

# The Panther Point



Glebe Street Elementary School Newsletter for the month of DECEMBER, 2009

## PTA NEWS!

### Book Fair and Santa's Workshop!



Come by Glebe Street Elementary School on Friday, December 11 from 6-8 p.m. to participate in our annual Book Fair and Santa's Workshop! Children will be able to make gifts for family and friends at the workshop. The PTA has plenty of creative, fun, and wonderful gift-giving ideas that the kids can make—and give—as presents during the season! Santa will be there!

The Winter Book Fair will be running concurrently that week and that evening, and all can browse and shop an amazing portable 'book store' for wonderful books and activities. The Fair will also run on Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday (December 9-11) from 11:50-1:10 pm. and after school from 3:00-4:00 pm. What a wonderful opportunity the PTA has given us to purchase books and activities for the children at the holiday season! The Fair is coordinated by Mrs. Betsy Camarra and Mrs. Theresa Buchner.



### Glebe primary students craft for a cause!

Our primary students have been productive making adorable snowmen for a great cause—the "Ho Ho Holidays...for Hospice". The event takes place December 5-6, in Johnstown at the St. Patrick's Masonic Lodge. Each student has produced a unique crafted snowman for the "Santa's Snowmen Station" there at the event. Their snowmen will hang in the St. Patrick's Masonic Lodge during the weekend, and families and our Glebe primary students (K-2) can have a ball searching for their very own snowman while enjoying many other fun-filled events taking place there. Please come and see your child's work! You may purchase your child's snowman 'back' by contributing \$1, which will go benefit the life-affirming work of the Mountain Valley Hospice! Please support our K-2 students as they work on caring character!

### STUDENT COUNCIL FOOD DRIVE

*Our busy student council is collecting non-perishable food items to support our local food pantry. Students can drop off items in the front lobby and in their classrooms at any time. Let's make this year's donation a great record! Last year we donated two full pick-up truck loads to our local food pantry! DECEMBER IS THE MONTH THAT WE WORK TO BUILD ON OUR CHARACTER TRAIT OF CARING! Let's show that great Panther Pride! The food drive has begun, but will end on Dec. 21!*



Please take a moment to look at [glebe's website](http://glebe's website):  
[WWW.JOHNSTOWNSCHOOLS.ORG](http://WWW.JOHNSTOWNSCHOOLS.ORG)  
FOR THE LATEST INFORMATION REGARDING SCHOOL MEAL CHARGE PROCEDURES. THANK YOU!

### IMPORTANT DATES

#### DECEMBER It's All About the Season!

- 12-1 Food Drive through 12/21 Panther Cart (am. and pm.)
- 12-6 Faculty Meeting 3:20-4:20 pm. NO HOMEWORK CLUB THIS DAY.
- 12-7 Glebe Street Elementary School 'Arbor Day Poster Contest' begins  
NO REGULARLY SCHEDULED PTA MEETING IN DECEMBER  
Shared Decision Making Team meeting 4:30 pm. (please note change only for the month of December)
- 12-9 PTA Winter Book Fair (lunch/recess and 3-4 pm.)
- 12-10 PTA Winter Book Fair (lunch/recess and 3-4 pm.)
- 12-11 PTA Winter Book Fair (lunch/recess and 6-8 pm.)  
PTA SANTA'S WORKSHOP—Visit with Santa! - 6-8 pm.
- 12-14 SDM Meeting, 4:00 pm.  
PTA Meeting, 6:30 pm. (PTA Founder's Day committee formed at this meeting)
- 12-16 Glebe Winter Concerts: (please see article for details!)  
In-School Concert 1:45 pm.  
Evening Concert @ 7:00 pm.  
Student Council Food Drive continues! You may bring nonperishable food items when coming to the concert.
- 12-17 Glebe Street Elementary School 'Hanging of the Greens' Board of Education Meeting @7:00 , JHS
- 12-21 Student Council Food Drive Ends (Student Council loads trucks with food pantry volunteers)
- 12-21 Student Council to Well's House to sing and share greetings
- 12-22 Classroom Seasonal Parties @1:45 (please see new policy in this newsletter, page 2)
- 12-24 Holiday Vacation (December 24-January 1)  
NO SCHOOL (Enjoy your vacations!)

#### JANUARY (looking ahead...)

- 1-4 Handwriting Contest begins!
- 1-7 BOE @7:00, Pleasant Avenue School
- 1-8 Lunch with the Principal  
Founder's Day Nomination Forms due  
Glebe Street Elementary School 'Bingo Night!' 6:30 pm.
- 1-9 Board of Education Meeting
- 1-14 SDM Committee Meeting 4:00 pm.  
PTA Meeting 6:30 pm.
- 1-15 Martin Luther King, Jr. School Assembly 2:00 pm. All are welcome to attend!  
National Observance—Martin Luther King, Jr. Day  
January 18: NO SCHOOL

The Glebe Panther Pride Word for the Month of December is:

