

December 5, 2003

Dear Glenridge Parents and Students:

Great to See You At Parent/ Teacher Conferences



It was nice to see so many parents during conferences. We realize that many of you had to make adjustments to your busy schedules to attend conferences, and we appreciate your participation. It is encouraging to know that we share the feeling of how very important it is that we work together in the education process. Conferences allow parents and teachers time to discuss their student's academic and social progress, and to plan how best to support each child's achievement. If you were unable to attend conferences or didn't have enough time to discuss everything that you wanted to cover, please feel free to contact your child's teacher to set up an appointment before or after school, or to schedule a telephone conference if you are unable to come to Glenridge. We very much appreciate the time you take to call and set up an appointment.

Santa Breakfast- TOMORROW – December 6 – 9:00 – 11:00 a.m.!



I hope you can join me at the Santa Breakfast tomorrow morning. Our wonderful Glenridge PTSA hosts this fun and festive event. Come and watch me and other staff members flip pancakes while you enjoy a hearty breakfast and get pictures taken with Santa for \$2.00 each. Santa arrives at 9:30 a.m. The menu includes pancakes, sausage, orange drink and coffee at a cost of: Adults – \$3.50; Children under 12 – \$2.00; Families of 4 or more – \$10.00.

Food and Toy Drive – December 1 – 15



Our annual Student Council food and new toy drive is underway through Monday, December 15. This is a wonderful opportunity to help those in need, especially during the holidays. Students are encouraged to bring non-perishable food or an unwrapped new toy and place it under the tree in the central classroom "hub."

Food Items: must be non-perishable (canned or dried – not frozen), must be in original containers with original label; **no glass jars; no home-canned foods.** Other items to consider: paper towels, toilet paper, Kleenex, soaps, shampoo, toothpaste, etc.



Toys: **must be new** and in original packaging and **unwrapped.**

Student Council is sponsoring classroom competitions for the most food/toys brought. Our council representatives will each be assigned a classroom to track. All donations must be turned in by 4:00 p.m. on Monday, December 15 to be considered in the competition count. Classroom winners will be announced on Friday, December 19, with each student in the winning classroom receiving a small prize.

Accelerated Reader *Pumpkin Patch*



The Accelerated Reader (AR) *Pumpkin Patch* has been growing since the beginning of October. Each time a student took an AR quiz at their level and passed, they added a pumpkin with their name on it to the *patch*. It was fun to watch the *patch*, which was located outside the library, fill up with pumpkins—622 of them! On November 25, the *patch* was harvested and 12 lucky pumpkins were randomly drawn. The Accelerated Reader *Pumpkin Patch* winners are: Emmitt Medina (Boleyn), Annika Mayes (Hanson), Peter Eang (Leighton), Marisa Payton (McMahon), Christina Orcutt (Ives),

Gabriela Carrillo (DeBock), Erin Sullivan (Watson/Foss), Jyoti Minhas (Rodriguez), Troy Bunker (Norton), Brianna Bachman (Whitten), Alex Yi (Whitten), and Marianna Marko (Hagerman).

Each winner chose a new book from the “Library Prize Book Box.” Congratulations to these students and all students with pumpkins in the *patch* because **all** readers are winners! Watch for the Accelerated Reader *Snowstorm* on the horizon . . .details to follow in January!

Orchestra Open House



Come and enjoy a fun evening of music with your orchestra student! Orchestra Open House is on Tuesday, December 9 in the multipurpose room from 6:30 – 7:30 p.m. Mrs. Marshall, the orchestra teacher, will go over orchestra expectations and the curriculum to be covered during the year. Students will present a short musical program to display their newly acquired skills. They will play songs from their budding repertoire and model good playing habits. Refreshments and a time to meet one another will follow. Students should arrive to begin tuning instruments promptly at 6:15 p.m.

Glenridge Choir Performs



Mrs. Geffrey, our music teacher, graciously donates her time on Thursday mornings before school to organize our wonderful Voyager Choir (grades 4, 5, and 6). Students have been practicing diligently to get ready for several upcoming performances.

Performance dates are as follows:

- Thursday, December 4 Reflections Tea 7:00 p.m.
- Saturday, December 6 Santa Breakfast 9:00 – 11:00 a.m.
- Friday, December 11 Renton Sr. Center 11:30 – 12:15 p.m.
- Thursday, December 16 Terrific Tuesday Assembly 2:15 p.m.

We appreciate the parents who help support Mrs. Geffrey by organizing choir shirt orders and driving students to performances away from Glenridge.

Sports Day at Glenridge – December 16!



Students: who is your favorite sports team? Are you a fan of the Mariners, Seahawks, Cougars, Huskies, Storm, Sonics, Sounders, or one of those other teams that do not make their “home” in the Seattle area, like the Nebraska Corn Huskers? It might even be a team on which you play or even your older brother or sister – like the Kentridge Chargers! It’s time to dress up as your favorite sports icon or sport your favorite team’s colors by wearing a t-shirt, jersey, sweatshirt, and/or even a hat! **Hats may be worn at recess only! Remember:** your clothing must still meet dress code regulations with no inappropriate graphics, pictures, or printed messages that may be offensive to others.

