

The Panther Point

Glebe Street Elementary School Newsletter, JANUARY, 2009 – Vol. 4, #5



What a great school we do have, and what a pleasure it is to be part of a learning community which cares so much about building strong children.

While reflecting upon the past year of learning at Glebe Street Elementary School, it has become even clearer to me that our students do continue to need the strong and principled community that is already behind them. As adults, we have the awesome opportunity each day to help shape and guide our student learners to become future leaders in our community.

Perhaps we do not always appreciate that each moment is a privilege to be *present* for our children. This may sound precious or 'Pollyanna', but our goal must be to be *present* in the lives of these wonderful, intelligent, superb individuals we call students and children.

Speaking, therefore, for the 'team' of teachers and staff, the personal satisfaction that we get from seeing a student master a particular skill is immeasurable to us. We embrace the challenge of presenting material in a way that will be most effective for each learner. Knowing that each child learns at a different pace and at different times, we rejoice in sharing in this growth.

Our primary message is that **high expectations yield high results**. I have seen this and witnessed this throughout my years of teaching, regardless of whether I am teaching first-graders or leading the Glebe Street Elementary School 'team'. **Students emulate our example**, which must be to never settle for less than personal best. There is a great quote from John Ruskin that says, "*The highest reward for a man's toil is not what he gets for it, but what he becomes by it.*"

As educators and parents, we share in the pursuit of common goals and high standards for our children, and we have a desire for them to achieve successful growth even beyond the "standard". Together, and throughout the years to come we must always challenge ourselves and never settle for less than our personal best. It takes everyone, and will take hard work, creativity, integrity, and positive attitudes to be at our best for our students and children—to be *present* for them.

Of course, we will take one year at a time, one day at a time, and one lesson at a time as we pursue our goals for growth while educating children to think globally, and to take seriously the responsibility that they have to care for their world through even the smallest thought or action. We look forward and onward to a new year together.

Cheers for high expectations that lead to high results! Cheers for never settling for less than our personal best. Cheers for amazing possibilities for our students and children!

Yours Very Truly, Mr. C.

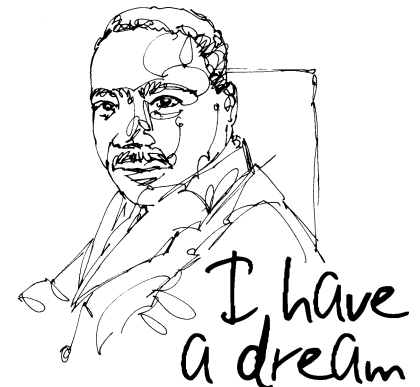
JANUARY

Cheers for a Happy New Year!

- 1/4 School's Back In Session! Hurray! Welcome Back! Handwriting Contest Begins
- 1/7 BOARD OF ED MEETING, 7:00 p.m., JHS Faculty Meeting, 3:20-4:20 p.m. CMRT Meeting, 8:00 a.m.
- 1/8 Lunch with the Principal, 12:30 p.m. Glebe Street Elementary "Bingo Night", 6:30 p.m. Founder's Day Nomination forms due
- 1/11 SDM Committee Meeting, 4:00 pm. PTA meeting, 6:30 pm.
- 1/13 Lunch with the Crafter (This is a new Panther Point Program)
- 1/14 **NED Show (sponsored by the PTA)**
- 1/15 Glebe Martin Luther King, Jr. Assembly, 2:00 pm. Parents, family, and friends welcome!
- 1/18 **Martin Luther King, Jr. Day Observed—NO SCHOOL**
- 1/21 BOARD OF ED MEETING, 7:00 P.M.,JHS
- 1/22 2nd marking Period Ends
- 1/26-1/29 NYS ELA Field Test, Grade 6
- 1/28 Accelerated Reader Night, 6:30 p.m.

FEBRUARY (looking ahead...)

- 2/1-2/11 MISSOULA CHILDREN'S THEATRE WEEK
- 2/3 Elementary School Report Cards Issued
- 2/5 Spelling Bee, In-Class Lunch with the Principal, 12:30 p.m.
- 2/5-2/6 All County Music Festival
- 2/8 SDM Committee Meeting, 4:00 pm. PTA meeting, 6:30 pm.
- 2/9 School Spelling Bee Assembly (grades 4-6), 1:30 p.m. Parents, Family, and Friends welcome!
- 2/10 Founder's Day Dinner Valentine's Day Parties
- 2/11 **SUPERINTENDENT'S CONFERENCE DAY**
- 2/11-2/15 Winter Break. NO SCHOOL.



