

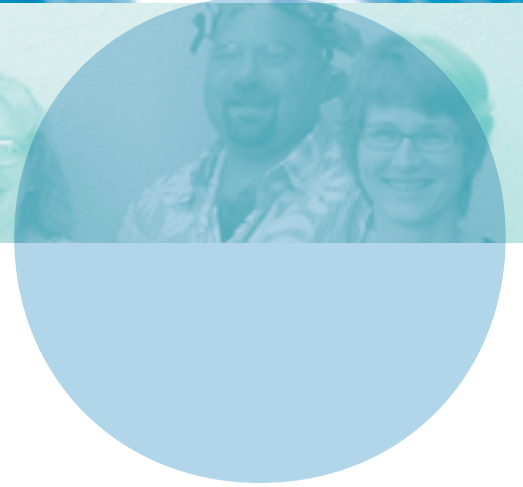


**PLURALISTIC  
SCHOOL**

*Where Knowledge Meets Imagination*

# the periscope

Fall '05



## The Periscope

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Volume 16, Number 1

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## The PS#1 Family Has Grown—by 12 feet!

In the last issue of The Periscope, Joel wrote of the “Fertile Ground” of PS#1—metaphorically referring to the careful cultivation and flourishing of our students, both academically and socially. He was also commenting upon the remarkable fact that six staff members, within a few short months of each other, were about to become parents!

We’re pleased to announce the births of all six adorable, healthy little sprouts, born between December and June, to the delight of their parents and the PS#1 family. We wish them a lifetime of happiness!



### Owen Nicholas Cappelletti

May 6, 2005  
6lbs. 15oz.  
18 inches  
Lisa and Joe Cappelletti

We’ve had a wonderful summer enjoying our newest family addition. Owen has been learning all kinds of great things from his big brothers. A favorite summer activity has been our daily outings to the pool where Owen watches both of his brothers swimming, diving and flipping in the water. Owen already loves the water.

Owen also loves when we sing to him. His face lights up to old favorites like “Row, Row, Row Your Boat” and rests peacefully to “Rock-a-bye Baby”.



### Charlotte Swope Hayes

July 1, 2005  
9lbs. 1 1/2 oz.  
20 inches  
Holly Swope and  
Phil Hayes

I sure am glad I have such a great big sister! Lucy makes me feel loved because she gives me lots of kisses and “I love you’s”. She covers me with a blankie when I am cold and even helps Mommy and Daddy with my diaper changes. Lots of ‘em. That’s love. And I really love her.



### Izabel Noemi Ortega

November 27, 2004  
8 1/2 lbs.  
17 inches  
Pedro Ortega and  
Mildred Ramirez

Izabel loves to go shopping and running errands w/ Daddy. She has been to just about every mall there is and has hung out at amusement parks and petting zoos. She really has a thing for small animals, especially her two little dogs.

Dad is enjoying his summer off and has spent it wrapped around Izabel’s tiny finger. He says he’s looking forward to his “vacation” (that is, going back to work after working so hard at home), but will miss being with his daughter.



### Kareem Hamideh

April 21, 2005  
8 lbs 6 oz  
23 inches  
Hala Innab and Hany  
Hamideh

Kareem is a happy and content baby! He spends most of his time cruising in his stroller, biting on his toys, playing in the park, and loving his parents.



### Jacob Michael Feldon

March 22, 2005  
7 lbs 5 ounces  
19 1/2 inches  
Colby Tofel-Grehl and  
David Feldon

Colby says, “There is a really wonderful quote by Louis Pastuer that I connected with as a teacher but now especially so as a parent- ‘When I approach a child he inspires in me two sentiments: tenderness for what he is and respect for what he may become.’”

### Whitney Lyn Tone

May 28, 2005  
8 lbs. 7 oz.  
21 1/2 inches  
Kristin and Franchot Tone

Whitney (photo below) enjoyed her first summer, traveling with her parents to Canada and Boston at only six weeks old. She took her first boat ride up 31 Mile Lake in Point Comfort, Quebec to enjoy a “shore lunch” with the entire Tone family, aunts, uncles, grandparents, and cousins. She was the youngest member of the Tone family to attend this year’s Tone reunion. Now, that she is back home, Whitney loves tummy time, walks to the park, and baths with her daddy. She can’t wait to meet her friends at P S # 1.

