

Glen Haven Elementary School

Principal's Pride

A Message from Dr. Smith

Dear Glen Haven Families,

Our students and staff have now completed the requirements for teaching and learning for the second quarter of the school year. Many hours of work have been given to helping our students become stronger and more accomplished learners. Our students have and continue to be actively engaged in the learning process. As we focus our instruction for our students in the third quarter; there are specific supports that you, too, are able to provide them as you work with them at home. During the third and fourth quarters, our staff will be heavily immersed in providing additional instructional opportunities for students in growth mindset and critical thinking skills.

In mathematics, provide opportunities for your child to experience real life experiences. When you are discussing preparations for dinner or when you are deciding what to order out or pick up from a restaurant, involve your child in the process. If you are discussing the purchase of a game, toy, or book, allow time for your child and you to discuss prices, best deals, money, etc. Provide opportunities with your child to create word problems that you are able to sit down and help them work out together with you.

In reading and writing, provide opportunities for your child to think and write by having them respond to you at least two to three times per week in writing, to a question you would like answered; regarding their feeling about a television show or video game they have watched or played; and/or expressing their thoughts about an event in which they have participated. A wonderful activity to share together is writing poetry. Research says that paying attention to the language and rhythms of poetry helps build oral language skills, and that children with well-developed oral language skills are more likely to have higher achievement in reading and writing. Please read how a simple story, *The Ant and the Grasshopper*, which is a favorite of many adults as well as children, and note how this author translated and shared the story through poetry:

The Ant and the Cricket

A silly young cricket, accustomed to sing
Through the warm, sunny months of gay summer and spring,
Began to complain, when he found that at home
His cupboard was empty and winter was come.
Not a crumb to be found
On the snow-covered ground;
Not a flower could he see,
Not a leaf on a tree.
"Oh, what will become," says the cricket, "of me?"
At last by starvation and famine made bold,
All dripping with wet and all trembling with cold,
Away he set off to a miserly ant
To see if, to keep him alive, he would grant
Him shelter from rain.
A mouthful of grain
He wished only to borrow,
He'd repay it to-morrow;
If not helped; he must die of starvation and sorrow.
Says the ant to the cricket: "I'm your servant and friend,
But we ants never borrow, we ants never lend.
Pray tell me, dear sir, did you lay nothing by
When the weather was warm?" Said the cricket, "Not I.
My heart was so light
That I sang day and night,
For all nature looked gay."
"You sang, sir, you say?"
Go then," said the ant, "and sing winter away."
Thus ending, he hastily lifted the wicket
And out of the door turned the poor little cricket.
Though this is a fable, the moral is good--
If you live without work, you must live without food.

``Anonymous

As always, with home and school collaborating together, Glen Haven Elementary School remains "A Place for Learning for All," and as a result, all of our children will progress and reach the highest levels of academic excellence.

Sincerely,

Dr. Joanne Smith

February 1, 2012
Volume 13, Issue 5

*"When hearts, minds,
souls and hands meet . . .
nothing is impossible."*

Dr. Joanne B. Smith

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Important February 2012 Dates

February 10, 2012 – February 17, 2012	Scholastic Book Fair	
February 14, 2012	Valentine's Day - Classroom Celebrations	
February 15, 2012	Kindergarten Parent Conferences Grade 5 Parent Night MCPS Operating Budget Richard Montgomery High School	8:00 - 6:00 p.m. 6:00 - 7:00 p.m. 7:30 – 9:00 p.m.
February 16, 2012	Kindergarten Parent Conferences	8:00 – 6:00 p.m.
February 17, 2012	First Grade Luau	6:30 – 8:30 p.m.
February 20, 2012	MCPS Holiday – Presidents' Day	
February 22, 2012	Grade 3 Parent Night	6:00 - 7:00 p.m.
February 23, 2012	Science Fair	6:30 - 8:00 p.m.
February 27, 2012	Awards Ceremony 1 & 2 Awards Ceremony 3 – 5 Ledo's Pizza Fundraiser Grade 2 Wheaton	9:45 a.m. 10:30 a.m. 6:00 – 10:00 p.m.
February 28, 2012 February 29, 2012	Hearing & Vision Screening All Day	
February 29, 2012	Data Notebooks Sent Home	



Reading Specialist' Corner

Mrs. Lucina

Wow! Thank you to all the families who attended Family Reading Night, it was a huge success! Students are able to record books they read on the Bowie Baysox posters in their classrooms in order to receive a free ticket to a baseball game!

