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Follow us on Twitter <u>@GWES_PGCPS</u> Follow us on Instagram @glenarden_woods_es

Glenarden Woods ES

Principal's Message

February is rolling in with winter weather. Bundle up and enjoy the cold and hopefully a little snow! February is Black History Month. A time to remember the sacrifices and celebrate the accomplishments and important contributions of African Americans. As we remember, we are inspired and motivated by the courageous acts of those who have gone before us, as well as those who continue to contribute today.

It's hard to believe that half the school year is now over. What a great opportunity to do our best work in the second half of the year! Now is the time to set goals for the third quarter and beyond, and then make a plan to achieve those goals. The 2022 MCAP results were released on Friday. Once again we are the top performing school in PGCPS and one of the top performing schools in MD! Our journey of excellence continues! Working and learning like the champions that we are at Glenarden Woods! - All the best, Mr. B



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Specialized Instruction For Gifted Learners in TAG Centers

At Glenarden Woods TAG Center, our Gifted students are served throughout the school day with gifted peers in classrooms that engage in a range of literacy experiences as different content areas are addressed. Our teachers offer advanced skills in literacy and numeracy, often evidence of proficiency early in the school year or acquire these foundational skills at a pace that is faster than general education peers or even their gifted education peers. Appropriate grouping within the TAG classroom is recommended according to literacy and numeracy abilities. Our curriculum is qualitatively different from the curriculum offered to general education students according to the needs of students in terms of <u>rate of learning</u>, <u>depth of content</u>, <u>difficulty of products</u>, and <u>complexity of thinking processes</u>.

What We Do:

- Pre Assessment and ongoing assessment can help our teachers adjust instruction for a positive educational experience since the pace of instructional delivery should be consistent with the individual student's progress.
- Assessments are used to document academic growth and may include performance, products, and other tasks that are authentic to the domain.
- In the classroom, curricular modifications for gifted students include acceleration, enrichment, grouping, problem-based learning, curriculum compacting, tiered lessons, independent study, and the use of specific curriculum models.
- By engaging gifted individuals from diverse backgrounds in challenging curricula, our teachers recognize their students' abilities and potential, understand differing points of view and cultures, and reduce underachievement. Working in a full classroom with other gifted students can yield academic benefits as well as enhance self-confidence and communication skills.

At our TAG Center, we work to provide your gifted children with unique and specialized instruction. Our highly trained teachers take part in Talented and Gifted professional development to stay abreast of the newest best practices. We hope you feel confident in the choice you have made in choosing a TAG Center for your child. For specific content questions, feel free to reach out to your child's teacher.

On Thursday, February 9th we are hosting a Virtual TAG Center Parent Information night for families that have applied to the lottery and are interesting in learning more about our program. Please spread the good word and share this flyer...<u>TAG Center Program GWES 2023.pdf</u>

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GWES

Proud

Tech Tigers Updates

We need your help in making sure students bring their Chromebook, charger and headphones to school for Access 2.0, I-Ready, Dibels and Benchmark Testing that are being administered during the next few weeks. In addition to testing, students use the devices as an educational resource, as well as for differentiated instruction directions and activities.

Please remind your child(ren) to put their charged Chromebook, charger, and headphones in their backpack before they go to bed each night and place it by the door so that they don't forget it!

The county assigned students passwords have begun to expire, and we are in full swing with resetting safe and secure passwords for your student.

💓 Thank you so much for your support! 💓 🔨

In celebration of Black History Month, we will be focusing on the power of your voice. Words can make a great impact. It is important to teach our students how they can use their voice to advocate for themselves, and others. Their voice can make a difference.





