

THE GLEN ESTE GAZETTE

December 2007

Kevin S. Thacker, Principal ** Glen Este Middle School ** 4342 Glen Este-Withamsville Rd. ** Cincinnati, Ohio 45245
947-7700 ** GEMS website www.westcler.org/gm/ ** Fax 753-3462

Dear Parents,

I write this message with a great deal of pride for our students and staff. It's a tremendous feeling to see the wonderful community service and fundraising work that our young people are doing to help the less fortunate in our community. Earlier, the 8th grade conducted a "Penny War" amongst the 8th grade teams. They raised \$440. The money was donated to the YWCA Batavia Food Pantry.

Currently, Mrs. Leazer, along with the GEMS Student Council, is coordinating our annual canned food drive from November 26 through December 3. Food collected by students and staff will also be donated to the YWCA Batavia Food Pantry. In addition, the Student Council is going to be working on a "Winter Wishes" campaign that will involve our students making a financial donation to assist The Ruth Lyons Christmas Fund and also to benefit independent GEMS students who are in need this holiday season.

We ask our students to learn a great deal while they're here at school. Giving to those less fortunate during the holiday season is such an important life lesson for our students to learn. I'm very proud of them!

On behalf of the staff and administration of Glen Este Middle School, I would like to extend our warmest wishes for a safe and enjoyable holiday season.

School Closing Information

Inclement weather is coming! To see if school is closed, Glen Este Middle School parents can call our School Closing Information line at 947-7798. This line will have updated school closing information as received from the West Clermont School District. Please do not call the school office or transportation to see if school is closed. We need to keep our lines open for emergency information. West Clermont parents can also go to our district's website at www.westcler.org to see if we are on any kind of delay because of inclement weather. The notices are put on the front page of the website under "Announcements" by 5:30 AM. Please listen to your radio or watch your television for WEST CLERMONT. It will NOT say Glen Este Middle School. It will say West Clermont. Continue to watch or listen for updates in case delays are changed to closed.

Important Dates

December

- 6 PTO Meeting, 6:30 p.m., Library
- 11 Chorus Concert, All Grades, 7:00 p.m., PAC
- 17 6th Gr. Band Concert, 7:00 p.m., PAC
- 18 7th Gr. Band & Orchestra, 7:00 p.m., PAC
- 19 8th Gr. Band & Orchestra, 7:00 p.m., PAC
- 24 Winter Break Begins

January

- 2 Return to School
- 3 PTO Meeting, 6:30 p.m., Library
- 14 End 2nd Quarter Grading Period
- 21 NO SCHOOL - MLK, Jr. Day

Students of the Month

Glen Este Middle School Students of the Month are chosen for displaying determination and self-motivation. The following students have been selected by their teachers as "Students of the Month." Congratulations on this fine honor!

October

- | | |
|----------------------|---------------------|
| 6-1 Jordan Large | 7-1 Wesley Thacker |
| 6-2 Devon Shamon | 7-2 Victoria Wilson |
| 6-3 Keegan Schofield | 7-3 Logan Shannon |
- Heimann - Tabitha Howell
- 8-1 Douglas Ford
 - 8-2 Matt Walter
 - 8-3 Steven Stoffel

Winter Concert Dates

Be sure to mark the following dates on your calendar and plan to attend your child's winter concert. Bring family and friends! Concerts will be held in the Glen Este Performing Arts Center.

Tuesday, December 11

6th, 7th and 8th Grade Chorus

Monday, December 17

6th Grade Band

Tuesday, December 18

7th Grade Band & Orchestra

Thursday, December 19

8th Grade Band & Orchestra

Concerts begin at 7:00 PM. For more information regarding band, email Scott Morgan at morgan_s@westcler.org or call 947-7733. For chorus information email April Hilen at hilen_a@westcler.org.

YEARBOOKS ON SALE

The GEMS yearbook is a hard cover book with 116 pages (16 pages in color). Order forms will be sent home with students after Thanksgiving.

Yearbook pricing:

\$25 if ordered by December 21

\$30 if ordered between January 2 and February 1

Yearbook delivery is the last week of the school year

Some extra yearbooks will be available on a first come, first served basis for \$35. Checks should be made payable to GEMS and turned in to 1st core teachers. School fees must be paid in full before a yearbook can be ordered.

Glen Este Middle School Mission Statement:

The Glen Este Middle School staff is committed to empowering all students in a safe environment for changes and challenges of the 21st century, through a shared responsibility between home, school, and community.

SPORTS NEWS

Thanks to Coaches . . .

GEMS thanks the following fall athletic team coaches for their dedication and hard work during the fall athletic season:

- Football: 8th grade head coach Chris Redmond and assistants Zach Ziegler, Mike Thompson, Dustin Amman, Tim Lyman and Nathan Ziegler; 7th grade head coach Don Jacobs and assistants Michael Ball, Jeremy Sleet and Frankie Wilson.
- Cross Country: head coach Jenny Schwalbach and assistant Robin Schwalbach;
- Volleyball: 8th grade coach Eddie Mullins and 7th grade coach Sara Williams;
- Cheerleading: coach Shannon McCune.

