



The Weekly Wave

Weekly GLA Family Newsletter
August 27, 2024

PRINCIPAL'S CORNER

Families,

Last Friday, we held our first “Anchors Up!” start of year event. Our students and staff had a blast learning building community with each other, working together as teams, and learning what it means to “Be GREAT” at GLA.



Our Kindergarten through 2nd graders stayed at GLA. They played teambuilding games, worked on learning the GLA Creed, and practiced their homeroom cheer. Our 3rd and 4th graders went to ClimbZone where they did their own teambuilding, practiced the school creed, and faced their fears on a high ropes course. Our 5th through 8th graders traveled to Intentional Sports on the west side. There students competed in a series of cooperative competitions with their homeroom teammates. At every site, there was lots of joy, laughter, and relationship-building. We plan for our first “Anchors Up” event to be an annual experience for students that will make memories that will last a lifetime.



NEW ANNOUNCEMENTS

Reminder: SMS Text Opt-In

Great Lakes Academy newly utilizes the SchoolMessenger system to deliver text messages, straight to your mobile phone with important information about events, school closings, safety alerts and more.

*Terms and Conditions – Message frequency varies. Standard message and data rates may apply. Reply HELP for help. Text STOP to cancel. Mobile carriers are not liable for delayed or undelivered messages.

If you have any questions, please give our front office a call at 773-530-3040.

**Opt-In from
your mobile
now!**



**Just send “Y”
or “Yes” to
67587.**

SY24-25 Family Handbook and Student Code of Conduct

Please find the 2024-25 [GLA Family Handbook and Student Code of Conduct](#) attached. We are asking all parents/guardians to read the updated handbook thoroughly and reach out with any questions.

Once you have read the 2024-25 Family Handbook, please confirm you’ve done so by filling out and submitting [this Google Form](#). We ask that all families review the handbook and fill out this form by Friday, September 6th.

2024-25 Parent Orientation Zoom, 8.28.24

If you missed the in-person Parent Orientation at The Great Block Party on Wednesday, August 14th, we are holding a Zoom orientation on Wednesday, August 28th at 5:30 pm. Please login if able, for pertinent information about the school year!

Wednesday, August 28th at 5:30 pm

[Zoom Session](#)

SchoolLinks: For Parents with Students in grades 6-8

SchoolLinks is the official college and career readiness platform for CPS students in grades 6-12. It helps students and their families create an individualized roadmap to serve each student’s unique skills, interests, and goals for the future.

If you would like to utilize this platform, please fill out [this survey](#).

ParentPowered

Text messages that boost your children’s learning!

Parents and caregivers are important members of the learning team. To make their role a little easier, we’ve partnered with ParentPowered. Each week, they’ll send you three short text messages (*note: this is different from the GLA SMS Text Messaging*

mentioned above). These messages will give you easy ways to connect with your child and support their learning. Messages will be aligned to your child's grade. There is no cost to you outside of data & message rates that may apply. You can stop receiving texts at any time by texting STOP to 70138. Messages will start going out the first week of September. Here is an example.



Fall Sports Sign-Up

Fall sports are back in session at GLA, with the season kicking off early September! Fall sports include girls volleyball and co-ed football.

Cost: \$150/ per student-athlete/per season.

All student-athletes must have an up to date sports physical (different from the standard physical), as well as attend the mandatory sports orientation on Wednesday, August 28th.

If you have an interested 5-8th grade scholar the sign-up form can be found [here](#).
Sign-ups for fall sports close Monday, September 2nd

Please contact Coach P (tperez@glachicago.org) with any questions or concerns.

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.



The flyer features a circular logo in the top left corner with a lighthouse and the text "GREAT LAKES ACADEMY CHARTER SCHOOL". The main text on a chalkboard background reads "Great Lakes Academy NOW ENROLLING KINDERGARTEN". A yellow banner below the chalkboard says "FREE, PUBLIC, AND OPEN TO ALL". Illustrations of children riding pencils are shown. A dark blue curved area at the bottom left lists benefits: "FREE 7AM DROP OFF", "FREE AFTER-SCHOOL TUTORING", and "SPORTS AND ENRICHMENT ACTIVITIES". Below this is "JOIN OUR 1ST - 8TH GRADE WAITLIST" and "SIBLING PREFERENCE AVAILABLE". A green area at the bottom right contains a "CONTACT US" button and contact information: "8401 S. Saginaw Ave. Chicago, IL 60617 773-540-3040 www.glachicago.org". A small note at the bottom left of the flyer says "Paid for with public funds".

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

JOIN OUR 1ST - 8TH GRADE WAITLIST
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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!

Rates for after-care service:

2024-25 School Calendar

Click [HERE](#) to download a PDF version of the calendar.

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

August 26th - September 20th, 2024

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
26 iReady Diagnostics and IRLA ARC IRLA Assessment (new students)	27 iReady Diagnostics and IRLA ARC IRLA Assessment (new students)	28 iReady Diagnostics and IRLA ARC IRLA Assessment (new students)	29 iReady Diagnostics and IRLA ARC IRLA Assessment (new students)	30 iReady Diagnostics and IRLA ARC IRLA Assessment (new students)
2 Labor Day No School Building Closed	3 ARC IRLA Assessment (new students)	4 ARC IRLA Assessment (new students)	5 ARC IRLA Assessment (new students)	6 ARC IRLA Assessment (new students)
9	10	11	12 Family Curriculum Night, 5:00-6:00 pm	13
16	17 Virtual 8th Grade GoCPS Orientation Zoom, 6:00 pm	18 GLA Community Conversation, 8:00 am	19	20

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