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ECS Newsletter 2/5/18

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Draft

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ECS Newsletter

2/5/18

ECS Mission: To Collaborate with PSB educators to create rigorous, relevant, engaging learning for all students

Goals of the Public Schools of Brookline

- Goal 1: Every Student Achieving
- Goal 2: Every Student Invested in Learning
- Goal 3: Every Student Prepared for Change and Challenge
- Goal 4: Every Educator Growing Professionally



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Psbma

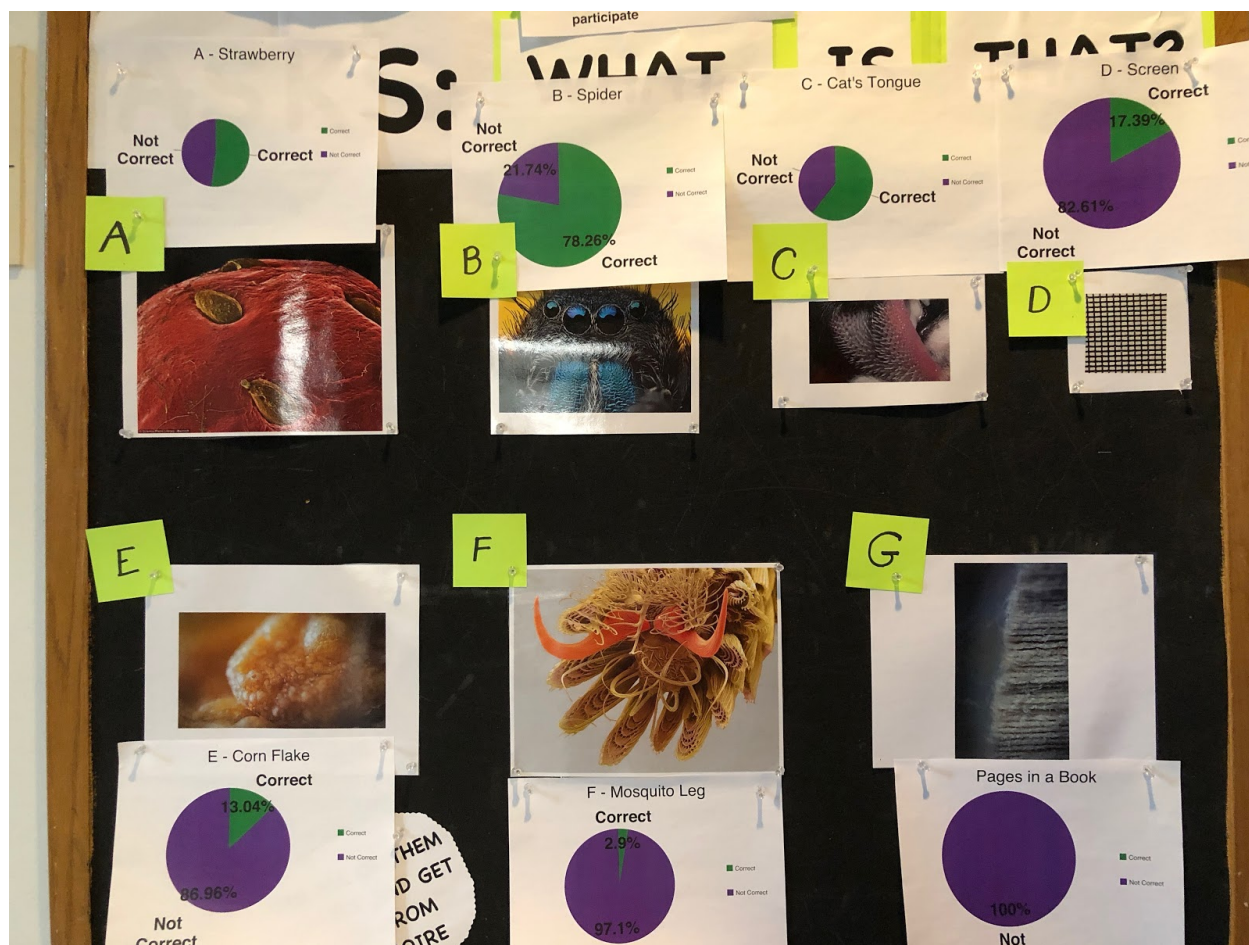
Quote of the Week

If I ran a school, I'd give the average grade to the ones who gave me all the right answers, for being good parrots. I'd give the top grades to those who made a lot of mistakes and told me about them, and then told me what they learned from them.