*GEMS would like to thank all
who volunteered at the fall sporting events this year.
Without your support, we couldn't run our programs!*

Basketball

Congratulations to the 2007-2008 girls and boys basketball teams: 8th Grade Girls: Alexis Benton, Erin Couch, Britany Bates, Kristi Mues, Kristen Wooten, Kristina Fultz, Erin Hatfield, Mandi Robinson, Emily Cummings, Bethany Huber, Lauren Roberts and Ava Biesenbender. 8th Grade Boys: Nate Boston, Daniel Brock, Darrell Bullock, Ian Courtney, Mitchell Crooks, Alex Fultz, Calvin Holloway, Hayden Jutz, Tim Martin, Alec Scardina, Brian Smith, Steven Stoffel, Max Winter and Jovante Woods. 7th Grade Girls: Claire Canter, Hannah Carson, Jessie Brenes, Leah Patrick, Katie Gaskill, Amberlee Grau, Lexi Stahl, Kylee Allen, Ashley Beard, Jill Sutter, Megan Harris, Katelyn Everhart and Danielle Lang. 7th Grade Boys: Jake Velten, Joey Spiegel, Austin Riech, Trevor Jones, Macon Overcast, Alec Gordon, Jerdon Louiso, Eli Stratlin, Guy Postlewait, Brandon Jones, Cody Jones, Jake Henize and Aaron Stephens. The basketball season opens Monday, December 3. The girls play at home against Amelia and the boys play at Amelia. Basketball schedules can be found on our website by going to www.westcler.org/gm and clicking on "Athletics." For directions to schools, go to www.favcsports.com and click on directions.

Wrestling

The first wrestling meet of the season will be December 4 at Nagel at 4:30 p.m. Come out and support our wrestlers! Check wrestling meet dates on the GEMS website under Athletics. GEMS wrestlers are: Kris Bennett, Caleb Ervin, Jarred Fowler, David Fehn, Tyler Gibbs, Nick Hall, Drew Kearns, Cody Mahlenkamp, Connor Meranda, John Mikolay, Matt Noble, Devin Obermeyer, Alijah Reed, Austin Seibert, Andrew Thomas, Austin Ayers, Brandon Burton, Alex Cosgrove, Logan Damron, Garrett Hiller, Eric Johnston, Jonathan Kirschbaum, Joey Marrs, Mikey Mullinex, Cody Partridge, Austin Perry, Austin Filbin, Nick Mattei, CJ Harvey and Corey Collins.

All middle school athletic events cost \$4 for adults and \$2 students.

Spirit Wear Shop

Think GEMS spirit wear! View the hoody's, blankets, scarves, hats and other items on our website by going to www.westcler.org/gm and click on "Spirit Wear." Spirit wear will also be on sale at most of the home basketball games.

PTO NEWS

Next PTO Meeting:

*Thursday, December 6, 6:30 P.M.
GEMS Library*

Fundraiser Pick-Up

The Otis Spunkmeyer cookie dough fundraiser orders are coming in soon! Orders are to be picked up on **Wednesday, November 28** between 2:30 and 8:00 in the gymnasium. The students are looking forward to the prizes they earned, especially the Jingle Bell Bash on December 21! Since the cookies are a frozen product and cannot be stored at school, orders not picked up on December 11 will be considered a donation.

Spirit Wear

Spirit wear makes a great Christmas gift! PTO will be selling spirit wear at school during lunch times on **Friday, December 7** and **Wednesday, December 12**.

Thank You, Volunteers!

Many thanks to the students, parents and teachers who have volunteered for our Fall projects. *Volunteers are needed to fill 2-hour time slots for the fundraiser delivery on November 28. Volunteers can sign up at gems-pto.org. Your help is always appreciated!*

2008 Reds Straight-A Program

Students who hit a home run academically can earn free Reds tickets as the Cincinnati Reds kicks off the 2008 Straight-A Program. The Reds have designed the Straight-A Program to reward academic achievement among students in grades 7 through 12. Students obtaining an "A" or "A-" grade point average are eligible for free tickets. Qualifying students will be given an order form redeemable for tickets. Each Straight-A student will be able to select two free View Level tickets for one of the designated Straight-A dates on the Reds 2008 schedule. Eligibility will be based on first quarter grades in all subjects. A list of students who qualify will be posted outside the school office in late January.

Team News

The following **Team 6-1** students participated in "The Battle of the Brains" held in Milford on November 13. They came in **FIRST PLACE** against other teams from several schools. Students on the team were: **Heidi Dallman, Sam Barrett, Jordan Large, Grant Pieples** and **Allyson Croll**.

Jordan Large, Team 6-1, received "Honorable Mention" for an essay entitled "Special Little Boy" out of 900 students for the 2007 "I'm a Child of Appalachia" essay contest. She was one of 22 other finalists to receive this award. Way to write, Jordan!

Team 7-3 hosted an afternoon Caribbean Calypso Caper November 15. Students and guests celebrated a book, *The Cay* by Theodore Taylor, with research papers and student-created products. Team 7-3 families were invited to come and acknowledge student creativity, critical thinking and learning fun!

NJHS News

The National Junior Honor Society recently sponsored a "penny war" to benefit the YWCA Food Pantry. All 8th grade classes competed to collect the most money, in pennies. Mr. Davis' class won a pizza party! In total, the 8th grade students donated \$440 to the food bank from their penny war!