

# WHAT'S BREWING

## 2006-2007 NEWSLETTER



*Classroom bonding*

Casey and Kara pose with Isabelle, Val and Mathew of the Sea Turtles.

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***There's More Brewing on our  
website. Visit us at  
[www.gillenbrewer.com](http://www.gillenbrewer.com)***

### **HEADLINES**

A message from our Head of School-*Donna Kennedy*



With such a mild winter it is hard to believe that Spring is here. This year has brought such wonderful experiences to us all. One personal experience for my husband and me has been the arrival of our first child, Finton Robert Kennedy. This is one of the most amazing experiences life has offered us and we are so blessed with our new addition. This unpredictable event has taught us a lot about patience and perseverance. The love and support of our Gillen Brewer Family has made this experience even more joyful and we are so grateful to our community for sharing this with us.

As you read through our school news, we hope to share other wonderful experiences happening at Gillen Brewer. As we build programs and strive for excellence, we want to thank you for your ongoing support in helping us achieve our mission of making a difference, one child at a time.



*Initiative*

Mathew and Hudson of the Stingrays raise their hands in class to answer questions.



*Active Learning*

Little Tadpoles, Julian and Keba, are caught in a paper snowstorm during art therapy.



**March 14, 2007** ~Over 30 NFL players, past and present joined members of The Gillen Brewer School community and Autism Speaks, at the 2nd Annual Kickoff for a Cure fundraiser, held at the Waldorf-Astoria. Over 800 guests, including The GBS staff, parents and Board members were on hand in support of the missions of The Gillen Brewer School and Autism Speaks. The evening was co-chaired by Roger Goodell, Commissioner of the NFL; Henry Schacht, Chairman of the



*Henry Schacht, The Gillen Brewer School Board chairman*

Gillen Brewer School's Board of Trustees; and Suzanne and Bob Wright, Co-Founders of Autism Speaks. This year's honorees were NFL Hall of Famer and long-time sportscaster Frank Gifford; Vice Chairman of JPMorgan Chase & Co. Jimmy Lee; Chairman of the Board and CEO of Johnson & Johnson Bill Weldon and Owner/Chairman of the Minnesota Vikings Zygi Wilf. This very successful event raised over \$2 million; proceeds will be shared by The Gillen Brewer School and Autism Speaks. We thank all those who made this night such a memorable one, especially our friends and the NFL and Autism Speaks.



**AUTISM SPEAKS**  
It's time to listen.



*Psychology Department Head, Cathy Iger poses with Michael Strahan of the NY Giants*

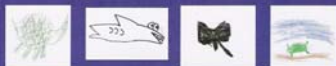


*Sarah V., Stacy, and Kate with Eagles QB Donovan McNabb*



*The GB Crew with Hall of Famer NY Giant Harry Carson and Running Back for the Atlanta Falcons Warrick Dunn*

## SAVE THE DATE UNDER THE SEA



The Gillen Brewer School  
Spring Benefit Auction  
**Thursday, May 10, 2007**

## DIVE INTO THE GILLEN BREWER SCHOOL'S SPRING BENEFIT AUCTION!

The Gillen Brewer School's Annual Spring Benefit Auction, "Under The Sea," is rapidly approaching! Join us on the evening of May 10<sup>th</sup>, 2007 for a truly amazing event.

Pier One has generously offered to decorate The Gillen Brewer School from top to bottom for the evening's festivities. Based on this year's classroom names, we have chosen an aquatic theme for the event, using our children's

sea-themed artwork to enhance Pier One's beautiful designs. You will also find these beautiful pictures on our auction journal and invitations. MTV has graciously offered their services to design these items. Collaborating with our children in this manner is a true affirmation of why we come to the GBS Auction to begin with—to support the children who attend this wonderful school.

This year's raffle items are better than ever! We have a beautiful flat/wide screen TV, an iPod with speakers and a great digital camera. Raffle tickets are available now, so make sure to buy and sell as many as you can! You can pick them up in Rachel's office at any time. Prices are \$5 per ticket, \$20 for a book of 5.

Chris Boehmcke at Merrill Corporation has been so generous; underwriting our Save The Date cards, invitations and journals. We're soliciting ads and pictures from both businesses and families this year, so if you're interested in buying a page for yourself or your business, don't hesitate to let us know!

