



A Message from Paula Bodzioch, Director of Education

It's hard to believe the 2017-18 school year has come to a close. We are so proud of our students - they have grown academically, socially and therapeutically over these past nine months. I'd like to thank our teachers, paraprofessionals, staff, and you - parents and guardians - for helping make the past academic year a success!

We are looking forward to summer school, working with students on their academic goals - while also having a lot of fun! **The extended school year begins on June 11, with dismissal at 2:15 every day.**

We recently distributed registration packets for the 2018-19 academic year. Please return your paperwork to our office by **July 27**. School districts are in the process of confirming enrollment for next year, so please complete the registration requirements for your home district. If you need assistance, please feel free to contact us.

As a reminder: the 2018-19 academic school year begins on Tuesday, Aug. 21. We will continue to have early release days at 1:45 every Wednesday.

You may have noticed the new Marklund website, which includes a parent portal for Marklund Day School families. The portal includes forms, school calendar, policies and other important information. Check it out [here](#).

I would like to thank everyone who came out for the Marklund Run, Walk & Roll. It was fun to see you there, supporting our school and other Marklund programs!

Finally, on behalf of teachers and staff, thank you for helping us all feel so special during Staff Appreciation Week! Your kindness and show of support mean so much to us!

Wishing everyone a wonderful, safe summer!

Did you know?

Marklund Day School recently hired four new Registered Behavior Technicians (RBT) paraprofessionals in the Life Skills program, bringing the total to seven.

The RBTs will work under the close supervision of Meghan Edwards, board certified behavior analyst, in collecting data, implementing procedures, and carrying out other services related to students' intervention and assessment plans. To become licensed, the paraprofessionals had to complete 40 hours of training and pass a RBT exam.

By increasing the number of RBTs we have on staff, we will continue to support students at the highest level!



Life Skills Program

Early Childhood: Christina Cannistra

We've had a lot of fun taking advantage of the nice weather! We even brought some of our lessons outside. For example, we used hopscotch for a math lesson. There is no better way to count and identify our letters than by jumping on them!

Primary: Jessica Redmond and Cassie Bieberstein

Students learned about plants, recycling, and going green for the environment. We also learned about different types of communities, what makes communities great places to live, and some problems cities face. Students in Ms. Jessica's classroom had a blast making cardboard box towns, and putting their pictures in the windows of the buildings!

In April, we celebrated Earth Day by sorting recycling materials, locating recycling symbols on everyday objects, and making bird feeders and recycled robots. Students from both classrooms planted seeds, and patiently waited for them to grow into flowers! We really liked exploring the plant sensory bins, and digging in the dirt to find roots and seeds!

In Ms. Cassie's classroom, students enjoyed their social studies unit on land forms because of all the hands-on projects! They especially loved making volcanoes erupt! Both classrooms were able to go on community outings this quarter. Students in Jessica's room went to a few local parks and to McDonald's, where they practiced their social skills and table manners. Ms. Cassie's classroom took a trip to the bowling alley, where they practiced turn-taking and other social skills.

Intermediate: Barbara Buck and Madeline Stein

In math, students focused on length, volume and weight. They explored different measurement tools and measured different items each week. They also learned about 2D and 3D shapes through multi-sensory instruction, and by exploring real-life examples of different shapes.

In social studies, students focused on communities and different ways to help the community. They read stories and completed activities that focused on the health and well-being of communities, whether it be neighborhoods or school communities. In science, students learned about different types of weather. They did multiple science experiments, including making a rain cloud.

In language arts, students focused on core words, including: same, different, turn, my, mine, hot, cold, fast, and slow. They also participated in recreational and music therapy on alternating weeks. Students worked on functional daily living skills in the kitchen during cooking. Social interaction and working together has also been a focus for middle school classrooms this quarter.

High School and Transition: Cassidy Blair and Samantha Miller

We continued to go on two outings each week. Students have gone to the movies, McDonald's, a bowling alley, Dunkin' Donuts, and Panera. We go to Walmart to buy ingredients needed for classroom cooking lessons. The outings have given students the chance to practice making a shopping list, purchasing ingredients, waiting in line and paying at the cash register.

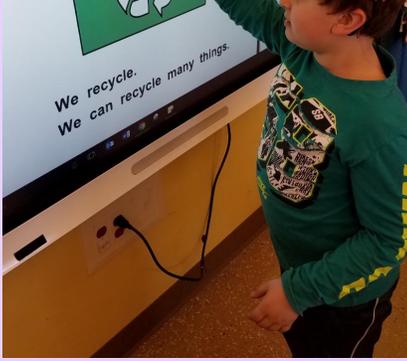
Our students continue to progress in their daily jobs. They've started working in the dish room to further advance their skills. We also have continued to plan and run monthly movie events at our school. Students help set up the room for the movie, pass out tickets, collect tickets, give snacks, and clean up before and after the movie. This has been a great experience for our students to practice their vocational and social skills.