The GSES Panther Pride Good Character Trait For the Month of JANUARY is

FAIRNESS

Special Report:

STUDENT COUNCIL ACTIVITIES that show that they CARE! Glebe CARES!

We are proud of our GSES Student Council, which raised over three hundred dollars through their "Bright Spots" program fundraising efforts! In particular the funds raised went to help a Johnstown district family in need. Many thanks to Mrs. Flanders for taking the lead in this wonderful annual fundraiser and CARING activity that gets the entire school community involved! Also, enough food, through the food drive, was collected to help provide for at least 25 families during this Holiday Season! Way to go, Student Council! You have demonstrated that caring for others in need is one of our responsibilities!

Let It Snow, Let It Snow, Let It Snow !

Tune to your local TV or radio station regarding school closings or early dismissal on stormy days. A great resource, too, is to go online to:

<http://www.wgy.com/pages/storm> or
<http://www.johnstownschoools.org>

Decisions are usually made by 6 am.

A 2-hour Delay means our students can enter the building at 10:45 am., and school will begin at 11:00 am.

FAIRNESS (the color orange)

The Glebe Street Elementary School Panther Pride Positive Character Trait for the Month of JANUARY

Fairness is summed up best in a quotation by Jackson Brown, author of *Life's Little Instruction Book* – "Live so that when your children think of fairness they think of you". Please take some time this month to talk with your child about fairness. Please convey to them how important it is to try to understand the complexities and situations of fairness in situations in and out of school.

PTA SPONSORS REFLECTIONS PROGRAM

Congratulations to the following Glebe Students for submitting an item for the Reflections Program: Cecelia D'Amore, Bradey Brownell, Jack Haverly, Raina Brown, August D'Amore, Grace Fitzgerald, Sophia Frenyea, Logan Gonzalez, Alexis Houser, Cheyenne Kearns, Salem Keeling, Joseph Matthews, Trent Meseck, Julia Preston, Kiera Schultz, Brianna Warner, Olivia Weiderman, Kelly Hart, Michael Simone, Meghan Roehl, Salena Bleyl, Monica DiScioscia, Lindsey Salamack and Juliet Sear. How proud we are of you for submitting such creative work! The PTA Reflections Program is an annual program designed to encourage creativity in writing, drawing/painting/all artwork, video, dance, and music for our students. This year's theme was "Beauty Is..." . Students were charged to create a piece that showed their creative understanding or thoughts from the subject. Thanks to our PTA chairperson, Kathy Simone, for leading the children to great success, and for representing Glebe Street Elementary School so well!

Important Health Information From Mrs. Ruggeri, LPN...

FLU SEASON IS HERE!

Watch for the following symptoms:

F	Fever
A	Aches
C	Chills
T	Tiredness
S	Sudden Symptoms



PREVENT THE FLU:

Wash hands with soap and water to get rid of germs.
Blow your nose with a tissue, then throw it away immediately followed by hand washing
Cover your nose or mouth with a tissue or your arm when you cough or sneeze.
Keep scrapes and cuts clean.
Try not to rub your eyes or your nose.
Do not come to school with any of the above symptoms.

If you have had a fever , please do not come to school until you have been fever free with out medication for 24 hours.

SWIMMING in JANUARY!? YOU BET!

Yes! That's right, all students in GRADE 3 will be swimming as part of the requirements for Physical Education class at the Johnstown High School pool. On Physical Education class days beginning January 11, 2010, GRADE 3 will ride the bus with their teachers, and meet Mrs. Cromer at the pool for a 30 Minute swim lesson each PE day for 3 weeks. Swim lessons are in leu of regular Physical Education classes for the duration of the unit. Children will learn/polish basic swim strokes and play various water games as well as learn basic water safety.

Please be sure that your child brings:

- 1 piece bathing suit (for girls);
- swim trunks (for boys)
- Towel
- Plastic bag for wet clothing
- Brush and/or comb
- Swim caps are optional. However, long hair should be put up on swim days.