Please remember to continue reading at home with your child to help him/her progress to the advanced reading levels!

Ways to Help Your Child Become a Better Reader:

- Be a reading role model! Let your child see you reading for pleasure, information, and to learn!
- Take your child on trips to the public library!
- Read aloud to your child
- Encourage your child to read aloud to you
- Have discussions about books that you read
- Show your child that reading is everywhere: books, newspapers, magazines, jokes, menus, lists, signs, recipes, etc.
- Have your child read you the shopping list or a recipe
- Let your child listen to books on tape
- Encourage independent reading when your family has free time!
- Enjoy reading!



Physical Education

Mr. Miller and Mr. Skellchock



For the month of February, students in grades 1 – 5 will be focusing on improving their level of physical fitness. They will be participating in the President’s Physical Fitness Challenge program. After practicing speed and stamina skills in class, students are expected to reinforce the skills at home (this will greatly improve their level of achievement on the test in March).

Students in Pre K and kindergarten will continue to refine skills in ball handling (kicking and throwing) as well as improve their spatial relations abilities. They will learn basic team work skills through a series of lead up games.

Please continue to remind your children to wear tennis shoes/sneakers to school on scheduled physical education days. Boots and other foot wear do not provide the traction necessary to safely participate in class. In the event of inclement weather, tennis shoes/sneakers can be placed in your child’s back pack and put on once they have arrived at school.

So far, we’ve had a mild winter. The opportunity to get outside is almost limitless. With the sun setting a little later each day, it’s time to get outside and play.

Instructional Technology

Ms. Olson

Michelle_L_Olson@mcpsmd.org



Technology Department

Are you interested in helping your child do research at home?

Help your child explore an interesting topic or get an excellent grade on a research assignment by using these free resources at home and/or at the computers in the public library:

- Do you want to learn about countries of the world or states in the U.S.?

Go to <http://online.culturegrams.com>

Username: mcps **Password:** mcps

- Do you want to learn about animals, places, famous people, or just about anything else?

Go to <http://school.eb.com>

Username: mcps **Password:** search

- Do you want to learn more by finding a magazine or periodical article about a topic?

Go to <http://search.ebscohost.com>

Username: mcpspl **Password:** 217main

T.I.P. of the Month!

Make sure your child is using the Internet safely. Spend time online with your child, either at home, school or library. Make sure your child understands what you think are appropriate websites to visit. Point him or her in the direction of sites that can help with homework or that relate to his or her interests. If you need to learn more about the computer yourself, check out the “Computer Smart” series of free Parent Academy workshops, which started January 24, 2012 at:

www.mcpsparentacademy.org.

Technology Committee

The Technology Committee has begun plans to host a few clubs. Please check your child’s book bag for more information:

Our Critical Thinkers (CT) Technology Club is open to students in grades 3 - 5 and is designed to challenge our students and expand their critical thinking skills beyond the classroom. We will create technology products, review math and reading concepts, and develop logic and strategies. The activities will require students to compute in their heads and think creatively.

Little Bytes Technology Club is open to students in grades 1 – 2.

Counselor's Corner

Mrs. Willis

Counselor's Corner



Hello Glen Haven Parents and Guardians,

This month we are focusing on the character trait of Perseverance. Perseverance means working hard and not giving up. During classroom guidance lessons, students will learn about perseverance. Also, since MSA (Maryland School Assessment given to students in grades 3-5) and TN2 (TerraNova Second Edition given to students in grade 2) are right around the corner, students will be learning test taking strategies so that they can PERSEVERE through these tests.

Here are some ideas on how to reinforce Perseverance at home:

1. Believe in your child's ability to achieve.
2. Expect them to finish what they start.
3. Avoid accepting excuses for unfinished work.
4. Give positive feedback when your child puts forth extra effort.
5. Help your child realize that everyone makes mistakes, but what is important is to keep trying.
6. Teach your child how to regroup and start over.
7. Motivate them to try new things.
8. Encourage your child to take responsibility for self and make constructive choices.