Multi-Needs Program: Bloomingdale

Early Childhood and Primary - Nancy Vincej and Maureen Morris

We welcomed spring by exploring colors with the mixture of vinegar and food





coloring. We dropped the mixture onto a bed of baking soda. We were delighted to see the vibrant colors and watch the bubbling effects. In reading, we focused on comprehension skills with stories about the weather, building roads, caring for the earth, and plants.

In science, we explored wind with a fan. We also did a hands-on experiment, transplanting an ivy plant into our DIY terrarium and watching it thrive! In social studies, we studied where tornadoes occur the most, and located those areas on a map. We also created a road, step by step, and demonstrated how land can change.

In math, we practiced addition, subtraction, sorting and counting, using silk flowers, toy cars, and weather-related items. We have been singing along to plant songs to help us remember what plants need to grow.

Intermediate -Jan Knudson

In reading and social studies, students learned about women in history who were explorers and who worked with animals and in politics: Jane Goodall, Sacagawea, Susan B. Anthony and Eleanor Roosevelt. We also read mysteries, legends and academic booklets.

Students continued to study culture and land forms, and learned about the Midwestern region of the U.S., by exploring maps and the globe.

The class had fun with our short unit on poetry during Poetry Month. Roald Dahl's poem *The Dentist and the Crocodile* was a particular highlight.

In math, students continued their work with numbers, addition and subtraction, fractions, surveys and graphing. We used Unifix cubes as a way to visualize math problems.

We learned about Earth Day and Arbor Day in science. Students also explored different parts of plants, flowers and trees. They saw capillary action take place after placing mums in colored water, and seeing it go through the stem to the flower. Students planted radish, carrots and green onions in our rooter and observed roots and plant growth. We also planted flowers and vegetables. The students are now ready for the farm!

High School - Rebecca Shelton

High School Multi Needs students had a great quarter! In math, we created patterns, did matching activities in sensory bins, and did a foot-measuring activity. Students created flower fractions, counted and matched different seeds and plants, and did a roll-and-cover activity to identify numbers.

In science, students learned about the water cycle and different cloud formations. We created severe weather events in jars, such as a snow storm, tornado and hurricane. We also learned about the life cycle of plants, and smelled and tasted different plants, fruits and vegetables. In social studies, students learned how storm chasers and meteorologists help predict the weather. We learned about different types of gardens and the history of farms and where our food comes from.

In reading and writing, we read poems and learned about rainbows, weather in other countries, and different tools to tell and predict the weather. Students created their own Dr. Seuss-style poem, as well as their own silly weather report. Students created All-About-Me flowers, decorating the petals with their favorite activities and subjects in school. We also did several mad libs about flowers, gardens and farms. In art, students painted balloons with socks. We also celebrated St. Patrick's Day with different crafts.

Multi-Needs Program: Elgin

High School: Terry Wilkinson

We continued to "Celebrate Every Day!" Using the National Day Calendar, we found new ways to tie in current events, unique holidays, and world news into our daily lessons. In reading/language arts, students celebrated National Poetry Month by reading, identifying and building their own poems. Our favorites were Haikus. We also welcomed spring by reading about natural resources, plants, and



Haikus. We also welcomed spring by reading about natural resources, plants, and animals.

In STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, & Math), we worked on addition/subtraction algebraic equations, graphing, and systems of volume measurement, like cups, tablespoons, etc. Our classroom continued to work on thematic word and story problems. We also identified parts of plants and learned how they grew. We even grew our own flowers in cups. They grew so big, we had to transplant them into a huge pot!!!



In social studies, students learned about natural resources unique to different areas of our country, while also brushing up on the "State of the Week." We loved staying on top of current events with CNN10. It gave us our daily dose of current events and kept us on our toes with 10-second trivia, which our students loved to answer.

Our classroom had some unique and enjoyable outings. We went bowling, toured a confectionery, went swimming in the hydrotherapy pool, and had a beautiful dog visit us for pet therapy. We also had a blast on National Star Wars Day, and showed off our powers on National Super Hero Day!

Primary: Jennifer Riley

In language arts, we kept up with our weekly journal entries, and discovered a new favorite way to read. Audio books are so much fun! Our students loved listening to the character voices, sound effects, and noise that alerts us when to turn the page. Since April was National Poetry Month, we learned about different types of poetry. We read a book about Haikus and wrote our own spring acrostic poem.