It is so important to get every single one of our parents involved in this event! Whether you help us solicit items, donate a lot, buy a page in our journal, volunteer the evening of the auction or buy a ticket, our goal is to make "Under The Sea" accessible to everyone in the Gillen Brewer community. If you have any questions at all about how you can become involved in "Under The Sea," please do not hesitate to contact Rachel in the development office at 212-831-3667.

We will see you there!

## ***Pet Partner Project***

Our neighbors at the ASPCA and Delta Society teamed up with us this year to pilot our *Pet Partner Project*. We have embarked on a project that integrates the humane treatment of animals through animal education and pet therapy. Each week a certified Delta Society dog and its owner come to visit the classrooms. The students learn to ask the owner, "Can I pet your dog?" and also to gain permission from the dog by letting it smell their hand. Our pet partners, Lily, Mr. G, and Penny, each come with their own favorite things to do: get brushed, fed, walked (inside and on our roof-deck), and/or given a tour of the classroom. Each week the children practice their communication skills with the pets and their owners in order to develop meaningful relationships, practice appropriate interactions, and learn the dynamics of non-verbal communication. This project has raised the children's awareness of body language helping them to further strengthen their communication skills.

The students are so excited each week to have Lily, Mr. G and Penny visit and have begun generating ideas for things they can do and make for their pet partners. The Tadpoles and Belugas baked home-made doggie treats which allowed the children to do something special for their pet and reinforced the math skills associated with baking. The Sprouts and Tadpoles made doggie coats for their pet partner with pictures and words from each student. The students personalized the coats and planned the design. About a week later the classrooms received photos of each dog modeling their new attire. In an effort to connect with and to show the ASPCA our appreciation, the Sprouts spearheaded a blanket-towel drive. The Sprouts went one step further and hand delivered the donated blankets and towels to the staff at the ASPCA which truly connected each child to the experience. Thank you to all who contributed your used towels and blankets to the project. The *Pet Partner Project* has been a huge success and we are fortunate to have such a wonderful partnership in our community.



## ***Young Philanthropists***

Philanthropy starts early at The Gillen Brewer School. Even our youngest members give back to the community any way they can.

- The year started off with what has become our annual Common Sense Penny Harvest. The staff and children of Gillen Brewer competed to see who could bring in the most pennies by the end of November. As always, the children won and the staff didn't live it down until at least January! Together, the school raised \$450 that entitles the school to an additional \$1,000 which we will then distribute to the organization of our choice.



- The preschool children and teachers set their eyes on raising awareness for pets in need. They collected blankets and towels to help the ASPCA provide bedding and warmth to its four-legged friends.
- It doesn't just stop there. In true Gillen Brewer style with the motto that staff must "walk the talk", each staff member purchased a toy that reminded them of another staff member. The toys were presented in a "guess who this reminds me of?" format during the holiday staff party. The toys were then all donated to the Children's Health Fund. This organization provides free medical service throughout the city to needy children and their families. While in route, they deliver these toys to children during their medical visits. This has become a tradition at Gillen Brewer and it feels good to give to our surrounding not-for-profit community.



## Fall Family Fun Day!

There is no better way to meet families and staff members new to Gillen Brewer than to spend a beautiful fall day in the park. On October 15, 2006, the sun was shining and the weather was a little crisp but the atmosphere was all about fun and connecting with others. The whole school met at Carl Schurz Park for a fun romp in the playground with coffee and donuts for the adults and crafts for the kids. Two stations were set up for the children to express themselves through art. In true fall fashion there was a pumpkin painting area and a face painting area. All over the park kids were transformed into Spiderman, Batman and X-Men with face paint as they played together on the playground equipment. The event was all tied together with our annual donut eating contest. There wasn't a clean mouth in sight!

Stay tuned for our next seasonal adventure:









End of the Year Spring Fling on June 15, 2007!