When I was born I was so surprised I didn’t talk for a year and a half.  
—Gracie Allen

# New Beginnings



We are a wonderful blend of the old and the new.

I see a lot of alumni students and parents. They routinely ask whether a particular event, program, or procedure is still in place and I find myself answering Yes! as often as No! I feel like the affirmative answer is received well because everyone, in hindsight, realizes the importance of ritual and routine in a child's life. It is comforting to be able to count on the same things year in and year out. I am asked about first day bubbles, Make New Friends Day, Thanksgiving dinners made for homeless people, Circle Time performances, Holiday Gift Exchange, camping trips, mini-Graduations, and Moving Up Day. These and other traditions help shape our school experience year after year.

The product of a PS#1 education continues to be students who are academically well-prepared for their middle school experience, active learners willing to use their critical thinking skills to challenge authority, kind, aware, grounded, respected, and respectful children who are turned on to learning. As mature as our graduates are in so many ways, they remain kid-like in their attitudes and approach to life. The three core values of competence, confidence, and connection are imbued in every student.

And yet, PS#1 is always a work in progress. It is equally important that we are open to change. I see this new school year as our 35th year of planned change. Yes, we have lots of practice and tradition to fall back on. We are proud to offer a bedrock of stability to new families as they enter the school for the first time. No change is undertaken willy-nilly or without lots of input from many different people.

Change is good. We are excited that eight new staff members have joined us this year. Five key staff members from last year are staying home this year raising their babies born in the past six months. We hired replacements from Minnesota, New York, San Diego, Texas, South Africa, and Beverly Hills. Our staff has grown to 35 people. There is a great feeling all around our campus as we begin the new year.

We have made some improvements in our student assessment and parent communication programs. For the first time we have divided our school year into trimesters. Each trimester begins with a sharing between parents and teachers, continues with class gatherings in three different forms, and concludes with a written progress report about each student. Our reports include assessments of students' effort and performance, on their individual goals and age appropriate skill development, and on teachers' comments and descriptions of children's progress. We have reinstated our regular class letters. Good communication, of course, is a two-way street. We also depend on honest, constructive feedback from parents.

This year we focus on our message as a school, Where Knowledge Meets Imagination. Those four words speak so simply and clearly about what makes our school special. Albert Einstein said, "Imagination is more important than knowledge." Traditional schools place too great an emphasis solely on the knowledge piece. My work is to assure that we always seek a balance between the two.

Our work never ends. As with all organisms, when we stagnate, we stop growing. PS#1 always looks toward an improved future through constant self-examination and change. We are, most definitely, alive and well and ready to begin another successful year.

As mature as our graduates are in so many ways, they remain kid-like in their attitudes and approach to life.

**Elle Brosh**, beginning at Archer...

I am moving on, moving on to a new school. Of course it won't be the same as PS#1, but it will be just as wonderful. I am excited to show off what I have learned...I believe that I have what it takes to go to such a different school.

**Lili Delisle-Cohen**, beginning at Crossroads...

The day after [my mother passed away] my dad asked me if I wanted to go to school or not (probably assuming that I would say no) but to his surprise I said yes. I said yes because I knew that if I just sat at home then I would just feel horrible. So I went to school and I felt more at home at school than I had ever felt in my life...

**Dylan Ellis**, beginning at Harvard Westlake...

If you want me to tell you the truth, I will. After last year's graduation, I expected this year to be awful. I came into a class where there were 4 kids I really knew. As it turns out, I was completely wrong. This year was just as good as last, if not better. I got to know people, and they were awesome.

**Lexi Fite**, beginning at Archer...

My years at PS#1 have been filled with joy. There are so many things I am going to miss about PS#1, but I look forward to moving on to a new environment and meeting new teachers and friends.