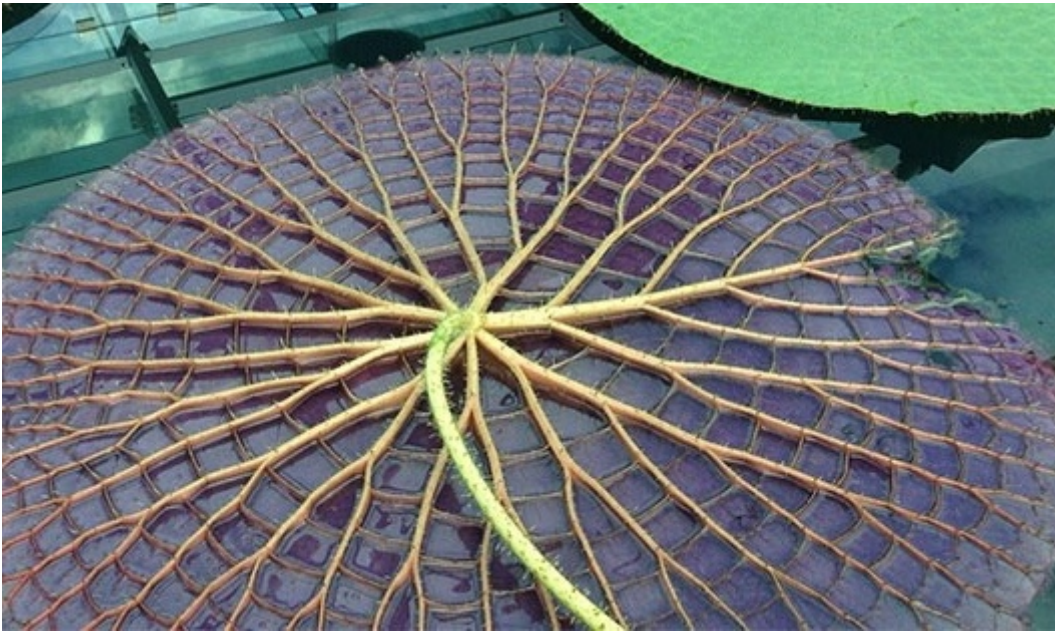
- Buckminster Fuller

Current Goings On

A bulletin board at Heath titled "What Is That?" shows several close-up (or otherwise hard-to-determine) photographs. Students (and staff) have the opportunity to take guesses at the correct identification of each of the photographs by writing their ideas on a form. The interactive bulletin board has had a lot of customers! It brings students of all ages together to discuss their thoughts and defend their ideas. Students practice writing as they record their answers. Answers are posted after the board has been up for several weeks. Students can see what percentage of students got the correct answers by reading the pie chart that accompanies the correct answer. Math, ELA, community building and problem solving are utilized while interacting with the bulletin board. Below is a shot of the first set of photos. There is currently a new set of photos in place.



See if you can determine the identity of the following photos (I always include some easier and some more difficult photos). Answers at the end of the Newsletter.





Resources

[The Future of Coding in Schools](#)

From The article: Very few people grow up to be professional writers, but we teach everyone to write because it's a way of communicating with others—of organizing your thoughts and expressing your ideas. I think the reasons for learning to code are the same as the reasons for learning to write. When we learn to write, we are learning how to organize, express, and share ideas. And when we learn to code, we are learning how to organize, express, and share ideas in new ways, in a new medium.

[Empathy is Tough to Teach But it is One Of The Most Important Life Lessons](#)

This is a quick paragraph and a link to a wonderful animated video of one of Brenee Brown's TED Talks on empathy.



[Taking Playtime Seriously](#)

From the Article: In kindergarten classrooms studied in [New York and Los Angeles in 2009](#), she said, teachers reported that there was little or no time to play. [Kindergarten had become the new first grade](#), with much less time for art, or for running and jumping and bouncing, she said, and a quarter of the Los Angeles teachers said there was no time at all for free play.

“We’re trying to train our kids to be better computers, but our kids will never be better computers than computers,” Dr. Hirsh-Pasek said. In addition to teaching children content, we should look to strengthen their human skills, she said, helping them learn to think up new ideas and explore them, and to navigate the social worlds of play and, later, of work. “These are things humans do better than computers, and play helps us develop that.”

Equity/All Students Achieving

[Emotional regulation for Kids with ADHD](#)

From the article: Six brain-based strategies to help kids with attention-deficit/hyperactivity disorder build confidence, engagement, and focus.

