

# The Panther Point



Glebe Street Elementary School Newsletter for the month of April 2010

Dear Parents and Caregivers,

As I write this I am reflecting on many conversations that I've had with faculty and staff, parents and caregivers, colleague administrators, and my other colleagues and community friends. Since many of those conversations focus on school improvement and student success I wanted to take some space in this newsletter to share some thoughts on just those two topics – which really are one in the same.

We are turning a crucial corner. When we return to school after break we will continue our work to provide meaningful and challenging learning experiences in a supportive and consistently nurturing environment. Our return will also mean that we'll get back to the task of academic learning – focusing on student achievement always as it relates to the New York State Learning Standards. You've no doubt come to understand that the curriculum and social, emotional, and behavioral challenges of 'today' are very, very different than they were in our 'day' of even five or ten years ago!

You may also realize that every activity in our school related to academic, behavioral, emotional, and social learning is carefully planned through our strategic "building plan", which is carefully updated and measured throughout the school year by all faculty and me – collaboratively – and monthly. This constant review of our progress toward common goals helps to ensure that we are providing children with a program that addresses their needs, whether it is that little extra help in math or reading, classroom presentations on respectful treatment of others, character building assemblies and activities, or enrichment opportunities.

We need your help more than ever in order to prepare your child for the rigors of a day at school. Please keep involved by checking your child's backpack regularly for important notices found in the yellow communication folder. Please look over graded homework, as well as daily homework assignments completed by your child – all homework needs to be done independently, but under your supervision and guidance. Children also need a great start to the day, along with that supportive environment to come home to. They need good rest, time to practice skills through homework, enjoyable and meaningful downtime with family, and good nutrition – vegetables, fruits, water, lean protein, and wholesome carbohydrates.

Please remember: the best way to keep abreast of "what's happening" is to be involved. Education is a partnership between the home and the school, but *parents are a child's first teachers*. You establish the rules, expectations and consequences that complement those that we strive for in school. Through your actions you teach your children how to interact with others; you teach them values and the importance of doing your best. As we turn the corner for the last part of the school year let's renew that partnership. It takes supportive parents at home and volunteers in our school to accomplish this task; It takes common strong values shared by school and home that are rooted in mutual respect for the responsibility of building strong children of character.

Please do communicate with the faculty and the principal frequently. Attend PTA meetings. Offer to serve on a committee that meets at the convenience of the members to work on school projects that align with the goals that we are all striving for. Volunteer a few hours to help with a school or class project. Never hesitate to call me with questions, concerns or to check in to learn information about school from its source. We welcome your visits to the school. Thank you for welcoming the school into your homes, and for the benefits that can only come with a strongly shared school-home connection.

Warmly, Mr. Crankshaw

## APRIL Showers bring...

- 4/12 School Resumes  
SDM Meeting, 4:30 pm.  
PTA Meeting, 6:30 pm.
- 4/13 AIE Assembly, Chris Holder, Storyteller
- 4/15 CMRT Meeting, 8:00 am  
Faculty Meeting, 3:20-4:20 p.m.  
Talent Show, 6-8 pm
- 4/16 Lunch with the Principal, 12:30 p.m.  
Talent Show, 6-8 pm.  
3<sup>rd</sup> Marking period ends
- 4/19-4/20 SPRING BOOK FAIR
- 4/19-4/25 "SCREEN FREE WEEK"  
see website, [www.johnstownschoools.org](http://www.johnstownschoools.org)
- 4/20 Art Show/Book Fair & Ice Cream Social,  
6:30- 8:00 pm.
- 4/21 Panther Craft, 12:30 pm.
- 4/22 EARTH DAY  
Accelerated Reader Night, 6:30-7:30
- 4/24 PTA 5K RUN
- 4/26-4/28 Grades 3,4,5 and 6 - NYS ELA  
Assessments
- 4/28 Board of Ed Meeting, JHS, 7 pm.  
Spring Parent-Teacher Conferences
- 4/29 Report Cards Distributed
- 4/30 ARBOR DAY CEREMONY, 2:00 pm

## MAY (looking ahead...)

- 5/3-5/7 STAFF APPRECIATION WEEK
- 5/7 Lunch with the Principal, 12:30 pm.  
Grade 2 – Mother's Day Program, 2 pm.
- 5/9 Mother's Day
- 5/10 SDM Meeting, 4:30 pm  
PTA Meeting, 6:30 pm
- 5/14 CAREER DAY

**PANTHER PRIDE IS FOUND INSIDE!**



The Greater Johnstown School District will be offering ***Family Swim*** and ***Morning Lap Swim***. Morning Lap swim is open to high school students and adults and will be held on **Tuesdays and Thursdays from 6-7 AM**. The cost will be **\$1** per person. **Family Swim** will be on Thursday evenings from **6- 7:30 PM**. Children under the age of 16 must be accompanied by a parent or guardian. The cost is **\$1** per person or **\$5** for a family of 5 or more.