## GILLEN BREWER COMMUNITY BULLETIN BOARD



*Some accomplishments from families and staff in the Gillen Brewer community:*

-  **Shoshana Dachs** received her doctorate toward the end of 2005 and her licensure was awarded in fall of 2006. She was honored with the Outstanding Graduate Award from The New York Association of School
-  **Brigid Connelly**, teacher of the Sprouts, graduated with a Dual Masters Degree in Early Childhood
-  **Casey Corey**, teacher of the Sea Turtles, graduated with her Masters Degree and a dual certificate in Elementary Education and Elementary Special
-  **Leeann Gennaro**, teacher of the Swordfish, graduated from Hunter College with a dual Master's Degree in Childhood General and Special Education.
-  **The Bodani Family** welcomed their new son, Veer, to the family.
-  **The Jones Family** welcomed their new son, Tadgh, to the family.
-  Occupational Therapist, **Lindsay Shaw and her husband Jamie**, welcomed their new daughter, Sydney Jane, on
-  **Donna and Robert Kennedy** welcomed their new son, Finton Robert, on March 3.

## Winter Mixer



In February, the Arts Department decorated the movement space for a 'Mixer' where students of all ages came together to socialize and dance to some of their favorite music. Children brought music from home and had many musical requests. Each party included spotlight dances, the limbo, sing-a-longs and group dances. In the words of one of our students. "It was a 'blast'!"

**The event was so successful the arts department will be making it a seasonal event.**

## Bus Driver and Bus Matron Appreciation Day!



Valentine's Day happened to coincide with Bus Driver and Bus Matron Appreciation Day this year.

During arrival parents and staff brought coffee, heart-shaped donuts, and 'thank you' notes from the students out to the buses in the freezing hail and snow. Here is what some of the drivers and matrons had to say about driving the GB students around:

**Driver Edwardo and Matron Alexandra**  
"We're very happy. It's a good school and we enjoy it."

**Driver James**  
"I think it's a wonderful thing. It's marvelous, marvelous. I think what you are doing today is very thoughtful."

**Driver Rocco**



**and Matron Gail**

"It's a pleasure being at this school. Everyone is very sweet to work with here."

## What's brewing in ...

### OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY



*Playing games is just one way the occupational therapists integrate skills learned during therapy sessions.*

The occupational therapists at Gillen Brewer teach the skills necessary to help children overcome learning, physical and other challenges to perform everyday tasks independently. We facilitate the development of visual perceptual, gross motor, fine motor, self-help and sensory integration skills. The children love exploring a

variety of OT equipment and activities, including suspended swings, therapy balls, fine motor games, and a rock climbing wall!

#### **IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENTS**

~ We are excited to announce the birth of baby Sydney Jane, daughter of occupational therapist Lindsay Shaw!

~ We are looking forward to the upcoming **"Nutrition for Learning" workshop on Tuesday, May 1, led by Kelly Dorfman, MS, L.N.** Kelly is a health program planner and nutritionist whose specialty is developing nutrition and lifestyle strategies specifically for children with special needs. We hope that you are able to attend this informative event!

### SPEECH AND LANGUAGE

Gillen Brewer's speech-language department is as busy as ever! In February, we had a wonderful response to our "Play Date" parent workshop, where Elise shared helpful strategies to support communication during play dates. In both the Pre-K and School-age classrooms, we have been initiating a variety of language groups and projects. The Pre-K has enjoyed **interactive story times with Stephanie** (with extra visuals of course) and **Sounds In Motion with Holly** (an innovative phonemic awareness program that uses movement to help the children remember their sounds). Some of the School-age classrooms have included **scavenger hunts with Jane**, language groups that support **math concepts with Elise** and rehearsals for a **class play with Holly and Tova**.



*Stephanie reads an interactive story to the Tadpoles.*



*The Dolphins look through their magnifying glasses to solve riddles in a scavenger hunt with Jane.*

May is **National Better Speech and Hearing month**, so we plan on sharing interesting speech-language related facts with the entire Gillen Brewer community. We look forward to an eventful spring!

### COUNSELING

Much has happened in our department this school year- some being familiar and some new. Along with seeing many of the children in individual sessions and dyads, both in our offices and pushing into the classrooms, we have added some new groups to better address the children's needs, which are run by several of us together. Two of these groups are Girls' groups, which encompass girls from various classes and address the development of effective social skills, gender identity, and social problem solving skills. Two other groups, which also combine children from various classes, address the fundamentals needed for successful relationships. Here, particular focus is on joint attention, collaborative play skills, and the sheer joy of sharing fun experiences with peers.

