

Spring Garden BUZZ

January 2026



HAPPY NEW YEAR 2026



Wishing you a bright New Year 2026 filled with hope, growth, new opportunities, and meaningful moments that inspire lasting happiness.

Welcome back!

I hope you had a wonderful winter break with your children! We welcome them back to school tomorrow, January 5.

Our new year's resolutions at Spring Garden are simple because we have the same goals in the new year!

1. First, **we want your children to come to school** -- we want to help you reduce absences whenever possible. Don't send sick kids, but if there's something you're struggling with in getting your kids in, we want to know so we can help. Attendance helps our primary goal which is:
2. **We aim for all our students to grow academically** this school year.

I'm hopeful for a wonderful year ahead for all of us. Welcome back!

Dr. Babbin

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National recognition of SG's academic accomplishments

I'm so proud to let you know that the Franklin Covey organization who runs the Leader in Me program has recognized Spring Garden for **outstanding academic growth in 2025**! We are officially on their Academic Honor Roll. This is a prestigious award that we've never won before, and it's a big deal!



To be eligible, Lighthouse Schools like Spring Garden have to achieve growth of at least 5% from the prior year on our state testing performance. We not only hit that target, we flew by it with a 17% gain! Way to go, SG kids and teachers!

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Our winter break reading challenge

I hope our Spring Garden kids, along with the rest of your family, had the chance to get in some **good reading over the winter break**. Add to the post on ClassDojo so we can all get ideas on what our kids love to read!



And if you haven't gotten a library card yet, here's a great New

Year's resolution to consider: get your family library cards and visit the library once or twice a month. Saturdays worked great for my family. You will have an infinite supply of free new books! And if you haven't visited the children's section of our beautiful library downtown, you are in for a treat; it's an incredible space for our kids. You can learn more at bapl.org.

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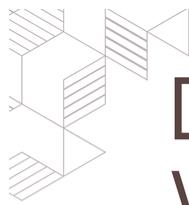
Key dates in January

- January 5: Welcome back!
- January 9: Safety committee open to all, 8:15 am in SG library

- January 14: Dine & donate at Panera -- bring the flyer below so SG gets 25%!
- January 17: SG night @ the Phantoms -- flyer below
- January 17-February 12: Donut fundraiser -- flyer below
- January 19: No school in observation of Martin Luther King, Jr. Day
- January 20: Digital diet workshop -- details on flyer below; end of Marking Period 2
- January 27: Harlem Wizards at Northeast Middle School, 7 pm (details below)
- January 29: SG Night Out @Dave & Buster's in Whitehall, 6-9 pm -- flyer below

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Parenting workshop: Develop good digital habits



DIGITAL DIET WORKSHOP



PRESENTED BY
JOSHWAY MISSION

A WORKSHOP THAT HELPS FAMILIES UNDERSTAND
THEIR TECHNOLOGY USE, MAKE HEALTHIER CHOICES
WITH SCREEN TIME, AND LEARN HOW TO USE DEVICES
IN POSITIVE WAYS.

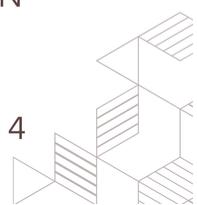


WHEN: TUESDAY, JANUARY 20

TIME: 5:30 PM - PIZZA DINNER PROVIDED
6:00-7:30 PM: PRESENTATION
CHILD CARE INCLUDED



PLEASE RSVP BY JANUARY 14



Please join us for a free parenting workshop that will help you and your kids build good screen time habits! **This workshop is for all parents, and kids ages 9-18. If you have younger kids, please bring them along** -- we will provide free childcare thanks to our Freedom & Liberty students. And if you have middle school or high school kids, please bring them along -- this workshop will be ideal for them. We are also providing a **free pizza dinner** to make the whole thing really easy! [RSVP here](#) and let us know your plans.

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Dine & Donate @Panera: January 14

From 4-8 pm on 1/14, SG will receive 15% of your family's purchase if you show them the flyer below. Thanks for your support!



Harlem Wizards @NEMS

The Harlem Wizards are returning to Northeast Middle School on January 27 and all SG families are invited! Their show was a big hit last year and includes not only impressive bball but also lots of positive messages. [Learn more here!](#)



SG @LV Phantoms, 1/17

Come see a hockey game with your SG friends! Our school receives \$5 from every ticket and your family will have a fun night out. Details on the flyer below!



Panera flyer for January 14 dine & donate

[Download](#)

703.6 KB

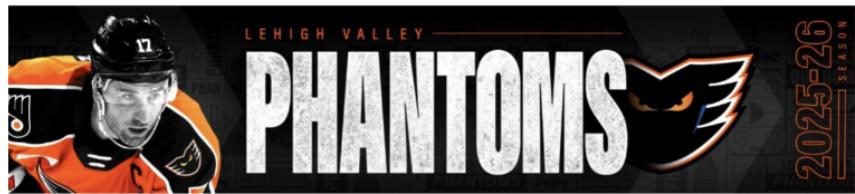


Espanol Panera

[Download](#)

1.5 MB

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SATURDAY, JANUARY 17

Sábado 17 de enero

7:05PM



NIGHT AT THE PHANTOMS!

Una noche con los Phantoms!

TICKETS STARTING AT

Entradas desde

\$25

JOIN SPRING GARDEN ELEMENTARY AT
THE PHANTOMS!
Únete a la Spring Garden en los Phantoms!

\$5 BACK PER TICKET WILL GO BACK TO
SPRING GARDEN ELEMENTARY
SCHOOL!
\$5 de descuento por entrada se destinarán a la Spring Garden!

SCAN THE QR CODE BELOW TO PURCHASE YOUR TICKETS

Escanea el código QR a continuación para comprar tus
entradas



Mary Ann Donuts fundraiser

Whether you & your friends need donuts for Fastnacht or just a fun treat, consider supporting SG through gift certificates to Mary Ann's Donuts in Allentown!



Mary Ann Donut Kitchen Fundraiser Form

Download

5.0 MB



Espanol Mary Ann Donut Kitchen Fundraiser Form

Download

6.6 MB



SG night out @Dave & Buster's

Come join your SG family for a night of fun at Dave & Buster's in Whitehall! (If you purchased a gift card in the fall, this is the perfect chance to use it!) SG friends will be there 6-9 pm on 1/29. Be sure to show the flyer so we get 20% of your food & game play purchases for our school.



Dave & Busters Spring Garden Spirit Night (English).pdf

Download

3.3 MB



Dave & Busters Spring Garden Spirit Night (Spanish).pdf

Download

3.3 MB

Leader in Me Habit 5: Seek First to Understand

This habit is one that is a central part of my life. I find that listening deeply makes all the difference -- whether I'm talking with kids, teachers, parents, or my own family. All humans want to be heard and understood. And when we know another person is taking the time and care to listen, then we are able to be open to what they have to share. Modeling this habit for our kids helps them express themselves more thoughtfully, and become collaborative problem-solvers. Here are the key points of Habit 5:

Empathetic Listening: **Truly hearing and feeling what others are saying, looking at them, and understanding their feelings and viewpoints.**

Balance of Courage & Consideration: **It takes kindness (consideration) to listen deeply and courage to express your own thoughts clearly.**

Non-Judgmental Approach: **Avoiding automatic replies** or filtering what's heard through your own "autobiography" (past experiences).

Clear Communication: **Once understood, voicing your ideas articulately and respectfully, using "I" statements.**

Spring Garden Elementary School

We are a proud Leader in Me school!

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Elizabeth Babbin

Elizabeth is using Smore to create beautiful newsletters