



Weekly GLA Family Newsletter

January 10th, 2023

PRINCIPAL'S CORNER

Happy New Year, GLA Families! Our staff enjoyed what seemed to be a longer break than usual, and we hope you did as well. We were also excited to welcome back all our students for the first day of classes in 2023!

One of our goals for this year was to improve social emotional learning opportunities (SEL) for students. At different grade levels, we have been utilizing various tools in service of this goal. One of our new tools is a SEL skill and well-being survey from [Panorama](#). We administered the survey to 3rd-8th graders in late November. They told us valuable information through the survey that is informing our strategy of support for the rest of the school year.

The top area that emerged as a challenge for our students is “emotion regulation.” Only 42% of our students reported that they are able to regulate their emotions well through questions like:

- How often are you able to pull yourself out of a bad mood?
- When everyone around you gets angry, how relaxed can you stay?
- How often are you able to control emotions when you need to?
- When things go wrong for you, how calm are you able to stay?

There are many strategies students (and us adults, too!) can use to help regulate emotions. One is a pause and think strategy. You can support your child at home by:

- Talking to them about how their body feels and what they are thinking when they get angry or are in a bad mood.
- Teaching them to recognize when their body feels that way and to pause before reacting.
- Using the pause time to do something that will help them stay calm like taking 3 deep breaths, closing their eyes and thinking about something happy, counting to 5 slowly, or talking about how their body feels and what made it feel that way.

We wish the entire GLA community peace, health, and wellness in the new year!

Principal Miller

NEW ANNOUNCEMENTS

COVID Testing

If you would like to opt your child out of COVID testing, you can complete this form:

<https://forms.gle/NbMrxDeJhtNDFfZm6>

Winter Ball - Rescheduled: January 13th, 2023

On Friday, January 13th from 5:30-7:30 pm we will be holding the rescheduled Winter Ball for 6th-8th graders. Scholars should come “dressed to impress”.

Students may not attend if they are absent from school on Friday.

Behavior Expectations: No more than two (2) referrals, no more than three (3) resets, no fights, 92% attendance for the month of December.

NOTE: Scholars that were granted for the previous date through December 22nd will be allowed entrance- those that did not make the above qualifications will not be allowed to attend. Parents will be notified if their child is ineligible to attend due to behavior or absences.

Please reach out to Stephanie Beck, sbeck@glachicago.org, or Melone Shurney, mshurney@glachicago.org, with any questions.

Winter Athletics- Final Game/Closure of Season

Winter sports will end Tuesday, January 17th.

Co-ed Varsity Girls and Boys will be playing against German International School on Tuesday, January 17th at 4:00 pm. Co-ed cheerleading will also be cheering.

Reminder: Pick-up is at 5 pm daily for athletics.

If you have any questions, please reach out to Athletic Director, Titus Perez, tperez@glachicago.org

2023-24 School Year: Intent to Return Form and Annual Fee

To help us plan our enrollment for the 2023-24 school year, **please confirm if your scholar will be returning to Great Lakes Academy next year by filling out and returning the Intent to Return Form** (sent home with your scholar today). Please fill out one form per scholar.

2023-24 New Student Application Open

New student applications for next school year are now open! If you know an incoming kindergarten-8th grader *who does not currently attend GLA*, please encourage them to [visit our website](#) for more information and a link to the application.

Note: All students who are currently enrolled at GLA **do not** need to submit a new application. Instead, please fill out and return the “Intent to Return Form”

mentioned above.

C&F: Sex-Ed:

5th-8th grade Sex-Ed classes will start January 10th. A letter will be going home with each scholar detailing the material covered. For more information on material covered or if you would like to opt-out your scholar, contact Titus Perez (tperez@glachicago.org).

Family Content Night

Save the date! We will be having an in-person Family Content Night on February 15, 2022 at 5:00 pm. More information is coming soon!

December Students of the Month

We are so excited and happy to announce our Students of the Month that showed exemplary achievement through leadership, core values, and doing the right thing. Please join us in celebrating the following students:

U of Illinois- Harmoni Williams
Northwestern- Kayla Dabel
U of Chicago- Tywon Alexander Jr.
DePaul- Nubia Jones
Howard- Zamari Johnson
Duke- Erin Jones
Emory- Kimberly Ramirez Negrete
Harvard- Abigail Valdivia
Stanford- Juan Ayala
Michigan- Rashaun Stowers
Purdue- Ja'Marion Sloan
Tennessee- Mia Jones
GT- Lamonze Railey
UIC- Samuel Espinoza
Xavier- Jayden Harris
Morgan State- Jeremiah Logan
Princeton- Azariah Mercer
NIU- Izzy Smith

Congratulations, scholars!

GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

After School (Anchor) Programming

Trimester two programs began on Monday, November 28th, via acceptance letters and emails.

Note: Please only attend the days your scholar was accepted into for T2.

Reminder: Pick-up is at 5 pm daily for after school programming. There are no late pick-ups.

Please see your email for acceptance and policies and procedures.

Before School “On Deck” Programming

On Deck (before school) enrollment will always be open and available as an as needed basis as well for \$10 cash/card paid on the spot. Reach out to,

sbeck@glachicago.org- Stephanie Beck, to enroll today!

GLA Parent Swag is ON SALE!

Great Lakes Academy new parent swag is still available for purchase.

Sizes range from men's small to 3XL. Head over to the [GLA Store](#) to grab yours today!

We can't wait to see you in your GLA parent swag!

Options for delivery include: scholar hand-off, pick up*, or shipping (an additional \$5 fee).

**To avoid disruption to the scholar drop-off and dismissal process, pick up hours will be from 8:30 am-2:30 pm Monday - Thursday and 8:30 am-1:00 pm on Friday. Thank you for your understanding.*

Breakfast and Lunch Menu:

To view the breakfast and lunch menu for the upcoming month, please [click here](#).

IMPORTANT UPCOMING DATES

January 9th: 2023-24 New Student Application Launches

No Principal Townhall for January

January 10th: 2023-24 Recommitment Form Launches

January 10th: Students Return from Winter Break

January 13th: Winter Ball, 6th-8th Grade Students (5:30-7:30 pm)

January 16th: MLK Jr. Day, **No Classes**

January 17th: 5th-8th Grade Boys' Basketball Game

January 23rd: ACCESS Testing Begins

January 27th: Mid Trimester 2 Progress Reports (sent via email)

February 1st: Black History Month Begins

Upcoming: February 15, 2022 Family Content Night (5:00-6:00 pm)

January 9th-February 3rd, 2023

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
9 Staff PD No Classes 2023-24 New Student Application Launches	10 2023-24 Intent to Return Form Launches	11	12	13 Winter Ball 6th-8th Grade 5:30-7:30 pm
16 Martin Luther King Jr. Day No Classes	17 5th-8th Grade Boys' Basketball Game 4:00-6:00 pm	18	19	20
23 ACCESS Testing Begins	24	25	26	27 Mid Trimester 2 Progress Reports Emailed to Families
30	31	1 Black History Month Begins	2	3

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