

Global News

Global Concepts Charter School
- December 2009 Newsletter -



December Dates

4th - **Early Dismissal 11:30am**

5th - Chess Tournament in Sardinia

11th – Violin Superstars @ Rosewell Park

17th – Violin Concert 2pm-3:30pm

16th - GCCS Board Meeting 7pm

18th – Winter Holiday Chess Challenge 4-7pm

23rd – Middle School Field Trip

Last Day of School for Winter Recess

23rd thru Jan 4th - **NO SCHOOL** Holiday Recess

Jan 4th – School Resumes

From the Principal

High School Announcement

On October 28, 2009, Global Concepts Charter School Board of Trustees took the initial step in establishing a grade 9-12 high school program for our students. The application to the State Education Department will be submitted

within the next several days, and we are hopeful that a positive response will be forthcoming in early spring 2010. Our plan is to gradually phase in the various grade levels each year beginning with grade 9 for the fall of the 2010 – 2011 school year.

Because the current building has reached its capacity grades 9-12 will be located in a different facility here in Lackawanna. Students from Lackawanna, Buffalo and the surrounding school districts will be eligible to attend **GCCS High School**.

Over the past eight years, the students attending Global Concepts Charter School have consistently demonstrated their academic growth and knowledge, achieving at the highest levels of performance on the various state mandated tests. This culture of high achievement will also be carried over into the high school program.

The proposed high school curriculum will be a comprehensive 4 year college- preparatory high school curriculum, stressing 4 years of math, English, Science and social studies as requisites for graduation. We are also planning various sports activities for students.

This information is being provided to parents so that as you begin to examine various educational opportunities for your high school age students. We hope that you strongly consider remaining part of the Global Concepts educational family for the coming years. Further information will be forthcoming regarding enrollment and scheduling in the next several months.



**Congratulations to the
Fifth Grade on Passing
Social Studies Assessment
with 100%
of students receiving a level 3 or 4**

GREAT JOB FIFTH GRADERS!

Early Dismissal Day

Please be aware that Friday, December 4th, 2009 is an early dismissal date for all students.

Letter from Our Troops

30 November 2009

To the Faculty and Students of Global Concepts Charter School,

I would like to take this opportunity to thank each and every one of you on behalf of myself and the members of the 107th Security Forces Squadron, New York Air National Guard for your outstanding Veteran's Day Tribute/Ceremony and the Certificates of Honor that were presented.

The students that read their letters did so in a very mature and professional manner, upon reflection I would like to share some of my thoughts on this. There was a common thread that wove these letters together; the words freedom and sacrifice were mentioned in all.

Indeed, we are blessed to be a free nation. As I stood in front of the school, looking out at all of you, it struck me that we are truly free. The diversity that you represent proves this; all races, creeds, religious and ethnic backgrounds have a home at your school. Only in a nation with true freedom can this occur, we have it here in our country and your school is the perfect example of this. There are too few nations in the world that would allow a school such as yours to exist, let alone flourish to the extent that GCCS does. Your participation in the process of freedom is the support you show to our military community with your encouragement, and continued dedication to your education and physical fitness.

However, this freedom has a cost. This is the sacrifice that was and is made by men and women of our nation to ensure this freedom. This tradition

had it's beginnings with the Minutemen in the Revolution and continues on until today. Whether that be here at home or stationed overseas in the global war on terror, all who wear the uniform stand on the wall to guard us from the enemies that we know and to deter those that we do not. There are those in the world who would wish to force their will and ideas upon us, through means that are violent. We have seen that right here at home in the US. And this is happening daily around the world. It is our service members who play a part in stopping and preventing this from taking place. These veterans and all who wear the uniform of the Armed Services of the United States are veterans in whatever capacity they serve, pay the price in some way to keep us free. We must remember, as you all have done in your tribute on Veteran's Day, the duty and dedication of these fine Americans.

In closing, I would once again like to say thanks to all of you for your patriotism. Although Veteran's Day comes once a year, please keep in mind daily those who have and continue to serve our great Nation.

Sincerely,

MARK E. HAJDUK, MSGT, NYANG
107 AW/SFS Superintendent

Tips to Avoid Colds and Flu



The cold and flu season has arrived and according to all accounts it's a rough one. Here are some simple tips; healthy habits that will help you avoid colds and the flu.

