



Weekly GLA Family Newsletter
May 6, 2025

STAFF SPOTLIGHT



Ms. Pittman (Miss P.) - Para Educator

Tell us one of your proudest teacher moments.

My proudest teacher moment has got to be designing and running my after school program, "Pickup a Book and Play" Pickup a Book and Play was created to give K-2 scholars a chance to develop the intrinsic motivation to read in the first place. It uses Art to increase comprehension and draw connections. The scholars get really creative! It's a joy to watch! I loved getting to engage the Kindergarteners in the University of Illinois with a book and an epic experiment for a lesson in coping with anger! I loved being able to watch their faces light up in amazement!

What made you want to become a teacher (or what made you want to work in a school)?

I knew I would be a teacher at age nine. My childhood was very difficult so school and education served as a scapegoat for me. The children and wanting them to love learning as much as I do is what initially drove me into teaching. Furthermore, my goal in life is to be an inspiration to others and anyone who has witnessed me in a classroom, in full on teacher mode, from child to adult, has been inspired, I hope. What keeps you coming back to GLA every day?

What's your favorite memory from elementary/middle school?

Writing and getting to perform a poem about Harriet Tubman. I was nine.

What's your favorite thing to do in Chicago?

My favorite thing to do in Chicago is go to bookstores and coffee shops that are new and different in some way. My favorite bookstores are Unabridged and the Armadillo's Pillow. I also love to catch a good play at the Goodman Theater.

What are your hidden or surprising talents?


My hidden talents? I am a phenomenal writer, spoken word poet and entrepreneur. Oh, and I can also hold a note or two.

PRINCIPAL'S CORNER

Parents, we are excited to host the Financial Literacy Read and Receive Program for 1st-3rd grade students. On May 6th, a community leader will be visiting 1st, 2nd, and 3rd grade homerooms to read a financial literacy picture book to students. The chosen book is *Little Daymond Learns to Earn* by Shark Tank star Daymond John. This book will introduce age appropriate concepts that engage students and get them excited about financial literacy at an early age. Each student will leave with a copy of the book to continue their financial literacy journeys at home.

We are honored to host programs like Read and Receive to help lay the foundation for lifelong financial literacy. Part of preparing students for a future of their choice is equipping them with vital skills from an early age that empower them both inside and outside of the classroom.

With Gratitude,



NEW ANNOUNCEMENTS

Virtual GoCPS Family Night: Current 7th Graders

Join us on Monday, May 12th from 5:30pm-6:30pm for a Virtual GoCPS High School Admissions Family Night. This is for the Class of 2026, or current 7th grade families as we will discuss the High School Admissions process for the next school year.

Virtual GoCPS Family Information Night (Current 7th Grade)

Monday, May 12 · 5:30 – 6:30pm

Video call link: <https://meet.google.com/csd-oyzh-qap>

Virtual 7th Grade GoCPS Family Night

Do you have a 7th grade scholar?

Come learn the ins & outs of the
High School Admissions Process!

Monday,
May 12th
5:30-6:30pm

Scan the QR code to
access the Google
Meet



Spring Ball



Calling all 5th-8th graders for the final dance of the year on Friday, May 16th. The Spring Ball will be from 5:30pm - 7:30pm. In order to attend, scholars must meet the following requirements:

Reporting Period: 05/05-05/15

- 0 referrals
- <2 resets
- No physical fights
- <2 absences
- < 2 tardies to class
- < 4 tardies to school

GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

8th Grade End of Year Events: Awards Dinner & Graduation Tickets

Starting Thursday, May 1st tickets for the 8th Grade Awards Dinner tickets and Graduation tickets will be available for purchase and pick-up.

Awards Dinner tickets are \$25 and each person attending must have a purchased

ticket. Tickets can be purchased and picked up from the Front Desk from May 1st-May 23rd.

Graduation tickets are at no-cost, and graduates do not need a ticket. Each individual over the age of 5 will need a ticket. Tickets can be picked up from the Front Desk from May 1st-May 23rd.

Each graduate has been allotted 4 tickets for both the Awards Dinner and Graduation. If additional tickets are needed, please contact Ms. O'Leary (coleary@glachicago.org) or Dr. Beck (sbeck@glachicago.org) to request additional tickets. Additional tickets will be distributed in late May.

School-Wide ABC Countdown!

It's that time of year again, we are getting close to the start of our ABC Countdown to Summer! Please take a moment to read through our celebrations calendar.

