

SCHOOL NEWS AND UPDATES



Lower School Student Wins Community Art Contest

Carmen Sofia Gamboa Becerril '29 has taken top honors in Pinecrest Gardens' 7th Annual Environmental Art Contest for grades 4-6. Her winning piece entitled, "Colors," was selected by a public voting process after successfully and creatively depicting this year's contest theme, "Indigenous Plants & People." This marks the second-straight year that Gulliver students have won the visual arts contest. To learn more, click on the button.

[Learn More](#)



Middle School Student-Athlete Leadership Council & Season 2

Several student leaders have been selected to serve on the 2020-21 Middle School Student-Athlete Leadership Council (SALC): Emily Bloom '26, Xachary Bloom '25, Juan Beltran '26, Sydney Brown '26, Gregg Chase '25, Alessandra Di Mise '25, Logan Jagolinzer '26, Ryan Meltzer '25, Marcelo Miranda '25, Louis Moser '25, Giovanna Musiello '25, Enrique Senior '25, Gonzalo Senior '26, and Amparo Torres Platt '26. Mirroring the Upper School SALC, this group serves as the liaison between the Athletic Department and each team, providing an additional voice for student-athletes, as well as

opportunities to assist with special events and service initiatives. Middle School Season 2 sports (basketball, water polo, tennis, cheerleading, cross country, and sailing) are underway. To view schedules and more, click on the button. *Photo by Jennifer Uccelli P '16 '19 '24.*

[Learn More](#)



JK Mystery Readers Keep Connection Alive

In light of the pandemic and the changes it has led to from a parent involvement perspective, the JK team has sought out ways to keep families as connected as possible to the classroom environment. Teachers have modified their traditional Parent Reader events by inviting parents and close family members to Zoom into classes weekly as "mystery readers" to read stories to students. The children are always thrilled to see a friend's family member on the Smartboard, and the stories always lead to meaningful pop-up conversations throughout the day. For the teachers, keeping Parent Reader events alive during the pandemic helps them deepen connections with families, while family members are able to catch a glimpse of the classroom and engage with the students using literature as a vessel.

Faculty/Staff Spotlight:

Mrs. Lisa Sehmam

Each week through our Faculty/Staff Spotlight series, we invite our community members to get to know Gulliver Prep teachers and staff members across every division. This week, our Faculty Spotlight

features Mrs. Lisa Sehnann, Lower School Faculty member. Click on the button to learn what she enjoys most about teaching Lower School students, her hidden talent/hobby, and more.

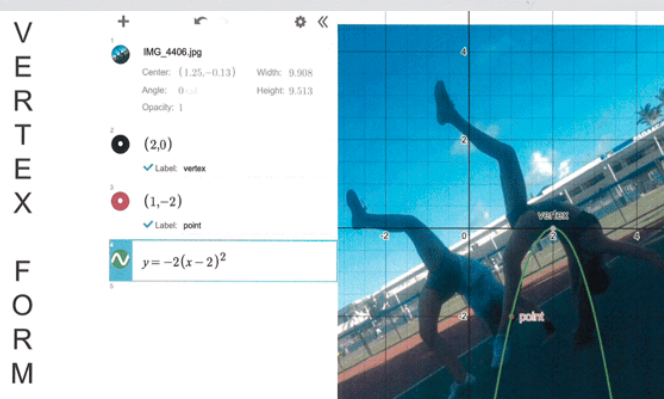
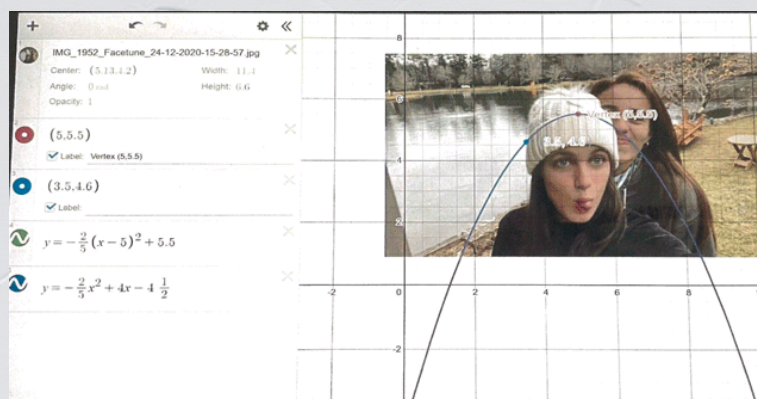
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Coach DeCesare Records 500th Win

