

# Global News

Global Concepts Charter School  
- January 2010 Newsletter -



## January Dates

13<sup>th</sup> - 7/8 Gr. Boys Basketball Game vs. Iroquois Central @ 4:30pm

14<sup>th</sup> - 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter Grades Close

18<sup>th</sup> - **NO SCHOOL- MLK Day**

21<sup>st</sup> - Evening Parent Portfolio 5pm-7pm

22<sup>nd</sup> - Early Dismissal 11:30am Parent Portfolio Day

27<sup>th</sup> - GCCS Board Meeting 7pm

## From the Principal

January is a great time to reflect on the areas in our lives where we felt successful during the past year. It is also a time to consider how to make changes in areas where we would like to improve. Here are some tips to help students start the New Year off on a positive note.

\* *Get plenty of sleep.* Scientists have found that students who do not get enough sleep have difficulty paying attention in class and do not do as well in school.

*Recommended* amounts of sleep range from about 8½ to 11 hours a night for elementary students.

\* *Eat healthy.* Eat more fruits, nuts, and vegetables. Drink at least 8 (8 oz) glasses of water every day. Limit the amount of sodas and snack foods you eat.

\* *Exercise* your body and your mind daily.

\* *Follow the Golden Rule* - Treat others (children and adults) the way you would like to be treated.

\* *Time + Effort = Achievement* – Take the time to carefully complete all assignments at school and home; ask questions when you do not understand a task; demonstrate perseverance (that means keep trying – even when the work is difficult), and eliminate the word “can’t” from your vocabulary. Make it a goal to do your personal best at school every day.

\* *Read, read, read* – Success in school depends, in large part, on a student’s ability to read and understand what they have read. Students should read a variety of books, including folktales, poetry, biographies, fiction, and more.

Read to get information, read for fun, read to someone in your family...just read!

\* *Attend school regularly and on time.*

\* *Write out your Plan for Success.* The plan may include getting better grades, making new friends, studying harder, staying out of trouble, etc.

Share your Plan with someone who can help you to reach your goal.

Let’s have a fantastic year!

*Richard Fill*  
Principal/CEO

# Boys Basketball Season Begins

The GCCS Boys Basketball Team coached by Jack Graham will have their first game of the season on Wednesday, January 13<sup>th</sup> at 4:30pm here at Global. Their first game will be against Iroquios Central.

**Let's ALL show our support for the home team!**

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# Violin Superstars play Roswell

The Violin Superstars performed at Roswell Park Cancer Institute on December 11, 2009, where we proudly represented Global Concepts Charter School. This event was a beautiful showcase for all involved and confirms how unique our school is.

Also, Little Twinkles and Superstars played the violin along with other students that sang at our annual Winter Concert, on December 17, 2009 in our school auditorium. What an excellent time was had by all who had the opportunity to be part of our violin concert featuring the talented children of Global Concepts Charter School.

All the hard work and practice that our students in the Violin Program invested culminated in these uplifting and at times emotional concerts.

We would like to send a huge **THANK YOU** to everyone for their help with the concert preparation and performance. The students played brilliantly, looked fantastic, and were so eager to perform.

The playing ability and level of our students gets higher at every concert and this is exciting!!

Again, we had the pleasure and honor of Mr. Marinaccio accompanying on piano at both concerts.

There are so many teachers always willing to go the extra mile to help – in small and large

ways that I can't name them all. Basically, I am grateful for your continued support of the violin program. Our success is not possible without you. I am truly blessed to be a part of this school!

Please join us in congratulating all members of the Superstars and Little Twinklers for bringing just a little bit of "joy" to our little corner of the universe.

Wishing you all the most enjoyable, festive, healthy and happy holidays.

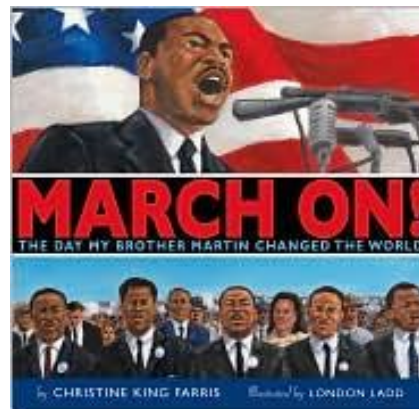
Mrs. Savka and Mr. Struckman

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## The Reading Corner



**Book of the Month:**



**March On ! The Day My Brother Martin Changed the Word by Christine King Farris**

How did the civil rights activist prepare what would become his most famous address? What was it like to be part of the March on Washington for Jobs and Freedom, August 28, 1963? Dr. King's sister answers these questions, providing background about the organization of the march, a look at key

events of the day, and insight into how King crafted the speech.

Farris's unique perspective on her subject continues to be compelling. She concentrates on the march and the effects of the speech. Some phrases in the text are printed in a larger font and in color, emphasizing important aspects and establishing an appealing rhythm for reading aloud. Ladd's acrylic paintings are an excellent accompaniment to the text. His use of color and varying perspectives creates a great deal of visual energy, extending the excitement of the event.

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### *PTA News*

Thank you to everyone who participated in our fall fundraisers.

PTA meeting  
will be January 21st @ 4:30pm in the  
AUD  
See you then!!

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## *Happy New Year 2010!*

### Set Goals

A new year is here, and it's a new chance for your child to achieve. Talk with him/her about setting learning goals for 2010. Perhaps a goal to read a certain number of books, write more, learn some new math facts, come to school everyday, and do their homework.

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## Attendance Reminder!

Students at Global Concepts Charter School are expected to be present every day unless excused for the following reasons:

- Illness of the student
- Death of immediate family
- Court Appearance
- Hazardous weather
- Religious observance
- Remedial health treatment



We believe that regular attendance is essential for student success. When a child is absent, he/she not only misses work on that day, but also is usually unprepared the following day because of missed instructional time. In the event that your child is absent, tardy or dismissed early, please send a written excuse upon his/her return to school. A note is to be given to the student's teacher on the day he/she returns to school. **An absence is marked unexcused until a written note is received.** The excuse should state the reason for the child's absence. If the absence extends beyond several days, please call the office. Excessive absence will be referred to the principal.

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## Importance of reinforcing Reading and memorization of Math Facts

Even with the changes in the standardized testing calendar for the New York State ELA and Math for our third, fourth and fifth graders and for Science for our fourth graders, it is essential that students read as much as possible and become exposed to new vocabulary. This will be invaluable for our students as they test but also in developing into lifelong learners!

Keep encouraging your children to read each night including weekends and to review the math concepts they have learned. Ask your child to share with you what they have read and discuss the reading. You can quiz your child on their math facts. This will help your child and create bonding time for you as well.

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## Dates for New York State Exams for 2010

The following is a listing of the test dates for future planning. Please mark you calendars.

- April 26-28 ELA Grades 3-8
- May 5-7 Math Grades 3-8
- May 17-25 NYSESLAT (ESL) Test
- June 7 Science Grades 4 & 8
- June 14-15 Social Studies Grade 8