



# Leaf!

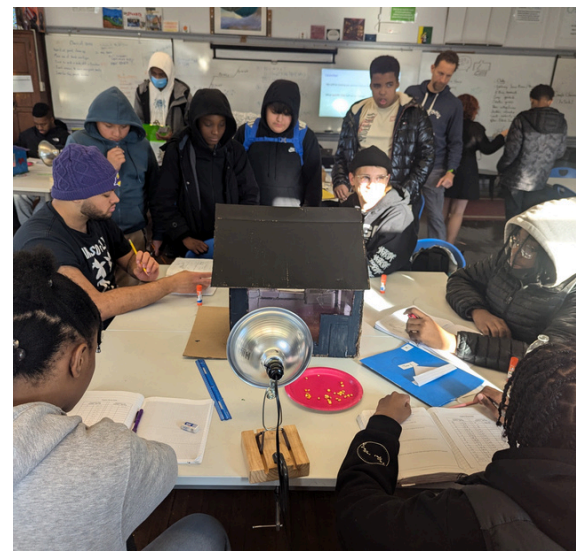
BGA's Student & Family Magazine

Vol. 59

## *The Future* **AND BEYOND**

- Jan 16-19 BGA Musical
- Jan 20 No School - Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Day
- Jan 21-24 Spirit Week
- Jan 23 BGA Arts Night
- Jan 24 Term 2 Ends
- Feb 17-21 No School- February Recess

**Respect**  
**Responsibility**  
**Restraint**  
**Reciprocity**  
**Redemption**




## Updated Attendance Policy SY 24/25

### Multi-Tiered System of Support for Attendance

<b>Tier 1</b> Teachers/Advisors	<b>Tier 2</b> Teachers/ Advisors + SST	<b>Tier 3</b> SST + Student Re-Engagement Coordinator
<p>When a student misses <b>3 days</b>, it is important for the advisor and/or teachers to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>Check In:</b> Reach out to the student to ensure everything is okay and address any concerns they might have.</li> <li>● <b>Offer Support:</b> Provide any necessary support or resources to help the student get back on track.</li> <li>● <b>Remind of Attendance Policy:</b> Remind students of the school's attendance policy and the importance of regular attendance.</li> <li>● <b>Notify appropriate school counselor</b> for attendance monitoring purposes.</li> </ul>	<p>When a student accumulates <b>4 unexcused absences</b>:</p> <p><b>Attendance Team Communication:</b> The Attendance Team will notify the advisor / teacher of the students.</p> <p><b>Advisor Action:</b> The advisor should call home using the provided script [<a href="#">LINK HERE</a>] to discuss the absences and <u>provide support</u>.</p> <p><b>Subsequent Absences:</b> For each additional unexcused absence beyond the initial 4, another call home and/or email should be made. This communication should:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Inform parents of the continued absences.</li> <li>● Remind families of the BGA attendance policy.</li> <li>● Inquire if the student or family needs any additional support or resources.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Lower House:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● 6 Absences: An in-person family meeting is required.</li> <li>● 8 Absences: An attendance plan will be created in Panorama. ACRA filing will be initiated for students under the age of 16 (Re-Engagement Coordinator).</li> </ul> <p><b>Upper House:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● 8 Absences: An in-person family meeting is required.</li> <li>● 10 Absences: An attendance plan will be created in Panorama.</li> <li>● Students under the age of 16 will also have a CRA filing.</li> <li>● Saturday school will be assigned.</li> </ul> <p><b>Saturday School:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>Attendance Monitoring:</b> Students will be monitored for 2 weeks following Saturday school.</li> <li>● <b>1 or 2 Unexcused Absences:</b> The student may attend Homework Club to make up for the absences.</li> <li>● <b>More than 2 Unexcused Absences:</b> The student will return to Saturday School for additional support.</li> </ul>





**BGA'S**



**ATTENDANCE**

**MONEY GRAB**

GET INSIDE THE "MONEY" GRABBING MACHINE FOR YOUR CHANCE TO EARN SNACKS, GIFT CARDS, LUNCH AND OTHER PRIZES.

STUDENTS WHO HAVE 90% OR HIGHER ATTENDANCE WILL BE SELECTED AT RANDOM. GOOD LUCK!

