

# MANDALA SCHOOL

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*Mandala School shall endeavor to provide learning experiences that practice and promote democratic conduct, intrinsic motivation, acquisition of knowledge, community service, and environmental stewardship.*

## Upcoming Activities

Monday, 9:30: community service for  
rec department

This week: Micro-gravity project with  
UB students & NASA

May 15 Great Lakes Student Summit  
• 7 students are attending

June 2-6 Adirondack Trip

TBA: Architectural tour of Buffalo

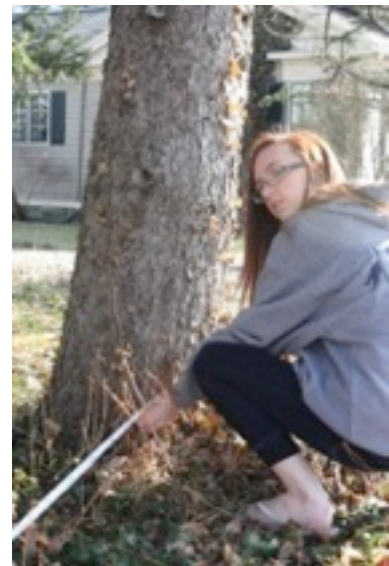
## Practical Trigonometry

Learning math and science from nature is one of our favorite activities.

Here Lizzy is sighting the angle from her position to the top of the Norway Spruce. Liz is measuring the distance from Lizzy which is the “adjacent” side of the right triangle.

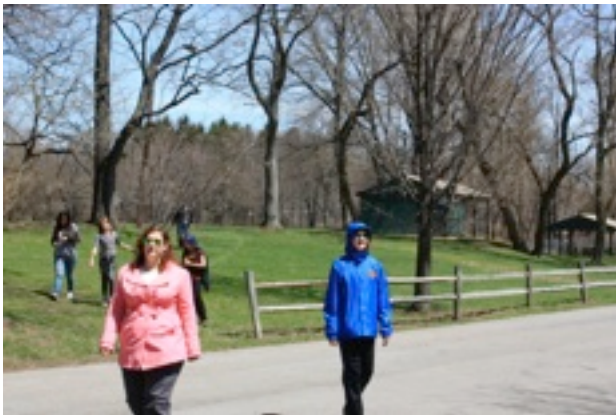
Applying the tangent ratio (tangent of the angle x adjacent) gave us the height of the tree.

Students also found the width of Main Street without crossing it.





*Several of the boys are learning tremendous amounts about ancient civilizations through the online game Civilization.*



*Rec time gets us outside most days. We either walk to a park or to the Boys & Girls Club. Watching the development of coordination, sportsmanship, and skills through our soccer, basketball, dodgeball, and kickball games has been very rewarding.*

## Great Lakes Student Summit

This biennial gathering of students from around the “sweet seas” was started by Dr. John in 1995 along with Sea Grant and Buffalo’s Department of Environment & Planning.

On May 15 the students who chose to attend will visit many stations at the Museum of Science and prepare their own display on pH, the measurement of acids and bases.



*Chagall windows at Chicago Institute of Art*

*Ms. Jeannet used Chagall’s and Chihuly’s work to introduce stain glass. We have all been creating the effect on a special plastic that can be shaped then painted. Look for them when you visit.*

## Reading

Both free-choice reading and literature groups are important parts of Mandala. Currently, one group is reading *Devil’s Arithmetic* and the other *Endurance*. Both are about courage and the strength of the human spirit in the face of nearly impossible threats.



*Jordan reading the 5th Harry Potter book to Allie, Liz, Jason, and Lizzy.*



*photo by Allie*

*Even Dusty enjoys a good book by the fire.*