

RAY COVE ACADEMY NOTES

The Newsletter of Bay Cove Academy

National Job Shadow Day Educates, Empowers

By Carrie Nelson

EACH YEAR NATIONAL JOB SHADOW DAY OFFERS AMERICA'S WORKFORCE THE OPPORTUNITY TO CONNECT WITH YOUNG PEOPLE WHO HOPE TO FOLLOW IN THEIR FOOTSTEPS. In this one day event that falls annually on Groundhog Day, workers from all sectors of industry host shadows; they share their knowledge, expertise and advice, and in doing so, shape the future workforce.

This year, Bay Cove Academy participated in this national event for the second time. Students shadowed at Brookline's Courtyard Marriott and at the Franklin Park Zoo, accompanying professionals at these sites for a morning on the job.

At the Marriott, students helped to staff the front desk, joined the hustle and bustle of the hotel restaurant, and met with the director of housekeeping. In each department, managers stressed the important of professionalism and presentation, traits students also found to be important. According to Johnnie, a Bay Cove freshman, "[They] made me feel like a real working woman! I learned so many new



Christina and Beau share a light moment

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Bay Cove's Own "Da Vinci" Code

By Angela Burke

As Bay Cove Academy makes the move from reading aloud to a work-

shop model that emphasizes reading and writing independently, several writing classes have participated in an independent research project known as the "Da Vinci Project."

Named after scholar and all-around "Renaissance Man" Leonardo Da Vinci, the Da Vinci Project originated at the Landmark School, a nationally known private school that specializes in language-based learning disabilities. It is a multi-step project that capitalizes on students' innate

curiosity, incorporating meaningful, personal questions into formalized research.

Students begin by writing a list of 25 "quality questions" that have personal relevance to them. While 25 questions may not sound like a lot, the parameters set on students – questions must have personal relevance, yet be broad enough to be researchable – make this an arduous task. During the first class, students can be seen bent over their partial list of questions, deep in thought. The difficult process proves worthwhile, though, as students probe everything

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Job Shadow

things that will be helpful in the future.”

At the Franklin Park Zoo students were led on a career-focused tour by Director of Animal Resources Anne Knapp. Going behind the scenes, students met animal keepers, behavioral specialists, and habitat caretakers. Students even had the opportunity to feed Beau, the Zoo’s famous giraffe, a special diet of cooked squash. Christina, a Bay Cove senior, noted many of the job-related skills Knapp demonstrated throughout the day. “I learned that at work you have to communicate with a lot of people. The skills [Anne] showed were very helpful to me.”

This year’s Job Shadow participants came away with tremendous satisfaction about the day and express their thanks to the businesses which hosted them for the morning. Says Johnnie, “Thank you for giving me the experience of the real working world! It was an exciting way of learning what it is like to have a career.” ANJ



Bay Cove's art program produces a wide array of projects using many media. For more art pics, turn to the back page.

In Memoriam



BAY COVE RECENTLY LOST A LONGTIME EMPLOYEE AND ONE OF THE ANCHORS OF THE PROGRAM. SHIRLEY JONES, THE SCHOOL’S COOK FOR OVER 15 YEARS, DIED THIS WINTER AFTER A STRUGGLE WITH CANCER.

Shirley will be remembered for many things, including her warm, hearty laugh, her wonderful macaroni and cheese, and her engaging island accent. Above all, though, Shirley will be missed for her attention to staff and student alike, at all times of the year and in all circumstances.

As the school’s cook, Shirley occupied a special place in the hearts of so many who passed through the program over the years. Whether preparing snack and meals on a daily basis, or special event banquets as the seasons brought their regular holiday rituals, Shirley provided for the school community with home cooked and wholesome food. She always went out of her way to ensure the food she cooked was healthy and appetizing, and, when dietary needs meant that a student had to eat a more individualized plate, Shir-

ley found a way to make that meal special too.

In this age of fast food, it’s rare to find a school that offers home cooked meals on a daily basis. It isn’t the cheapest way to feed students, but Bay Cove Academy strives to provide something extra, to make the whole program into a model of quality that will help students reach their full potential. As part of the program for so long, Shirley helped the school fulfill its mission by providing high quality meals and helping students feel a little bit more cared for. The students and staff of Bay Cove Academy will miss Shirley Jones, and send their condolences and well wishes to her family. ANJ

ACADEMY NOTES

Published biannually by Jonathan Silverman
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College fairs help students determine what path to pursue after leaving Bay Cove Academy. Below, a representative of Blaine! outlines the school's curriculum and talks about the beauty industry while students listen.




Above, Kathleen Pignone chats with a rep from Bunker Hill Community College. Kathleen is the director of career development at Bay Cove. Her department works closely with student intern employers and helps students decide on their post-graduate plans.

DaVinci

from their own adolescent behavior to healthy relationships to what it might be like to have HIV/AIDS. The willingness to address such personal issues in the classroom stems from the fact that questions are framed in a broad, impersonal way. Something very private is reworded as a research-oriented question, empowering the student to find out more about an issue that is relevant to them.

Once students have their list of questions, they begin to narrow their topic, identifying repeated themes or patterns that their list of questions might have. Students hone in on their "Top Power Question," the topic they will focus on for the remainder of the semester. They then begin formal research, learning how to condense the informa-

tion they have read onto formal note cards. After students gather their preliminary information, they write a research proposal, outlining the areas that their paper will cover and addressing what they hope to learn by researching their chosen topic.

The process ends with a formal research paper and bibliography, something many students have not done before. Students also present their findings to the community in an informal "open house" setting, where other students and staff may converse with them about their research project. Students currently working on Da Vinci projects will convert their research into digital video documentaries using Apple's iMovie, incorporating written research into a visual presentation. 

The Feeling of Being Surprised

By Chalena

- Surprised is like electric shock
- That stays with you
- Surprised is a face changing moment
- That keeps you going
- Surprise is like hey have it your way
- Surprise is like whoa!
- It's like a kick in your back
- Surprise comes every once in a while you never know when to smile.
- Surprise is like oh my god did that just happen
- Surprise is an eye opening moment
- Surprise is the feeling when something happens that was not planned
- Gasp! Is Surprised



Projects like these, in which students work with wood, make personalized masks, and create their own Thanksgiving turkeys, are fun and help develop skills. Bay Cove's art program uses a broad range of materials and ideas to help kids connect with their creative side.

Upcoming Events

May	
13	Middle of Term 4
30	Memorial Day
June	
16	Graduation
17	End of Term 4
20	Field Trip Week
27	Summer Program starts



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