Annual Performance Report



Every school in the Kent School District prepares an annual performance report which summarizes the school’s programs, demographics, assessment results, and plans for improvement. Glenridge’s Annual Performance Report is attached, which reflects assessment data from last year. I hope you will take time to review and familiarize yourself with the information in this report.

Glenridge Website



Check out the Glenridge website. There are lots of links to various Glenridge activities, events and other newsworthy items, such as the current school newsletter, past newsletters, classroom activities, and curriculum information.

You can even check on-line to see what Accelerated Reader quizzes we have available. If you would like to suggest something to be added to the website, contact Beth Sommerville via the link to her email at the bottom of our homepage. The web address is: <http://www.kent.k12.wa.us/KSD/GR/index.html>.

Games for Teachers / Games for Gifts!



Games are wonderful for their entertainment value, for opportunities to teach and learn, and as a way for families to connect with each other. The gift-giving season is approaching. You might want to consider a game as a gift for your children, family, and even for teachers. Teachers are always in need of games for *rainy day* recesses and classroom activities. The following list includes games that involve one of the seven intelligences and

can be played by children and adults of all ages in a relatively short period of time. You could also check with your child's teacher to see which games they would really like to add to their "game library."

Logical Mathematical: Aggravation, Battleship, Clue, Cribbage, Dominoes, Elemento, Guess Who, Mancala, Mastermind, Mind Trap, Othello, Parcheesi, Rummikub, Skipbo, Sneaky Squares, Sorry, Talking Battleship, Triominoes, Uno, and Yahtzee. Other ideas: playing cards – 10 decks with large faces, Amazon Trail (software), Oregon Trail (software), and The Age of Exploration (software).

Linguistic: Blast, Boggle Junior, Hangman, Life, Scattergories, Scrabble, Take-Off, Trivial Pursuit – Jr., Upwords, and Word Yahtzee.

Kinesthetic: Bottle Tops, Jenga, Kapla, Operation, Perfection, Pick-Up Sticks, Simon, Tangoes, Thin Ice, and Tiddly Winks.

Spatial: Backgammon, Candyland, Checkers, Chess, Chinese Checkers, Connect Four X2, Foam puzzles, Izzi, Mexican Artist playing cards, Rainforest puzzles.

For online reviews of educational board games, visit the Family Education Network at <http://familyeducation.com/whatworks/item/more-nogroup/0,3482,1-10449-AN-2,00.html>.

Math Handbook



During conferences, a sample of the *Everyday Math Handbook for Parents* was available for parents to look at and sign up for if you were interested in purchasing one for the cost of printing at \$2.55. If you signed up for a book and left payment at your child's conference, you should have received your copy by this week's Friday Flier.

If you signed up but did not leave the payment and you still want a book, please send the \$2.55 payment to the school office in an envelope marked Math Handbook with the following information: *date, parent name, student name, teacher name, and phone number*. We will send the handbook home with your student in their next Friday Flier envelope.

Bike Helmets



On the first Monday of each month, Valley Medical Center offers bicycle helmet fittings. The cost for the fitting and the helmet is \$5.00. Anyone one year and older may come to the Valley Medical Center main campus from 3:00 to 7:00 p.m. The person who will be wearing the helmet **must** attend the fitting. What a GREAT deal!

Tip of the Week – How Does Your Child Learn Best?



Just like adults, children respond differently in different learning situations. What type of reader is your child?

- **Auditory learners** enjoy books on tape. This type of learner learns best from listening to books as they are read.
- A **visual learner** may recognize words by sight. Pointing to words as they are read helps this type of learner.
- **Kinesthetic learners** love an activity that combines physical activity with reading.
- A **tactile learner** needs hands-on experience. Writing new words with a variety of writing instruments, or playing board games are helpful activities.

Remember these different learning styles as you observe your child. Match activities with your child's style to help develop a love of reading.

(Source: "Claudia Jones, *More Parents are Teachers, Too*. 1990, Williamson)

Calendar Reminders



December 1 – 15

Saturday, December 6

Saturday, December 6

Monday, December 8

Tuesday, December 9

Thursday, December 11

Friday, December 12

Monday, December 15

Tuesday, December 16

Friday, December 19

December 22 – January 2

January 5, 2004

January 5

Food/Toy Drive sponsored by Student Council (see article)

Santa Breakfast @ Glenridge – 9:00 – 11:00 a.m.

Volleyball Team Tournament – 11:00 a.m. – Kentlake High

TPAC Meeting – 4:30 p.m. – Library

Orchestra Open House – 6:30 p.m. – Multipurpose Room

Voyager Choir @ Renton Sr. Center – 11:00 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.

Parents Night Out sponsored by Champions Child Care –
6:30 – 10:30 p.m. – MP Room (Questions? – 253-520-0688)

Band/Orchestra Concert – 9:30 – 10:15 a.m.

Sports Day @ Glenridge (see article)

Last Day of School Before Winter Break!

NO SCHOOL – Winter Break

School Begins After Winter Break – All Grades @ Regular Times

TPAC Meeting – 4:30 p.m. – Library

Sincerely,

Scott Abernathy
Principal