

October 1, 2013

The Wolf School Newsletter



Wolf News

Getting to Know You!

With 12 new students entering The Wolf School this year there are a lot of new friends to meet! Each classroom is finding fun ways to get to know everyone.

One great example is the Bio-poems written by students in Classroom 5. Shared with each other, and then at our All School

Assembly, these poems described personal hopes, fears and dreams.

Go to our [Facebook Page](#) to read a fabulous bio-poem by Tomas, pictured here!



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Understanding Our Students

Recently, the Board of Trustees at Wolf gained insight into some of the learning challenges our students face. Kelly McDonald, Wolf's Occupational Therapist Supervisor, attended the September Board

meeting to talk about Sensory Processing Disorder (SPD). This interference to learning is a common characteristic of a Wolf School student and Kelly helped the Trustees understand what an individual with SPD experiences first hand.



Maura Goodwin, Wolf Board member, tries building a Lego structure using only one hand.

Kelly set up task areas with instructions that simulated various disorders. For example, Board members used only one eye and one hand to construct a Lego structure from a model. According to Kelly, "Students with a sensory-based motor disorder, such as Dyspraxia, have difficulty conceiving and executing motor activities. As a result, simple tasks often become complicated and frustrating."

At another area, Trustees were asked to copy sentences while applying too much pressure on the pencil, causing it to break repeatedly. This is an experience common for students with Sensory Discrimination Disorders as

they have difficulty interpreting stimuli.

Anna Johnson, Interim Head of School, notes, "At Wolf we work with students to find strategies and supports that take into account individual learning profiles. Our Occupational Therapists are in the classroom integrating these strategies directly into daily lessons and academic work."

For more information about our students, read the handout, [Common Characteristics of the Wolf School Children.](#)

The Wolf School E-news hopes to keep you updated on our latest news, learnings and activities throughout the year.

Feel free to forward this email to friends, family, colleagues or anyone else you think might be interested in our unique educational programs for complex learners.

We hope you enjoy hearing from us, but if you would like to unsubscribe to this e-news at anytime, just click below or email [Marie Esposito](#), Director of Institutional Advancement.

Our Mission

The Wolf School is dedicated to providing an educational environment where children with learning differences become successful, secure learners. Our intensive and integrated model enables children to discover and utilize their strengths and talents by meeting their academic, social and emotional needs.