

# GARRETTFORD GOOD NEWS

APRIL, 2022



## GARRETTFORD STAFF SUPPORTS UKRAINE, AND STAND WITH ONE OF THEIR OWN

On the morning of February 24, Evelyn Razryadov, Garrettford's School Psychologist, had her usual phone check in with her Mom. Unfortunately, this phone call will be a memory that stays with Evelyn for the rest of her life. Evelyn's mother sounded sullen and she quickly recognized something was wrong. Evelyn asked, "What's going on mom?" Her Mom replied, "Haven't you heard? They are bombing all of Ukraine!" Her Mom then began to cry so many tears. The last time Evelyn heard her mother cry like this was when the family could not reach Evelyn's father on September 11<sup>th</sup> (he worked in the Twin Towers). In the weeks to follow, Evelyn felt a mixture of helplessness, sadness, confusion, and anger. You see, Evelyn has a lot of

family in Ukraine. Ukrainians are strong and proud people, so convincing family members to leave their homes, despite bombs falling all around them, was very challenging. Thankfully, some of the family members were convinced and have made it out of Ukraine safely. During this incredibly challenging and uncertain time, the Garrettford community really showed their true colors. They demonstrated that when the going gets tough, we can work together, gather around each other for support, and do things that truly make a difference. Together, we were able to raise \$600 that was sent to Ukraine for critical aid. Evelyn said, "I always knew we were a strong team, but this situation solidified that we truly are a family here at Garrettford." She is very thankful for this support at such a difficult time for her and her family. Below is a picture of Evelyn delivering the money to the Ukrainian Assistance Organization.



## **SPECIAL VISITORS WITNESS GARRETTFORD'S STRONG COMMUNITY, DEDICATED EDUCATORS AND IMPRESSIVE STUDENTS**



Garrettford was recently visited by the Deputy Secretary of Education, Dr. Cindy Marten and Dr. Sherri Smith, Director of the Bureau of School Support for the Pennsylvania Department of Education, along with several Administrators and School Board Directors. The group toured classrooms, spoke with educators and students and took part in lessons. They also had a small round table discussion with parents from the District regarding community involvement and needs and goals for our District. The government officials were very receptive to what Garrettford showed them and expressed that they felt a sense of community in Upper Darby where we work as a team for what is best for the students. We

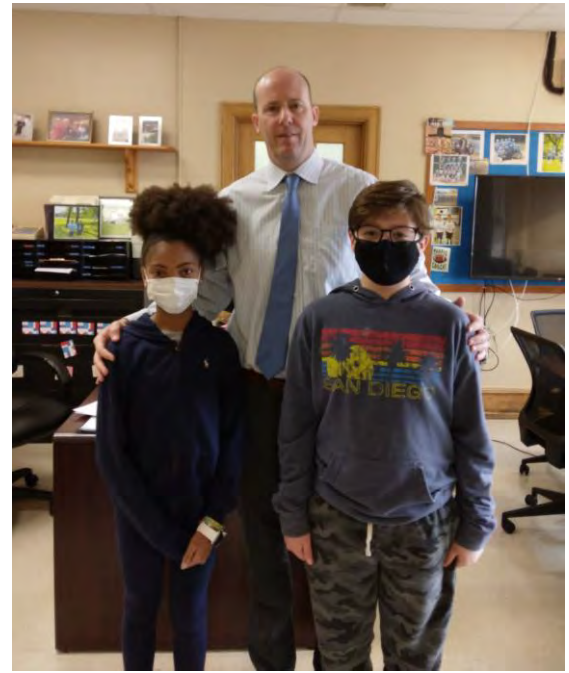
were very honored to welcome them to our school.