ABC COUNTDOWN

MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI
SUMMER IS COMING!		4/30 Animal Day	5/1 Bubble Day	
5/5 Crazy Socks Day	5/6 Drawing Day	5/7 End of Year Awards	5/8 Fancy Fit Day	5/9 Glow in the Dark Day
5/12 Hat Day	5/13 I Spy Day	5/14 Jersey Day	5/15 Kindness Day	5/16 Lollipop Day
5/19 Music Monday	5/20 New Name Day	5/21 Opposite Day	5/22 Play a Game Day	5/23 Queen and King Day
	5/27 Read Around the Room Day	5/28 Sunglasses Day	5/29 Taki Day	5/30 Upside Down and Inside Out Day
6/2 Visit Day	6/3 Wall to Wall Cleaning Day	6/4 Exchange Seats Day	6/5 Yearbook Signing	6/6 Zoom into Summer Day 

Our countdown will begin with A on April 30th!

All days marked as **PINK** on this document include an item that will be provided by GLA.

In Person Registration Hours

Mark Your Calendars! Join us for In-Person Registration on Tuesday, May 13th from 4:30 PM – 6:00 PM. We are also accepting Kindergarten & 1st Grade applications!



Spring Book Fair

Book fair is back May 12th-16th. Packets will be sent home next week, please look out for them to see what day your student is attending!

Parents and Families are welcome to visit Tuesday, May 13th, 3:30-4:30pm.



GoCPS: HS Rolling Waitlists Open April 21st

On Monday, April 21st, the GoCPS High School Rolling Waitlists will open. Please log on to your GoCPS account to add your scholar to a High School waitlist. If any offers are accepted, please contact Ms. Robinson (brobinson@cjacademy.org) or Ms. O'Leary (coleary@glachicago.org) as soon as possible.

GLA Parent Advocacy Committee

PARENT ADVOCACY COMMITTEE MEETING

Join us for our 2025-26 School Year Title I Planning Meeting! Hear from our Principal on how Title I funds have supported GLA in the past, share your input on how funds should be used next year, and take part in our annual wellness survey about student meals at GLA. Refreshments, raffles, and child care will be provided. Your voice matters!



TUESDAY, MAY 13TH 2025
4:30P-6:00P



Join us for our 2025–26 School Year Title I Planning Meeting on **Tuesday, May 13, 2025, from 4:30 PM to 6:00 PM!** Hear from our Principal on how Title I funds have supported GLA in the past, share your input on how funds should be used next year, and take part in our annual wellness survey about student meals at GLA.

This meeting will be held in person—refreshments, raffles, and child care will be provided.

Need to join remotely? **Scan the QR code to access the virtual meeting.**

Your voice matters!

School Year Office Hours

Monday-Thursday, 7:30-4:30 pm

Friday, 7:30-2:00 pm

GLA Breakfast, Lunch and Supper Menus

Click [here](#) to access (these are also linked on our website's [Parent and Student Resource Page](#))

IMPORTANT UPCOMING DATES

May 5 - May 30, 2025

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
5 Staff Appreciation Week	6 Staff Appreciation Week Read and Receive Event (1st-3rd)	7 Staff Appreciation Week	8 Staff Appreciation Week	9 Staff Appreciation Week
12 Spring Book Fair Virtual GoCPS Family Information Night (Current 7th Grade), 5:30 pm AWAY: Girls & Boys Varsity Flag Football Network Playoffs Week TBD →	13 Spring Book Fair Parent Advocacy Meeting, 4:30-6:00 pm In-Person Registration Hours, 4:30-6:00 pm	14 Spring Book Fair	15 Spring Book Fair	16 Spring Book Fair Haitian Flag Day 8th Grade HS Decision Day 5th-8th Spring Ball, 5:30-7:30 pm
19 EOY iReady IA#4 (K, 2nd, 3rd, 4th) AWAY: Girls & Boys Varsity Flag Football Network Playoffs Week TBD →	20 EOY iReady IA#4 (K, 2nd, 3rd, 4th) IA#4 (1st Grade) In-Person Registration Hours, 7:00-9:00 am	21 EOY iReady IA#4 (1st Grade) Community Conversations, 8:00 am	22 EOY iReady IA#4 (5th-8th)	23 EOY iReady
26 Memorial Day, No School	27 iReady EOY 8th Grade D.C. Trip	28 iReady EOY 8th Grade D.C. Trip In-Person Registration Hours, 4:00-6:00 pm	29 iReady EOY 8th Grade D.C. Trip	30 iReady EOY 8th Grade D.C. Trip

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