**Colette Fletcher-Hoppe**, beginning at Marlborough...

I started PS#1 in 1998. On the very first day I met...Lauren...and she would be my first friend at PS#1... Over the next two years I also became friends with Lili, Jared, Ginny, Emma, Natalie and many more...They've taught me all sorts of random things like...to catch your friends when they fall.

**Maribella Gonzalez-Yañez**, Beginning at New Roads...

I...want to tell everyone that all of you here are going to see both my sister and me in a few years in the 'Two on Two' volleyball summer Olympics... And I just want to say that I will always remember all of you and that I will never forget this school.

**Lauren Hansson**, Beginning at Harvard Westlake...

Our experiences here have proven that by working together we can achieve anything... Though I will miss everyone dearly, I try to remember this quote: *"The most beautiful discovery true friends make is that they can grow separately, without growing apart."* -Elizabeth Folley

**Emma Hartung**, Beginning at Crossroads...

Everyone knows each other [at PS#1] and talks to each other easily. When I leave... it is sort of like leaving my family and starting a whole new life... I'm sure I will experience fun things at Crossroads but it will never be the same as PS#1.

**Scott Heineman**, beginning at Windward...

PS#1 has provided a strong foundation for the start of my journey through life... Even though...I will be moving on from these experiences, what I have learned from them will be with me forever and ensure my future success.

**Hakeem Jawanza**, beginning at Paul Revere...

It was my first year here in 1998. I loved to wear suits with a tie and I wore one to school that day [for my first field trip]. But, what I didn't know was that we were going hiking. Needless to say, I felt really silly... That was my last "suit wearing to school day".

# Reflections on New



On Thursday, June 16, 2005 we honored the 24 accomplished, talented PS#1 students who made up this year's graduating class. After thanking the graduates' parents for their tireless volunteer efforts and continued support of both their child and PS#1's dedication to instilling within students a lifelong passion for learning, the twenty-four mini-graduations began. Joel reflected upon the stellar qualities of each graduate.

Alex Nwokekoro, whose father flew from Africa to attend the ceremony, was lauded as "honorable, loyal" and "most genuine". Hakeem Jawanza earned Joel's praise for being "much better able to work hard and achieve your goals than ever before," while Lexi Fite was recognized for her "great intellectual curiosity, uniquely creative style, [and] a mature yet playful approach to life..."

One by one, each graduate was celebrated by his or her family through heartfelt, touching, often inspiring words shared with the audience. Avi and Andra Brosh commented that Elle was "a walking and breathing ray of light that illuminates every situation and set-

**Jared A. Kraemer**, Beginning at Wildwood...

You've all truly changed the course of my life in some way, and I thank you, sincerely, for that. Without your help, I would've never been brave enough to attend middle school, and to move on...

**Perry Levine**, Beginning at Crossroads...

Getting the chance to go to PS#1 was the most special thing that has happened in my life. I am excited to be a Crossroads student next year. PS#1 has just been the beginning...

**Nora Martin-Resnick, Beginning at Windward...**

Colby was my first teacher in the Olders... I have always been able to go to her with my problems. She will always listen to me. It will be hard to go to a school knowing she won't be there.

**Sam Mindel, Beginning at Brentwood...**

My memories as a PS#1 student will always be fresh in my mind. I will miss being here with all of my friends, and the teachers and staff. Now I have to say goodbye to PS#1. I'll miss you forever.

# Beginnings >



## The Class of 2005

ting," and Mario Van Peebles reflected on integrity when speaking of his daughter, Maya, stating, "who we truly are is revealed in the dark... our true character emerges when no one will ever find out what we're about." Jared Kraemer's parents, Glen Kraemer and Natalie Ziontz said, "At PS#1 you have practiced your craft as scholar and cultural contributor, as writer and citizen, and through it all you have found your own 'voice' in an important and lasting manner."

Finally, the graduates themselves took the stage, reminiscing over fond memories and wondering aloud at the adventures upon which they were about to embark. While the most insightful, funny, and observant snippets from their speeches follow, they cannot possibly serve to fully represent the singular group of kids who are the Class of 2005. We will miss their laughter and the contributions they made to our community, and hope they will look to PS#1 as a second home in which they are always and forever welcome.

