

The Panther Point

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



...Panther Points! - Mrs. Quinn's K class

...the people of our past, present, and future—Mrs. Park's 3rd grade class

...our families—Mrs. Lisicki's 1st grade class

...good health and the wonderful opportunity to work with children...and chocolate—Mrs. Cromer, phys. Ed. teacher

...Electronics—because it allows us to have our life easier—Mrs. Kollar's 5th grade class

...for freedom—Mrs. Jones' 6th grade class

...for having a loving family to come home to and people who care about us.—Mrs. Coleman's 4th grade class.

...my friends, family, Santa, cider apples, and our teacher! - Mrs. Flanders' 6th grade class

...having a loving family—Mrs. Wager's 4th grade class

...our new Glebe playground so we can play with our friends—Mrs. Leibowitz's 2nd grade class

...my grandchildren, quiet nights, yummy breakfasts and chocolate—Mrs. Ermie, school secretary

...for soldiers who risk their life for us so we don't have to suffer—Mrs. Vosburgh's 2nd grade class

...Halloween! - Mrs. Livingstone's 1st grade class

...my family, my freedom, autumn leaves and pumpkin pie! - Mrs. Ruggeri, school nurse

...being a student of the Glebe family where we can learn in an environment where we care about each other and share friendship—Mrs. Wood's 3rd grade class

...my stuffed animals, real pets, and what I really have—Mrs. Jones' K class

...every day that I'm alive. For family and friends, and for how fortunate I am to go to school and learn. For everything from the blue sky all the way down to the earth.—Mr. Frenyed's 5th grade class.



NOVEMBER IMPORTANT DATES

- 11-1 Daylight Savings Time Ends (Spring Ahead, Fall Back!)
- 11-3 **ELECTION DAY. PLEASE VOTE**
- 11-5 PTA Shopping Night, 6:00-8:00 pm.
Board of Education Meeting JHS, 7:00 pm.
- 11-6 First Grading Period Ends
Lunch with the Principal 12:30 pm.
Picture Retakes (see notice in this newsletter!)
- 11-9 Shared Decision Making Team Meeting 4:00 pm.
PTA Meeting 6:30 pm.
- 11-10 Veteran's Day Assembly @ 1:30 pm. ALL WELCOME!
- 11-11 VETERAN'S DAY OBSERVED—No School
- 11-13 **REFLECTION ENTRIES DUE.**
- 11-16 NYS Fifth Grade Social Studies Assessment, Day 1 am.
- 11-17 NYS Fifth Grade Social Studies Assessment, Day 2 am.
EARLY DISMISSAL 12:05
Parent Teacher Conferences (afternoon/evening)
- 11-15-21 **AMERICAN EDUCATION WEEK**
- 11-18 **REPORT CARDS ISSUED**
- 11-19 Accelerated Reader Night, 6:30 pm.
- 11-20 7th Annual Johnstown Holiday Parade, 6:00-8:00 pm.
- 11-23 Food Drive Begins Today!
- 11-24 Emergency Drill Early Release 2:55 pm.
- 11-25-27 **THANKSGIVING RECESS (No School)**

DECEMBER (looking ahead...)

- 12-4 LUNCH WITH THE PRINCIPAL, 12:30 pm.
- 12-7 Arbor Day Poster Contest Begins
- 12-9 PTA Winter Book Fair!
- 12-10 PTA Winter Book Fair!
- 12-11 PTA Winter Book Fair!
PTA Santa's Workshop 6-8 pm.
- 12-6 Santa's Workshop and Book Fair, 10:00-2:00 pm.
- 12-9 Book Fair Ends
- 12-16 Glebe In-School Concert, 1:30 pm.
Glebe Winter Evening Concert @7:00 pm. All Welcome!
Glebe Student Body Winter Concert (chorus, bands, all grade levels will perform—families welcome)
- 12-17 Hanging of the Greens 10:15 am.
- 12-23 Holiday Parties, 1:45 pm.
Lunch with the Principal 12:30

12-24-1/1/10
HOLIDAY VACATION - NO SCHOOL

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

CITIZENSHIP

REMINDERS FROM MRS. RUGGERI

- **PROPER OUTDOOR GEAR AND CUBBY STORAGE IN SCHOOL.**

As Winter fast approaches (brrrrr!) it is necessary that we dress our children in proper outdoor attire such as winter jackets, hats, mittens, gloves, and scarves.

The outdoor clothing needs to be properly placed in a book bag or gym bag. A student can also come to the nurse's office for a large plastic bag in which to store their clothing in to prevent the spread of head lice.