In social studies, we have been keeping up to date with current events through News-2-You. We learned how weather effects our communities, different types of vehicles and where they can be found (land, air, water). We also learned about other man-made creations that help us to get around our communities, like bridges, roads, and tunnels.

In math, we found new manipulatives for counting, measuring, graphing, and solving simple equations. Some of our favorites included animal crackers, bugs (plastic of course), plastic eggs, and jelly beans. In science, we did many hands-on experiments. We made a cloud in a jar, as well as paper pillars in different shapes to see which were the strongest. We attempted to plant flowers for Earth Day, however we do not seem to have green thumbs. Luckily May's theme was plants, so we had a good excuse to try again... we'll keep you updated!

In art, we got creative and messy. We painted with toy cars, made recycled art using newspaper and water bottles, and made light saber sensory bottles. In OT group, we even got to paint with our wheelchairs! As usual, we had some fun and interesting outings. We explored all kinds of exhibits and activities at the DuPage Children's Museum and shopped for audio books at Barnes and Noble. To wrap it all up, we had quite a bit to celebrate, including: Dr. Seuss Week, Earth Day, National Super Hero Day, and National Star Wars Day!

A Message from the PTO President Ann Hacker

Thank you to everyone who generously donated flowers, school supplies and other items for Staff Appreciation Week! We enjoyed making teachers and staff feel special. Staff Appreciation Week provides the opportunity for us to show our gratitude for all that teachers and staff do for our kids!

The Marklund Pancake Breakfast takes place this fall, and we will assemble a gift basket for the Breakfast auction. I will send a note over the summer, to announce the gift basket theme, as well as the items we will need. Thank you, in advance, for your donations!

Finally, thank you to those who attended the Marklund Run, Walk & Roll! It was nice to see families come out to support our school and other Marklund programs. For





those of you who missed the Bloomingdale event, you have the opportunity to attend the Marklund Run Walk & Roll event this fall in Geneva. It's a great way to meet other Marklund supporters - and have a lot of fun!

Please email me at mikehacker@comcast.net if you'd like to volunteer or if you have questions about the Marklund Parent Teacher Organization. I'd like to wish everyone a happy and healthy summer!

Behind the Scenes

Marklund Day School teachers and staff recently participated in a professional development session, in Bloomingdale and Elgin, on how to support students with cortical visual impairment (CVI), a condition in which the visual systems of the brain do not consistently understand or interpret what the eyes see.

Staff explored different supports, such as light boxes, lighted objects and metallic objects. They also learned how shining flashlights on objects in a dimmed classroom, and surrounding learning materials with simple backgrounds can maximize learning for students with CVI.

"My goal for the training was that every person in that room walk away with at least one thing they could improve on in their classroom," said Nancy Vincej, early childhood teacher in the Multi-Needs program, who led the session. "If every person implemented one new strategy, then just think about how many students are going to be positively impacted."

Therapist of the Quarter: Gunjan Patel

Gunjan Patel always knew she wanted to work in healthcare and make a positive difference in the lives of people.

She has been able to achieve that during her 25-year career as a physical therapist, while working and managing therapy departments at a variety of hospitals and out-patient settings.

But the last 14 years at Marklund have been the most fulfilling, she said. Currently, Gunjan - better known as "Guni" - is the administrator of the Marklund Philip Center, and the director of therapy for all Marklund sites, including Marklund Day School.

Guni's responsibilities include overseeing students' physical, occupational, speech and recreation therapy goals, and working closely with therapists and teachers on students' individualized education plans.

"Our clients and students get a different level of care here," Guni explained. "It's more personalized. We have a dedicated, caring and compassionate staff. And the equipment and technology we offer, from gait trainers to communication devices, far surpass what I've experienced in other settings."

Guni's overall goal in her work is to help residents and students reach their full potential. "I love seeing the kids reach goals they have been working on - sometimes for years," she said. "Their achievements, no matter how small they may seem to us, are enormous for them!"

"It's an honor to work with students, clients and their families," Guni added. "Thank you for giving me the opportunity."



Marklund teachers and staff learned how they can support students with cortical visual impairment, during a recent professional development session.



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MARKLUND IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER

- June 11: Summer school begins. Hours 8:45 a.m. - 2:15 p.m. daily.
- July 4: No school.
- August 14: Last day of summer school.
- August 21: First day of the 2018-19 academic year.

Click [here](#) to see the 2018-19 school 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!