Congratulations, Graduates! We wish you all the best in your quest for success, whichever direction it leads you.

**Emily Nagy, Beginning at Archer...**

John and Kristin...have prepared me well for middle school, and I thank them for that. They are the greatest teachers I have ever had. Though I am sad to leave PS#1, I am very excited to go to Archer next year.

**Alex Nwokekoro, Beginning at Crossroads...**

Today I stand here a graduate ready to move on to the next level of education and responsibility.

**Diana Panish, Beginning at Brentwood...**

The year I started kindergarten was a special one. It was the year PS#1 opened its new campus. What luck! I didn't realize how lucky I was until I got a good look at the old campus. Luck struck again when the new yard opened. I live for sports, so you can imagine my excitement. I'll miss not being here for the future building of the gym, but two out of three isn't bad.

**Jesse Printz, Beginning at Crossroads...**

*When you are somewhere for a long time you grow to it.  
You can't escape its grasp; no matter how hard you try.  
You adapt to your surroundings, not wanting to leave even though you have to.  
It binds you keeping you.  
Your life changes when you leave that place.*  
(excerpted from a poem by Jesse)

**Todd Schreiber, Beginning at Wildwood...**

I was here when construction for The Field of Dreams took place, and the Euclid side was torn down to make a parking lot, which taught me to bring in the new, but remember the old.

**Samantha Shapiro, Beginning at Windward...**

The first day of school - what a great event! This year, on the first day, we ran in, everyone holding hands as we formed a chain. As I watched the bubbles gracefully flutter down, I smiled. What a fabulous way to start off a school year.

**Stephanie Smith, Beginning at Marlborough...**

My journey here may be coming to an end, but another long journey is beginning. My journey at Marlborough. Although Marlborough is very different from PS#1, it is also similar in some ways. I'm told the teachers become your friends and you can always be yourself.

**Maya Van Peebles, Beginning at Archer...**

Last year I was in J/K class, and I felt like it was the end of the world. All my friends were leaving me, all I had left was Sara. Then I learned how you can't judge a book by its cover. This class was great and welcoming, they treated me just like everyone else. I have made so many new friends...

**Mathew Welch, Beginning at Wildwood...**

Ever since I first walked through the blue gate, I knew this would be the school - the school where I would thrive. No, my parents did not look at other elementary schools, because they thought PS#1 was the best school for me, and they were right... I intend to visit frequently.

**Sara Wilson, Beginning at Brentwood...**

[When remembering PS#1] I'll remember myself, as I am now - part of a loud, fun, exciting and silly graduating class! ... I'll remember myself as a cherished friend to many of my classmates - and as a cared for student... I'll remember that I was a student in a school where everyone really knew me. So even though it is possible, even probable, that PS#1 won't look the same, it will always be the same to me - because it is me!

# Fresh Faces of PS#1

This is truly a year of new beginnings at PS#1! We warmly welcome 28 families and 40 students along with many new faculty and staff. It gives us great pleasure to introduce the enthusiastic talent joining the PS#1 community:



Pictured, left to right:

**Billy Huynh** comes to PS#1 after working for three years at Mirman School and five years at Page School in Los Angeles. He received his B.A. in History from UCLA and is currently working on his Masters Degree in Elementary Education at Loyola Marymount University. In addition to basketball, tennis, and reading, Billy is an avid runner. He has participated in three Los Angeles marathons!

**Lisa Wilson**, PS#1's new Development Director, is a former 5th and 6th grade teacher, having taught from Irvine, CA to New York, NY. She has a degree in Theater from Cal State Fullerton and maintains her teaching credential from Chapman University. Most recently, she studied with Lucy Calkins at Columbia. Her time away from the office is spent playing with her son, Parker, exploring L.A.

and visiting with friends.

**Mary Hagen** has spent eight years teaching in middle and elementary schools, most recently in Minnesota. She received her B.S. in Elementary Education from the University of Dayton in Ohio and her Masters in Education from the University of Minnesota. Mary loves to run, ski, shop, and do anything on the beach or outdoors. She loves sports and has coached basketball and track. Another hobby of hers is traveling.

