



Weekly GLA Family Newsletter
October 1, 2024

NEW ANNOUNCEMENTS

Paloma - K-2 Family Tutoring

On Monday, September 30th, we launched Paloma to our K-2 families. Paloma is a technology platform that provides daily reading or math skill activities that families can practice with their child at home.

Each day, Paloma sends a text with a link to a lesson. A parent and the student watch a very brief video on the skill. Then, the parent practices the skill with their student. **We are asking parents to spend 15 minutes each night "tutoring" their child through Paloma.** This type of focused, high dosage tutoring has been shown to have a positive impact on student academic development.



8th Grade High School Admissions Test (HSAT)

On Wednesday, October 9th at 8:15am, all 8th grade scholars will take the HSAT in their homerooms. Please ensure your scholar arrives at school on time and is prepared to do their best!

Dismissal Reminders

Just a few reminders to make our dismissal process run more smoothly!

- Please have your placard in the car window while picking up
- Please do not cut the line, as your child will not be ready due to not being placed on a tracker
- If another family member is picking up or you misplaced your placard, please pick up a new one at the front desk- this is for driving and walking pick-ups
- You must show ID if no placard is displayed *or* you do not have a walker card
- Please call the school before noon if there are any dismissal changes
- If your scholar is not staying for any after-school activities that they are signed up for, please notify Dr. Beck or Ms. O'Leary by noon that day.

8th Grade Families: GoCPS Application Now Open

The GoCPS 2025-2026 High School Admissions Process is now open. Please click [here](#) to make an account and apply. Email Caitlin O'Leary (coleary@glachicago.org) or Brittany Robinson (brobinson@cjademy.org) for any questions or support!

3rd-4th Grade Families: Save the Date!

3rd-4th grade scholars are invited to attend Summer Camp in 2025!



3RD-4TH GRADE

CAMP

FOR ALL

KIDS



- Free, renewable, sleep-away camp for GLA scholars
- 4-weeks of fun in Wisconsin & Minnesota

HEAR FROM CURRENT GLA SCHOLARS & RECENT CAMPERS

ACTIVITIES

- Field Sports
- Archery
- Cookouts
- Fishing
- Canoeing & Kayaking
- Horseback Riding
- Tennis
- Swimming
- Waterskiing
- Campfires

& so much more!

INFO SESSIONS

VIRTUAL



MON. SEPT 30TH
5:30-6:30 PM
<-- SCAN TO JOIN

IN-PERSON

TUES. OCT. 8TH
6:00-7:00 PM **@ GLA GYM**

FOR MORE INFORMATION OR QUESTIONS:

email coleary@glachicago.org

visit <https://campforallkids.org>

Interested in meeting the Camp for All Kids Staff in-person? We will also be hosting an in-person information session at GLA on Tuesday, October 8th from 6pm-7pm.

Illinois Girls Lead Program

Female 5th-8th grade scholars are invited to apply for the Illinois Girls Lead Program. Female scholars selected for the program will shadow a female member of the Illinois State Government for a day. Want to learn more, reach out to Caitlin O’Leary (coleary@glachicago.org) for more information or click [here](#) to apply. Applications are due by 11:59 pm on Sunday, October 20th.

The GREAT K-2nd Playdate

The Great K-2nd Grade Playdate happening on Friday, October 11, 2024, from 5 PM to 7 PM. This event is noted as a parent engagement raffle entry. Please click

the link to [RSVP today!](#)



**MARK YOUR
CALENDARS**

**THE GREAT
K-2ND GRADE
PLAYDATE**

**FRIDAY
OCTOBER 11, 2024
5PM-7PM**

**This event is a
parent engagement
raffle entry!**

**Students must
be
accompanied by an
adult.**

Limited Kindergarten Seats Available

Limited Kindergarten seats are still available at GLA! If you or someone you know is interested, please contact our main office today.



Great Lakes Academy

NOW ENROLLING KINDERGARTEN

FREE, PUBLIC, AND OPEN TO ALL

FREE 7AM DROP OFF
FREE AFTER-SCHOOL TUTORING
SPORTS AND ENRICHMENT ACTIVITIES

JOIN OUR 1ST - 8TH GRADE WAITLIST

SIBLING PREFERENCE AVAILABLE

CONTACT US

8401 S. Saginaw Ave.
Chicago, IL 60617
773-540-3040
www.glachicago.org

Paid for with public funds

The GREAT Chicago Jamboree

Join us for a Spooktacular Evening at The GREAT Chicago Fall Jamboree! For ages 0-13 (Must be accompanied by a parent/guardian). FREE Admission | RSVP by scanning the QR code! Come dressed in your best costume and enjoy a night of fall fun with your family. See you there!