AMRITIOUS

Read aloud

Read aloud

Testing Updates FEBRUARY 2023 TESTING SCHEDULE *All testing dates subject to change.					
	TEST	TESTING WINDOW			
	Dibels (Grades 2-3) RELA Assessment	January 18 - February 8, 2023			
	Benchmark #2 (Grade 5 Science, Grades 3-5 RELA, and Grades 2-5 Math)	January 23 - February 3, 2023			
	Maryland School Survey (Grade 5 Students Only)	Dates to be Determined			
Some ways to prepare your child					
*	Optimize brain power - Make sure your child gets a good night's sleep the night before and eats a great breakfast on the day of the test.				
*	Encourage good study habits and challenge critical-thinking skills - Review different test-taking strategies and engage in thoughtful conversations with your child about daily life where his or her opinion is shared with evidence to support it.				
*	Relax and Be Positive - If your child gets nervous when taking assessments, have him or her practice a few relaxation techniques, such as counting from one to ten or taking deep breaths, which can help your child relieve tension during the test.				
*	Know what to expect - Contact your child's teacher(s) to find out the date of the assessment and the format of the test. Ask if there are any practice tests your child can complete prior to the test to feel confident with its format.				

School Psych Corner



Social and Emotional Learning (SEL): Building Mental Muscles to Handle Challenges!

Now that your children have been diligently working on some of their 2023 goals, perhaps they have been experiencing some challenges and or frustrations! If they have, you may even be starting to panic! Stop! Let us ponder on this!

Have you ever been frustrated by a challenging task, but then once you persevered through you were able to identify all the different ways in which you grew because of the challenge? Similarly, as our children are pursuing their goals, they may encounter some difficulties, become frustrated, perhaps even wanting to give up. As parents, your first instinct might be to leap right in and help. Like us, however, as our children work through challenges, they will encounter opportunities for growth When we, often out of anxiety or fear, step in too soon to help our children problem solve, we unintentionally send the message that they are not capable of mastering the challenges they face and that only adults can solve their problems. In addition, we rob them of opportunities to bounce back after handling challenges and frustration.

Challenges? Try these steps!:

Reframe! - Help them to see that challenges and problems are a part of everyday life! This will allow your children to develop the mindset that challenges and problems are not to be feared or avoided. Rather, they can instead operate from a growth mindset that they can confidently work through them. See challenges as puzzles to be solved!

Validate their emotions! - acknowledge your children's feelings at the moment. Instead of "There's no reason for you to be upset about..." Try instead, "I know it must be very frustrating trying to learn these new spelling words!" Encourage them to use their self-calming tools!

Jog their Memory! - Help them remember other times when they encountered challenging situations and how they were able to overcome these challenges. Gather some arts and crafts of their choice and have them create keepsakes of all the different challenges they have overcome. String beads together, or stack stones to create a tower, to track all the challenges they overcame! Have fun with it!

Guide them through creative solutions! - help them to describe the specific challenge and then allow them the opportunity to brainstorm possible solutions including the pros and cons of each solution. Support them in selecting a solution or solutions to test out! If needed, you may also ask if it is ok with them for you to offer your thoughts! However, instead of saying, "I think you should do…" try saying, "I wonder what would happen if you tried…"

REMEMBER: Insulating children from challenges will stunt their development! Allowing them to problem solve through challenges gives them the opportunity to gain confidence in their ability to deal with whatever life throws their way.

Adapted from: Simple Ways to Help your Child Become a Better Problem Solver by Claire Lerner (2022)

Grade Level Updates



Notes from Nurse Ajayi

Taking Care of your child's teeth is important to keep them healthy.

EASY & CONVENIENT - A state licensed dentist will regularly check your child's mouth & teeth, as well as provide a cleaning, x-rays as necessary, fluoride treatment and apply sealants, as needed. Additional care, such as fillings, may also be provided. A dental report card will be sent home with your child. Includes initial dental care & follow-up visits. SIGN AND RETURN TO YOUR SCHOOL TODAY!

Please click here for the flyer:

To learn more visit: <u>https://www.ohip.us/</u>

This opportunity is FREE for students. (Coming in the spring.) Parents, please remember to sign the bottom. (If form is not signed it is invalid.)

Specialist Updates



Our American Heart Association **Kids Heart Challenge** event will begin on February 1st, 2023!

We need your help to accomplish our goal of having 100% of our families to know

Hands-Only CPR, and you can help us by registering your child and spreading the word.

