



GLENRIDGE
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

The Principal's Newsletter

Educate. Inspire. Empower.

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April 21, 2015

From the Principal

Spring is my favorite season here in St. Louis. Birds sing, flowers and trees bloom—nature awakens from its slumber, beckoning all to venture outside once again. Like a great novel, springtime offers us the next best chapter that nature has to offer.

If you are not aware, our Art Teacher Mrs. Diana Haydon is opting to retire as this school year closes. Much to our chagrin, she is ready for life's next chapter beyond the walls of Glenridge. Diana's instruction through art has provided a safe place for children to discover themselves and take risks. Her "use your mistakes" philosophy has nurtured creativity and perseverance in Clayton students for nearly 18 years. During her 30 years as a teacher, Mrs. Haydon has served as an inspirational leader among her peers, her colleagues, parents and students. Diana's work simply fills our hearts and minds with gratitude. She will be sorely missed!

Classroom assessment data and daily observations attest to the fact that Glenridge students are exceptional learners and problem solvers. Our stellar teachers work to build positive mindsets and strong skill sets necessary for your children to gain academic and social success. Yes, throughout the year, our fabulous teachers have collectively strived to engage your children in meaningful new learning. Each works tirelessly, with little recognition, to design instruction that supports each child.

It's springtime—let's celebrate! National Teacher Appreciation Week occurs May 3-9. Do spread the word among the community that Mrs. Haydon will be receiving your good wishes at the Strawberry Festival the morning of May 2. Please find ways to join me in appreciating and celebrating the hard-working teachers of Glenridge!

In Partnership,

Beth Scott
Principal

MAP, Terra Nova and NWEA Testing

Please check the [Glenridge website calendar](#) for more information on the spring assessment window that runs from April 20-May 15. Regular attendance is important for your child's success and contributes to a more relaxed testing atmosphere.

Are You Moving This Summer?

Registration information for the 2015-2016 school year is very important for Glenridge. We are updating our records to determine which families will be returning and attending next year. If your child will not be returning to Glenridge for the 2015-2016 school year, please fill out [the attached form](#) and return it to the main office as soon as possible. Thank you.

Thank You From the Glenridge Staff

A huge thank you is extended to our PTO for the wonderful staff box dinners from Which Wich during conference week. A special thanks goes to Neelam Khurana and Divya Palamand for organizing the evening's event.

PTO Spotlight

The [Glenridge PTO](#) is busy making sure the 2014-2015 school year wraps up with as much energy as it began. There are still several event chair positions open for next year. If you are interested in being the chair for Box Tops or Merge of Cultures (Black History Month, Hispanic Heritage Month, Chinese New Year Event) or a grade or Green Team liaison, please contact Caroline Early, PTO vice president, at cgearly00@gmail.com.

If you want to find out more about volunteering for the 2015-2016 school year, please contact Caroline. We have lots of wonderful opportunities for you! The PTO needs your help to continue its success!

Thank you for participating in the Yo My Goodness fundraiser. Mrs. Garcia's class came in first place (students received \$10 gift cards) and Mrs. Schuh's class came in second place (students received \$5 gift cards).

Strawberry Festival on May 2, from 8:45 a.m. to noon

Every spring, Glenridge is host to our fun and exciting Strawberry Festival. The Strawberry Festival features a bike parade, amusement rides, carnival games, pie eating contest, face painting, photo booth, ice cream, fresh strawberries and more! Sound like fun? Well it is. Don't miss it!

Look for the big red strawberry on the [Glenridge website](#). This is where you will be able to volunteer your time or donate a cake for our cake walk. You may also contact Diane Pratl at dianepratl@me.com or Liz McCandless at elizabeth.mccandless@mac.com to volunteer or for further information. Thank you in advance for helping to make this event a great success. Please volunteer today.

Field Day on May 22

Field Day is fast approaching, and volunteers are needed! Come and have a fun time playing games and enjoying the great spring weather with Glenridge students and staff. [Click here](#) for detailed information.

Jump Rope for Heart Results

We hit our GOAL of \$8,000. People have been sending in online donations, and once the company match money is confirmed we will have more than \$8,000. I am thrilled! Next year we will work to educate folks on how easy the online system is to make donations. Thank you for supporting Jump Rope for Heart!