**Claudia Upton**, our newest Youngers teacher, was born in Michigan and has raised 3 sons. Two of her "boys" have already graduated from college, the other is currently in his senior year. Claudia had taught in Michigan, New Mexico and Texas. An avid reader, she also loves to walk and downhill ski.

**Heather Kallemeyn** serves as our Development Assistant and originally

hails from the Midwest. After completing her degree in Theater from Northwestern University, she spent seven years in New York City. While pursuing her acting career there, Heather worked as a teaching artist for City Lights Youth Theatre and Camp Broadway.

**Christina Garcia**, our new librarian, comes to PS#1 from the Beverly Hills Public Library, where she was Children's Librarian for the past 25 years. Christina's husband, David, is an artist, and they spend lots of time walking and talking and going to look at art. Her favorite thing to do is read, and she loves to work with kids—so being at PS#1 is her idea of heaven.

**Brad Gilbert** started teaching at PS#1 last year as a mid-year replacement for Colby, who had gone on maternity leave. He has taught for twelve years at

the elementary, middle, and high school levels. Brad attended UCLA and did his graduate studies at San Jose State University. Brad is a writing enthusiast, who truly loves words. When not writing or teaching, Brad can be found at the golf course or spending time at the beach!

**Nicole Dresch** has taught in the San Diego City Schools for the past three years as a primary teacher, working with second language learners. San Diego County public schools benefited from Nicole's research on current educational reform. Prior to working in San Diego, she taught kindergarten at a Montessori School and was a Head Start teacher in Portland, Oregon. Nicole sings in a choir and studies classical voice and beginning piano. Her hobbies include reading and travel.

## Dear PS#1 Students,

I have been at PS#1 for five years and I love it. PS#1 has been the right fit for me in so many ways. I can't imagine myself at any other school.

For one thing, I feel comfortable through lessons and recess; no one pushes you to do anything, but teachers and even my friends encourage me to try. We set goals for ourselves throughout the year and our teachers are always glad to help us do our best work. As we grow older and more confident in ourselves, we are given privileges, such as going on special field trips or watching a movie, or extra free time.



Each year, when you move from one class to the next, you experience gains and losses. You make new friendships and grow to think of your new class as 'family.' I love all the teachers and staff at PS#1, because I know I can always go to them for help and they will always try to understand. I always feel comfortable when I'm talking with my teachers, because we treat each other as friends as well as teacher and student. It makes it easier to learn things when you feel comfortable with your teacher.

Most of my best memories happened at PS#1, because it has such a positive atmosphere; everyone supports you. I'm so happy to say school has started and I hope you will have a wonderful year!

Emma L.

Did you know Dan the Man's Summer Camp and Rana's Arts Camp spent time at PS#1 this summer? The kids had a great time exploring gymnastics, dance, yoga and fun art projects! Thanks to Dan Levy and Rana Kirkland for providing such wonderful opportunities for our kids.



## High School Grads:

### **Kate Berlant ('99)**

(Archer '05)

An aspiring comedienne, Kate recently appeared at The World Famous Laugh Factory! She will be at Bard this fall, possibly focusing on art history and theater.

### **Nicole Haskins ('99)**

(Crossroads '05)

Currently on a year's deferral from Fordham, Nicole can be seen performing with the San Francisco Ballet. A gifted dancer, she is auditioning with other ballet companies and carefully weighing her options for the future.

### **Alexa Schwarzman ('99)**

(Archer '05)

Alexa is considering becoming a Pediatric Oncologist and will begin studying Chemistry this fall at Hamilton in upstate New York. She is open to all possibilities!

### **Harley Wertheimer ('99)**

(Harvard-Westlake '05)

Harley has settled in to his new place in Manhattan and has just begun classes at NYU.

### **Emily Knecht ('99)**

(Windward '05)

Emily is busy setting up her first apartment near CalArts where she'll be working toward a degree in Photography and Media, with an emphasis on Portrait and Fashion Photography. Emily says she remembers how close knit her 6th grade class was, because there were just 14 of them.