**Starting Date: March 23rd 6-7am**

<p style="text-align: center;"> <b>First Annual Panther Prowl Walk-a-thon</b>  <b>Saturday, April 24<sup>th</sup></b>  <b>Knox Field</b>  <b>9:00am–12noon</b>  <b>RAIN OR SHINE</b> </p>	<p>The Glebe Street PTA has decided to start to move away from the more traditional approach of selling candy or home goods door-to-door and move towards more active, health orientated fundraisers. Students, family members, friends and colleagues are encouraged to show support for our school and physical fitness by participating in this wonderful event. Enjoy the fresh spring air, listen to music, talk with friends, win prizes and exercise all while raising funds for the Glebe Street PTA.</p> <p>Look for more information regarding registration, pledges, poster contest and prizes to arrive home the week after spring break.</p> <p>Questions – please contact Christine Krempa at <a href="mailto:ckrempa@nycap.rr.com">ckrempa@nycap.rr.com</a></p>
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<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Arbor Day Observance</b></p> <p>On Friday, April 30, we celebrate Arbor Day at Glebe Street Elementary School! The ceremony will consist of songs, poems, readings, and a presentation of the history of the holiday. Please join us for this special commemoration!</p> <p>Arbor Day is an annual observance that celebrates the role of trees in our lives, and promotes tree planting and care. As a formal holiday, it was first observed in 1872, in Nebraska, but tree planting festivals are as old as civilization! The tree has appeared throughout history and literature as the symbol of life.</p> <p>The event will also focus on stewardship of the earth and our local environment. We will kick off the assembly with a short talk about the importance of recycling, at which time, we will make a commitment as a school to recycle carefully and thoughtfully. The ceremony will take place at 2:00 pm. in the Glebe Street Elementary School gymnasium, and is open to family and friends.</p>	<p>The Glebe Street Elementary School Band will be playing for the members of the Johnstown Senior Citizen’s Center. The band has been practicing all year long to hone their musical talents to share with families and friends, but “our performance at the Johnstown Senior Citizen Center gives our kids the chance to share their talents with those who need us most”, comments Ms. Tamara Healy, band director. The performance will be held on Thursday, April 1 at 9:30 am. at Johnstown Senior Citizen Center. Parents are invited to attend!</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>STUDENT BAND MEMBERS PERFORMING</b></p> <p><i>Lauren Adams, Victoria Baker, Jonathan Bearden, Julia Bevington, Devin Boyle, Colin Bump, Stephen Camarra, Chelsea Cirillo, Emily Collins, Emily Day, Trevor Day, Monica DiScioscia, Jack Fitzgerald, Spencer Frenyea, Jacob Gage, Kelsey Johnson, Hunter Livingstone, Hannah Meseck, Kaitlyn Pica, Noah Ringer, Meghan Roehl, Lindsey Salamack, Cassie Saltsman, Molly Sear, Ciara Solby, Isaiah Shaw and Abi Trzaskowski</i></p>
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<p style="text-align: center;"><b>SPRING BOOK FAIR</b></p> <p>The Glebe Street Elementary School Book Fair will be held again on Monday, April 19 at lunch recess and 3-4 pm; Tuesday, April 20, at lunch recess and 6-7:30 pm in the library during the ART SHOW, and Wednesday, April 21 at lunch recess. Come and support the fair to encourage reading!</p>	<p>Remember ...</p> <p><b>“SCREEN FREE WEEK” – TV-Turnoff Week, April 19-25.</b></p> <p>Please see <a href="http://www.johnstownschoools.org">www.johnstownschoools.org</a> for Pledge sheet and information.</p>
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<p style="text-align: center;"><b>ART SHOW, BOOK FAIR &amp; ICE CREAM SOCIAL</b></p> <p>Please come and enjoy Glebe Street’s Art Show. The students will display their <b>“AWESOME ART ”</b>. PTA members will be serving ice cream in the cafeteria while other members will be assisting Mrs. Kortz in the library with the Spring Book Fair. Hope to see you there!</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>TALENT SHOW</b></p> <p>Our Talent Show this year will be on Thursday, April 15<sup>th</sup> and Friday, April 16<sup>th</sup>. The talent show is sponsored by the Glebe Street Elementary School PTA, and directed by Mr. Robert Frenyea. Come see our Glebe Panthers rock the house with their amazing talents!</p>
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