For More Information see your school counselors






BOSTON GREEN ACADEMY

# SCHOOL FAMILY COUNCIL (SFC)



## 6PM SFC ZOOM MEETINGS ONCE A MONTH

[Click Here to Join](#) 

- December 17, 2024
- January 21, 2025
- February 18, 2025
- March 18, 2025
- April 15, 2025
- May 20, 2025
- June 17, 2025

### 1 ENGAGEMENT OPPORTUNITIES

1

These meetings provide a chance to interact with fellow BGA parents, board members, and staff. We encourage you to ask questions and invite other BGA parents to help foster a stronger community.



2

### 2 STAY INFORMED

We will share a calendar of events that highlights important happenings at our school, designed to benefit all families.

Click here: [BGA Calendar of Events](#)

3

### 3 BUILD CONFIDENCE

Participation in our meetings helps build confidence. You are not alone; we are here to support one another in creating an environment where our children can thrive.

4

### 4 RESOURCE ACCESS

We will provide easy access to valuable resources to support you and your family.

Click here: [ParentSquare](#)



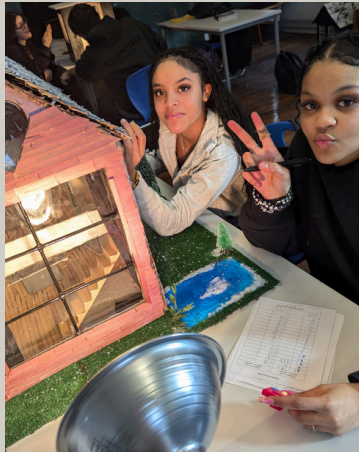
5

### 5 ADVOCACY AND VOICE

Your voice matters! Get involved in discussions that shape our school community and advocate for the needs of our families.

questions can be sent to:  
[parentcouncil@bostongreenacademy.org](mailto:parentcouncil@bostongreenacademy.org)





**BEFORE WINTER BREAK, SENIORS SPENT A FEW WEEKS IN ENGINEERING PHYSICS, DESIGNING AND CONSTRUCTING MODEL PASSIVE HOUSES. A PASSIVE HOUSE IS INTENTIONALLY DESIGNED TO UTILIZE THE PASSIVE HEAT FROM THE SUN AS ITS MAIN ENERGY SOURCE AND THUS DOESN'T NEED A FURNACE.. MAKING IT INCREDIBLY ENERGY EFFICIENT! STUDENTS TESTED THEIR MODELS FOR BOTH A TEMPERATURE INCREASE AND THERMAL MAINTENANCE.**

**THE FOLLOWING PAGE IS A BRIEF EXPLANATION ON WHAT A PASSIVE HOME IS. THE DESCRIPTION WAS WRITTEN BY BGA SENIOR EDRIANNYS.**

**PASSIVE HOMES CAN BE SEEN IN WEST ROXBURY!**



# Passive Houses in Engineering Physics

Passive houses are a type of building that use their structure and design to cool or heat the inside of the house as needed. This architectural style first originated in Europe as an attempt to keep houses warm in colder climates, where they realized that small adjustments to their current infrastructures could eliminate the need for the fossil fuels completely. Since then, these houses' popularity and influence have reached worldwide, including here in the US.

Where did the passive house originate?

Passive houses first originated in Germany. The first passive house was built by the physicist Wolfgang Feist in 1991. These passive houses had complicated window designs and thick walls that blocked any air from escaping. This led the first passive houses to have stale air and mold. However, architects developed a new ventilation system to combat these issues, saving the passive house movement. More than 70,000 passive houses are located around the world.

Passive in Massachusetts

Although materials are cheaper and easier to get in Europe than in the US, passive houses have still made a prominent impact in the US, as there are over 5,000 certified passive houses counted as of 2020 and these numbers are rapidly increasing. Thanks to the first Green Communities Act (GCA) in Massachusetts, building codes were created encouraging building companies and citizens alike to become more knowledgeable on passive building methodologies. The advancements of these codes have given Massachusetts recognition as a leader in advancing passive housing initiatives.