## CARING



# Glebe Street Elementary School **WINTER CONCERT!**



Please join us at 7:00 pm., on December 16 for our annual holiday concert! Glebe's Chorus and Bands are perfectly 'tuned up' for this event. The kids sound great! We hope to see you there at this great event. This is a big night for our student performers—just wait until you see and hear the results of learning and hard work! Band and Chorus students should arrive at 6:30 pm. **PLEASE BRING A NON-PERISHABLE FOOD ITEM as a donation to the Student Council Food Drive.**

*At 1:45, on that same day, the bands and chorus will perform for the student body. Also, each grade level will be performing a little holiday piece that they've learned in general music classes (with a little help from classroom teachers, too!). All are welcome to come hear the students perform at this school-wide assembly. Please arrive early (seating begins at 1:35 p.m.) Parents and family members who attend this assembly are respectfully asked to exit the main building at the conclusion of the assembly, and wait for children as would normally be the case. The children will be dismissed as regular routine, and at the regular times. Thank you for*

## Mrs. Ruggeri Reminds all Parents...

As the winter months are fast approaching, please remember that we will be spending recess time outside with temperatures 20 degrees or better, therefore it is vital that proper outdoor attire be worn to school (HATS, MITTENS/GLOVES, WARM JACKET, BOOTS, SNOW-PANTS). If your child does not have appropriate winter clothing they may not go outside for recess. Mr. Crankshaw and I have spent much time in the education of our students to keep all outdoor wear zipped up in book bags (this includes hats, mittens/gloves, scarves) in order to keep tidy order of each child's belongings.

### REMEMBER:

- 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.
- Try not to rub your eyes or your nose.
- HAVE A WONDERFUL, SAFE, AND HAPPY HOLIDAY



## CLASSROOM HOLIDAY PARTIES



This year, classes will hold holiday parties on Thursday, December 22 in the afternoon at 1:45 p.m. Classroom teachers will work with homeroom parents to organize and monitor the parties in each classroom.

If you have special concerns or questions, or would like to speak with your child's teacher please contact the Glebe Street Elementary School office at 762-3714.

## 2010 Arbor Day National Poster Contest! Fifth graders will participate again this year!

Fifth grade art classes, under the direction of Ms. Bintz, are creating posters that reflect each student's understanding of the important role trees play in cities and towns. Students have thought about the variety of ways trees benefit their community and themselves. All students are winners in the poster contest, but one will be specifically chosen by a panel of judges to represent Glebe in the National Poster Contest. Arbor Day will be celebrated on April 30, 2010 this year, and the chosen poster will be produced and hung throughout the school.

## 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>

Decisions are usually made by 6am. A 2-hour Delay means our students can enter the building at 10:45am., and school will begin at 11:00. You can also check the district web-site for this information:

[www.johnstownschoools.org](http://www.johnstownschoools.org)

## STUDENT SAFETY

Everyone continues to work hard to be sure that GSES is a safe place for children. Your continued help is sincerely appreciated! A few more concerns need to be addressed:

When dropping students off on the Knox side of the building grounds (west side) please be sure that they are not left off in the road. A number of children exit their parent's vehicles in the road, which, of course, is not safe for them. Please drop them off on sidewalks or lawn side.

All visitors, regardless of purpose must first sign in at the main office, state their purpose for coming. The school secretary will contact staff for any reason through the office before allowing a visitor to a classroom or classroom area. A visitor's pass (or gold sticker) must be worn by any visitor, regardless of purpose or length of visit to the school.

Thank you for your help!



**Mark your calendars!  
Monday, January 14 at  
6:30: The Johnstown High  
School Post Prom Committee  
will hold its second  
organizational meeting.  
Anyone interested in helping  
to plan and organize  
Post Prom 2008 is welcome  
to attend! Please contact  
Tracy Diviyak @762-5739 or  
Leslie Buggeln-Bosworth  
@762-9588 for more information!  
One doesn't need  
to have a child in high  
school to get involved with  
the committee. Student  
safety on Prom night is a  
community concern.**

## *Snapshots of Glebe Street Elementary School*

(Below)

A great time was had by all when our school hosted it's first ever parade float in the Johnstown Holiday Parade recently. What a great show of Panther Pride! A special thanks to Mr. Kevin Quinn (Our own Mrs. Quinn's husband) and Jonathan Sweet (Vivian's dad), Michelle Raspaniti (Our own Mrs. Raspaniti's daughter), Mr. Jimmy Schleser, Mrs. Quinn, Ms. Cecconi, Mrs. Raspaniti, and Mrs. Smero for creating such a wonderful vision for our school! Nearly 80 Panthers and families came to ride, walk, sing, and cheer with us! Mrs. Jablonski and Ms. Cecconi conceived the song for our sing-a-long... "I'm a Trusty Glebe Street Panther"...



(Above)

Recently, WALMART Distribution Center of Johnstown purchased 'Ernie', the Penguin (named by out 2nd grade classes) to travel around the country to represent Glebe Street Elementary School nationwide. 'Ernie' is part of the 'Trucker-Buddy Program', sponsored by WALMART. Ernie will visit every state in the contiguous U.S. aboard one of many WALMART trucks, gathering well-wishes and mementos of each visit he makes. Ernie will return to our school at the end of the year, full of great experiences to tell from his travels, and our second grade students will benefit from the vast amount of information that he will bring! Here, a picture of some of our second grade students with 'Ernie', the penguin.