THE GREAT CHICAGO
FALL
JAMBOREE

FREE

WEDNESDAY OCTOBER 30, 2024

5:00PM - 7:00PM

For ages 0-13

GAMES
COSTUME CONTEST
FOOD
FUN
SCHOOL TOURS

RSVP



GREAT LAKES ACADEMY
8401 S. SAGINAW AVE
CHICAGO, IL
773-530-3040

MUST BE ACCOMPANIED BY A PARENT/GUARDIAN

PAID FOR BY PUBLIC FUNDS

GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

Medical and Dental Exam Van Visits!

If your scholar needs to be seen by the dentist, eye doctor, and/or a medical professional (school physical/sport physical) we are excited to announce that the mobile dentist, mobile eye doctor and Comer Pediatric Medical Van will be at GLA throughout the 2024-25 school year!

***Scholars will not be seen without completed consent forms.**

Please contact Ms. Thunherst at sthunherst@glachicago.org to start the process now!

Power Parents

Are you passionate about your child's education and looking for a way to get more involved in the Great Lakes Academy community? We invite you to join the GLA Power Parent – a group dedicated to strengthening parent engagement and building a stronger connection between families and our school! [Sign up here!](#)



Great Lakes Academy POWER PARENTS

The GLA Power Parent Committee aims to foster an environment where parents are empowered to actively contribute to their children's academic success and help shape the future of GLA

2nd Tuesday of each month 4:30pm-6:00pm

- October 8, 2024
- November 12, 2024
- December 10, 2024
- January 14, 2025
- February 11, 2025
- March 11, 2025
- April 15, 2025
- May 13, 2025
- June 10, 2025

JOIN US

Reclaiming Minds Therapy and Wellness Resource

Reclaiming Minds Therapy and Wellness are offering affordable individual therapy sessions for GLA scholars and families. It is currently \$30 per session with the option to use sliding scale pricing. Their goal is to provide equitable access to high quality mental wellness resources, especially to communities that have barriers to receiving care.

Reclaiming Minds Therapy and Wellness have just introduced two new interns, Amira and Seema, that are hoping to service youth, ages 11 and up. These interns are passionate about mental health, dedication to the well-being of youth, and eager to provide support to our scholars. The flyers below provide more details about the available services.

RECLAIMING MINDS THERAPY & WELLNESS
Therapy, Wellness, Support

Accepting New Clients!

Learn More at
www.reclaimingmindstherapy.com

Accepting Private Pay Clients
\$30/ Session
First Session Free!

Client Focus
Adults
Teens

Specialties
Relationships
Grief
Anxiety, Depression, Stress

Amira Williams-Anderson, Graduate Intern

RECLAIMING MINDS THERAPY & WELLNESS
Therapy, Wellness, Support

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Learn More at
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Accepting Private Pay Clients
\$30/ Session
First Session Free!

Client Focus
Adults
Teens

Specialties
Parenting
Grief, Crisis Management
Anxiety, Depression, School-Related/Educational Challenges

Seema Khatri, Graduate Intern

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

September 23rd - October 18th, 2024

| Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday |
|--|--|---|--|--|
| 30 Girls Volleyball Game, 4:30/5:30 pm 3rd-4th Grade: Camp for All Kids Virtual Info Session, 6:00-7:00 pm | 1 Law Enforcement Lockdown Drill | 2 Co-ed Flag Football @ St. Patricia, 4:45 pm | 3 Math IA #1 (3rd Grade) | 4 Math IA #1 (3rd Grade) |
| 7 | 8 Power Parents Meeting, 4:30-6:00 pm 3rd-4th Grade: Camp for All Kids In-Person Info Session, 6:00-7:00 pm | 9 Comer's Medical Van Visit 8th Grade HSAT Testing HOME Co-Ed Flag Football vs. St. Patricia, 4:45 pm | 10 | 11 K-2 Family Playdate, 5:00-7:00 pm |
| 14 Indigenous Peoples' Day, No School | 15 Staff and Student Spirit Week ANET: 2nd-8th Grade Girls HOME Volleyball Game vs. Morgan Park Academy, 4:30 pm | 16 GLA: Community Conversation, 8:00 am Staff and Student Spirit Week ANET: 2nd-8th Grade' AWAY Co-Ed Flag Football vs. St. Patricia, 4:45 pm | 17 Staff and Student Spirit Week ANET: 2nd-8th Grade | 18 Staff and Student Spirit Week ANET: 2nd-8th Grade Bus Evacuation Drill Fall Fest (during school hours, K-8th) |
| 21 | 22 Picture Day! | 23 Fall Cultivate Survey, 5th-8th | 24 AWAY Co-Ed Flag Football vs. St. Patricia, 4:45 pm End of Quarter 1; Report Cards Distributed | 25 Staff PD, No Classes |

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