

## Week of February 8 – February 12, 2010

### Mon., Feb. 8

8:00 am Chorus Rehearsal – Part 1  
3:15 Student Council – 5A  
3:15 – 5:00 pm Aladdin Play Rehearsal (full cast)

### Tues., Feb. 9

7:45 am Adv. Orchestra (Gr 5 **only**) - Gym  
3:15 – 5:00 pm Aladdin Play Rehearsal (small groups)

### Weds., Feb. 10

#### 100<sup>th</sup> DAY OF SCHOOL

8:00 am WordMasters Challenge -Cafe  
8:00 am Chorus Rehearsal – Part 2  
8:30 am Fluoride Rinse – Grades 1-5  
9:00 – 10:15 am KMO 100<sup>th</sup> Day Celebration  
11:00 – 12:00 KK 100<sup>th</sup> Day Celebration  
12:00 – 1:00 KG 100<sup>th</sup> Day Celebration

### Thurs., Feb. 11

8:00 am Riverside Reporters  
3:15 – 4:00 pm ESOL "Sayonara" Party - Cafe

### Fri., Feb. 12

#### RED SHIRT DAY

7:45 am Adv. Band Rehearsal – Gym

## Week of February 15 – 19 SCHOOLS CLOSED – WINTER RECESS

## Week of February 22 – February 26, 2010

### Mon., Feb. 22

8:00 am Chorus Rehearsal – Part 1  
3:15 – 5:00 pm Aladdin Play Rehearsal (full cast)

### Tues., Feb. 23

#### CONNECTICUT BALLET VISITS thru March 1

7:45 am Adv. Orchestra (Gr 5 **only**) – Gym  
Connecticut Ballet Performance  
3:15 – 5:00 pm Aladdin Play Rehearsal (small groups)

### Weds., Feb. 24

8:00 am Chorus Rehearsal – Part 2  
8:30 am Fluoride Rinse – Grades 1-5  
11:00 am – 2:00 pm Riverside Rhythms - Cafe

### Thurs., Feb. 25

8:00 am Riverside Reporters  
2:30 – 3:00 pm KMO Writing Celebration  
7:00 pm BOE Meeting – Central Middle School

### Fri., Feb. 26

7:45 am Adv. Band Rehearsal – Gym  
3:15 pm Girl Scouts (gr 4) Meeting - Cafe

## From The Front Office

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In addition to the "WordMasters II" article (below), this week's "From the Front Office" will also feature an article regarding the SAT test results, which can be found on page 2.

### WORDMASTERS II

The second WordMasters Competition will take place on Wednesday, February 10<sup>th</sup> at 8:00 am in the Café. Sign in begins at 7:45. As we did with the first competition, general education students, grades 3, 4 & 5, are invited to this voluntary event before school. Students in ALP will take the exam as part of their regular class activity as WordMasters is part of the ALP curriculum.

Please look for a permission slip coming home today. If you wish to have your child participate, please sign and return the form by Wednesday, February 10<sup>th</sup>.

This event is open to all students in grades 3, 4, & 5, even if they did not take part in the first competition.



Look for the student science fair packet coming home with your child today! Visit the Explorations in Science (Science Fair link) on the school's homepage for information, forms, the student packet, great project ideas and resources.

### SAVE THE DATE ....

Family Fun Night  
Pizza Bingo  
Friday, March 19<sup>th</sup>

If you would like to donate a "Basket of Fun", please contact Cynthia Nelli.

**ALL GRADE 5 PARENTS ...**

Thursday, February 11, 2010  
Town Hall Meeting Room  
9:30 – 11:30 am

**Topic:** The Middle School Math Program for Incoming 6<sup>th</sup> Graders

**Presenters:** Truxtun Southworth, Math Coordinator, GPS  
Barbara Collins, Math Administrator, GHS  
Jessica Baker, 5<sup>th</sup> Grade ALP Math Teacher  
North Street Elementary School

**Sponsored by:** Advanced Learning Program  
Patricia B. Stafford, Coordinator

**CHILD CHECK REMINDER**

We take the issue of safety for your child(ren) very seriously and it is important that we account for each child who is absent. Therefore, it is imperative that you call Child Check EACH day your child is absent or late. If you anticipate that your child will be absent for multiple days, you can report the length of the absence in one message. Also, when following upon on student absences, it has again been brought to our attention that parents are reporting their child's absence to the teacher. While this is acceptable, it is the parents (not the teachers) responsibility to also call/contact the Main Office.

**CAFETERIA REQUEST**

If your child has extra sidewalk chalk, please consider donating it to the cafeteria.

**“THE STANFORD ACHIEVEMENT TEST (SAT)”  
FOR YOUR INFORMATION**

The SAT is a series of tests in various disciplines. The tests measure what a student has learned in their time in school.

The **Total Reading** section includes subtests in Word Study Skills, Reading Vocabulary & Reading Comprehension.

**Total Mathematics** includes Problem Solving & Math Procedures tests.

In addition, there are Spelling and Language tests.

For the first time, the district subscribed to an abbreviated version and tested students in grade 3. In previous years, the test was given in grade 3 & 5. This version of the test contained fewer test items and the student profile did not come with Content Cluster information (a breakdown of student performance in each category).

How to read your child's report:

**Nat'l PR-S:** National percentile rank and stanine. Percentile ranks represent a nationwide grouping of students into ranks from one (the lowest) to 99 (the highest), the 50<sup>th</sup> percentile being average. Stanines represent a nationwide grouping into nine groups from one (the lowest) to nine (the highest), 4<sup>th</sup> through 6<sup>th</sup> being average.

**AAC Range:** Students took the Otis-Lennon School Ability Test along with the Stanford Achievement Test. **AAC means Ability-Achievement Comparison.** If “Middle” is written in, this means that the student's ability (capacity for learning) and achievement (what has been learned) are about the same in the sub-test indicated. In other words, the student is working up to his or her level of ability. If “High” is written in, this means that, in the sub-test indicated, the student's achievement is actually above what would be expected. If “Low” is written in, this means that, in the sub-test indicated, the student's achievement is not as high as may be expected.

As you know, along with Stanford Achievement Test, Greenwich administers the Otis-Lennon School Ability Test at grade 3. The Otis-Lennon School Ability Test (OLSAT) is a general academic ability indicator, which is not content-specific. The score projects how well the child **is able to** learn (or his/her capability). The Stanford Achievement Test indicates what he or she **has learned**. In addition to percentile and stanine scores on the OLSAT, the student also receives an **SAI** score. This stands for **School Ability Index** and is similar to what used to be called an IQ score. The average **SAI** (School Ability Index) is 100.

NOTE: Please keep in mind that achievement and school ability tests are only one measure of a student's academic progress. Class grades, general alertness and response, and personal observation by parents and teachers are also valid indicators of learning ability and academic achievement. Please keep standardized test scores in their proper perspective. They do give an indication of how well a child is doing, but they are **not the final and only measurement of academic ability and/or achievement**.

Any questions? Please do not hesitate to contact your child's teacher.