

A photograph of a child playing soccer in a snowy environment. The child is wearing a black and white jacket, blue gloves, and a grey knit hat with a pom-pom. They are in a dynamic pose, leaning forward with one leg extended towards a green and white soccer ball on the snow. Snowflakes are visible in the air, creating a sense of motion. The background is a blurred green field.

Snowfall a ball

By **Ben (Adventure Club)**

We played soccer
in the snow three times.
You can slide tackle
better in the snow. It is
fun to dive on the snow
to make a save when
I am goalie.



Amazing **feet feat**

By **Su (Discovery Club)**

I made tracks in the snow
for a maze with **Maddie
(Discovery Club)**. It was about
one-quarter of the field.
I wasn't cold. My shoes got wet.



New fitness ball has routines for all:
Oliver (Adventure Club) rolls over with a body-length crawl.
Ahlin (Discovery Club) tries to balance and not fall.

Zoom-boom

I made a
ship-car. It
flies-drives
fast. It shoots
a yellow
bomb.





Flip tables that double as whiteboards are **fun furniture**

By **John (Discovery Club)**

This is one of the nicest things I have drawn in awhile on this whiteboard. WOW!

By **Luca (Discovery Club)**

It's definitely a clever invention. The downside is you can't keep the drawings forever. My favorite things to draw are jellyfish, dragons and flamingos.



Old school and new school: what is the difference?

DLG old school: September 1921 to November 24, 2023...DLG new school: November 27, 2023 to...What is the difference between the two schools?

Andrew (Discovery Club): The new school is cleaner.

Deniz (Discovery Club): The new school has better alarm system technology.

Ellis (Adventure Club): The new school has smaller classrooms.

Ishaan (Explorers): The new school has an elevator.

Kayden (Adventure Club): The old school had cubbie rooms in classrooms.

Marcus (Discovery Club): The old school had a better bell.

Muen (Explorers): The new school has white bricks not red.

Tony (Explorers): The new school has dimmer switches for lights.

Yahli (Adventure Club): The new school looks like a high school or hospital.

Old staff and young staff: what is the difference?

By **Peter (Staff)**

Old staff seems to share more memories. Here are two of mine:

(1) Ash Park is one of our regular neighborhood field trips. It is on the same property as an elementary school. There are lots of options: two playgrounds and a separate set of swings; pavement with a basketball hoop and hopscotch; a medium-size grass field with soccer goals; and large trees that provide shade. Also on the same property is the co-op where I live. This gives us quick access to a refrigerator, water bottle refills and a bathroom which the park and school do not provide.

You would think it was all good. Almost.

The one challenge for some is the 10-block walk. Fresh legs and anticipation usually get the group to the park in good time. But on the return trip it is common for lead walkers to wait at each street corner for tail-end stragglers and everyone else in-between.

One summer field trip, complaints started as we prepared to leave the park.

"Do we have to walk...it's so far...I'm too tired...can't the bus get us..."

I took my usual place at the front of the line and said, "It doesn't take long if you keep a good pace. I walk this route everyday to and from work."

The grade 3 boy beside me asked, "Really, so where do you work?"

(2) "What is the most dangerous thing on this playground?" asked a boy in Kinderclub.

I looked around and said, "The long slide because it is steep and at the bottom there is that big rock."

"No," he said.

"The tire swings. You can get really dizzy."

"No," he said.

"The prickles on the tree by the gym door."

"No," he said.

I gave up. "So tell me, what is the most dangerous thing on this playground?"

"It's the girls," said the boy.

That was 1989. The year I started at Spare Time on a one-year contract.

A lot has changed since then.

The boys and girls changed from gradual entry to graduation.

The playgrounds changed several times. The main building changed just once.

The cameras that I clicked changed as technology changed.

The photographer aged.

Taking the photographs never got old.

Walking the dog

A stroll at 1338 West 67th Avenue in January 2024 revealed:

Putting the 48-piece solar system floor puzzle together was the beginning of many adventures for a few **Explorers**. They traced rocket routes between planets, moons and the sun asking a staff “how far” and “how long” was each trip. Answers came with a cell phone search and a “zoom” meeting.

There are cushions in two windowsills for **Adventure Club**. Sitting options include: a room with a view and a pass-on-the-glass.

The new school means new distances. The gym is now across a hall. A short walk and then you can run. The primary playground swings are now across almost the whole east-to-west border plus almost the whole north-to-south border of the DLG property. A long walk and then you can sit.

Ga-Ga Ball in Multipurpose Room 111 involves furniture. The portable walls are needed. But is the couch a help or a hinder? Some giggling **Discovery Club** players had as much fun on it as playing the game. Ga-Ga and Gi-Gi.

“The old school ran out of power,” said **Tony (Explorers)** when he saw the old building completely dark and the new building with lights on.

Photo: **Leon (Explorers)** fires balloon canon. Pom-pom bomb with aplomb.