Here's how you can help:

- 1. Register: <u>heart.org/KHC</u>
- Complete Finn's Mission: Watch a
 2-minute video to know Hands-Only CPR, spot the signs of a stroke and more!
- 3. **Share with friends and family** through social media, text and/or email

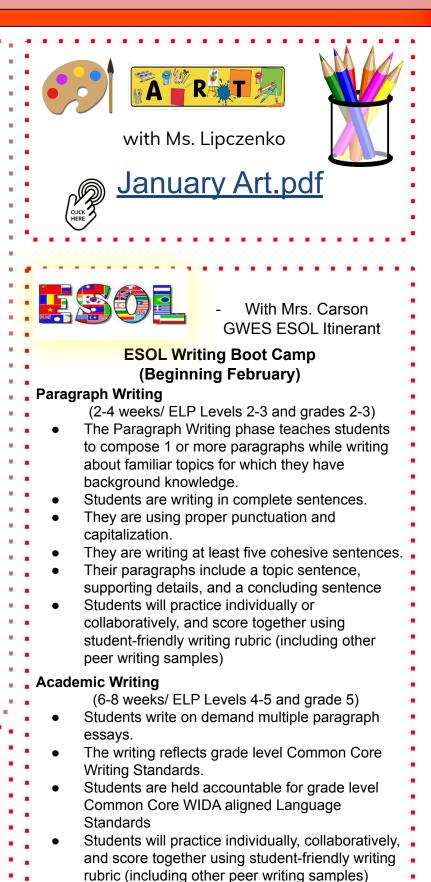
Our goal is to have 100% of our students register online and complete Finn's Mission. Last year we raised over \$8,400.

During PE class students will learn and explore activities that will help strengthen their hearts. They will learn how to check their pulse to learn which activities are better for their hearts. Activities will include Jump Rope, Basketball,

and many more.



February - LMC.pdf



Specialist Updates



Instrumental Music/ Band - Dr. Bishop

The students in the instrumental music program are progressing well, learning new pieces, and sharpening their fundamental skills. The beginning orchestra students are starting to use their bows, which is their last fundamental part of string playing.

Advanced orchestra players are learning to play multiple notes during one continuous bow, working on intonation, and being introduced to the notes on their G strings.

Band students are expanding the number of notes they know while working on tone production and intonation. Finally, the percussion students are working on flams and paradiddles. I am really proud of how much work the instrumental students are doing.



General Music - Ms. R. Parker

In 4th and 5th grades, all students are
continuing to learn about rhythm. They
are reading, writing, and clapping
rhythms. Students will also learn about
the Classical Period and famous
composers of the Classical Period.



In 2nd and 3rd, students are continuing to learn about different Genres of music. For
this month in particular, we are starting off with Jazz/Blues and will be talking about
the importance of African American
Musicians and their influence in Jazz, as
well as, other musical Genres.

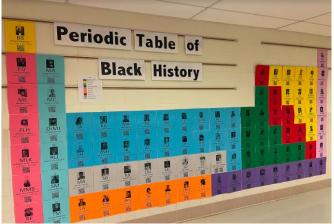


Specialist Updates ICAL with Mr. Kapili Gr.2 Japanese ICAL ------No need for a knife, fork and spoon when you go to Japan. The Japanese have been eating with ohashi or chopsticks for more than 1,500 years. Students will practice using chopsticks. We will also view the video about bonsai, the miniature trees of Japan. Second graders will imagine they are visiting Japan with a school group and they will make a postcard from Japan describing some highlights of the trip. Other activities include: ---- Wind up with Tic- Tac- Toe game ---- Do a Japanese picture book ---- Watch video on sumo wrestling Gr. 3 Chinese ICAL-----Third graders are learning about Chinese culture by obtaining information through articles about kids' lives in China. We will: ----- Learn facts about Chinese tea ----- Learn Chinese cuisine and how to use chopsticks ----- Learn about silk in China and silk making ----- Read a play about the "Five Chinese Brothers" ----- Engage with the fascinating facts about China and tangrams Gr. 4 Spanish ICAL------Fourth grade students will go through various activities about the Tema: Los Colores. We will cover the following lessons: ----- Setting your sights on the Southwest ----- Know about cactuses or cacti ----- Activities about the iguanas ----- La ropa activities ----- Mexican cuisine **ICAL with Mrs. Hancock** Fifth grade ICAL students have begun their new unit - French! Students will bring home their Spanish paperwork and booklets. They do not need to return to school. Our entire 3rd guarter we will be studying the French Language and Culture. We begin with exploring the many regions of our world where we can hear French spoken - and not only in France! We will explore the French alphabet, as well as learn about French history and famous French

persons. Students have new French Flex booklets we will be using in class, and there may also
 be some follow up activities to complete, as our time in class for French is just one guarter.

