

General Wolfe Community News

General Wolfe Elementary School

Education with Intelligence and Integrity

245 S. Wolfe St., Baltimore, Maryland 21231

Mark Gaither, Principal

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March 2007

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Important Dates

- Monday, March 12:
Staff Meeting 3-4pm
- Tuesday, March 13 -
Friday, March 23:
MSA Testing grades 3,4 & 5
*All students must attend
every day!*
- Saturday, March 17:
Open House for prospective students,
10am-12pm.

After School Program goes to the circus.
Meet at the school at 2:30pm
- Thursday, March 29th, 5pm
Boost After-School Program
Family Night.

Congratulations Chess Team!

“The Generals” are proud to announce that we have received a trophy for 1st place at a chess tournament on February 3, 2007. On March 3rd we sent a team of four players (Noe V., Leonel S., Fabian A. and Kelvin A.) to the Maryland State Championship where we won a trophy for seventh place in the Primary K-3 Section! We are looking for any and all individuals who can play chess, to come challenge our members to a game.

-Ms. Hanford-Nobles, Chess Team Coach



3rd graders Tykeirra, Aneeza & Leonel

From the Principal's Desk...

Each year in March every school in the state of Maryland and many schools throughout the United States take very important tests. These tests are used to judge how well a school is doing in its job of educating children. During the weeks of March 12th and March 19th every 3rd, 4th and 5th grade student at General Wolfe will be taking the Maryland State Assessment (MSA). It is very important that every student arrives at school on time, with a good breakfast, and ready to put their full effort into showing what they know on the MSA. Last year we achieved 100% attendance every test day. And after the tests were scored we met every goal that the state and the district set for us. We need to do this again this year. Please follow the “Tips for Success” mentioned below:

1. Every student needs a good night's rest
 2. Every student needs to eat a good breakfast - 7:35 at school if necessary
 3. Every student needs to be in school by 7:55
- Every student needs to show what they know and not give up

The Teachers Tell You...

Pre-K: Ms. Poyer's Class

Pre-K is exploring vehicles. We are looking at what drives on the road, in the sky and on the water. We celebrated pajama day on February 28. We had hot chocolate and cuddled up with some bedtime stories.

Kindergarten: Ms. Commin's & Ms. Sneeringer's Classes

The kindergarten students are working very hard on their reading skills. They know all the sounds of the alphabet and they can put the sounds together to make words. Then, they put the words together to make a sentence. The sentences make up a story!

In math the kindergarten is having fun learning the seven days of the week and the twelve months of the year. Also, each student made a snowman "coin bank" to put coins into as they are learning to identify and count money.

The science project for February consisted of making a small snowman and predicting what would happen to it if we brought it inside. All of the students were able to predict that the snowman would melt because it was warmer inside than outside.

1st Grade: Ms. Shock's Class

The first grade has been working very hard in all subjects. The Explorers reading group are about to finish the first book in Reading Mastery Plus and are very excited about their new books. The Mermaid Power Rangers are fast tracking their way through the Reading Mastery Plus 2 and making great gains. The class also took a field trip to the Aquarium where about various animals and habitats. The experience was fun and educational for everyone!

2nd Grade: Ms. Hanford-Nobles' Class

We are rapidly approaching the Stanford 10 test in April 2007. I am asking that parents and guardians work with their children on the following skills: recognizing and adding money; simple multiplication; subtraction and addition, with and without regrouping; telling time. At the beginning of the new year each student set an individual goal in regards to how many minutes a day they plan to read. Please inquire and monitor your child's progress.

Art Program: Mr. Sferlazza:

"Masterpiece Puzzles" was the focal point of the art show this year at the Upper Fells Point Corner Theater. The pieces were created by the 4th and 5th grade students. As we head into the second part of the year, we hope to create more masterpieces to display. Students are currently working on paper-mache masks and group projects based on the glass sculptor, Dale Chihuly.



