

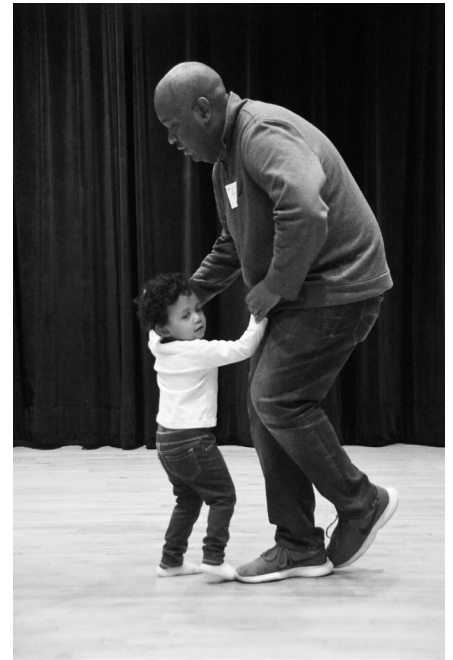
Gordon News

Friday, February 7th

Family Dance Day



*above left: this is López teaching the stomp, and people in the back following
above right: parents and kids of all ages danced together and had a great time*



As one hundred and twelve feet danced around the Wales Theater on Saturday, Rodney López taught a ballroom dance class for families.

During the ninety minutes he taught everyone four dances: the merengue, tango, stomp, and the swing. For each dance he had phrases to help dancers move their feet and arms in the right position. The phrases were easy to remember and were very helpful to learn. Some of the phrases were pancakes, burnt pancakes, green light, red light, under the bridge, T-A-N-G-Ohhh, scorpion, onto the pizza, onto the crust, and many more.

In an interview with López, he said that he has been teaching ballroom dance for twenty-two years. He got into it through a friend, who asked him if he wanted to go ballroom dancing and at first did not like it because he did not know how to do it. After he learned and took lessons, he was hooked and started teaching.

Parents and kids of all ages participated in the program and enjoyed it alot. This was not the first time that Matt and Prema O'Brien, parents of a Gordon first grader, had taken dance class.

"We've taken salsa before and this definitely made it way easier than the classes we have taken," Prema O'Brien said after the program.

López's favorite dances are the salsa and the waltz. He really likes the salsa because it was the first dance he learned and still loves it. The waltz is his favorite dance because he finds it very elegant and likes it.

One of the dances is the stomp, which is a line dance that is a lot of fun. It can incorporate new and old dance moves. When the dance started the mood in the room skyrocketed and everyone was laughing and having a great time.

As people were walking away with their lemonade and cookies they had an extra pep in their step.

100% reported and written by Gordon sixth graders

Sports report

WITH PHOTOS FROM SPIRIT DAY

Girls A Basketball

Tuesday, January 28, 2020
vs. Lincoln

An amazing game as Gordon was losing the whole time and at the very end, they were losing by two. One eighth grader got fouled in the last few seconds and made the first free throw. The other team called a timeout and as they came back, she made the second free throw. The other team passed it in, but the same eighth grader stole the ball and scored a last-second shot for the win.

Gordon 20, Lincoln 18

Wednesday, February 5, 2020
Friends Academy

A tight game as they were losing by halftime but came back and won by three. Gordon pressed a lot and sometimes it would work and sometimes it wouldn't.

Gordon 23, Friends Academy 20



Girls B Basketball

Tuesday, January 28, 2020
vs. Lincoln

From 3:00 to 6:15, the team was away at Lincoln, where two sixth graders made their first baskets of the season. Great shots were also made by their teammates. Those were all of the shots that put them in the lead.

Gordon 18, Lincoln 6

Wednesday, February 5, 2020
vs. Friends Academy

In the first thirty seconds, one seventh grader scored four points which started the game out great. Gordon had just learned a new play that helped them win. Gordon was winning throughout the whole game and it wasn't very close.

Gordon 17, Friends Academy 6

Tuesday, February 4, 2020
vs. Rocky Hill

A low scoring game, but a good one, and in the end, Gordon came out on top. A sixth grader scored a shot for the win near the end of the game. Rocky Hill started to score but Gordon's defense kept them alive.

Gordon 6, Rocky Hill 4



Boys A Basketball

Tuesday, January 28, 2020
vs. San Miguel

An intense game because at the very end, Gordon was losing by nine with 27 seconds left, and three three-pointers could tie it up. An eighth grader made a three pointer increasing the tension with seventeen seconds left. Sadly, there just wasn't enough time to get the six points that they needed to tie it.

Gordon 31, San Miguel 37

Tuesday, February 4, 2020
vs. Moses Brown

At the beginning, Moses Brown was pressing up a lot but Gordon broke that press (which means they got past the other team as they were playing defense above the half) very well. It was a tough game because they lost but everyone had a lot of fun enjoying Spirit Day.