What exactly is a passive house?:

A passive house's infrastructure is unique and different from a regular house. One of the main differences is that passive houses have an airtight envelope which means that there are no holes for the air to transfer, keeping it warm in the winter and cool in the summer. Since they have an airtight envelope, passive houses use a ventilation system called the heat recovery ventilator (HRV). The HRV filters out the stale air and releases fresh air into the home. Next are the windows of a passive house; these windows have three layers of window panes instead of two. Additionally, the space in between the panes is filled with a gas, such as krypton or argon, to help block heat from transferring. These special windows are most prominently located in the south-facing part of the house to let the most sunlight in.

Not only do passive houses keep warm in winter, but they also keep cool in summer without the need for an air conditioner. This summer, Ms. Wilson traveled to Mexico and Central America to study passive house architecture. These countries have temperatures that get dangerously high. In the summer, the sun is located farther up in the sky so most of the passive houses in these parts of the world often use an overhang roof to block out the sun and reduce heat. Materials such as tile, cement, and bricks are utilized as well, which have high thermal mass. This means the heat is absorbed during the day to keep the house cool and released during the night which is a benefit both when it is the hottest at the daytime and when it is cooler in the night.

Thanks to these adjustments to the people's homes, the quality of life in these countries can rise and be improved.

Benefits to sustainability

Passive houses are great for both the environment, health, and saving money. Because passive houses use the sun to heat the house, energy use is significantly reduced. This helps save money on energy costs, with the heating costs being 0%. Since a furnace is not required to heat these houses, greenhouse gases are not produced, which is a step further towards combating climate change. Additionally, the advanced ventilation system is great for preventing respiratory issues or those with pre-existing respiratory issues or allergies as there is no dust in the air and there is a constant source of fresh air coming in through the vents.

Learning in class

Learning about passive houses in class was very fascinating. I had never heard of these types of houses before and learning more about certain aspects of a home, such as insulation, has made me think more about how my home or other houses in my neighborhood are different or similar to these passive houses. In class, we were able to go more in-depth and design and build our own model passive houses. This project gave me a deeper understanding of passive house construction and construction in general, even if it was on a smaller scale. Learning to use tools such as a saw and a drill and working as a team was also fun and allowed us to work on both our communication and teamwork skills. This was a great opportunity to refine our time management skills and plan accordingly to finish the project on time.



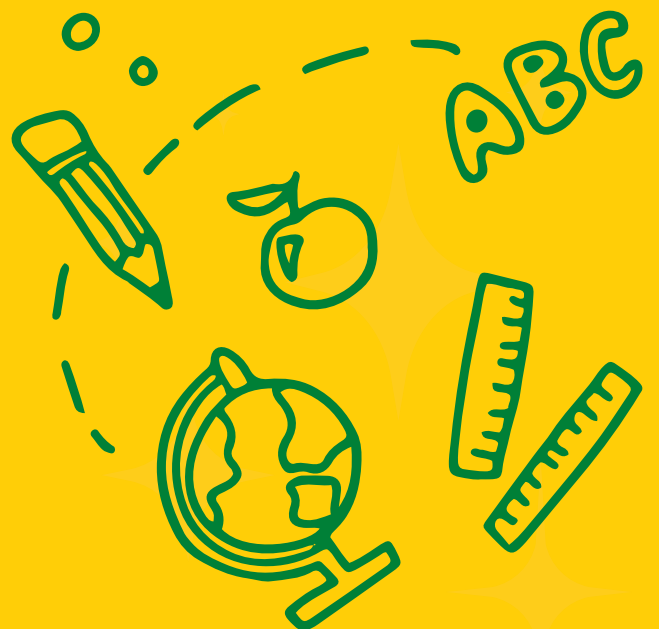
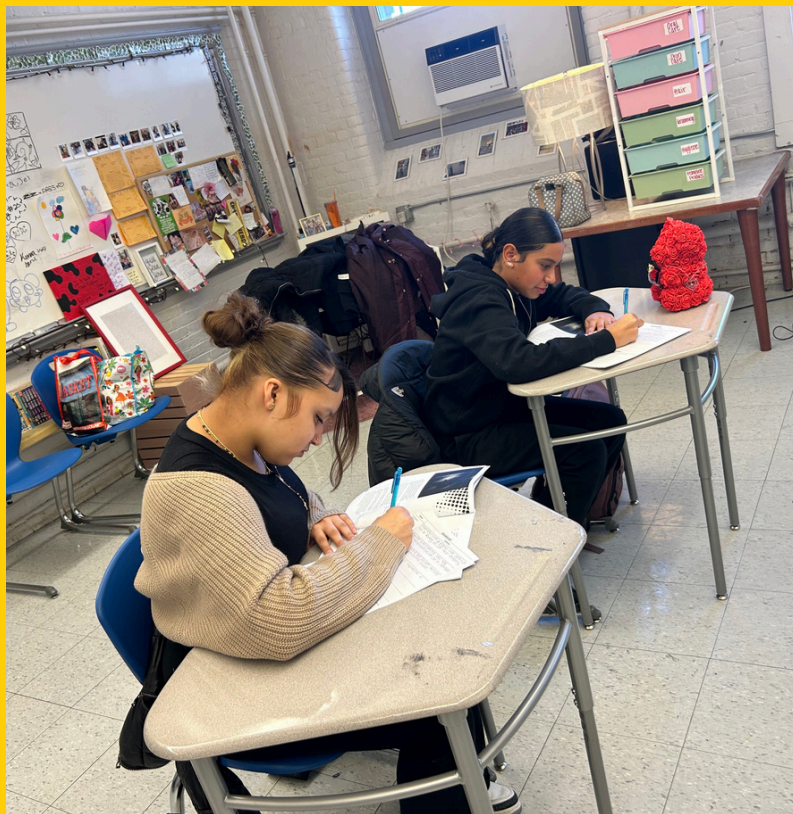
# ATHLETICS @ BGA!