To keep the head lice counts down in our school, please check your child's head at least twice a week. If you have any questions, concerns, or know that there is a problem please do not hesitate to call the nurse's office at 762-8316. All information that is provided to me is kept confidential.

HELP STOP THE SPREAD OF GERMS THAT CAN CAUSE COLDS, FLU, AND OTHER RESPIRATORY DISEASES.

- Cover nose and mouth with a tissue whenever experiencing a cough or sneeze. If unable to get a tissue immediately, sneeze or cough into the arm sleeve in order to prevent the spread of germs.
- Dispose of all tissue used into the garbage.
- Always wash hands with warm soapy water after sneezing or coughing. Alternatively, use a waterless hand cleanser.
- Always remember to WASH HANDS AFTER BATHROOM USE AND BEFORE EATING ANY SNACKS OR MEALS.
- If children are exhibiting flu-like symptoms, they should remain at home. If they are **fever free without medication for 24 hours**, they can return to school

Have a safe and wonderful holiday season!

Mrs. Ruggeri
Glebe Street Elementary School Nurse

WE'RE ALWAYS LOOKING FOR DONATIONS OF HATS, MITTENS/GLOVES, COATS, AND SNOW PANTS AND BOOTS!

When children do not have acceptable outside play attire they will, unfortunately, be held in the cafeteria during recess!



MUSIC NOTES

Concert Band and Chorus members have been practicing music for the winter concert on Wednesday, December 16. The band and chorus are also preparing pieces for the Veteran's Day assembly on Tuesday, November 10 at 1:30. We encourage The Glebe Community to come hear the wonderful sounds from the children. As a special note, Mrs. Tyler has given birth to a beautiful baby boy, John Eric Tyler. She will be on maternity leave for the remainder of the school year. Please welcome Miss Jenna Polling, who will be serving the musical program needs at Glebe—leading the chorus. Mr. Jim Morton will help Miss Polling by teaching some of our grade levels general music. Welcome!

INVITATION!

To Participate in the Johnstown Holiday Parade

Friday, November 20, 2009 @ 7:00 pm. Join the fun with your friends from Glebe Street Elementary School as we march in the parade along side a float representing Glebe. Students, teachers, and families from Glebe will walk together, K-6 students and families, staff, and friends, to show our Panther Pride! We ask that children who participate be accompanied by an adult for the sake of safety and for the purpose of having lots of family fun! Please wear Holiday Colors, Festive Attire, or Green and Gold (and/or any clothing that has our Glebe logos on!). Please look for the permission form that will come home with your child soon!

The Month of November has 2 EARLY DISMISSALS!

Please be sure to look carefully at the schedule of events in the calendar on the first page of this newsletter. Notice, please, that there are two early dismissal dates this month—**November 17 at 12:05 pm.** (Parent/Teacher Conferences) and **November 24 at 2:55 pm.** (Go Home Drill prior to the Thanksgiving Recess). This practice emergency drill reminds us that in case of a real emergency, students may be sent home early for emergency reasons, and they are expected to proceed directly home, or to a designated place. Please take the time to discuss these early dismissals with your children. Let's work together to make sure that they know where to go in the case of an emergency.

PARENT/TEACHER CONFERENCES...

Tuesday, November 17, is an early dismissal day (12:05 pm.) for afternoon/evening parent/teacher conferences. Most teachers will also be offering evening conferences between 1:00 and 8:00 pm. Other conference times may be scheduled by contacting your child's teacher. First quarter report cards will be handed out to parents who come to the conference. Alternatively, for parents who will not conference on November 17, report cards will come home with on November 18. It is very important for parents to attend parent/teacher conferences. We look forward to seeing you in school!

SMILE!

Picture Retakes

November

Students can have their picture 're-taken' on November 6. Please send in your child's previous pictures on that date. If your child was absent on the original picture day, please call the school or send in a note to receive a new picture informational packet. Also it is very important to note that each child receives a class photo and a 'safe child card' in his/her packet. Please keep those, even if you require retakes. **It is very important that you please call the Adirondack Photo folks directly to request retakes for your child, in addition to sending any packet back to school.** The number is 792-7919. If you have questions, by all means, please call Mrs. Ermie at Glebe Street Elementary School-762-3714.

AMERICAN EDUCATION WEEK

November 15-21 marks "National Education Week" or "American Education Week". During this week we honor our educators for all of their dedication to students and our community. Glebe Street Elementary School is fortunate to have so many excellent professionals in our building. Please consider dropping your child's teacher a note to express your appreciation for their dedication to children.