Kerry Vetter, Chairperson

In the Library

SCREEN FREE WEEK, May 4-8, 2015

Screen Free Week is a time when Glenridge encourages families to choose non-screen activities for recreation and to choose face-to-face communication whenever possible and practical. We acknowledge that technology is an integral part of learning, working and communicating, so completely screen-free would be unrealistic. By promoting non-screen activities one week a year, we hope families and children will resist the screen habit and indulge themselves with creative art projects, interesting hobbies, exploring nature, physical activity and perhaps some extra reading! More information on specific activities planned at Glenridge will be coming soon!

IT'S BOOK SWAP TIME AGAIN!

Each year the Glenridge Library hosts a book swap for the students during the second to last week of school. Families donate gently used books they think someone at Glenridge might enjoy. We will be collecting books the week of May 11-15, and actually swapping the week of May 18-21. Volunteers are needed on May 15 from 1-3:30 p.m. for set up.

LAST SPOT CHECK OF THE YEAR, MAY 18-21, 2015

All books must be turned into the library by May 22, 2015.

Jude Hagene, Library Specialist

Kindergarten Enrollment for 2015-2016

To be eligible for kindergarten in the fall of 2015, your child must turn 5 years old on or before July 31, 2015. If your child is eligible, please register as soon as possible. All [enrollment forms](#) can be found at our website, and must be completed and submitted to the District Administrative Center. [Click here](#) for a complete list of upcoming Glenridge events for incoming kindergartners. For further assistance, please contact Stacey Harris at (314) 854-6028.

Voluntary transfer families who have children eligible for kindergarten must apply for registration through the Voluntary Interdistrict Choice Corporation (VICC) office at (314) 721-8422.

MCTM Contest Results

Congratulations to all of our students for their hard work and effort in representing Glenridge at the MCTM Regional Math Contest on Saturday, April 7. Those who participated were fourth-graders Robert Raine, David Liang, Graham Zucker and Ester Wang and fifth-graders Sonia Palamand, Jai Vallurupalli, Tom Dupor and Abby Van Emden.

A special congratulations is due to Sonia Palamand, who placed second overall in fifth grade, and to Jai Vallurupalli, who placed third overall in fifth grade. Both students qualify for the state competition to be held this Saturday, April 25, in Warrensburg, Mo.



- In the team event, our fifth-graders placed third. Congratulations to Sonia Palamand, Abby Van Emden, Tom Dupor and Jai Vallurupalli.
- In the target event, congratulations to Tom Dupor for placing third.
- In the sprint event, congratulations to Jai Vallurupalli for placing second and Sonia Palamand for placing third.
- In the number sense event, congratulations to fourth-grader Ester Wang for placing fifth and Sonia Palamand for placing third.

Gina McNamara, Math Specialist

In the Lab with Mr. Kearney

Kudos to all of the Glenridge scientists who participated in this year's science fair! Sixty of our students worked either alone or together to put 50 projects on display! The District-wide Elementary Science Celebration was a HUGE success thanks to everyone involved – parents, staff and (of course) students. A great time was had by all. I owe another thanks to our PTO, who again funded the stylish T-shirts for participants. I'm already looking forward to next year's fair...I hope you're interested in being a part of the fun!

Go Green! The Glenridge Green Team will soon be back at work in the garden and continuing to develop sustainable strategies for being good stewards of our Earth. Be on the lookout for our environmentally friendly efforts and ideas for how you can help benefit our community with us...not just on Earth Day (April 22), but every day!

[Click here](#) for details on what each grade level is doing in science class.

Brendan Kearney, Science Specialist

Glenridge MCTM 2015 Math and Art Contest Results

A group of Glenridge teachers judged the many entries submitted to the Glenridge Math and Art Contest to determine which entries should move to the Missouri Council Teachers of Mathematics (MCTM) regional contest. The judges looked for accuracy in the geometry math, creativity and neatness, MCTM's criteria. Glenridge's MCTM Math and Art Sponsor, Gifted Specialist Mrs. Slodounik, submitted 51 Glenridge student entries to the MCTM competition. [The results are in!](#)

[Click here](#) for a list of students and their entries.

Sharon Slodounik, Gifted Specialist

Final Box Tops Contest

The final Box Tops contest of the school year ends on April 28. The grade that has turned in the most Box Tops to their homeroom teacher will win an extra recess with popsicles on the playground. Currently, first grade and fourth grade are running neck-and-neck, but their lead is not insurmountable!

The Week in (Clayton) Sports

If you would like to receive the weekly sports schedule for Clayton High School, please send your name and email address to Debbie.Dornfeld in the CHS Athletic Office. To follow Greyhound sports, to go www.chsgreyhounds.com.

Calendar

[View Glenridge Elementary's upcoming events and activities.](#)

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