Gordon 21, Moses Brown 61



Boys B Basketball

Tuesday, January 28, 2020
vs. Wheeler

Recently, the boys B team had an away game against Wheeler. Almost all fourteen players scored during the game. Gordon's defense was phenomenal that game because they stole the ball at least ten times and only allowed twelve points in the second half.
Gordon 40, Wheeler 32

Thursday, January 30, 2020
vs. St. Michael's

An away game against St. Michael's where it was super close. It seemed like a loss, but Gordon ended up winning by seven points in overtime.
Gordon 45, St. Michael's 38

vs. Moses Brown

Tuesday, February 4, 2020

A very close game as Gordon was losing by one at the half. At the beginning of the second half, Gordon was losing 21 to 18. A seventh grader then scored three three pointers in a row to put them in the lead! In the final minute the other team scored a lot of points that ended the game with a difference of five points.

Gordon 35, Moses Brown 40



Boys C Basketball

Thursday, January 30, 2020
vs. WBCA

A very close game, as the first half they were losing by a number of points but came back to tie it up. A sixth grader made three amazing blocks which were all on the tallest and probably the best kid on the other team! During the end of the game, the lead was going back and forth between the teams as the opponent got one last three pointer that kept them in the lead.

Gordon 24, WBCA 26

vs. St. Michael's

Monday, February 3, 2020

The boys C basketball team drove an hour to St. Michael's to play a very tight game. Gordon was winning at halftime, but only by a few points. The other team pressed (which means they defended past half court) for every defensive play and it worked. They kept scoring points which put them in the lead by one point with twenty-six seconds left. After a short timeout, Gordon went in and passed it to a fifth grader who put it in the basket for the win.

Gordon 38, St. Michael's 37

Tuesday, February 4, 2020
vs. Meeting Street

This was a very well played game because everyone scored! Even the players who haven't scored all season, scored at this game. The MVP of the game went to a sixth grader for making a free throw with eleven seconds left in the game ending the score at thirty-one! Gordon won this game against the other school because they worked so well as a team.

Gordon 31 points, Meeting Street 25 points

Wednesday, February 5, 2020
vs. Rocky Hill

At the half, Gordon was losing by a lot. But in the second half Gordon started to creep up on the score. Shots were made, steals happened, until it came down to the final three minutes. One fifth grader dribbled the ball up and scored two three pointers in a row keeping Gordon alive. At this point, Gordon was down by four points but then the other team scored a couple shots which ended the game.

Gordon 36 points, Rocky Hill 44 points

Spring Sports Season Starting Soon

Sign ups for lacrosse, baseball, and track and field going on now.

Spring Sports Season Starting Soon

Sign up now if you want to join the spring 2020 sports season.

Talk to Ms. Fraza or Mr. Ray for details

Spring Sports Season Starting Soon.

Choose kind

A WONDER EXTRA CREDIT STORY

Annabel looked down at her book, *Wonder*. It was her fifth time reading it, and it was better each time. She was starting the chapter, *The Woods are Alive*, one of her favorites, so she started reading.

"But we headed to the row of trees at the edge of the field, which was past the orange cones that we were told specifically not to go past..." Annabel looked up from the book when she felt a little tingling sensation on her right arm. She now had little marks in the shapes of faces, five of them. She looked farther, and *she was in the woods*, *"I'M IN WONDER!"*, she yelled.

Annabel crouched down behind a tree when she heard some people coming. Then the firecracker smell came, just like she expected. In the distance, she could hear who she knew would be Jack and Auggie.

"...that's what it is," Auggie said. "Weird." Then Jack said, "Let's go," and they started heading out, but from where Annabel had come from. *They were going the wrong way*. Annabel's eyes went wide, and she started to follow them, hoping they would not get lost.

Annabel suddenly saw some new older kids. She tensed. It was *Eddie*. One of the other kids asked Auggie and Jack what school they were from, and they said Beecher Prep. Annabel watched as the older kids started to yell at Auggie and Jack. Just as the gang was about to basically kill Auggie,

Amos came out of the woods.

Annabel smiled, but then they all got beat up, and the time stopped. Auggie and everyone else disappeared. The sky got a little lighter, and one of the little marks on Annabel's hand went away. She knew what was happening right away. It was like *Jumanji*. She had failed at her mission, and she would have to try again. But to do what?

Annabel rushed over to where the older kids had come from. She saw them, and shivered. *Would she be able to stop them?* Annabel walked over to them, and asked them what school they were from.

"Why would we tell *you*, kid?!" Eddie said. One of the girls went over and kneed Eddie. Eddie kept talking. "Why are you here? Are you going to report us to *your daddy?*!" Annabel sucked in her breath. "My friend is over there, and you are about to beat him up, so just DON'T!"