Black History Month 2023

February is Black History Month! It is an annual celebration of achievements by African Americans and a time for recognizing their central role in U.S. history. Since 1976, every U.S. president has officially designated the month of February as Black History Month. Other countries around the world, including Canada and the United Kingdom, also devote a month to celebrating Black history.







Check out our new display right outside of the Technology classroom, The Periodic Table of Black History! Throughout the month of February, students will be able to visit the display and use the QR codes to learn biographical facts about each of the amazing people. Be sure to take a look when visiting our school!

Are you looking for ways to celebrate at home? Here are a few ideas for you and your family to join the celebration!

Information/ Activities

2023 Theme: "Black Resistance"

https://www.history.com/topics/black-history /black-history-month

Black History Month Celebrating Culture and Contributions.pdf

<u>Kid-Friendly Ideas for Celebrating Black</u> <u>History Month - Minnesota Children's</u> <u>Museum</u>





Programs | MNCPPC, MD

https://washington.org/visit-dc/celebrate-bl ack-history-month

https://www.visitmaryland.org/list/black-hist ory-month



We are #GWESProud of our **AMAZING** Guidance Counselor: Ms. Ana Romero! 💙 🐯 🧡

Did you know:

School counselors are highly educated, professionally certified individuals who help students succeed in school and plan their career. An integral part of the total education system, school counselors help students form healthy goals, mindsets and behaviors. With the aid of a school counselor, students learn to develop effective collaboration and cooperation skills, to practice perseverance, to develop time management and study skills, and to learn self-motivation and self-direction habits.

For all of these reasons and more, let's celebrate NATIONAL SCHOOL COUNSELING WEEK!

National School Counseling Week February 6th-10th					
Monday, February 6th	Tuesday, Fel	bruary 7th	Wednesday, February 8th		
Let's kick off the week with letters of appreciation to Ms. Romero! Please thank her for all that she does to support our GWES Family! Her email is ana.romero@pgcps.org	School counselors help you manage emotions and apply interpersonal skills and with this week also being National Children Mental Health Week (Feb.6-12, and in the month of May) Wear a color that represents how you feel! Check out some ideas! <u>Colors and</u> Feelings.pdf		Dream Big! Have your student dress up in the person they hope to become when they become adults. Ms. Romero will also be providing "Dream Big" sheets to share in our Dream Big bulletin board. Keep a lookout!		
Thursday, Feb 9th		Friday, Feb 10th			

School Counselors act as system change agents to improve equity and access, achievement and opportunities for all students. This month all across the country many are celebrating Black History Month with a week of action by discussing the following <u>principles</u>; Restorative justice, Empathy, Loving Engagement, Diversity, and Globalism . On this day let's practice Loving Engagement.

School counselors collaborate with families/teachers/ administrators/ community for student success. We are #GWESProud and we will show how we are a team!

today!



February Student of the Month



Learning Goal:

Students are able to complete tasks despite difficulty or delay in achieving success.

Success Criteria:

- I can show perseverance by never giving up.
- I can show perseverance by pushing myself for the things that are a little bit harder.
- I can show perseverance by never saying "I can't" but saying " I can't yet"
- I can show perseverance by always trying my best.

Supporting Traits:

Tenacity, determination, staying power

Activities and Resources for PERSEVERANCE

Fostering Perseverance and Motivation in Your Child - Kumon

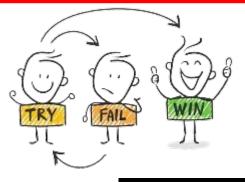
Perseverance Foldable.pdf

Perseverance Cut and Paste.pdf

I Choose To Try Again by Elizabeth Estrada | A Story about Perseverance and Diligence | Read Aloud

https://www.classroomchampions.org

https://talkingtreebooks.com/definition/w hat-is-perseverance.html





Continuity Updates

ATTENTION GRADE 5 FAMILIES:

Letters of Continuity have been distributed from Pupil Accounting on January 27th. The letters were double sided. The front page told you what your speciality TAG Middle School is and it showed your neighborhood boundary middle school.