Our winter sports season is in full swing with students competing in girls' and boys' basketball and indoor track! The boys' varsity basketball team is off to a strong start at 3-3, while the girls' varsity stands at 3-1. Everyone is having fun and putting in hard work! The indoor track girls are gearing up for another dominant season, continuing their undefeated streak from last winter 😲. The boys track team secured their first win of the season last week! Good luck to all our student-athletes competing this season!



# ATHLETIC ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

At BGA, we prioritize being STUDENT-athletes. To participate in athletic events, students must maintain a minimum 2.0 GPA. Additionally, students who are failing or at risk of failing their last-period classes will not be dismissed for athletic events.



Boston Green Academy  
Presents  
**HIGH SCHOOL  
MUSICAL!**

**January 16-19, 2025**

**Tickets are officially on sale for BGA's winter production,  
"High School Musical!"**

Students from grades 9-12 have been working extremely hard on this musical and we would love to fill every seat with members of the BGA community. Last year we sold out some of the performances very quickly so be sure to reserve your tickets asap!

**TICKET LINK**

**Tickets are \$10.00 each and BPS students can use the code:  
bpsstudentfree for two free tickets each.**

**Public Performance Dates:  
Thursday, January 16th at 7:00 PM  
Saturday, January 18th at 7:00 PM  
Sunday, January 19th at 4:00 PM**

**Venue:  
The Modern Theatre at Suffolk University  
525 Washington St, Boston, MA 02111**

**Thank you for your support of our new and growing arts program!**

# Boston Public Schools Respiratory Virus Illness Protocols

THIS GUIDANCE OUTLINES THE ISOLATION AND EXPOSURE PROTOCOLS FOR MANAGING RESPIRATORY VIRUSES, INCLUDING COVID-19, INFLUENZA (FLU), RESPIRATORY SYNCYTIAL VIRUS (RSV), AND OTHER COMMON RESPIRATORY INFECTIONS. IT PROVIDES CLEAR, ACTIONABLE STEPS TO REDUCE THE SPREAD OF THESE ILLNESSES AND ENSURE THE HEALTH AND SAFETY OF OUR SCHOOL COMMUNITIES.

## ISOLATION PROTOCOL

### **INDIVIDUALS WHO ARE ABLE TO MASK:**

ISOLATE UNTIL THERE IS SIGNIFICANT IMPROVEMENT IN OVERALL SYMPTOMS AND YOU ARE FEVER FREE WITHOUT THE USE OF FEVER REDUCING MEDICATION FOR AT LEAST 24 HOURS.

RETURN TO SCHOOL **24 HOURS AFTER THE CRITERIA ABOVE ARE MET** AND CONSISTENTLY WEAR A WELL-FITTING DISPOSABLE MASK AROUND OTHERS FOR THE NEXT 5 DAYS.