In addition to our work with the children, we continue to provide support to our Gillen Brewer families. Our new addition of a bi-weekly **Fathers' Support Group** has been regularly attended since its inception by a core group of fathers. We have been delighted with the turnout for this year's department workshops.

**The Collaborative Problem Solving Skills** workshop provoked lively discussion as we explained this new approach that Gillen Brewer has adopted for understanding and addressing behavioral issues. Just recently, we facilitated a workshop that focused on the **siblings' experiences** of having a brother/sister with special needs. Parents shared their concerns regarding their other children and explored how to balance the needs of all the children in their family.



*Joe, Audrey, Shoshana, Cathy and Middy represent the Gillen Brewer counseling department.*

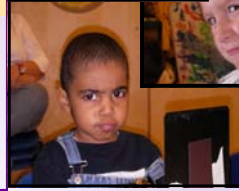
# THE ARTS

## Art Therapy

Slimy hands, paint-covered smocks, paint, paper and all kinds of materials lead the children at Gillen Brewer to explore and discover their feelings during art therapy with Dana. During each session the children are sure to help each other, share their work and work together as they create many different projects. Some of the projects that have been created include: body tracings, decorated boxes, masks, animal and hand casts, and many drawings. Of course, it's never about the product that has been created and always about the process that it took to make the project.



Exploration



Working Together and Sharing



Action Movements



Axial Movements



## Movement

The students of Gillen Brewer often begin movement by peeking around the corner of the movement room to find out what is in store for them. In creative dance we have been exploring Axial (non-locomotor) and Action (loco-motor) words. Distinguishing the difference between locomotor and non-locomotor movement is an important step towards overall stability. A recent visit by an African American dancer and drummer was a huge success. Next up is a hip-hop artist.

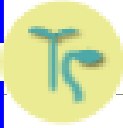
## Music

I was welcomed back by the children after a two week absence due to the birth of my own baby boy: Finton Robert Kennedy. After a quick slide show of pictures describing this momentous occasion and explaining my absence, I fielded questions from each group. We then promptly moved on to the music that they had been missing. We sang a few Irish rhyming songs like "Michael Finnigin" that evoked this response from one student: "Robert, that song tickled my heart." I also incorporated the joys of parenthood (rock the baby, change the baby, feed the baby) in some movement/action songs. We are now looking forward to TV turnoff week assemblies that may include the much loved: "30 Second Talent Show."



# WHAT'S BREWING IN THE CLASSROOMS

## THE SPROUTS



This year the Sprouts have grown into trees. They have been increasing their emotional self-awareness through group activities around the theme "The Way I Feel". The Sprouts then moved into lessons that helped to increase their body awareness through projects such as tracing each other and incorporating healthy choices into their day. You can see their creative body cut-outs on the wall in the photo below.



Everyday the Sprouts practice counting, patterns, predictions, and writing during Morning Meeting when the teacher pulls out the monthly calendar. Daily, the Sprouts work on planning and following through, rhyming, reading, and solving their problems using words to express how they feel. The Sprouts also do sensory activities every morning and are lucky to be the only classroom with their own trampoline! Starting in 2007 the Sprouts added two new activities to their schedule. The first one is weekly visits with Lily the dog from the ASPCA. The Sprouts were so excited to collaborate with Lily and her owner Nina, that they organized a blanket and towel drive and then hand-delivered the donations! During her bi-weekly visits, the Sprouts get to feed



Lily, walk her, and give her tours of the classroom. They even worked with Nina to make Lily a winter coat. The last new edition to the Sprouts schedule is time with the GBS-volunteer-engineer, Don, who has helped the Sprouts build a city and create a variety transportation models. The Sprouts welcomed a new student, Rafael, to their classroom in December. He has been a welcomed addition to the class and quickly began growing like a Sprout.



## THE TADPOLES

At any given moment that you walk into the Tadpoles classroom you will see preschoolers buzzing in every area. The students learned about the properties of water, specifically how it turns into ice in the cold winter weather. They recently began learning about babies and exploring the concept of growing up. Weekly events include Hands Time with Gina, Interactive Story time with Stephanie



and visits from our pet partners from the ASPCA. The Tadpoles have gotten very involved with the dogs and have made doggie treats and a winter coat for their new friend Lily. A most exciting new addition to the Tadpole schedule is Big Buddies/ Little Buddies in which the children team up with partners from the Sea Turtles classroom. The students read, draw and play games together and get to foster their communication skills to the max. The Tadpoles welcome para-professional Pearl to the class and will soon be joined by new teacher Marisa, who will be replacing Caroline while she is on maternity leave.