It also stated:

"This offer and placement are contingent on you continuing to reside at your address." Your address determines both what <u>boundary</u> and <u>specialty school</u> you can attend.

The back of the letter wants you to indicate whether you <u>accept</u> or <u>decline</u> the TAG program placement. If no response is received by February 17th, they will interpret that you are <u>declining placement</u>. I expect you to make your choice and return the acceptance letter to me as soon as possible... <u>I will hunt you</u> <u>down to retrieve it</u>. I leave no GWES Family behind.

	I ACCEPT the following continuity enrollment option: GREENBELT MIDDLE - TALENTED AND GIFTED and I will complete the online registration process by February 17, 2023 I DECLINE continuity enrollment for my child and will enroll him/her in the neighborhood boundary school, my child's seat will be relinquished in the Specialty Program.		
Backside of the paper	Signature of Parent/Guardian Date	This is where your boundary school would be listed.	
		s you are declining want you to fax it!!! o fax it for you.	

If you sign and return the Continuity Acceptance Letter and send it back to me as soon as possible, I will make sure Pupil Accounting gets it and can keep track of and follow up with those that didn't take advantage of this TAG Center feature! **Please have your 5th grader return it to me ASAP.**

In order for your child to attend the Greenbelt, Walker Mill, or Kenmoor, the accepted student's parent/guardian MUST complete a **NEW** ScribEnroll Application visiting <u>https://pgcpsmdc.scriborder.com/</u> then selecting "**Transitional Enrollment**" and uploading the updated proof of residence for their current Specialty School. (Yours would be Glenarden Woods ES) Please see these directions for help with registration.

You can also call our school and speak with Ms. Lambert (Principal's Secretary or Mrs. Belle (Registrar).

(Continuity acceptance AND registration deadline is February 17th)

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A Word from Our Students!

What Happens in Glenarden Woods: Student's View (FAQ + Q&A)

What does an average day for a student look like?

A typical day for a student that goes to *Glenarden Woods*: When you first walk in you see the *amazing* outside and inside of the building. First, they have a refreshing morning breakfast to start their day. Then, each student will have a specific schedule each day of what they will do for the rest of the year. Typically, a student's day will consist of *Reading, Math, a Special, lunch, and recess.* Depending on what day it is, a student will have a different special or either has Health, Science, or Social Studies.

Families, wondering how Glenarden Woods is in general?

Maybe your child is coming to Glenarden Woods, or you're interested in getting your child into Glenarden Woods. This school has second to fifth grade and your student will be in either a *two-switch* class or a *three-switch* class. Your child will be switching classes throughout the day for different subjects. *Don't worry* about the relationships they will make with GWES students. Many students here will most likely *have the same or similar interests*, and plenty of students also have *great personalities that are easy to get along with*! The teachers show desirable excellence and expertise. (We are in fifth grade, and this is our last year, so we can guarantee that you will **NOT** regret coming to Glenarden Woods Elementary School!)

Is Glenarden Woods suitable for my child?

Is that a question? Glenarden Woods has all sorts of extravagant students. *Fun, Kind, Smart, Energetic*, you NAME IT. *Almost everyone* is easy to bond with and become friends. GWES students have *inviting*, *uplifting personalities* and *amazing work ethics*. There are very few troublemakers, but they are always dealt with appropriately. If you decide to come to the school, get ready to be a part of our **TIGERIFIC** family!

Are there clubs or activities in the school?

I, Cecelia, am on the Green Team. On the Green Team, they help pick up trash for ten minutes during recess. Yes, we have a recess for 30 minutes too, (after lunch or before lunch)! We (Precious and Cecelia) are on the <u>Step Team</u>. The step team is a student-founded organization that does performances for 4th and 5th graders (Maybe lower grades in the future). We also have a Science Bowl team, which competes in Science competitions with other schools. At GWES we also have an SGA (Student Government Association). I, Cecelia, am the secretary of the SGA. There are other positions, such as President, Vice President, Treasurer, Community Chair, and Historian. Only students in fifth grade can run for a position in the Student Government Association. If you are not interested in any of those, don't worry; we have Math, Drama, Science, Gardening, Art, and many more!