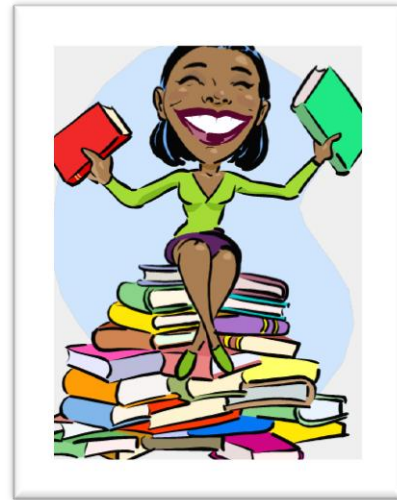
On another note, this year Glen Haven's Career Day will be on Friday, April 20, 2012. We are in search of members of the Glen Haven Elementary School family who have careers that they would like to share with the Glen Haven students. We want our students to imagine themselves in a career so we can inspire them to see the relevance in what they are learning now. If you would like to be a part of Career Day 2012, then please contact me, Mrs. Rebecca Willis (School Counselor) at 301-649-8051 or [Rebecca H Willis@mcpsmd.org](mailto:Rebecca_H_Willis@mcpsmd.org) by Friday, February 24, 2012.

Thank you and have a wonderful February.

Rebecca Willis
School Counselor

Media Center News

Mrs. Maldonado



The weather finally feels like winter, and this has encouraged us to snuggle up and read. Students are learning about many subjects in the non-fiction books that they have been reading. Ask your fifth graders what they learned about dinosaurs. This month, our featured books are about famous African Americans, Cowboys, winter weather, Presidents past and present, and Valentine's Day. And, thanks to the book fair and our PTA, we have some new books to ward off the February blues.

Fourth and fifth grade media aides are doing a fabulous job, as usual!

Enjoy reading with your children.



Mathematics








Ms. Manevitz - Math Content Coach









Test Taking Tips the Baldrige Way

Student's Job


-  Listen to the directions carefully.
-  Read ALL directions.

-  Read the questions and all answer choices – BEFORE answering.
-  Ask questions when you practice.
-  Do your best!
-  Get rid of the wrong answer choices first (process of elimination).
-  Don't spend too much time on one question.
-  Make sure you understand what you are reading.
-  If you have extra time, go back and reread or recalculate; only change your answer if you are sure it is wrong.

Parents' Job

-  Make sure your child gets plenty of rest and eats a good breakfast on the days of the test.
-  Relax! Relax! Relax!
-  Allow playtime to release stress!
-  Give your child a hug each day and tell them how proud you are of them!
-  And, how much you love them!
-  Tell them, "I'm so proud of you!"

Our Job

-  It is all about working together! The collaboration of the student, staff, and parents will help your child become a successful learner and have a successful learning experience in school and in life!

Art

Mrs. Betters, Dr. King



The Arts Continue To Explore Cultures!!!

During the upcoming months, the Visual Art Department is focusing on the multiple cultures and celebrations of the diversity represented at Glen Haven. Students are busy learning about the symbols of many cultures. Many students have already completed studies of Egypt. Now, they begin their study of "Adinkra." symbols from Ghana, West Africa. They will be creating prints on various materials including paper and fabric.

Also in recognition of Chinese New Year, students will try their hand at making Chinese calligraphy symbols and objects like fans and lanterns.

Black History month will also provide many opportunities for students to discover the many contributions of Black artists to American history and culture. We also look forward to the storytelling presentations of Nana Marville, the grandmother of our own Savan Briggs, who is in Mrs. Goldman's class. Stay tuned!!!

Madeleine_L_Herzfeld@mcpsmd.org
Sharon_M_King@mcpsmd.org

ESOL

Ms. Barnes, Ms. Dyson, Ms. Green, Mr. Lynn, Mrs. Tom



The Glen Haven ESOL Team is excited that all ESOL students are making great gains in the four domains of English language acquisition: speaking, listening, reading and writing!

