

CHECKING IN with our collaborators

In this issue, we are checking in with you electronically!

Through Susan Barstow's article, we hope that you will enjoy a view into our second year of exploration of *Our Richmond*. Through this window, we witness the spirit and the practice of collaboration.

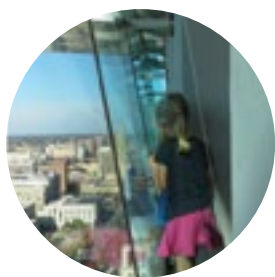


As a natural extension of their engagement with the city, our teachers and students have forged relationships with other children, teachers, and organizations who also imagine what Richmond could be, and what Richmond's children could experience and share.

The practice of collaboration — a hallmark of our paradigm for teaching and learning — is also evident in veteran preschool teacher Sara Ferguson's examination of symbols as a tool for building a sense of community in the preschool.

In these articles, you will read about the spirit of collaboration — a desire to include other perspectives and protagonists — that is evident in our students' development as engaged citizens. The students know they have valid and innovative ideas and they are empowered by adults who listen and contribute to their thinking for the common good. They are natural advocates and show beautifully here their capacity for both empathy and leadership.

Thank you for engaging with us as we support this rich and rewarding work! Best Wishes for 2016!



OUR RICHMOND: PARTICIPATION & CITIZENSHIP

On a recent sunny Thursday, all the lower school and middle school classes headed into the city – by bus, by car, and on foot. What marked this day as different from past Umbrella Days was the degree to which students have come to think of themselves not just as explorers and documenters of their city, but also as participants and citizens.

[Read more >](#)



BEING WELCOMED

If you had to choose a personal symbol, what would it be?

This is one of the first questions we ask children when they start our preschool.

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APRIL 13, 2016 Open Doors: Visiting Educators Day (SOLD OUT)
APRIL 30, 2016 Sabot Auction at The Hippodrome Theater
MAY 13, 2016 Grandparents and Special Friends Day