Thank you, families and fellow **TIGERS** for reading! - Cecelia, Bianca, and Precious, Gr. 5



GWES PTA News

Happy February GWES Family!

We have a new spirit wear vendor! You can now purchase school spirit merchandise for school spirit Friday's at

Glenarden Woods PTA Store



GWES TIGER SWEATSHIRT

ré's Candy Gram (Buy 11or 51.0) aceal Waterlank Are to to sund rolling



Purchase a candy gram and surprise your student with a special gift on <u>Valentine's Day</u>! Or tell their teachers how much you appreciate them!

Next PTA Meeting Feb. 21, 6:30pm-7:30pm. The Zoom link will be emailed a week beforehand.



Spring Scholastic Book Fair is coming soon (March 9 - March 17). We will be sending out a call for volunteers, keep an eye on your inox.

Elections are in May! Are you interested in becoming a member of the PTA Executive board? *Email us for more details about the positions! We have an interest meeting scheduled on* **February 7th** to answer your questions live!

Checkout the After School Late Bus snack list and donate supplies to the school.

Lookout for a message from your Home Room Class Parent Liaison regarding Recess Supply Donations!

Send us an email at <u>pta.gwes@gmail.com</u> to support our upcoming fundraising, community building and/ or school beautification events:

- GWES Store Distribution
- Candy Gram Fundraiser
- Spring Dance/Fest
- Scholastic Book Fair
- School Beautification
- Teacher Appreciation Week
- Field Day
- 5th Grade Moving Up Ceremony

HELP GWES WANTED

If you have any questions or concerns please email the PTA at pta.gwes@gmail.com.

Heather McAndrews

PTA President

🐲 Frequently Asked Questions 🥠

A	▲
Question	Answer
How can I receive communication about Glenarden Woods Elementary?	We have several ways!!! Our School website! <u>https://schools.pgcps.org/glenardenwoods/</u>
	Our TAG Website! https://sites.google.com/pgcps.org/tagcenterprogram/home
	Our Monthly School Newsletter, "Tiger Tribune".
	School Messenger - (Used by teachers and administration to deliver messages. (<i>You must have updated information in SchoolMax.</i>)
	Follow us on Twitter ~ @GWES_PGCPS Even if you don't "do" Twitter, download the app and just follow OUR school!
alabertsb	Follow us on Instagram @glenarden_woods_es
	Follow our School Story on Class Dojo: <u>Be remote ready with ClassDojo. Learn how</u>
What day does my child have their club? How early can I drop off my child for their 8:30am club?	<u>Club Updates.pdf</u>
How early can I drop my child off if I'm not in a club?	Students can enter the building at 8:45am. The gym door closes at 9:15am. Student can still enter through the front door. They are considered late after 9:30 am.
How late can I pick my child up?	Dismissal begins at 3:40pm. The latest for <u>car</u> pick up is 4:00pm. We move late car riders to the main office after 4pm.
When will I get the 2nd Quarter Report Card?	Wednesday, February 8th 2nd Quarter Report cards will be sent home.



Monday, February 6th - Friday, February 10th National School Counseling Week!

Thursday, February 9th 2nd Quarter Honor Roll Assemblies Second Grade: 10:00 am-11:00 am Fourth Grade: 2:00 pm-3:00pm

Monday, February 13th 2nd Quarter Honor Roll Assemblies Third Grade: 10:00 am-11:00 am Fifth Grade: 2:00 pm-3:00pm

> Tuesday, February 14th Valentine's Day!

> Monday, February 20th Presidents' Day Holiday - Schools and Offices Closed

Tuesday, February 21st

Parent-Teacher Conferences – 2-Hr. Delayed Opening for Students

Friday, February 24th - Tuesday, February 28th



The 3rd Quarter Progress Report Window opens.

Monday February 27th - Friday, March 3rd Read Across America Week

Tuesday, February 28th February Student of the Month Celebration

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