



## Opening Assembly

Congresswoman Carolyn B. Maloney, U.S. Representative for New York's 12th congressional district, spoke to students about her efforts to bring a panda to the Central Park Zoo.



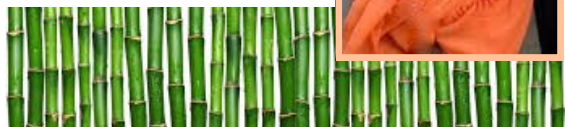
## China Institute Workshop

### The Palace is Like a Big Forest

Using a contemporary voice and a variety of media formats, all students participated in a program celebrating the Forbidden City and the study of architecture, imperial life, and Chinese cultural history.

## Author Visit

Alicia Potter spoke with students in grades 1–4 about the writing process and the subject of her book *Mrs. Harkness and the Panda*.



## Science

**Grade 1:** After assembling a world map, first grade students compared and contrasted the world's eight bear species and their locations in the world. **Grade 2:** Second graders learned about the giant panda and its habitat and created a diorama of the panda in its temperate forest home. **Grade 3:** Students learned about the endangered status of the giant panda and created brochures to highlight its plight. **Grade 4:** Using iPads and the National Geographic program, *Giant Pandas: Into the Wild*, students designed a giant panda wildlife reserve.



## Hebrew Language

**Grade 1:** Following directions given in Hebrew, students created an adorable panda craft to take home. Speaking in Hebrew, students then described their pandas to their classmates. **Grade 2:** Students practiced counting to 100 in Hebrew while using chopsticks to manipulate food items. **Grade 3:** Students participated in a scavenger hunt designed around the Hebrew expression *אין דבר העומד בפני הרצון* (Where there's a will, there's a way). They then discussed how this expression relates to the book and their own lives. **Grade 4:** Students participated in a shiur led by Rabbi Koslowe pertaining to the halachic guidelines of putting oneself in danger.



## Lunch

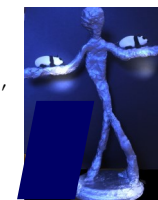
Students in grades 1–4 enjoyed a varied and delicious Chinese menu.



**Tai Chi** Students in grades 1–4 participated in a Tai Chi session presented by Cari Shurman, founder of Tai Chi for Kids.

According to Ms. Shurman, Tai Chi can improve balance, concentration, flexibility, focus, attention and learning.

**Art** To raise awareness of the dwindling panda populations, French artist Paulo Grangeon created an exhibition of 1600 paper mache pandas, representing the number of pandas currently in the wild. Inspired by Grangeon, third graders added pandas to Giacometti-styled sculptures and created an exhibition visited by all classes.



## Chinese Theatre Works

Our Grand Finale was a presentation of the eclectic *Four Treasures*, of Chinese music dance and opera, including the Double Swords Dance, Long Ribbon Dance, Guzheng (zither) music, narrated by Kuang Yu.



*Suggested reading:*

Macleod, Steve.

**I am a Giant Panda**

Olson, Bethany. **Baby Pandas**

Osborne, Mary Pope. **Pandas and Other Endangered Species**

Panda Twins. **National Geographic KIDS**

Pandas. **Zoobooks**

Red Panda . **National Geographic Little Kids**

Ryder, Joanne. **Panda Kindergarten**

Stone, Lynn M. **Giant Pandas**

*Websites :*

**Giant Pandas**

Smithsonian National Zoological Park

<http://nationalzoo.si.edu/animals/giantpandas/pandasforkids/>

San Diego Zoo

<http://kids.sandiegozoo.org/animals/mammals/giant-panda>

National Geographic Kids

<http://kids.nationalgeographic.com/animals/giant-panda/>

**Giant Pandas - Into the Wild – game played in 4<sup>th</sup> grade**

[http://education.nationalgeographic.com/media/richmedia/0/220/project/index.html?ar\\_a=1](http://education.nationalgeographic.com/media/richmedia/0/220/project/index.html?ar_a=1)

**China**

National Geographic kids

[http://kids.nationalgeographic.com/content/kids/en\\_US/explore/countries/china/](http://kids.nationalgeographic.com/content/kids/en_US/explore/countries/china/)

Asia Society Kids <http://kids.asiasociety.org/>



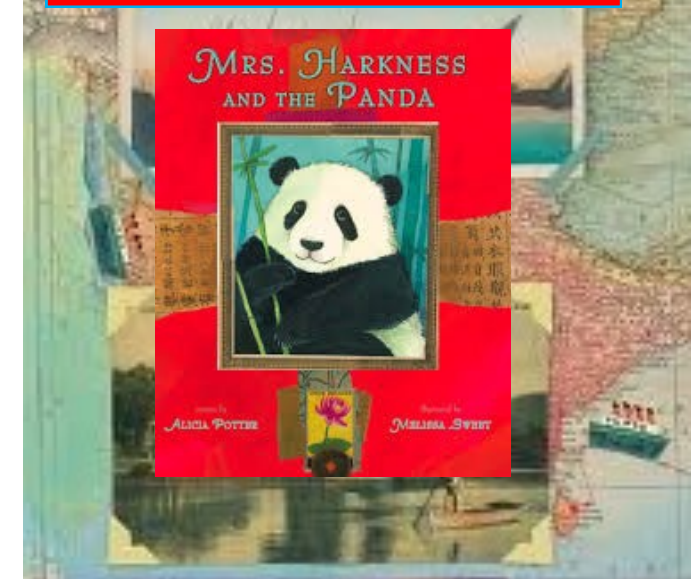
The Ramaz Lower School wishes to thank the **National Geographic Society** for the donation of many Book Day favors and our own Su Lin who served as inspiration throughout the Book Day planning process.



We wish to thank the **Parents Council** for their support of this program.

For more information, please contact  
Mrs. Haviva Donin Peters, Ramaz Lower School  
Library (212) 774-8010 ~ [lslibrary@ramaz.org](mailto:lslibrary@ramaz.org)

**MRS. HARKNESS AND THE PANDA**  
**BY ALICIA POTTER**



**Ramaz Lower School  
Book Day  
Wednesday, June 3rd**