3rd Grade: Ms. Davin

The third graders at General Wolfe are meeting the challenge of taking the Maryland State Assessment (MSA) for the first time. Students have been preparing by attending a weekly Math Bowl at the nearby William Paca Elementary School. Here they get the opportunity to compete with other third graders from Baltimore City schools on several types of questions that they will also face on the MSA. The reading group in Ms. Davin's room is currently on Lesson 85 in Reading Mastery Plus 3 and plans to reach lesson 145 by the end of the school year. The language group is on Lesson 75 in Reasoning and Writing C which will be completed at lesson 110. The second and third graders will be taking a trip to UNO's Chicago Grill at the inner harbor and the Maryland Science Center on March 27th. Here they will have an opportunity to get a tour of how the pizza is made in the large ovens and tour the science center to have hands-on experience with science.

4th Grade: Ms. Apple's Class

Fourth Grade has been hard at work preparing for the upcoming MSA tests. We are currently reading about scuba diving, coral, and overcoming fears. We have also learned to define and build words using prefixes and suffixes. We can recognize and write haiku and diamante poems as well as traditional poems with rhyming couplets. In math, we are learning basic algebra including function tables, expressions, and writing inequalities as well as identifying three dimensional geometric shapes and identifying transformations and types of angles.

5th Grade: Ms. Frias' & Ms. Smith's Class

Fifth grade has been working hard to improve our reading and math skills for the upcoming MSA. In reading, we have been working hard to identify the tone and of a passage and identify the author's purpose for writing a text. In math, we have been working on algebra skills such as representing fractions and decimals on number lines and solving for variables.

Ms. Donnelly's Class

Ms. Donnelly's primary special education students have been working very hard. In Science we have been learning about dental health. We have learned how to take care of our teeth by practicing brushing techniques and discussing visiting the Dentist. February is Dental Health Month.

YMCA Boost After-School Program: Rhonda Barnes, Site Director

BOOST participants will have a busy March filled with new activities and experiences to share. Grades K-2 travel to Port Discovery each Tuesday while grades 3-5 have the option of going to the Patterson Park Recreation Center or they may choose an art class with Clayworks on Fridays. ***Saturday March 17th at 3:30 pm after-school students will enter the world of fantasy and fun with the Ringling Brothers, Barnum and Bailey Circus at the Mariner Arena; transportation will be provided by the YMCA.*** Please see the calendar for upcoming events. Hope to see you at family night on March 29th at 5pm!



Esmeralda sings a nursery rhyme

Your General Wolfe Elementary Community School

What does it mean that General Wolfe is a Community School? The community schools approach means first-class instruction, supports to remove barriers to learning, and meaningful family and community involvement. Carefully chosen and monitored partnerships help create the conditions for successful learning for every child—before, during and after the academic day. These partnerships also address the health and social areas that affect children , their families and neighbors.

This year, we have developed partnerships with service providers and volunteers who bring new opportunities to our students and the important people in their lives. Here are examples of recent community school activities:

English Classes for Adults

Offered at General Wolfe in the mornings and evenings by Baltimore City Community College, these classes serve approximately 60 adults.

Mother Goose on the Loose/ Buena Casa, Buena Brasa

An hour of bilingual nursery rhymes, stories and games for children three and under and their caregivers. This program was offered at General Wolfe in December and January by the Maryland Committee for Children and the Enoch Pratt Free Library. Look out for more programs that help get little ones ready for school!

Patterson Park Recreation Center

The students in the YMCA Boost After-School Program are going to the Patterson Park Recreation center for gym classes and the chance to run around and shoot some hoops!

A warm thank you to all of our community partners...

Upper Fells Point Improvement Association	Adelante Familia
YMCA of Central Maryland	CASA de Maryland
Johns Hopkins East Side Mental Health Partnership	Beth Tfiloh School
1st Mariner Bank	The Julie Community Center
Baltimore City Community College	Patterson Park Recreation Center
Maryland Committee for Children	Baltimore Curriculum Project
Johns Hopkins Medical Students	Clayworks
	Port Discovery