



Weekly GLA Family Newsletter
September 24, 2024

PRINCIPAL'S CORNER

Parents, this week I wanted to resend a message that was in a Weekly Wave from last September. Though we have made substantial progress with school culture and physical incidents over the past three years, we still have room for improvement. Last year, we went to great lengths messaging to students and families how our entire community can be a safer community for students. We need parents to align with us supporting these messages. Here is the message:

Across the country, schools have reported increased challenges with student behavior, bullying, and aggression since returning to full in-person learning three years ago. Despite schools' best efforts, some students have struggled with the transition back into school more than others. We have seen similar trends at GLA.

Overall, incidents of physical and verbal aggression have continued to decrease this year. However, we all want a school environment where these incidents never happen so that students always feel physically and emotionally safe. As educators, we have noticed trends that lead to escalating situations:

- Students touching other students in playful but unwanted ways (e.g. grabbing, hitting, pushing, pulling, kicking, etc.);
- Students gossiping or saying mean things about other students;
- Students having a disagreement or conflict with another student that leads to using physical aggression when confrontation occurs;

Each of these issues can be minimized by teaching students the appropriate ways to respond. At GLA, we constantly message to students the following:

- We keep our hands and feet to ourselves.
- We say kind things to our peers.
- When we have a disagreement or conflict with a peer, we tell a staff member to help us resolve it.

We need the support of our entire parent body to reinforce these messages. It will make an even healthier school culture for our student body, and help them continue their growth toward having healthy relationships as teenagers and adults.

Principal Miller

NEW ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

Today at 10am, the GoCPS 2025-2026 High School Admissions Process opens. Please click [here](#) to make an account and apply. Email Caitlin O'Leary (coleary@glachicago.org) or Brittany Robinson (brobinson@cjacademy.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>

Join GLA and Camp For All Kids on Monday, September 30th from 5:30-6:30pm to learn about the CFAK experience! Hear from previous campers, GLA scholars, and their families about their experience at camp this past summer and the memories that will last a lifetime.

Click [here](#) to join the call on Monday, September 30th!

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.

After-School Enrichment: Enrollment still open for Goddess Mentoring!

Goddess Mentoring is offering an empowering after-school program for girls in 4th-8th grade on Mondays and Wednesdays from 3:30-5:00!

Through engaging activities focused on personal growth, confidence, and community, your scholar will gain essential skills to thrive.

Sign your daughter up today by contacting Ms. O'Leary (coleary@glachicago.org)!

Don't miss out on this incredible opportunity for your child to grow and succeed with Goddess Mentoring!

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](#)

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
23 Fire Drill #1	24 Comer's Medical Van Visit	25	26 Girls Volleyball Game @ Ninos Heroes, 4:00/5:00 pm	27 Staff PD, No School
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)

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