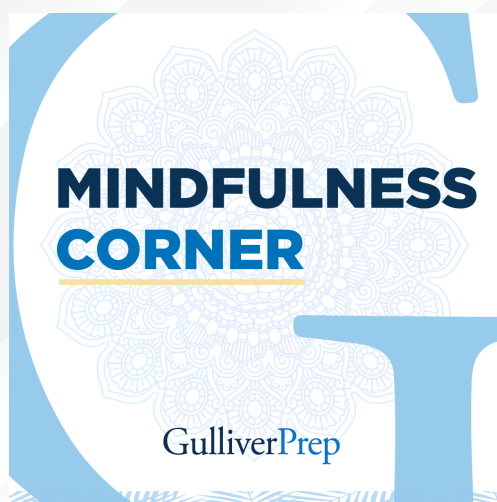
Varsity Boys' Basketball Head Coach Gary DeCesare picked up his 500th career victory last week as the Raiders defeated Pinecrest Prep, 89-42. Coach DeCesare, who is in his second year at Gulliver Prep, has served as a high school basketball coach for 25 years and also spent seven years in the college coaching ranks. Click on the button to learn more, as told by student journalist and **RaiderVision** sports anchor, Priya Alibhai '24.

[Learn More](#)



A Real-World Lesson on Parabolas

In a study on parabolas, students in Mrs. Amy Biscombe's Algebra 2 class connected classroom learning to the real world, using methods learned in class to explore and find a quadratic model for a real-world situation. Students were tasked with taking a photo with an object they found, inserting it into the Desmos graphing calculator, and deriving and graphing an equation to describe and model the parabola. They then calculated the vertex form of a quadratic function to model a real-world situation, and expanded the vertex form to determine properties of the graph written in standard form. By comparing both functions, students checked their quadratic function by checking the function with the object they selected.



The Power of Mindfulness

Courtesy of Child Mind Institute

Click on the button to learn how a meditation practice can help kids become less anxious and more focused.

[Learn More](#)

UPCOMING EVENTS

Wednesday, January 20 - Wednesday, January 27

Middle School Montgomery Mid-Year Conferences, Grades 7-8

Monday, January 25 - Friday, January 29

Winter Spirit Week, Grades PK-8

Tuesday, January 26

JV/Varsity Boys' Basketball vs. Chaminade, 6:00/7:30 p.m., Blue Dungeon, Upper School Campus

Wednesday, January 27

Cultural Connect, 5:45 p.m., Virtual

Varsity Girls' Basketball vs. SLAM, 7:30 p.m., Blue Dungeon, Upper School Campus

Thursday, January 28

Middle School Girls' Tennis vs. Carrollton, 2:30 p.m., Ritz Carlton Key Biscayne

Friday, January 29

Middle School Boys' & Girls' Tennis vs. Doral Academy, 3:00 p.m., Tropical Park

Saturday, January 30

Varsity Girls' Basketball vs. St. Andrews, 11:00 a.m., Blue Dungeon, Upper School Campus

Non-athletic events appear in italics. | All events are subject to change.

***Thank you for reading
The Weekly Raider.
Have a story idea? Let us know!***

Submit a Story Idea



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Gulliver Preparatory School is a 501(c)(3) private, non-profit, independent, coeducational, nonsectarian day school with the mission to create an academic community devoted to educational excellence, with a personal touch, that fulfills each student's potential.

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