

November 2014

Elementary Edition



Parent - Teacher Conferences

Elementary School Parent-Teacher Conferences will be held on Monday, November 3rd this year. The conferences provide an opportunity for parents and teachers to discuss children's progress. First quarter progress reports will be handed out at your conference.

On November 3rd the Elementary School students will **NOT** attend school so parents can have conferences. *Pupils in Grades 7-12 will attend for a full day.*

These face-to-face meetings between parents and teachers do much to improve the communication between the home and the school. Both parents and teachers report that these initial meetings help in establishing trust and facilitating communication throughout the school year.

Parents will be contacted by their child's classroom teacher the first week of November confirming conference schedules. Parents who do not receive invitations to Parent/Teacher conferences should contact the child's teacher.

IMPORTANT DATES

- * 11/3 - NO SCHOOL - Grades K-6 Parent Teacher Conference Day
- * 11/7 - School Spirit Day - Cowboy/Cowgirl Day
- * 11/11 - Veteran's Day - NO SCHOOL
- * 11/13 - PTSA Meeting - 6:00 p.m. Primary Library
- * 11/14 - PTSA Movie Night - 6:30 p.m. - Muppets Most Wanted - HS Auditorium
- * 11/14 - PTSA Hats On Day
- * 11/17 - BOE Meeting - 7:00 p.m. High School Media Center
- * 11/21 - Morning Program - 8:30 a.m. Primary Cafeteria
- * 11/26 to 11/28 - Thanksgiving Recess - NO SCHOOL



PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

It's amazing how quickly the year is going! We were pleased to see so many parents at our AIS Parent Night. Our AIS providers shared information about their program and displayed resources the students use when working with them. It was an informative night!

November is upon us which also means Supplementals and Parent/Teacher Conferences. Our Supplementals will be distributed at conferences this year. Our conference day will take place Monday, November 3rd. There is no school for students on this day.

The New York State Education Department requires all school districts to hold an annual "Go Home Early" drill to ensure that students and staff are prepared in case an emergency ever requires school grounds to be cleared and students to be transported home or to another location. The Greenwich Central School District will conduct this drill on Friday, November 7, 2014. On that day, all students, K-12, will be dismissed 15 minutes earlier than normal dismissal time. We use normal dismissal plans, unless a note has been sent in indicated a change of plans for that day. **Emergency plans will not be followed.** Please plan accordingly as students will then also be arriving home approximately 15 minutes earlier than normal. For more information on the drill, please contact the main office.

We are in the process of planning our first Math Parent Night of this school year. Surveys for parents in our Primary grades will be distributed during Parent/Teacher Conference Day which will assist us in setting up purposeful dialogue on what you are interested in hearing more about. Our MG students will be completing the survey themselves which will give us information on topics and areas they think are challenging and may require assistance when completing homework. We look forward to having you attend this informational session.

Risa M. Palmer

PTSA NEWS

The Greenwich PTSA will be holding its annual "PTSA Hats On Day" to benefit Operation Santa. On November 14, 2014, students who donate a monetary donation in Grades K-6 are allowed to wear a hat all day in school! All money raised will help with this year's Operation Santa.

On November 14, 2014, @ 6:30 p.m. the PTSA will hold its first movie night of the year. The movie showing will be *Muppets Most Wanted*. Admission to the movie is either a monetary donation to benefit the Greenwich Backpack Program or a roll of Christmas wrapping paper for Operation Santa and Operation Rudolph. The movie will be shown in the HS Auditorium. Come and enjoy a fun night at the movies! The movie will be raffled off at the end of the night to one lucky student.

We would like to thank everyone who participated in our Fall Fundraiser. This year was a great success. The money raised will go to such things as cultural arts for K-6, classroom re-stock, scholarships and awards. Thank you all for your generosity.

Please try to attend at least one PTSA meeting this year. They are held the second Thursday of the month at 6:00 p.m. in the Primary Library Science Room. This month's meeting will be on November 13, 2014.