### The Tadpoles Favorite Books

- Going on a Bear Hunt
- The Mitten
- Who Stole the Cookie from the Cookie Jar?
- If You Give a Mouse a Cookie
- Cookie's Week
- The Gingerbread Man

## THE LION CUBS

Every moment in the Lion Cubs is packed with fun-filled learning. From art projects to building train sets, the Lion Cubs are always creating math games in everyday experiences. For the past few months the Lion Cubs have studied various aspects of New York, such as the subway system, maps, and buildings. And that's just a piece of their day! Each week the Lion Cubs build with the GBS-volunteer-engineer, Don, experience Sounds Time with Holly, interact during Hands Time with Lindsay, cook with Vicki and Netty (sometimes doggie treats) and learn with our pet partners from the ASPCA. In each student interaction the children are encouraged to express their feelings and explore their friendships. The Lion Cubs are always bustling around their room having work time at the water table, the block area, the library, painting, creating with play dough, and fantasy play on the roof-deck. These boys are always full of energy, happy greetings, and tales of their adventures! Ask them about the Lion Cubs' Phonebook and prepare for a priceless story.



## THE SWORDFISH

Excitement. That's one word that describes the Swordfish. Morning work time bursts with colors, patterns, practice worksheets, and compliments to friends. During read-aloud the Swordfish tear through books learning about the characters, setting, and sequence of events. They are knowledgeable about the authors they have read including Ezra Jack Keats and Nancy Carlson. The Swordfish even have daily journal writing time! The Swordfish boys have learned all about their 5 senses, weather, seasons, matter, and are currently learning about recycling. During math time they play in the Swordfish Store where they practice using money and counting. At Plan-Do-Review time the Swordfish bustle about: building train tracks and structures, making art, reading, playing computer games, and socializing. Some of the boys work with Don, our art-making volunteer, in the Sprouts classroom creating wonderful works of art. Kate, the school's floating assistant, runs a group once a week to teach the boys how to draw specific figures like a car and Sponge Bob Square Pants. These boys do it all!



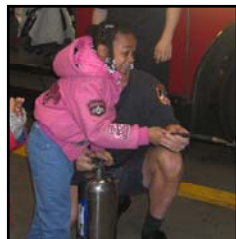
## THE SEA TURTLES

Unlike the slow moving sea turtle, the GB Sea Turtles are a fast and lively bunch. They can often be caught having a blast while "rocking-out" to the tunes from *High School Musical*! Throughout their day the Sea Turtles incorporate art and have become quite adept at drawing comic book characters. A major theme this year has been developing their own characters by learning about respect, responsibility, sharing, good choices, good friends, honesty, and diversity. Teamwork has also made a star appearance in the Sea Turtles daily star chart which encourages the students to work together and help each other. This camaraderie has led to the Sea Turtles collaborating with the Tadpoles in a reading program called Big Buddies/Little Buddies. The Sea Turtles get to show the preschoolers the ropes about reading, writing and drawing. And then the Sea Turtles work on their own personal narratives incorporating some of the writing techniques they have learned from their author studies of Tomie DePaola and Robert Munsch. If that isn't exciting enough, the Sea Turtles have been measuring weather and studying the rainforest and desert climates, sound waves, water cycles, and seasons. For the past month the Sea Turtles have been learning about US Presidents and our government. With their busy schedule, they still find time for their weekly visits from Penny, a pet partner from the ASPCA. Unlike their namesake, these Sea Turtles have a lot going on!



## THE BELUGAS

Welcome to the Belugas! A land of creating, imagining, and learning. Each topic the Belugas have studied they've completely absorbed. Visiting their classroom throughout the year, one would find the students reading about community helpers, making their own police costumes, discussing health and safety, and talking about their trip to the NYFD. At another moment, the Belugas are exploring their bodies, how they grow and change, and talking about Mr. Bones, a 2' skeleton. When the Belugas studied weather they created a 3' thermometer with descriptive temperatures. And if only you could hear them sing when they play math games with dice: "Shake it, shake it, baby, ooh, ooh!" or when the students create a bookstore to learn about money. The Belugas are so excited about learning that the students take it upon themselves to re-arrange and re-create their classroom library during Quiet Book Time after lunch. In writing workshop the Belugas are creating personal narratives and studying the authors Mo Willems and Lauren Child so they can experience different writing styles to help them find their own. The Belugas even made their own How-To books this year. Just ask them about their expertise! With all that they do, the Belugas still find time for their pet partners from the ASPCA. It's no coincidence that the Belugas are named after such a playful and social sea creature!



