



Weekly GLA Family Newsletter

November 29th, 2022

PRINCIPAL'S CORNER

Students and staff returned to school yesterday after a weeklong break for Thanksgiving. Around this time of year, I like to practice gratitude by reflecting on all the things I am thankful for in my life, and there are many. One of my greatest sources of gratitude is the Great Lakes Academy Community.

I am thankful for our brilliant students who bring joy to our staff and challenge us to be our best for them. I am thankful for a school community of families who support our staff and the mission of the school. I am thankful for a staff that sees the greatness in our students and commits to give them their absolute best each and every day. I am thankful to work with a group of leaders who are driven to do what is best for students.

In the midst of this season of thanksgiving, unfortunately, we received tragic news. One of our 1st grade scholars, Romalice Brooks, and his younger brother, Ro-Siah, died as a result of an accident while visiting family. Our hearts are heavy for a family who experienced an unimaginable tragedy. Our hearts are heavy from the incomprehensible loss of one of our brilliant scholars. We gathered as a staff before school on Monday morning to grieve together and to prepare to support students. It was a difficult day.

Gratitude and grief seem incompatible with each other, but they are not. They can coexist. They must coexist. It has to be why I am filled with sadness that I will not see Romalice walk by my office and wave hi to me with the rest of his classmates. It has to be why staff members who knew Romalice felt compelled to share memories of him with each other, often through tears. I am unable to speak for others but I am grateful to have those memories. And I am grateful to have known him and his kind spirit.

Grief is praise, because it is the natural way love honors what it misses.

– Martín Prechtel

We are not grateful to be grieving, but we are grieving because we are grateful to have known him.

We will miss you, Romalice.



Principal Miller

NEW ANNOUNCEMENTS

Funeral Arrangements for Romalice and Ro-Siah Brooks

Services for Romalice and Ro-Siah Brooks will be held on Saturday, December 3rd at Gatling's Chapel at 10133 South Halsted Street from 11am to 1:30pm. Visitation will also be held on Friday, December 2nd at Gatling's Chapel from 3pm to 6pm. Grief resources are available for the GLA community. Please click [here](#) to view them.

October Students of the Month

We are so excited and happy to announce our October 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- Amayah Puplambu
Northwestern- Anthony Berry
U of Chicago- Jayla Hawthorne Tate
DePaul- Adeola Ominsanya
Howard- Daniel Lovings
Duke- Madison Ford
Emory- Meagan Wright
Harvard- Jerne Posten
Stanford- Troy Hodge
Michigan- Kameron Williams
Purdue- E'Miyah Harris
Tennessee- Ismael Reyna
GT- Alondra Martinez
UIC- Teni Owoade
Xavier- Kaleah Tyson
Morgan State- Ethan Herrera
Princeton- Olasunkanmi Ebietomiye
NIU- Camryn Williams

Congratulations, scholars!

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.

Book Fair - 12/5-12/9

The Scholastic Book Fair will return to GLA for students from Monday, December 5th-Friday, December 9th. *Parents will be able to have early access to the Book Fair on Friday, December 2nd from 2:30-4:00 pm.* Your scholar(s) will bring home an informational page and schedule for when their class is expected to visit the Book Fair. Questions? Contact our front office at 773-530-3040.

GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

GLA Takes D.C. - Light The Way Fall Fundraiser!

We are extremely excited to announce Great Lakes Academy's inaugural 8th grade class trip to Washington, D.C. Class of 2023, will be traveling to our nation's capital next spring in celebration of their 8th grade graduation.

Today, GLA will be hosting our annual Fall Fundraiser at The Lighthouse Lounge, November 29th, 2022. All proceeds directly support GLA student programming - including our inaugural 8th grade graduation trip to Washington, D.C.

There will be more details to come in the near future!

8th Grade High School Application Deadline

December 2nd in the application deadline for all 8th graders. If you have not logged into CoGPS or need assistance, please email Mr. Muhammad, mmuhammad@glachicago.org

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!

Winter Athletics

Winter sports started Monday, Nov. 7th and run through Tuesday, January 17th.

Winter Sport sign-ups are closed.

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

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

November 28th: Trimester 2 Begins

November 29th: Hearing and Vision Tests for Diverse Learners

December 2nd: Parent Access to Book Fair (2:30-4:00 pm)

December 5th-9th: Student Book Fair (schedule to come)

December 12th-22nd: STEP and ANET Q2 Assessments

December 14th and 21st: Winter Art Showcase

December 14th: Monthly Principal Townhall (5:30-6:30 pm at GLA)

December 22nd: Winter Fest

December 22nd: Winter Ball - 6-8th Grades (5:30-7:30 pm)

December 23rd: Staff PD, **No Classes**

November 28th - December 23rd, 2022

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
28 Trimester 2 Begins	29 Hearing and Vision Tests for Diverse Learners	30	1	2 Book Fair Parent Access Day 2:30-4:00 pm
5 Book Fair	6 Book Fair	7 Book Fair	8 Book Fair	9 Book Fair
12 STEP and ANET Q2 Assessments	13 STEP and ANET Q2 Assessments	14 STEP and ANET Q2 Assessments Winter Art Showcase Monthly Principal Townhall 5:30-6:30 at GLA	15 STEP and ANET Q2 Assessments	16 STEP and ANET Q2 Assessments
19 STEP and ANET Q2 Assessments	20 STEP and ANET Q2 Assessments	21 STEP and ANET Q2 Assessments Winter Art Showcase	22 STEP and ANET Q2 Assessments Winter Fest Winter Ball 6-8th Grades 5:30-7:30 pm	23 Staff PD No Classes

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