

THE GLEN ESTE GAZETTE

"Striving for Excellence"

January 2008

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

Dear Parents,

I hope everyone had a wonderful break and a happy New Year. In the next few weeks, we will be ready to kick off The Olweus Bullying Prevention Program with our students. All students will take part in an assembly to gain an understanding of the program and our expectations for them as students and participants in the program. Clearly defined consequences, both positive and negative, will be outlined for the students as well as the roles that each of us play in preventing bullying. I will be addressing the program to parents at the February PTO meeting and will be answering questions that anyone might have. Please make an effort to attend.

Much has gone into getting ready to implement the program and I'm excited that we are now at the point of including the students in the process. I'm confident that together we can make GEMS a safer, more inviting place for everyone.

Parent-Teacher Conferences
Thurs., Jan. 31 and Wed., Feb. 6
4:30-8:00 P.M.
(Conference Request Form Enclosed)

Parent-Teacher Conferences

Parent-teacher conferences will be held on Thursday, January 31 and on Wednesday, February 6 from 4:30-8:00 p.m. Enclosed is a conference request form. If you would like a conference with your child's teacher(s), please complete the enclosed form and return it to your child's first core teacher as soon as possible.

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!

November 2007

6-1 Morgan Warf	7-1 Amy Sears
6-2 Rachel Durst	7-2 Kyle Sand
6-3 Shea Caruso	7-3 Alex Gabriel
8-1 David Collins	
8-2 Abby Worden	
8-3 Geovanna Caballero	
Burton - John Tindall	

December 2007

6-1 Jesse Cupp	7-1 Angus MacLeod
6-2 Tyler Flanigan	7-2 Erin Hunley
6-3 Tylor Davis	7-3 Garrett Kandell
Heimann - Michelle Sunderman	
8-1 Morgan Woodring	
8-2 Calvin Holloway	
8-3 Alec Scardina	
Burton - Megan Reeves	

Important Dates

January

14 End 2nd Quarter
21 NO SCHOOL - Martin Luther King, Jr. Day
31 Parent-Teacher Conferences, 4:30-8:00 p.m.

February

6 Parent-Teacher Conferences, 4:30-8:00 p.m.
7 PTO Meeting, 6:30 p.m., Library
15 NO SCHOOL, Mid-Winter Break
18 NO SCHOOL, President's Day
22 7th/8th Grade Dance 7:00-9:00 p.m. MPR

Baby Pictures Needed

Baby pictures are needed for the 2007-08 yearbook. Pictures must be submitted to Mrs. Walls (room 339) by Friday, February 22. Photos cannot be returned. The person in the photo must be portrayed at 3" x 3" (or smaller). The person must be two years old or younger.

NO SCHOOL
MONDAY, JANUARY 21
Martin Luther King, Jr. Day

SPORTS NEWS

Winter sports is winding down. If you haven't been to any of the games yet, please try to come out and support the teams. Schedules can be found on the GEMS web site under Sports.

Basketball

Team standings as of January 7 are as follow:

7th Grade Boys 4-1

8th Grade Boys 2-3

7th Grade Girls 4-1

8th Grade Girls 4-1

Keep up the good work, athletes!

Wrestling

The wrestling Tri-Meet with Milford and New Richmond will be at home on January 10. The Coaches Classic will be on January 18 and 19 at Reading. The League meet will be on January 25 and 26 at Harrison.

Track

Track will begin on March 10. Ohio state law says that athletes must have a current physical on file with the Athletic Director before they may begin practice. School physical forms are available in the school office.

After-School Bowling

Information on the Cherry Grove Lanes Bowling Program will be sent home with students in the near future. The winter session will begin February 7, with registration ending February 4. Transportation from school to Cherry Grove Lanes will be provided by Pe-termann Bus Service. Cost is \$85.00 for the 10 week program. Don't miss out on the fun!

***Attention 7th Grade Parents
Coming Soon:
Washington, D. C. Info Meeting
(Date and Time To Be Announced)***

Team 8-2 News

On December 20, **Team 8-2** hosted a **Pick Our Brains** event. Students were assigned to create constitutions for their own country. Parents, family and staff were invited to pick their brains. Constitutions were signed and lots of questions were answered! Everyone had a great time while learning about constitutions at the same time!

Students Make Honor Band

Congratulations to **Katherine Casagrande** (flute), **Danielle Dunkman** (clarinet), **Erin Robinson** (tenor saxophone), **Marybeth Smith** (bass clarinet), **David Fehn** (baritone), **Peyton Hall** (baritone saxophone) and **Suzanne Schmitt** (trumpet) for making the Land of Grant Honor Band. The students will perform in a concert on January 20 in the Glen Este Performing Arts Center.

PTO NEWS

**Next PTO Meeting
Thursday, February 7
GEMS Library, 6:30 P.M.**

Presentation to Parents

Mr. Thacker will be presenting a 30 minute presentation to parents about the Olweus Bullying Prevention Program that he will soon be introducing to students and staff.

Email Addresses Requested

PTO is requesting email addresses of GEMS families so that a larger number of parents can be reached when information is sent. Please send your email address to awjones13@excite.com.

PTO Website

Be sure to check out the PTO website by going to www.westcler.org/gm and clicking on the PTO link! This is a quick and easy way to contact PTO with questions, concerns, or to sign up to volunteer!

Huge Success

The Jingle Bell Bash on December 21 was a huge success. The PTO would like to extend a special thanks to everyone who helped make this such a great event for the students.

Upcoming Volunteer Opportunities

** Desserts are needed for Parent-Teacher Conferences on Thursday, January 31 and Wednesday, February 6. Desserts can be dropped off in the office by noon on these dates.

** Help with ticket sales for the 7th/8th grade dance. Tickets will be on sale February 19, 20, 21 and 22 during lunch times.

** Chaperones are needed for the 7th/8th dance on February 22.

Volunteers can contact PTO at PTO-board@gems-pto.org.

Upcoming Events

January 21 - NO SCHOOL, MLK, Jr. Day

January 31 - Evening Parent-Teacher Conferences

February 6 - Evening Parent-Teacher Conferences

February 7 - PTO Meeting

February 15 & 18 - NO SCHOOL, Winter Break

Student Council Helps Community

The student council at GEMS has been busy working on community service projects. During November hundreds of containers of soup, tuna, chicken and peanut butter were collected for the YWCA Food Pantry in Batavia. In December, student council sponsored their second "Winter Wishes" campaign. Donations were collected for the Ruth Lyons Children's Fund and for GEMS students in need. Seven GEMS students received gifts for the holidays. **Team 6-1** and **Team 7-2** donated the most money. Those teams will receive a pizza party sponsored by the PTO for their extra effort. By working on these community projects, the students and staff have learned about giving back to the community that supports them!

***Yearbook Sale Ends February 1
Cost: \$30.00
Checks Payable to GEMS***