## THE DOLPHINS



The Dolphins dive into work each day and get their morning worksheet finished quickly so that they can begin their daily exercise routine where they do calisthenics and run around the roof top or in place in the classroom. Creating community in the classroom was the first order of business. Through many discussions and stories about differences, strengths, challenges and working together the kids began to understand what makes a community special. They proudly display their classroom community puzzle, which shows how individuals can connect to create a whole, on the wall. In addition to creating community through discussion, Jane and Justine hold a game-time to help the children learn new games while practicing how to be a good sport and work together as a team. Writing Workshop got its start through a class trip to the writing center at 826 NYC with the Stingrays classroom where they were able to create a group story. Once back at GB the kids began diving into writing workshop by starting with creating personal narratives. Throughout the year they have worked very hard to independently revise and edit their work while making sure that they incorporate all of the story elements that they learn during reading. As you can tell by the pictures below, these kids enjoy their writing time! Math groups continue to progress swimmingly as does science and social studies where the class has learned about Health and Nutrition, Physical science and mapping the five Burroughs of NYC. The Dolphins also get to practice their community skills when they enjoy visits from their ASPCA pet partner, Penny.



## THE SHARKS



The Sharks have been setting a precedent for an enriched and adventurous school day. Starting every morning the Sharks do rooftop and classroom exercises to get their minds and bodies prepared for the busy schedule. In addition to their routine academic schedule, Tuesday – Friday the Sharks learn cursive and practice their typing skills in the compute lab and on Monday's the students learn about safety through the NYS Riskwatch curriculum. The Sharks have been vigorously studying science with Andrea and watched chicks hatch in their classroom as they learned about life cycles and farms. The Sharks also learned about ecosystems by building huge dioramas of the layers of the ocean with Don, our GBS volunteer. In addition, the Sharks are becoming experts on the computer. They used Kidspiration Software during science to make a web diagram and are beginning to use Microsoft Publisher during social studies as a culminating activity to create persuasive advertisements to convince a settler to come to one of the 13 colonies! In addition to Saxon math, the students are learning about liquid measurements from the Gallon Man, and about money from their classroom Snack Store, in which each student gets a chance to play the role of banker or money monitor. If that isn't enough, the Sharks have taken trips to the Museum of Natural History and have had guests visit from Alley Pond Environmental Center. They are onto a busy Spring...Stay Tuned!



## THE STINGRAYS

The Stingrays have absorbed knowledge from far and wide this year. Starting with Early America, Colonial New York, Native Americans, slavery, Revolution, the Constitution, the Bill of Rights, and immigration, these boys are knowledgeable about pre-colonial through present-day NY. The Stingrays even made a model of a colonial homestead with Don, our volunteer-engineer. When the Stingrays aren't taking in NY history, they are practicing descriptive writing, sensory details and the stages of writing. Sometimes they take chess breaks—no betting allowed! The Stingrays can add to their list of accomplishments this year spearheading the Penny Harvest. Not just for special events, but throughout each day the Stingrays can be seen practicing 100 ACTS OF KINDNESS. Ask them about it and they'll tell you how considerate they are to one another. You can witness their kindness during their daily morning exercise when the students teach each other how to count in different languages or when they are learning about organism habitats, food chains, land forms, and bodies of water. One of the best parts of the day for the Stingrays is read-aloud time when they listen to *Witches* by Roald Dahl, make predictions, and write their own endings. Let's see what the end of the year has in store for the Stingrays!

### Exciting Places the Stingrays Have Visited



- Sailing aboard the Pioneer
- Historic Richmond Town
- Alley Pond Environmental Center
- Shadow Box Theatre



## GBS IS PART OF SEVERAL "SHOP & EARN" PROGRAMS:



Birthday? Anniversary? Promotion? Say it with flowers! Mention GBS and Plaza Florist will donate 10% of your purchase price to the school. Offer good through spring 2007.

