

# Global News

Global Concepts Charter School  
- April 2010 Newsletter -



Emily Dickinson 1830-1886

## April Dates

### National Poetry Month

- 1<sup>st</sup> Third Quarter Ends
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Good Friday – No School
- 8<sup>th</sup> Parent Portfolio Night
- 9<sup>th</sup> Honor Society Induction 10am
  
- 9<sup>th</sup> Early Dismissal – 11:30am  
Parent Portfolio
- 13<sup>th</sup> Career Day 9am-3pm
- 13<sup>th</sup> Science Night, 6-7:30pm
- 15<sup>th</sup> Spring Chess Tournament 9:30am
- 19<sup>th</sup>-  
23<sup>rd</sup> Spring Break – No School
- 26<sup>th</sup>-  
28<sup>th</sup> NYS English Language Arts Assessments
- 28<sup>th</sup> GCCS Board Meeting 7pm

## Character Counts

Our character trait for the month of April is  
SELF-MOTIVATION

## From the Principal's Desk

End of the Year-As the weather finally improves; summer vacation looms large in the minds of students. Please remind your child that approximately ¼ of the school year remains, and the material being covered at this time of the year is as important as the material covered in September. All of our students have worked hard to succeed and we want their efforts to continue through the end of the school year. Let's do our best to end the year they way we started. Successfully!

Richard Fill  
Principal/CEO

## 8<sup>th</sup> Annual Spaghetti Dinner A HUGE SUCCESS

Our 8th annual spaghetti dinner was an incredible success. The playground committee would like to thank GCCS students, parents, faculty and staff for their generous contributions and support. Your food contributions and basket donations were very unique and impressive. This fundraising event has proven to be a very positive channel toward the creation of our playground.

We are very happy to announce to you that the dinner generated 100 % profit of **\$8,042.00!!** The event was enjoyed by all and the student violin performance was outstanding. A special thank you goes out to our GCCS students for their creative effort in making posters and thank you cards. As always, they were very eager to help out and share their talent.

Sincerely,  
Mrs. Velk  
Playground Committee Chairperson,  
The Playground Committee

# PTA News

## WE NEED PARENTS OR THE PTA WILL CEASE TO EXIST!

Our PTA has raised thousands of dollars this year! We have provided funds for students at all grade levels to participate in field trips, enjoy visitors to the school who bring fun and educationally beneficial programs, and have provided treats for school functions including Science Night and Open Houses!

The PTA at Global Concepts Charter School is in desperate need of parental involvement. Currently, we have no one to fill the **Fundraiser** position. Additionally, we will need a **Executive Committee** for the 2010-2011 school year. These positions do not require huge amounts of time, but are simply too much for the staff who already have a daily commitment to the students here everyday. **The school, and most importantly the students, need YOU!**

**Please** consider making a commitment to the students at Global Concepts Charter School by volunteering a few hours a month to help the PTA. It would be a shame for this most important organization to fizzle out, directly affecting the student's educational programming. The staff members at Global Concepts are active and helpful members of the PTA. We need parents to be willing to lead this organization, furthering the bond we have to support the students together.

Sincerely,  
PTA Executive Committee

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## Poetry

Rain

by Robert Louis Stevenson

The rain is falling all around,  
It falls on field and tree,  
It rains on the umbrellas here,  
And on the ships at sea.

April Rain Song by Langston Hughes

Let the rain kiss you.  
Let the rain beat upon your head with silver liquid drops.  
Let the rain sing you a lullaby.

The rain makes still pools on the sidewalk.  
The rain makes running pools in the gutter.  
The rain plays a little sleep-along on our roof at night-

And I love the rain.

## The Reading Corner



Book of the Month:



### Percy Jackson and the Olympians: The Lightning Thief by Rick Riordan

Percy Jackson is about to be kicked out of boarding school...again. And that's the least of his troubles. Lately, mythological monsters and the gods of Mount Olympus seem to be walking straight out of the pages of Percy's Greek mythology textbook and into his life. And worse, he's angered a few of them. Zeus's master lightning bolt has been stolen, and Percy is the prime suspect.

Now Percy and his friends have just ten days to find and return Zeus's stolen property and bring peace to a warring Mount Olympus. But to succeed on his quest, Percy will have to do more than catch the true thief: he must come to terms with the father who abandoned him; solve the riddle of the Oracle, which warns him of betrayal by a friend; and unravel a treachery more powerful than the gods themselves.

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## Math Question of the Month - *SOLVE and Win a Prize*

On Friday, Marissa babysat for 5 hours at a rate of \$6 per hour. On Sunday, she went to the store and spent \$14 on a sweater. How much money did Marissa have left after buying the sweater?

**First five students to solve problem correctly will receive a prize from the bookstore. ALL WORK MUST BE SHOWN.**

# Getting Enough Sleep

Good sleep habits are just as important to overall health as food, water and exercise.

Symptoms of Sleep Deprivation in Children

Sleep deprivation affects children in different ways than adults. Sleepy children tend to 'speed up' rather than slow down. Symptoms include:

- \_ Moodiness and irritability
- \_ Temper tantrums
- \_ The tendency to emotionally 'explode' at the slightest provocation
- \_ Over-activity and hyperactive behavior
- \_ Difficulty falling asleep at night due to becoming more "wired" as the day progresses
- \_ Poor concentration and mood changes (more irritable)

Lack of sleep can also decrease your immune system. Tips for Developing Healthy Sleep Habits

- \_ Establish a reasonable bedtime. Most elementary and middle school children need about 9-10 hours of sleep a night.
- \_ Allow sufficient time (about 1 hour) to wind down before bedtime.
- \_ Avoid caffeinated beverages and foods high in sugar in the late afternoon and evening.
- \_ Maintain a consistent nightly routine that includes going to bed at the same time every night, including weekends.

## Lack of Sleep Impairs Performance

Let's say that a person who needs eight hours of sleep per night only gets six. This two-hour sleep loss can have a major impact including:

- \_ Shortened attention span
- \_ Reduced concentration
- \_ Poor memory
- \_ Loss of motivation
- \_ Reduced work efficiency

A sleepy person's brain works harder – and accomplishes less!

Families need to learn to value sleep. It is essential; not a luxury!

# Important Testing Dates

NYS ELA Assessment:  
Grades 3-8  
April 26-27, 2010

Grades 4, 6, & 8  
April 29, 2010

NYS Math Assessment:  
Grades 3-8 Book 1-2  
May 5-6, 2010

Grades 4& 8 Book 3  
May 7, 2010

NYS Science Test:  
Grade 4 & 8  
May 24- June 3, 2010 (Performance Test)

June 7, 2009 (Written Test)

Terra Nova Testing:  
Grades K-2 May 11-12, 2010



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## Poetry continues

### Springtime by Nikki Giovanni

in the springtime the violets  
grow in the sidewalk cracks  
and the ants play furiously  
at my gym-shoed toes  
carrying off a half-eaten peanut  
butter sandwich I had at lunch  
and sometimes I crumble  
my extra graham crackers  
and on the rainy days I take off  
my yellow space hat and splash  
all the puddles on Pendry Street and not one  
cold can catch me

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