### **Amy Tressan ('99)**

(Windward '05)

Amy headed off this fall to begin school at University of Wisconsin at Madison. As Theater was a big part of her high school life, she's planning to study Film. She also has an interest in Nutritional Science.

### **Charlotte Baskin-Gerwitz ('99)**

(Harvard-Westlake '05)

Tufts was lucky enough to enroll Charlotte as a double major in History and International Relations. She thinks she might like to someday have a career in foreign service. Perhaps a future Ambassador?

### **Miles Tokunow ('99)**

(Harvard-Westlake '05)

Miles is planning to attend Wesleyan next fall, but is doing some serious traveling in the meantime. As you read this, Miles is somewhere in Panama, enjoying a six month stay!

### **Pascale and Celine Marill ('99)**

(Crossroads '05)

Both girls are currently attending USC. Pascale is studying architecture, while Celine has chosen Chemistry as her field of study.

## College Grads:

### **Frederick Chandler ('95)**

Currently in Canada directing "The Making of Dr. Doolittle 3" Frederick previously attended U of Kansas and Chapman before deciding to jump right into the work force. He attended the prestigious Lee Strasberg Theater and Film Institute and has plans to write, direct and act!

### **Matthew Barreira ('95)**

We hear Mathew is currently finishing up his degree in Human Development at U of A at Tucson. We can't wait to hear where his path will take him next. Keep us posted, Matthew.

### **Fofy Perkins ('95)**

Fofy has graduated from Brown University and, at press time, was just finishing up an internship with Sotheby's in Paris. We're told she had the time of her life—but, of course!

### **Nick Frankel ('95)**

Nick is attending Rice University where he studies BioMedical Engineering. He looks forward to a career in medical research after graduate school. He says when he thinks back about PS#1, he appreciates how much group exploration and project work helped him to learn a great deal without "burning out" by middle school.

## The PS#1 Alumni Association



# Alumni Corner

### **Andrea Frieder ('95)**

A recent graduate with honors in English Literature from UC Berkeley, Andrea is currently at Harvard completing post-graduate work in publishing and editing. She is also in the process of applying to various grad schools. We wish you luck in your search for the perfect academic fit, Andrea!

### **Sid Perkins ('93)**

A Tulane graduate ('03), Sid spent over a year in London and now resides in Philadelphia. He is about to start up a new oil trading company with his uncle. Continued success to you, Sid.

**Killian Clarke ('96)** - Killian recently sent us an update and has just graduated from Deerfield Academy. He is heading off to Harvard to study Political Science and Arabic this fall. Best wishes, Killian!

### **Brian Roth ('95)**

Brian can be found working as a production assistant at FOX Sports Net Bay Area after having graduated from UC Berkeley with a degree in Political Science.

**2005-2006 Board of Directors**

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**Save The Date!**



*Where Knowledge Meets Imagination*

1454 Euclid Street  
 Santa Monica CA 90404

- |                 |              |  |
|-----------------|--------------|--|
| <b>October</b>  | 15           | <b>"Father's" Breakfast</b>  |
|                 | 13           | <b>Yom Kippur</b> , No school, child care available                          |
|                 | 18-19        | <b>All School Photo Days</b>   |
|                 | 23           | <b>Book Festival</b>   |
|                 | 23-27        | <b>Book Fair</b>   |
|                 | 31           | <b>Halloween Celebration</b>   |
| <b>November</b> | 7            | <b>Dishiversity Day: A Global Feast</b>                                      |
|                 | 11           | <b>Veteran's Day</b> , No school, child care available                       |
|                 | 23           | <b>All School Thanksgiving Day Circle</b> ,<br>Noon dismissal, no child care |
|                 | 24-25        | <b>Thanksgiving Break</b> , No school  |
| <b>December</b> | 5-9          | <b>Conference Days</b><br>Noon dismissal, child care available               |
|                 | 19-January 2 | <b>Winter Break</b> ,<br>Noon dismissal on the 16th, no child care           |

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