**Plaza Florist, 1110 Park Avenue, NYC 10128**

**Tel: 212-744-0936/Fax: 212-831-4575**

Great news all you on-line shoppers! **Schoolpop** is back & here's how it works: log onto [www.schoolpop.com](http://www.schoolpop.com), select The Gillen Brewer School as your recipient (or enter our ID#0629945), choose a participating merchant and order as usual.

Do you have a **Washington Mutual Visa Check Card**? If so, sign up for their WaMoola for Schools program & GBS will earn cash for every purchase you make with your card. Stop by your local Washington Mutual branch, call 1-866-WAMOOLA, or sign up on-line at [www.wamoolaforschools.com](http://www.wamoolaforschools.com)

...and now for something completely different. GBS has joined the **Lands' End** preferred school program which will donate 3% of net sales from their *School* catalogs & web pages back to GBS. Coming soon, you can add the GBS logo to the items you order. Orders can be made by phone, mail, fax or on-line but don't forget to mention our Preferred School number: 5950. (**Note: Gillen Brewer does NOT have a school uniform.**)

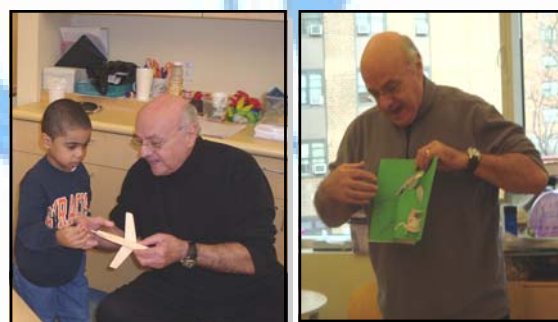
Thanks to the support of customers like you, **Target** has been able to give \$183 Million to schools as part of their ongoing commitment to education. Every time you use your Target REDcard or Target Visa, Target will make up to a 1% of your purchase price donation to The Gillen Brewer School, giving funds where it matters most. To designate The Gillen Brewer School, please call 1-800-316-6142. You can also designate us at a store kiosk, or by visiting [www.target.com/tcoe](http://www.target.com/tcoe). Our school ID number is 124616.

### Thank You

*Thank you to Jane Erbe (OT), Lindsay Shaw (OT) and Caroline O'Connor Smith (Teacher) for their many years of dedication and commitment to Gillen Brewer. We love you and will miss you but know your wonderful new adventure as full time mommies will be thrilling and we wish you all our best.*



*Occupational Therapists, Jane Erbe and Lindsay Shaw and Teacher, Caroline O'Connor Smith, with Julian, Tadpole.*



*Thank you Don Pearlstein for your many hours of dedication volunteering in our classrooms.*

**Gillen Brewer was unanimously voted in as a provisional member of The New York State Association of Independent Schools (NYSAIS).**

*A special thanks to Bruce Upbin, father of Eli Upbin of the Sea Turtles, for his help in editing and designing this newsletter.*



**THE GILLEN BREWER  
SCHOOL  
2006-2007**

**The Gillen Brewer School Annual Fund**

July 1st-June 30th

- Fact:** The Gillen Brewer School has an annual operating budget in excess of \$4M.
- Fact:** Tuition relief from NY State covers only about 80% of our costs, leaving a balance annually which must be raised.
- Fact:** Each year we face a deficit of approximately \$14,000 per student.
- Fact:** The Annual Fund drive makes a critical difference in many key areas of our school. Specifically, this money enables GBS to attract and retain outstanding teachers and therapists and to maintain an unusually small teacher-to-student ratio.
- Fact:** Your gift will ensure that GBS can continue to be a haven where children with the most challenging and severe developmental disabilities and their families are welcomed, educated and supported.

I am making a gift of **\$1000 \$500 \$250 \$100 \$50** or \$\_\_\_\_\_

*Please indicate amount. Please make checks payable to The Gillen Brewer School.*

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*We welcome gifts of appreciated stock. If you have questions or wish to receive a stock transmittal form, please contact the Development Office at 212-831-3667. All contributions are tax-deductible to the extent permitted by law.*



The Gillen Brewer School  
410 E. 92ns Street  
New York, NY 10128

