



Weekly GLA Family Newsletter

April 12, 2023

PRINCIPAL'S CORNER

It feels like spring has finally arrived in Chicago! When it warms up, we start to think about the end of the school year, and it will be here before we know it. However, we still have 9 full weeks of school. That is a lot of instructional time to continue building students as readers, writers, mathematicians, thinkers, and healthy young people. Though we finished our big state assessment (Illinois Assessment for Readiness) before spring break, we will be working hard to build momentum academically. Please stay on top of your child's homework, grades, and communications with teachers.

We also have exciting school culture events and initiatives coming this spring. These include:

- GLA Art Showcase - April 21st
- Reclaiming Minds Family Workshops - April 29th, May 6th, May 13th
- Spring Ball (5th-8th grade) - May 12th
- Lighthouse Awards Night - June 1st
- Field Day - June 7th

We also have Trimester 3 field trips planned for the end of the year. These field trips will be a ton of fun for students and are incentives. Students must meet behavior and attendance requirements to attend. Please have frequent conversations with your child(ren) about being their best at school so they do not miss these opportunities!

Principal Miller

NEW ANNOUNCEMENTS

Leader of the Month- March

We are so excited and happy to announce our Leaders 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- Daniel Yancey
Northwestern- Justin Chavers

U of Chicago- Elisabeth Catlett
DePaul- Abdulai Yusuf
Howard- Areli Ayala
Duke- Melody Ford
Emory- Cary King
Harvard- Janelly Espinoza
Stanford- Esdras Azard
Michigan- Elizabeth Early
Purdue- Khari Horton
Tennessee- Seaven Dixon
GT- Ty'Miyah Hill
UIC- Melina Gonzalez-Acosta
Xavier- Eirian Burks
Morgan State- Alant'e Henry
Princeton- Jamya Vaughn
NIU-Naidelyn Espinoza

Congratulations, scholars!

Art Show

GLA will be hosting an Art Show in the Link on Friday, April 21st from 4:00-6:00 pm. Come view your scholar(s) hard work in the classroom and enjoy some snacks and drinks!

Displayed art entails work from K-4th and special projects from 5th-8th SkyART and Sculpture/Painting After-School Programming

We hope to see you there!

Power Parents “Movie Night”

The Power Parents will be hosting a movie night fundraiser on April 29th, 1pm-4pm, at GLA. There will be snacks available during this event for the children. This will be a great way for students to come out and socialize with classmates in a safe space and the proceeds will be supporting a great cause, GLA students.

Please fill out [this form](#) so that we can ensure we have an appropriate number of volunteers in place.

Unique Abilities Community Resource Fair

UNIQUE ABILITIES COMMUNITY RESOURCE FAIR



**SATURDAY
APRIL 29, 2023**

**Calumet Park Fieldhouse
12:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.**

9801 S. Avenue G, Chicago, IL 60617



Learn more about Autism Spectrum Disorder, living with Developmental Differences and unique abilities. Together we can cultivate awareness and educate each other!



PARENT WORKSHOPS

Presented by local professionals on a variety of helpful topics to include Autism 101, IEP's, Q&A's and more!



RESOURCES

Come connect with local providers offering a variety of programs and services for all ages including therapy, recreation, advocacy, etc.



KID ZONE

Enjoy snacks, face painting and fun balloons!

GOT RESOURCES? LIMITED TABLES AVAILABLE.

CONTACT US:



outloudforautism@gmail.com



outloudforautism



OUTLOUD
FOR AUTISM



PARENTS OF
EXTRAORDINARY
CHILDREN



GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

Reclaiming Minds Therapy and Wellness

GLA has begun a new partnership with Reclaiming Minds Therapy and Wellness to offer a series of workshops for our school parents and guardians only. The workshop will include subject matters around parenting with special challenges, financial stability, problem solving, goal setting and more.

GLA will offer these workshops every Saturday from April 29th-May 20th from 10:00-12:00 pm.

Please RSVP here: [GLA Brunch and Learn](#)



SCHOOL OF CARE PRESENTS

BRUNCH & LEARN

PARENT DEVELOPMENT WORKSHOP SERIES

Great Lakes Academy has partnered with Reclaiming Minds Therapy & Wellness to offer a series of workshops to support families with topics such as:

- Cultural Perspectives on Parenting
- Parenting with Special Challenges
- Exploring Childrearing Strategies
- Financial Stability and Family Well-being
- Guiding, Nurturing, and Motivating Children
- Problem Solving & Goal Setting
- Improving Communication

Date: Every Saturday, April 29 - May 20

Time: 10am - 12pm

Location: 8401 S Saginaw Ave, Chicago, IL 60617

RSVP: 773-530-3040 or tinyurl.com/qlabrunchandlearn

Please Note: These workshops are for parents/guardians of GLA scholars only. Onsite childcare will be available. Brunch will be provided.