### **INDIVIDUALS WHO ARE UNABLE TO MASK:**

ISOLATE UNTIL ALL SYMPTOMS HAVE SIGNIFICANTLY IMPROVED, AND YOU ARE FEVER FREE WITHOUT THE USE OF FEVER REDUCING MEDICATION FOR AT LEAST 24 HOURS.

RETURN TO SCHOOL **24 HOURS AFTER THE CRITERIA ABOVE ARE MET.**

## EXPOSURE PROTOCOL

NO QUARANTINE IS NECESSARY.  
IT IS RECOMMENDED TO WEAR CONSISTENTLY WEAR A WELL-FITTING DISPOSABLE FOR 5 DAYS  
MONITOR CLOSELY FOR SYMPTOMS AND STAY HOME IF SYMPTOMS DEVELOP.

**FOR MORE INFORMATION  
OR TRANSLATION IN  
OTHER LANGUAGES,  
[CLICK HERE](#)**

**Don't forget to always wash your  
hands with soap**



# BAGLY

THE BOSTON ALLIANCE OF LGBTQ+ YOUTH

We're excited to announce our winning theme for Massachusetts Youth Pride 2025...Once Upon a Pride! Calling All Youth Artists: Let your creativity shine! We're now accepting YOUR logo designs and can't wait to see your original art, based on this year's theme! Youth across the state will vote for the winning logo. The winning design will be featured on all Youth Pride swag, digital images, and signage at the event, and the winner will receive an honorarium for their work! Submit Designs Here! We'll be accepting submissions NOW through Sunday, January 26th at 11:59PM. Submissions are open to LGBTQ+ youth and young adults 25 and under.

Massachusetts Youth Pride registration is open! MA Youth Pride will be Saturday, May 17th 2025 from 9am-4pm on City Hall Plaza! This year, we're inviting GSAs and school groups to register to march together! Join The March - Register HERE! Not interested in marching, but still want to get involved? Not a problem! The Festival is open to all - no registration required! Learn more about MA Youth Pride 2025 by checking out our Get Involved Guide and FAQs sheet! We can't wait to see you at Pride!



**Calling All Youth Artists:  
Let your creativity shine!**

[Submit Your Designs Here](#)

Not interested in marching, but still want to get involved? Not a problem!

The Festival is open to all - no registration required!

[Join the March! Register Here](#)

Learn more about MA Youth Pride 2025 by checking out our [Get Involved Guide](#) and [FAQs](#) sheet!

We can't wait to see you at Pride!

text





# Need Help With Your HOMEWORK?

**VISIT A NEIGHBORHOOD  
LIBRARY AND GET HOMEWORK  
HELP FROM A BOSTON TEACHER!**  
4:00 - 6:00 PM \*EXCEPT AS NOTED



LIBRARY	ADDRESS	NIGHT(S) OPEN
ADAMS STREET	690 Adams Street	Wednesday
BRIGHTON	40 Academy Hill Road	Thursday
CENTRAL LIBRARY – COPLEY SQUARE	700 Boylston Street	Monday through Thursday
CHARLESTOWN	179 Main Street	Monday & Thursday
CHINATOWN	2 Boylston Street	Monday
CODMAN SQUARE	690 Washington Street	Monday
CONNOLLY	433 Centre Street	Monday
EAST BOSTON	365 Bremen Street	Thursday
EGLESTON SQUARE	2044 Columbus Avenue	Wednesday
FANEUIL	419 Faneuil Street	(closed for renovations)
FIELDS CORNER	1520 Dorchester Avenue	Tuesday
GROVE HALL	41 Geneva Avenue	Thursday
HONAN – ALLSTON	300 North Harvard Street	Wednesday
HYDE PARK	35 Harvard Street	Thursday
JAMAICA PLAIN	30 South Street	Thursday
LOWER MILLS	27 Richmond Street	Monday & Thursday (*3:00-5:00 pm)
MATTAPAN	1350 Blue Hills Avenue	Tuesday & Thursday (*3:00-5:00 pm)
NORTH END	25 Parmenter Street	Wednesday
PARKER HILL	1497 Tremont Street	Thursday
ROSLINDALE	4266 Washington Street	Thursday
ROXBURY	149 Dudley Street	Monday
SOUTH BOSTON	646 East Broadway	Monday & Thursday (*3:00-5:00 pm)
SOUTH END	555 Tremont Street	(closed for renovations)
UPHAMS CORNER	500 Columbia Road	Thursday
WEST END	151 Cambridge Street	Thursday
WEST ROXBURY	1961 Centre Street	Monday