[Ensuring that PBL is Accessible to All](#)

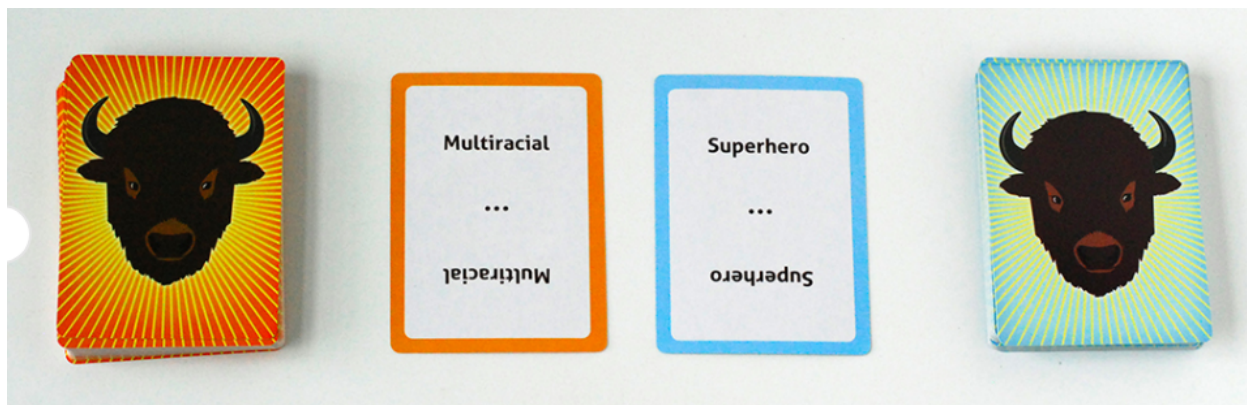
From the article: We know that PBL can be a powerful tool to eliminate [achievement gaps](#) and help students of all backgrounds develop critical [21st-century learning skills](#) that prepare them to thrive. But how do we ensure that PBL is accessible to all learners?

[Using Board Games to Help Fight and Understand Bias](#)

This article talks about a thought provoking card game that pairs adjectives with nouns like Charismatic-rockstars or Female-presidents and challenges players to come up examples of people who fit the description. It is easy to come up with “British Wizards”, but more difficult for many people to think of a “Multiracial Superhero”.

From the article: “So it starts to work on a conscious level of reminding us that we don’t really know a lot of things we might want to know about the world around us,” explains Mary Flanagan, who leads Dartmouth College’s [Tiltfactor Lab](#), which makes games designed for social change and studies their effects.

Buffalo might nudge us to get better acquainted with the work of female physicists, “but it also unconsciously starts to open up stereotypical patterns in the way we think,” Flanagan says.



Tinkertime

*Mobius Celebration!

Moebius exploration combines math, visual-spatial thinking, art, and magic!

*Also spelled Moebius, and also with an umlaut over the O.

[A Valentine From Mobius](#)

This fabulous Youtube movie shows how to do several amazing things with Mobius strips. It’s easy to follow and has amazing wow factors. It culminates in how to make Mobious strips turn into two, interlocked hearts!

[Mobius Valentines Hearts](#)

Step by step instructions with pictures.



Why not creat a heart-inspired Sierpinski triangle?



Opportunities

[MetroHacks Women](#) - March 24, 2018

About MetroHacks Women

Women In Code: A MetroHacks Event is MetroHacks's first 12 hr hackathon hosted at the Cambridge Innovation Center devoted to female high school students. It has a main goal of bring more girls into STEM fields. During their 12 hrs, students will learn about new technology in various workshops, collaborate and create projects with each other, and compete for prizes. Girls aged 13-18 can attend. The event is completely free, and meals are provided for all participants.

Museum of Science opens a new exhibit:

[Mirror Maze: Numbers In Nature](#)

A Mirror Maze: Numbers in Nature, the Museum's newest temporary exhibition, reveals the mathematical patterns that surround us every day in the natural world — from the nested spirals of a sunflower's seeds to the ridges of a majestic mountain range to the layout of the universe.

At the center of it all: a 1,700-square-foot elaborate mirror maze where visitors can lose themselves in a seemingly infinite repeating pattern of mirrors. This arrangement of symmetry and tessellation is the ultimate introduction to patterns and how math is an integral part of our lives. Dead ends are scattered throughout, and a small secret room is hidden within, rewarding you with bonus puzzles and artifacts.

Mirror Ma



ze:

Numbers in Nature

Navigate through a giant mirror maze and discover the amazing numerical patterns that exist in the natural world.

Answers to “What is That? Photos

- 1. Overturned giant lily pad**
- 2. Blowhole of a blue whale**
- 3. Strep virus**

A Mirror Maze: Numbers in Nature

Navigate through a giant mirror maze and discover the amazing numerical patterns that exist in the natural world.