Six Flags Field Trip 6th & 7th Grade

On Thursday, June 8th our 6th & 7th graders will be attending Six Flags of Great America for our Trimester 3 field trip. **Beginning Monday, March 27th, these stipulations went into full effect for scholars to be able to attend:**

- 5 or less Absences
- 85% Homework Completion
- 2 or Less uniform Infractions
- 2 or Less Referrals
- 4 or Less Resets
- No Physical Incidents

Spring Ball, 5th-8th Grade

On Friday, May 12th at 5:30 pm we will be hosting a 5th-8th Spring Ball here at Great Lakes Academy. This event is "Dress Your Best" or whatever your scholar is comfortable in. **Beginning Monday, April 10th, these stipulations went into effect for scholars to be able to attend:**

- No more than 1 referral
- No more than 3 resets
- 90% attendance
- No physical or verbal altercations

Please help in assisting us in getting as many scholars as possible to this event!

If your scholar is no longer eligible, you will receive a call from the Behavior Team.

After-School “Anchor” Programming

T3 Programs will run from Monday, March 20th to Thursday, June 1st from 3:15-5:00 pm.

Reach out to, sbeck@glachicago.org- Stephanie Beck, with any questions!

GLA Summer Programming

The GLA Summer Program will run from June 26th to July 21st. All programming will take place Monday-Friday (exception July 3rd-4th - building closed for holiday).

June					July				
M	T	W	Th	F	M	T	W	Th	F
					3	4	5	6	7
12	13	14	15	16	10	11	12	13	14
19	20	21	22	23	17	18	19	20	21
26	27	28	29	30	24	25	26	27	28

*Dates in yellow are program dates

**July 3rd and 4th there is no programming - GLA CLOSED

There will be three different programs offered for students:

- AM Academic Support
- AM and PM Enrichment Camp
- Professional Theater and Dance Youth Academy (PTDYA) Summer Camp

AM Academic Support (8:30am-12:00pm)

This program is **only** for students required to take summer school for promotion. The school's administration will notify families if students are required to take summer school. Doors will open for breakfast at 8am. Lunch will be served at 12pm. The cost is \$150. Students required to take AM Academic Support classes may opt-in for PM Enrichment Camp. The cost for PM Enrichment Camp is an additional \$150.

AM/PM Enrichment Camp (8:30 am - 4:00 pm)

This program is open to all interested K-7th grade students on a first-come, first-served basis. Doors will open for breakfast at 8 am. Lunch will be served at 12 pm. Programming ends at 4 pm. The cost for AM/PM Enrichment Camp is \$300.

PTDYA Summer Camp (9:00 am - 3:00 pm)

This program is open to 4th-7th graders who are interested in music and theater. Participants will be rehearsing for an end of program performance that will take place on July 21st at GLA. Lunch will be served at 12 pm. The cost for PTDYA Summer Camp is \$400.

Please sign up [HERE!](#)

8th Grade Upcoming Important Dates

Cap and gown invoices will be sent via email. The invoice will be \$20. All measurements have already been done during the school day. Students are able to design their cap with school appropriate creativity, if wanted.

For the graduation ceremony, four (4) tickets will be provided for each family, not including the graduating scholar. For the Awards Dinner, four (4) tickets total, including

the scholar, will be provided.

Dates to Mark Down:

Friday, May 5th - 8th Grade Graduation Photos (during the school day)

Friday, May 19th - Cap and Gown Invoices Due

Friday, May 26th - High School Selection Day at 9:00 am

Wednesday, May 31st - Saturday, June 3rd - Washington D.C. trip

Tuesday, June 6th - 8th Grade Awards Dinner at 5:00 pm

Friday, June 9th - 8th Grade Graduation at 4:00 pm

Please reach out to Stephanie Beck, sbeck@glachicago.org, if you have any questions!

GLA Annual Fee

Each year, GLA families pay an annual fee for each scholar enrolled. This nonrefundable fee covers a small portion of a variety of individual online learning platforms for your child, along with supply needs.

This year, the fee of \$90 per student is due by August 11th, 2023, but can be paid now by visiting our website (<https://glachicago.org/supplyandtechfee>) or calling the front office (these are the only two methods in which the fee may be paid).

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!

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

April 12th: Monthly Parent Townhall (5:30-6:30 pm at GLA)

April 20th: 2023-24 Lottery

April 20th: Last Day of Spring Sports

April 21st: Art Show (4:00-6:00 pm at GLA)

April 28th: Day of Children Celebration/Dia del Niño

April 29th: Reclaiming Minds Family Workshop (10:00-12:00 pm at GLA)

April 29th: Power Parents Movie Night (1:00-4:00 pm at GLA)

May 1st: Mid T3 Progress Reports Emailed to Families

May 5th: 8th Grade Graduation Portraits

April 10th - May 5th, 2023

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
10 Month of Kindness Begins Autism Acceptance Month	11	12 Monthly Parent Townhall <i>5:30-6:30 pm at GLA</i>	13	14
17	18	19	20 2023-24 Lottery Last Day of Spring Sports	21 Art Show <i>4:00-6:00 pm at GLA</i>
24	25	26	27	28 Day of Children Celebration at GLA
1 Mid-trimester 3 Progress Reports <i>Emailed to Families</i>	2	3	4	5 8th Grade Graduation Portraits

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