Eddie laughed at her remark. "Just go away, madame fortune teller," he said, "Go back before I punch you over there." Annabel shook her head. Eddie looked at her in the eye, and balled his fists, but saw Auggie and Jack first. Annabel felt a slap before seeing the group of kids find Auggie. Time stopped again. One of the little faces went away. One more try.

Annabel knew what she had to do. She knew that in books, anything was possible. She found a tree, and took a piece of willow from the ground, and tied it around a medium sized stick. Little sparks flew around it. *It worked*. Some Harry Potter magic can go a long way. Now she just had to find Eddie.

Annabel waited for Eddie in the same spot as the last time. But this time, she had a wand. This time, when she heard Eddie's voice, she came out, and faced him right away. *"Wingardium Leviosa!"* Annabel whispered, with years of practicing, she was perfect. She had Eddie and his group up in the air, just in time. Auggie and Jack bumped into Amos, Miles, and Henry, and started to get scared, because they were lost. Annabel knew this would be the way they became friends, and did not intervene.

Annabel closed her eyes, and hoped when she opened them, she would be back in the library, reading *Wonder*, just in time to go back to the classroom. She felt a nudge, and opened her eyes.

"It's time to go, but how did you get that stick with the plant?" Zoey asked, "you know, never mind. We gotta go now."

Annabel smiled. No one knew, and she had just saved Auggie, even if it was not real. *"Choose kind,"* Annabel whispered, *"choose kind."*

This first issue of the Gordon News was written and reported by the members of the sixth grade journalism activity

Open mic night

Open Mic is a Gordon school tradition for middle schoolers to perform in and for anybody to watch. This school year, there are going to be four open mics. One has happened in October, and one just happened Friday, January 31st. It is an event people enjoy and often try to participate in. In the latest open mic, people did things such as a skit about reinventing apples, playing the piano and ukulele and singing 'Riptide', and an act where four sixth graders clapped their hands in a routine.

The night began with a hilarious skit about the morning news, and ended with a beautiful song played by guitar by an eighth grader. On Open Mic night, a seventh grader said, "I feel fine, I'm performing. Super excited about playing the piano."

"I like Open Mic," said a sixth grade performer, who sang Lava from the Pixar short Lava. "I think it's good for people who can't get into a chorus or theater."

Another sixth grader said, "Open Mic is a good idea. You can show off what you've been working on." That is the sole purpose of Open Mic. There is one final purpose, though, and possibly the most important. The most important purpose of open mic is for people to have fun. Everyone deserves to have a chance to have fun.



Sixth Grade Social

The week of February 2-7 is a big week for Gordon School sixth graders! The Gordon School will be hosting a sixth grade social. Many schools are attending and bringing their sixth graders. This event is a Gordon tradition that has been passed on from many generations. This event will encourage the sixth graders to socialize and get to know more people.

We asked some sixth graders how they are feeling about the social, here are our results:

"I am looking forward to it. It will be fun and exciting!"

"I am hoping it will be fun, it will be great to see old friends again!"



From the Joukowsky Family Library

What is your favorite part of being in library stewards?

"The library is the best place to be! You can do anything you want, like shelve books, check-in books, and check-out books. There is so much you can do."

"My favorite part is being in the library! There is so much you can do!"

"Learning more about the library!"

"Being in the library! It is my favorite place!"

What are your favorite parts of the library?

"Ms. Martindale because I've been here since Nursery and have bonded with her"

"All the free reading space"

"I like the book nook because it is a quiet place to read"

Librarian's Pick

Front Desk by Kelly Yang

Recommended for fifth to seventh grade

Keywords: *Immigration, Socio-Economic struggles, Children making a difference, Community*

from supersummary.com:

Ten-year-old Mia and her parents fled communist China in the early 1990s, hoping to create a better life for themselves in America. Unfortunately, their expectations don't align with the reality of the immigrant experience. Although Mia's parents are highly skilled professionals, they are forced to take menial jobs for pay that never allows them to rise above the poverty line. They have been reduced to living in their car when they receive a job offer to manage a hotel in Anaheim that comes with free lodging for the family.

Book of the Week

New Kid by Jerry Craft

Recommended for fourth to sixth grade

"So good I didn't get carsick when I read it in the car."

What was your favorite part of the book?

"I really liked when Jordan told one of the popular girls the Alexandra's secret"

"I think it was really cool how he illustrated the whole book"

"The illustrations"

photo: Jerry Craft, author of *New Kid*, this week's Book of the Week, during his visit to Gordon in December 2019

Mr. Griffin took this photo, and the two photos of Family Dance Day. Otherwise, this newspaper was 100% reported, written and photographed by Gordon sixth graders.

Gordon does not publish student names online, so this electronic version is missing a few details. For a hard copy, journalism fans can email their mailing address to ggriffin@gordonschool.org