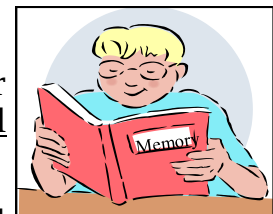


COOLER DAYS = WARMER CLOTHING

As we look forward to welcoming November with the cool crisp autumn days, please keep in mind that our students will be going outside as scheduled to enjoy the fresh air and exercise. Warm coats, hats and mittens or gloves may be required for your child to participate in outdoor activities. Please send with them appropriate cold weather clothing. The Health Office is glad to help out occasionally, but because our supplies are limited, we may not be able to provide enough warm clothing for every student on that day. If you happen to have any gently used cold weather apparel you would like to donate to the Health Office, it would be greatly appreciated. So Hooray for Autumn; Hooray for exercise; and Hooray for Healthy Children!!!

K-6 MEMORY BOOKS 2014/2015 ON SALE NOW

The K-6 Memory Books are on sale now through December 16th for \$12.00. Checks should be made payable to: Greenwich Central School.



This is a book that is created throughout the school year and will be completed for distribution during June 2015. It is created for our students and their families. The book will include individual student photos, class photos, photos of school and class activities, as well as many candid shots of the K-6 students. Should you have any questions, please call at 692-9542 ext. 6200.

MUSIC DEPARTMENT NEWS

Do you have a spare guitar or keyboard collecting dust? **The GCS Music Department** is looking for donations of keyboards and guitars for our sixth grade students. If you have an instrument to donate or loan out from December through March, please contact [Mr. Califano](mailto:Mr.Califano). The instruments don't have to be perfect, but they do need to be functional and playable. The school can replace broken strings, and we will accept electric or acoustic guitars. Keyboards with full-size keys and a power adapter rather than batteries would be preferred.

We think this will be a very exciting and motivating musical experience for our students and we appreciate anything that you can provide. Please e-mail Mr. Califano at acalifano@greenwichcsd.org if you have any questions or are able to provide an instrument.

Greenwich Elementary Kindness and Compassion Club Hosts New Student Reception

The Greenwich Elementary Kindness and Compassion Club, under the guidance of KC advisors, Ms. Estramonte, Mr. Shontz, and Mrs. Hewitt, hosted a student reception for new students in grades 1-6. The reception began with a welcoming message for the newest members of our elementary community. Students enjoyed lively conversation with elementary teachers as they decorated pumpkins and were treated to apple cider and cider donuts. Each student left the reception with their decorated pumpkin, a homemade, and a Greenwich backpack. A good time was had by all in attendance. The Mission of the Greenwich Elementary School Kindness and Compassion Club is to foster a strong sense of community among our elementary students, faculty, and staff through the implementation of meaningful, hands-on, locally driven service projects. We thank the Ziehm family for donating pumpkins for our New Student Reception.



Area Fire Departments Visit Greenwich Elementary During Fire Prevention Week

During Fire Prevention week in October, dedicated members of the Greenwich, Middle Falls, and Cossayuna Fire Departments visited the Greenwich Elementary School to teach students the importance of fire safety.

Accompanying firefighters to the primary to discuss fire safety and answer student questions were Ranger Bodnar and Smokey the Bear. K-2 students received fire helmets, pencils and fire safety coloring books. Grade 3 and 4 students entered the Fire Prevention bus where they identified fire hazards found throughout the home and practiced how to exit a smoked filled bedroom safely through a window. Fire fighters visited the classrooms of 5th and 6th graders to discuss fire safety, teach students about fire apparatus, and answer student questions.





"OPERATION SANTA CLAUS"

Greenwich Central School
10 Gray Avenue,
Greenwich, NY 12834

November 1, 2014

Dear Friends,

Greenwich Elementary School is once again participating in "Operation Santa Claus". This is a program that provides an outfit and food basket for **needy** children at Christmas. In order to be eligible for this program, you and your children must be residents of the Greenwich Central School District. If you wish to participate, please list all children in grades K-6. Please return this form to the school by Friday, November 21, 2014.

SIZE

CHILD	AGE	GRADE LEVEL	BLOUSE/ SHIRT SIZE	PANTS	COLOR

Necessary Info: * Cannot process request without this information *

Family Name: _____ Phone Number: _____

Address: _____

Number of Adults In Home: _____ Number of Children In Home: _____

Have you applied for help from any other organizations (such as Salvation Army, Marine Corps, Adopt-A-Family, etc.)? Yes _____ No _____

I certify that the above information is true. I also certify that I will not apply to any other agency which would duplicate this particular service.

Signed: _____ Date: _____