*Sponsored by the*

**BOSTON TEACHERS UNION • MAYOR OF BOSTON  
BOSTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS • BOSTON PUBLIC LIBRARY**



ENGLISH

For other languages

**CLICK HERE**





**FREE** Academic Enrichment Program for  
Curious, Driven 6th and 7th Graders

# DIVE INCOMMONWEALTH

- | For students from **low-income families** in under-resourced communities to help eliminate barriers in education
- | 14–26 months of rigorous summer classes (and Saturdays during the school year) **boost math and English skills**, and introduce exciting new subjects
- || **Easily accessible** by MBTA Green and Orange Lines
- || Safe, welcoming, **tight-knit community** of students who love to learn
- | One-on-one mentoring from **supportive, expert faculty**  
**Extracurricular activities** and fun field trips  
SSAT prep and admissions guidance, **opening doors** to Boston's best private high schools and beyond

[COMMSCHOOL.ORG/DIVEIN](https://COMMSCHOOL.ORG/DIVEIN)



# WE ARE HIRING

## PEER LEADERS

Youth, Purpose, and Partnership  
(YPP) Program

- Participate in multimedia storytelling, including podcasting and digital storytelling, and engage in open dialogue between youth and community leaders.
- Engage in volunteer opportunities, community-based projects, and collaborate with other youth programs in Boston.
- High school students ages 14-18

## APPLY TODAY!

Learn More & Apply At:  
[www.csrox.org](http://www.csrox.org)



Children's Services of Roxbury  
Strengthening Families across Massachusetts  
Roxbury - Tewksbury - Worcester - Northampton

[Children's Services of Roxbury is Hiring Peer Leaders](http://www.csrox.org)



Join Hyde Square Task Force's School Year Program

# JÓVENES EN ACCIÓN

WHERE ARTS, EDUCATION, AND COMMUNITY COME TOGETHER.

In Jóvenes en Acción, teens learn Afro-Latin arts (dance, music, or theatre) and participate in education and civic engagement workshops.

FOR TEENS IN GRADES 8 - 12



## APPLY TODAY

CLICK HERE



Visit: [Hydesquare.org/join-jovenes-en-accion](https://Hydesquare.org/join-jovenes-en-accion)  
or scan the QR with your phone.

Follow us on Social Media @HydeSquareTF



## Urgent Care

for Mental Health

For Questions and Intake:



Email us now

[bamhaintake@italianhome.org](mailto:bamhaintake@italianhome.org)



Visit our

**Psychology Today**

"Brighton Allston Mental  
Health Association"



Scheduling same day and next day assessment for urgent mental health concerns

- Masshealth Members access to mental health services same and next day appointment
- Extended hours  
Monday-Thursday 9:00 AM - 7:00 PM  
Friday 9:00 AM - 5:00 PM  
Every other Saturday 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM
- Referrals and follow up care provided



# CLIMATE RESILIENT SCHOOLS

COALITION

## ARE YOU A STUDENT INTERESTED IN:

**Fighting climate change**

**Joining a team of students, educators,  
and local climate leaders to campaign  
for climate action at your school**

**Developing leadership and  
teambuilding skills for climate action**

**JOIN OUR YOUTH COHORT!  
PAID OPPORTUNITY**



bitly

**LEARN MORE!**



[bit.ly/youthcohortapp](https://bit.ly/youthcohortapp)



bitly

**APPLY HERE!**

# HAPPY NEW YEAR



## Believe. Grow. Achieve.

"The greatest thing you'll ever learn is just to love and be loved in return."

- Eden Ahbez, "Nature Boy"

**Want to submit content for the next issue?  
Need more info?**



Contact Ms. Velez at [bvelez@bostongreenacademy.org](mailto:bvelez@bostongreenacademy.org)

To view previous volumes of the *Leaf*, [click here!](#)