## **LEO EICHSTAEDT "FLOATS" ABOVE THE REST**



Leo Eichstaedt is a competitive swimmer, who after competing in YMCA Districts, qualified for two individual events and two with his relay teammates for the State Championships. To qualify for States, a swimmer or team had to place in the top four at their District meet in their event, and next hold the top four times across all three districts. In individual events, Leo placed 1st in the 200Y Individual Medley (that's 2 lengths of the pool of each stroke- backstroke, breaststroke, butterfly, and freestyle). He placed 4th for 200Y freestyle. For both the relay races Leo and his team were the "wild cards" the next top 4 in the State after the top 4 in each district. They swim a 200Y Medley relay, where each boy

swims 50Y of a different stroke- Leo does the butterfly leg. The other relay is the 200 Freestyle relay. Leo made it to the podium at States as the 3<sup>rd</sup> Place winner in the 200 Y Individual Medley. Congratulations Leo!

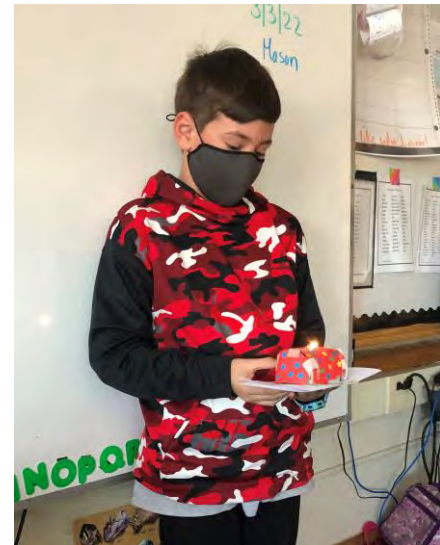


## **LEPRECHAUNS RUN WILD IN MISS BROWN'S ROOM**

There was heightened excitement in Miss Brown's room on St. Patrick's Day. Her students had been tasked with building leprechaun traps, and they took the assignment very seriously. Room 9 created amazing, creative traps in an effort to trap a leprechaun at school the night leading into St. Patrick's Day! Although none was captured, there was clearly evidence that the little fellow was loose in her room! Tiny green, glittery footprints were found all around on the floor and many of the traps had been disturbed. He also left a sweet cupcake treat and note for the class! The students really enjoyed the fun.

## **CONGRATULATIONS TO GARRETFORD'S STUDENT ADMINISTRATORS**

On Monday, March 7<sup>th</sup>, Mr. Brydges announced that Saree Fulton Dudley and Brandon Kramer were selected to serve as Principals for the Day on April 22<sup>nd</sup>. The students were chosen based on essays they wrote which described their qualifications and ideas they would like to implement if selected. Congratulations to Saree and Brandon. We look forward to seeing them in action on April 22<sup>nd</sup>.



## SCIENCE IS ALIVE AT GARRETFORD

Mrs. Perlman's class made nightlights from various materials and used their knowledge of circuits and lighting. They presented to their classmates to practice public speaking as well. The students loved this project!



Pictured are Jayla Jones, Michael Galli and Rose Groniger.

Mrs. Udovich's class started their unit on Ecosystems, where they will

learn how humans and animals interfere and interact with nature. Learning about Ecosystems in the classroom is one thing, but seeing it around you is just as important. The class walked the Garrettford property to observe evidence of animal inhabitants and discover the type of plants growing at the school. They discussed how animals depend on plants and plants depend on animals.



When the live organisms arrived, things got really got interesting! The students worked to set up their classroom eco-columns for hands-on learning about how living and non-

living things depend on each other in an ecosystem. As each organism is added, they learned about it. They also learned about how acids and bases, such as acid rain, road salt and fertilizer impact our environment. The goal is for students to become more aware of alternatives to keep our earth healthy.



Fifth grade students also enjoyed a visiting educational program from the Riverbend Environmental Center this month. Their lesson focused on the importance of scientific observation and

experience over what you think you know or understand about something. This helped to prepare the students for future scientific observation. One of the things that excited the students the most was that the visiting educators brought a Madagascar Hissing Cockroach with them. Lucky for us, he was in a container.



about inherited and acquired traits. The lesson finished with the students creating prototypes of prosthetic limbs using wind up bath toys.



The students in Room 206 completed a STEM lesson on Bionic Animals. They read the story *Winter* about a dolphin that lost her tail and had a prosthetic tail made for her. Afterwards, they learned

