



Opportunities for Our Students

There are still a few slots left in the After-school Art Class, which will take place at our school on Wednesdays, 3:30-4:30pm, starting January 20, 2010.

The class is open to grades K-6, and the 6-week session costs \$35. Additional registration forms are available both at the Greenbelt Community Center main office, and at school, in the basket on the table in the entrance. Completed forms and payment should be returned to the Community Center by Wednesday, January 13, 2010.

*****CORRECTION***CORRECTION*****

STEM Fair projects are due on Thursday, January 14, 2010. The STEM Fair will be held on Thursday, January 21, 2010.



Just a reminder that on Tuesday, January 12, 2010, the Instrumental Music Program, under the direction of Mrs. Darelynn Fung, will put on a concert beginning at 7:00 p.m. It will be a great opportunity for you to come and see what musical ensembles are available to your child beginning in fourth grade! Good luck everyone!

Greenbelt Elementary would like to thank Mr. Robert Kim and the Greenbelt Rotary Club for their very generous support of our P.B.I.S. program. Not only has he donated Maryland Terrapin basketball tickets for our school store, but paid for all of the pizzas for our PBIS pizza party! These pizzas were provided by the Three Brothers of Greenbelt. Many thanks to them as well!

Pause with Ms. Seidel

Congratulations to Beth Novick and Lisa Mackey-Hazel for achieving National Certification this year! This process, which takes one to three years, is reflective on the teaching process and encourages teachers to meet national standards for their subject area. Having gone through the process myself, I know how much additional work these teachers have put in.

Good luck to students in the Greenbelt Elementary School Chorus who will be attending the County Choral Festival, WinterFest, on Wednesday of this week. I look forward to hearing about your experience! **Kimberly Seidel, Principal**

Calendar of Upcoming Events

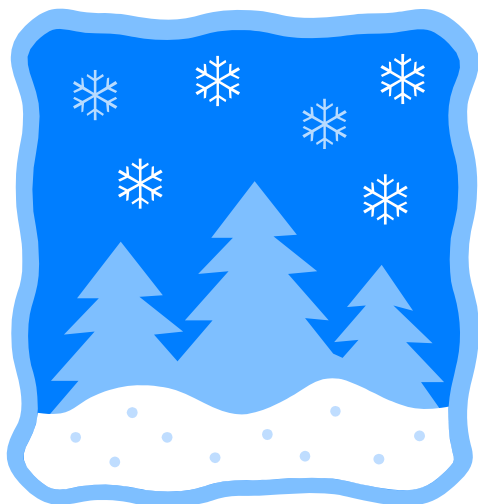
- January 12– Instrumental Music Concert– Students report at 6:30 p.m., concert begins at 7:00 p.m.
- January 13– GES Chorus trip to Bowie Center for the Performing Arts
- January 14– STEM Fair projects are due.
- January 15– Jersey Day– Wear a jersey of your favorite sports team.
- January 18– No School for students or teachers– Martin Luther King Day.
- January 21– STEM Fair
- January 26– No School for students– Grading Day for teachers.

MATH TIPS

Here are some ideas for how parents can help our students become proficient in Math at home.

1. Make math fun. Spend time with kids on simple board games, puzzles, and activities that encourage better attitudes and stronger math skills. Even everyday activities such as playing with toys in a sandbox or in a tub at bath time can teach children math concepts like weight, density, and volume. Check your television listings for shows that can reinforce math skills in a practical and fun way.
2. Mix in math. The kitchen is filled with tasty opportunities to teach fractional measurements, like doubling and dividing cookie recipes.
3. Use real world examples to teach math. Point out ways that people use math every day to pay bills, balance their checkbooks, figure out their net earnings, make change, and tip at restaurants. Involve older children in projects that incorporate geometric and algebraic concepts like planting a garden, building a bookshelf, or figuring how long it will take to drive to your family vacation destination.

We will publish some websites and more math tips in upcoming issues of the Gazette.



It's beginning to look a lot like...

a SNOW DAY!!

So how do you find out about school closings?

- Sign up for email notifications through www.schoolsout.com. The Superintendent generally makes decision concerning early morning school closings or delayed openings prior to 5 a.m.
- An announcement is then provided to 38 radio stations and eight (8) television stations in the Washington metropolitan area. The goal is to contact the stations in time for early morning broadcasts that begin between 5 and 6 a.m.
- After 6 a.m., staff and parents can also access the school system's Voice Mail Bulletin Board by calling 301-952-6000. Wait for the opening message, and then press the number 1.

This information may also be accessed on the school system's web page at www.pgcps.org and/or www.schools-out.com. When schools are closed early or all day, all evening activities are cancelled, and school buildings are not available for after-school activities by other private or public organizations.