

Dear Glover Families,

We had a wonderful week! We proudly delivered the hundreds of gifts donated to families today. We are enjoying these chilly winter days...just a reminder that students should come dressed appropriately for the weather. Whenever possible, we like to get them outside for fresh air. We use the child care weather watch protocol and take into account both air temperature and wind chill factor when determining whether to have indoor or outdoor recess. Please be sure your child comes with gloves, a hat, and a jacket. Please reach out if you need assistance with winter gear this year.

Here are a few highlights and things to look forward to!

Retirements: If you missed my email earlier this week, we have a few special Glover staff members retiring. Susan Doyle's last day will be Friday, Lori Henry's last day was today, and Judy Lemelman will also be retiring next week. If you'd like to wish them well in their retirement, you can email them at sdoyle@miltonps.org, lhenny@miltonps.org, and jlemelman@miltonps.org. I'm sure you join me in thanking them for their years of service and dedication to countless Glover Kids.

Art and Future Problem Solving: We will be welcoming Sue Hoy to Glover in the new year. She will be taking Laurel Bernini's place in the art room as she heads to Collicot/Cunningham to teach full-time art. We are also pleased to announce Justine Novak as our new Future Problem Solving teacher. Ms. Novak is a certified teacher and daughter of legendary Glover Teacher Simone Rogan. Ms. Bernini will be working with both Ms. Hoy and Ms. Novak to make this transition seamless.

From the Glover Nurse:

Current Illnesses: The stomach bug and respiratory viruses & infections have been slowly on the rise at Glover School. There have also been a few cases of conjunctivitis and strep throat. Please remember to continue to follow the MPS policies regarding keeping children home for a full 24 hours without vomiting, diarrhea and/or fever before sending them back to school. People diagnosed with strep throat need to be on antibiotic for a full 24 hours before returning to school.

Lice: Fortunately, the presence of head lice has decreased!! Please continue to add head checks to your daily routine and report any cases of head lice to the school nurse. Please be diligent about checking your children especially after travel, vacation and sleepovers.

4th Grade Physicals: If you haven't done so already, please send a copy of your child's most recent physical exam into the nurse's office. This is a state mandate to keep the school health records up-to-date.

Screenings: Hearing, vision, BMI and postural screenings are on-going. If your child is already followed by a specialist and doesn't need school screening please email the school nurse: mleblanc@miltonps.org.

SEPAC News: The Milton SEPAC is pleased to announce our first in a series of Parent Speak events. On January 17th from 6:30 to 8:30, the SEPAC will host Glover parents in the Keys Community Room at the Milton Public Library. Join us to share experiences, ask questions, and express any concerns. We are interested in knowing what has gone well for you during the current school year as well as where improvements are needed. Parents will also have the opportunity to ask questions about the IEP process, parent rights, and other aspects of special education services. We hope to see you there.

Parent Speaker Series:

Odd Girl Out: The MPS Parent Speaker Series is pleased to welcome Rachel Simmons - Expert in Girls' Bullying and Young Women's Leadership. Rachel will be presenting "*Odd Girl Out: Coping with Best Friends, Worst Enemies, and Everything in Between*" on Monday January 8, 2018 from 6:30pm to 8:00pm at the Milton High School auditorium. This event is free and open to the public. Please see attached for more information.

What's the Deal with Testing: Testing in schools has been a fixture in the news over the past few years and almost none of the press has been positive. Added to this uncertainty have been multiple changes to the state test (MCAS to PARCC to MCAS 2.0) leaving many parents with more questions than answers. Why all the changes? What do the scores mean? How are they used to assess my child's learning? What's the purpose of it all?

As part of our Parent Speaker Series, we are pleased to present Celine Coggins, "What's the Deal with Testing? Separating the Myths from What Matters" on Wednesday, March 28 at MHS auditorium from 6:30pm – 7:30pm. This event will tackle the myths and realities of testing, and spark an open dialogue on the role of testing in the Milton Public Schools. MPS leadership team members Amy Gale, Michelle Kreuzer, Vy Vu and Nancy Warn will be part of this panel discussion. This event is free and open to the public, come with your questions.

Celine Coggins is the parent of current elementary, middle, and high school students in the Milton Public Schools. She is a Lecturer and Entrepreneur-in-Residence at the Harvard Graduate School of Education. Prior to Harvard, Celine founded and ran the nonprofit, Teach Plus, to support teacher development. She began her career as a middle school teacher, and is the author of four books and several articles on testing in education.

Soccer Uniform Donations: Drop off your used soccer uniforms (and equipment) in collection bins located in the lobbies of Collicot/Cunningham, Glover, Tucker and Pierce schools and at 34 Cliff Road. Any donations of clean T-Shirts, shorts, socks, shin guards, cleats, and deflated balls and pumps will be gratefully accepted. Note that uniforms from other sports will also be gratefully accepted. Collection dates are November 27-December 22. Thank you for your support! Thank you, Madame Brown, for bringing this great opportunity to us!

Upcoming Dates:

Monday, December 25-Tuesday, January 2: Winter Recess

Monday, January 8: Odd Girl Out (see above) 6:30-8pm at MHS

Wednesday, January 10: Diversity Committee/PTO/Glover Movie Night

We hope you have a great weekend and we look forward to another wonderful week at Glover next week!

In partnership,

Karen McDavitt

Principal, Glover Elementary School