This month, ESOL students in grades 1-5 will take the new WIDA ACCESS for ELLs language proficiency tests in these domains. The reading, writing and listening portions will be administered in group settings. The speaking portion is an individual test. Kindergarten ELLs will be given the KW- APT. This test is given one on one and measures language proficiency in all domains. Pre- K ELLs will not take an end of the year language test. This new test is mandated by the state of Maryland and replaces the LAS Links test. Students who have exited ESOL but have not met AMA0 2 (achieved language proficiency on state test) must take this test in addition to active ESOL students.

If you have any questions please call 301-649-8051 and ask to speak to the ESOL team member who works with your child's grade level.

Gifted and Talented (GT) Connection

Mrs. Mary Courtney Green

Mary-courtney_green@mcps.md.org



It's testing season! Our goal is to have as many possible score "Advanced" on the MSA and TN2. Here are four strategies you can use at home to help your child prepare:

1. **MSA Roundtable Discussion:** Review your child's MSA or TN2 scores from last year and set a goal for this upcoming year. The score reports were mailed during the summer of 2011. Can't find them? Don't worry; contact your child's teacher. A variety of studies have shown that people who set goals, write them down, and make a plan are far more likely to accomplish them!
2. **Online Resources:** If you would like obtain more information about the MSA or would like to see sample test questions, log onto http://www.mdk12.org/assessments/k_8/index_c.html. This site also provides a sample test that you can print out for your child to practice at home.
3. **Read, Read, and Read:** Students will have to read and respond in writing for about two hours during the MSA. Encourage your child to read for a sustained period of time every day. Then increase this time as the weeks go by. Also try to read with your child at least once a week. They really look forward to having that quality time with you!
4. **Real World Math:** Look beyond the text book to the world around you. For example, next time you go to the grocery store, ask your child to weigh the fruits and vegetables, calculate the total, and figure out how much change they will get back. Solving real world math problems not only makes math come to life, it makes it more meaningful.

MCPS Gifted & Talented Global Screening:

All students in second grade, along with students new to MCPS and rescreening candidates, will be screened from February to April. Look out for the Gifted & Talented Parent Survey which will be sent out to all parents in March.

"A goal without a plan is just a wish." - Larry Elder

Musically Yours

Mr. Fisher, Ms. Meshbane, Mr. Neal



Once again it is recorder time at Glen Haven! The third graders

have placed their orders for their colorful musical flutes and they will be arriving any day. Third graders will be preparing this season to make their concert debut in the spring.

Please remember, if you find a recorder that means somebody is missing theirs. Please turn any lost recorders to the main office.



- Marian Anderson was the first African American soloist in 1955 at the Metropolitan Opera in NYC.
- Harriet Tubman escaped slavery and led hundreds of other slaves to freedom through the Underground Railroad. She also became a spy for the Union Army
- William Christopher Handy became known as the "Father of the Blues".
- Phillis Wheatley is known as the first published African American poet.
- Booker T. Washington was an African American educator who believed in uplifting yourself through education and economic advancement.
- Lewis H. Latimer was the only African American member of Thomas A. Edison's team of scientists. He helped pave the way in the development of the electric light bulb.
- Granville T. Woods invented the overhead conducting system for the electric railway.
- Guion S. Bluford, Jr. was the first African American in space.
- Frederick D. Gregory was the first African American space shuttle commander.
- Bernard A. Harris, Jr. was the first African American to walk in space.
- Elijah McCoy invented an automatic oiling device that allowed machines to be lubricated while they were still in use. Some say that this is where the expression "the real McCoy" originated.
- Garrett Augustus Morgan invented the automatic traffic signal, as well as, the gas mask used by soldiers in World War I and by firemen in the early 1900's.
- Shirley Chisholm was the first African American woman elected to the U.S. Congress.
- Maya Angelou is a world famous poet, historian, author, singer and civil rights activist. She is both a Grammy and Horatio Alger award winner.
- Sojourner Truth was a true force in the abolitionist movement, as well as, a preacher. She added the women's rights movement to her cause in 1859.
- George Washington Carver discovered hundreds of new uses for crops such as the peanut. In addition, he developed methods of crop rotation that conserved nutrients in the soil.

Glen Haven Elementary School
10900 Inwood Avenue
Silver Spring, Maryland 20902

Phone: 301-649-8051
Fax: 301-649-8540

<http://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/schools/glenhavenes/>