The yearbook staff would love your photos of school events and Glebe students!

If you have a photo you would like to share please e-mail a JPEG to tadams7@nycap.



Veteran's Day Program and Assembly

Veteran's Day is more than a day off from school at Glebe Street Elementary School. Thanks to the efforts of our staff we will host a Veteran's Day Assembly to honor the men and women who have sacrificed so much for the freedom that we enjoy! Our young children do not always realize the full effects of war and fighting at home. They live in relative safety and security, even as our soldiers serve overseas. We want them to understand that security and safety have come at a cost. Respecting that is very, very important.

On November 10 at 1:30 pm, in the cafetorium, we will host veterans, hear their stories, sing songs, read poetry, and hear stirring music played by our band. The celebration is intended to be welcoming and open to our parents and families. We are looking forward to spending this most important occasion of observance with you. Please be reminded that all visitors will be asked to sign in, and wear a gold sticker upon entering the building.

We hope to see many of you there. We are in need of veterans to come to our assembly so that we can speak with them about their experiences. If you know of someone who is a veteran please encourage him or her to come to the program. Uncles, parents, aunts, grandparents who are veterans are warmly invited to attend.

2009-2010 Theme: "Beauty Is..."

Reflections is a National PTA sponsored program in which every child in the school can participate. All they have to do is close their eyes and imagine... Beauty Is... There are a variety of categories that might speak to your child's interests. The categories are; Dance, Film, Literature, Musical Composition, Photography and Visual Arts. This is a wonderful program for our students to develop their creative ideas. Please encourage your child to participate. Please contact Mrs. Simone (simonek@lexcenter.org) or call Mrs. Ermie for the paperwork that is necessary to participate. Entries are due to school by November 13.

Interested in volunteering to help provide Enrichment Programming: Contact us at wcrankshaw@gjsd.k12.ny.us

Dear Parents, Caregivers, Staff, and Students,

When I was reflecting on a possible subject of our November newsletter, I felt that it was timely to include a message that would share a position about how young students need to be treated every day when they come to school. *With respect.* And respect comes once it is hard-earned, yes, but also because it is a necessary character trait that can help to fulfill a basic need for kids to feel safe and accepted within their school community.

To feel safe and accepted is to feel free from the victimization that we call bullying. Don't be put off by the word 'bully' because it's a funny-sounding word or that it's overused – it's really a serious problem in all schools. The difference can be made for kids when we meet the problem head-on, with honesty and candor, *and with conviction and a plan to end it.*

Bullying is not just a part of growing up. This attitude may be why bullying is still common in American schools. There is plenty of research that shows that being a victim of a bully can affect a child's self-esteem and how he or she approaches school. Students who are often bullied by other students may have serious levels of depression and anxiety, and they are more likely to stay home, act out, or even bully others.

Girls and boys don't bully in the same way. However, the most common form of bullying for *both boys and girls* is verbal bullying (teasing and name-calling). Boys are more likely to say that they are physically bullied, and girls are more likely to report being targets of rumor-spreading comments. Both boys and girls engage in what is called *relational aggression*. We address bullying in each classroom and throughout the school. All students at Glebe receive education and training on Anti-bullying through our contract with Catholic Family Services and through regular teacher-provided curriculum.

Bullying often involves groups of students picking on another student. Within these groups, there often is a sort of "ring leader" and a number of followers. In addition, many students observe bullying but do not necessarily take action. Kids are often reluctant to try to stop bullying because they are afraid of being bullied themselves, because they want to be part of a popular group, or because they simply are not sure how to help. We can work to encourage (note the core word there – 'courage') our kids to respond responsibly with confidence that they will remain safe even as they report bullying.

At Glebe we face bullying by working as a staff to address the problem through consulting our district's anti-bullying policy, regular discussions in the classroom, taking a proactive role by educating our students about bullying, , and improving our supervision during lunch and recess. We can't forget, too, that negative models of bullying behavior are also prevalent throughout society – especially in television, movies, and video games. Talk with your children, and develop a relationship that will keep them coming to you for support. Communicate with us, and we will combat the problem together.

We will need to continue a team effort to combat bullying and the effects of it. Students, teachers, the principal, parents, counseling, and expert assistance from outside service providers are helping us to meet the challenge. Part of that team effort will mean providing a supportive, safe, and respectful, honest, and candid communication so that we can face the problem together. Remember, no one person is responsible for bullying, and no one person can combat the problem. It's going to take all of us to make Glebe the very safest, welcoming place where every child belongs. We need to live by our example – children will look to us for which way to turn and learn how to be.

Yours Very Truly,