1. Bar soap is a perfect breeding ground for viruses and bacteria.

Wash your hands frequently with liquid antibacterial soap instead of bar soap.

2. Don't share drinking glasses. Instead, use disposable cups in the kitchen and bathroom, using each cup only once and then disposing.
3. Use disposable tissues when blowing your nose; use each tissue once, throw it away then wash your hands thoroughly.
4. Colds and flu are often spread by hand-to-hand contact. Avoid touching your eyes, nose or mouth after being exposed to viruses or bacteria.
5. Bacteria and viruses can live on hand towels and sponges for hours. Use disposable paper napkins and towels in the kitchen.
6. To kill bacteria and viruses, wash toys regularly in warm, soapy water.
7. If you have to sneeze and a tissue is unavailable, sneeze into your shoulder not your hands to avoid spreading germs.
8. Frequently clean surfaces such as stair rails, telephones, counter tops and door knobs to avoid hand-to-hand spread of viruses.
9. Germs remain in stagnant air; open windows when weather permits to circulate fresh air.

Developing simple, healthy habits like those above can help you stay healthy during this cold and flu season and throughout the year.



The Reading Corner



Book of the Month:



Maniac Magee by Jerry Spinelli

In this modern-day tall tale, Spinelli (*Dump Days* ; *Jason and Marceline*) presents a humorous yet poignant look at the issue of race relations, a rare topic for a work aimed at middle readers. Orphaned as an infant, Jerry Magee is reared by his feuding aunt and uncle until he runs away at age eight. He finds his way to Two Mills, Pa., where the legend of "Maniac" Magee begins after he scores major upsets against Brian Denehy, the star high school football player, and Little League tough guy, John McNab. In racially divided Two Mills, the Beales, a black family, take Maniac in, but despite his local fame, community pressure forces him out and he returns to living at the zoo. Park groundskeeper Grayson next cares for the boy, but the old man dies and Maniac moves into the squalid home of the McNabs, who are convinced a race war is imminent. After a showdown with his nemesis, Mars Bar, Maniac bridges the gap between the two sides of town and finally finds a home. Full of snappy street-talk cadences, this off-the-wall yarn will give readers of all colors plenty of food for thought. Ages 8-12. (Apr.)

GCCS GIVES BACK!

The student here at GCCS recently donated 2,276 pounds of food to the Food Bank of WNY. Which was 910 pounds more than last years drive. Our coordinator Ms. Thompson would like to thank Mr. Flory, Mrs. Cook, and Ms. Voigt's classes for their community service by collecting donated food items and every GCCS teacher that promoted the giving spirit within their classrooms. She would also like to thank all of the parents who assisted their children in giving. For without you this wouldn't have been possible and because of you many families will have a joyous holiday season.

The following classes turned in the most and were recipients of a Dress Down Day:

K-4

1. Sulski (1st)
2. Dent (2nd)

5-8

1. Winkler (1st)
2. Ptak (2nd)

Winter Poems & Quotes

Winter

by Dorothy Aldis

The street cars are
Like frosted cakes --
All covered up
With cold snowflakes.

The horses' hoofs
Scrunch on the street;
Their eyelashes
Are white with sleet.

And everywhere
The people go --
With faces tickled
By the snow.

Snowflakes are one of nature's most fragile things, but just look what they do when they stick together.

Verna M. Kelly

Winter time is for me.

Winter time is full of light,
Winter time is big and bright,
Winter time is full of fun,
Winter time has lots of sun,
Winter time is full of fruits,
Winter time is time to be free,
that's why Winter time is for me.

Mahfooz Ali

The First Snow

by Evaleen Stein

The snow! the snow! Whoop! Hooray! Ho! Ho!
Plunge in the deep drifts and toss it up so!
 Rollick and roll in the feathery fleece
 Plucked out of the breasts of the marvelous
geese
By the little old woman who lives in the sky;
Have ever you seen her? No, neither have I!

A Riddle - On Snow

James Parton

From Heaven I fall, though from earth I begin.
No lady alive can show such a skin.
I'm bright as an angel, and light as a feather,
But heavy and dark, when you squeeze me
together.

Though candor and truth in my aspect I bear,
Yet many poor creatures I help to insnare.
Though so much of Heaven appears in my make,
The foulest impressions I easily take.

My parent and I produce one another,
The mother the daughter, the daughter the mother.

