengths to help them build more skills," she said.





Marklund Day School teachers and staff explore multisensory activities, which can be used in their classrooms.

"My wish for Marklund students is that they feel special, accepted, loved and capable. I hope with staff's compassion, innovativeness, creativity and knowledge, we can help each student go as far as possible in their lives."



As school social worker, Tina McCue wants to be an advocate for students, and support them with understanding and empathy, she said.

## MARKLUND IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER

- [November Early Release Days @ 1:45 p.m.:](#) Nov. 1, 8, 15, 29
- Nov. 22: No School - Teacher In-Service Day
- Nov. 23-24: No School - Thanksgiving Break
- [December Early Release Days @ 1:45 p.m.:](#) Dec. 6, 13, 20
- Dec. 25-Jan. 5: No School. Winter Break
- [January Early Release Days @ 1:45 p.m.:](#) Jan. 10, 17, 24, 31
- Jan. 8: School Resumes
- Jan. 15: No School - Teacher In-Service Day
- Jan. 19: End of Second Quarter
- Jan. 31: 100th Day of School
- [Click here for the entire 2017-18 school year calendar.](#)

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Help us tell our story. Let others know about the great things that go on at Marklund.  
Spread the word about our events and job openings.

The more who know about Marklund, the more supporters, volunteers, and donors we may find and people (students) we may help!