

Dear Glover Families,

It was a short week but I have many exciting things to share! This week, every Glover Kid participated in our annual Martin Luther King, Jr. event by creating poetry, essays, art projects, and more. Each year, we partner with the Milton Interfaith Clergy Association to contribute to the annual Evening Community Celebration. The theme this year is "A Single Garment of Destiny".

"In a real sense all life is inter-related. All men are caught in an inescapable network of mutuality, tied in a single garment of destiny. Whatever affects one directly, affects all indirectly. I can never be what I ought to be until you are what you ought to be, and you can never be what you ought to be until I am what I ought to be... This is the inter-related structure of reality." Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., Letter from a Birmingham Jail

This year, our artwork and writing will be featured as well as many Glover singers! We hope to see you on Monday, January 15 for an Evening Community Celebration at the Concord Baptist Church, 180 Blue Hill Ave, from 6:30-8pm. Look for a few Glover submissions in the Milton Times!

We also enjoyed a wonderful presentation from the Museum of Science thanks to the Glover PTO! We welcomed a few new faces to our Glover family and all were welcomed in true Glover fashion and have hit the ground running. Welcome to Alicia Stackpole who has taken over for Mrs. Judy Lemelman. Special thanks to classroom paraprofessional, Kate Manning, who has provided consistency and support during this transition. Welcome Sue Hoy, art teacher, and Justine Novak, Future Problem Solving teacher. Mr. Josh Coben has officially assumed the role of MPS Elementary Librarian, taking over for Lori Henry and taught his first Glover classes on Wednesday. Exciting happenings at Glover!

I would be remiss if I didn't thank those who help keep our building and children warm and safe. These folks respond even in the worst weather...thank you to Tom Malloy, Janice Wilson, and Scott Williams, our incredible Glover custodians.

Additionally, the town of Milton's DPW and Consolidated Facilities Department, led by Bill Ritchie and Bob Mayhew, have done a superhuman job of making sure our buildings and physical plants are safe for students during this historic cold snap and snowstorm. We are fortunate to have such dedicated individuals working to keep our students safe.

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

SEL Focus: As you know, social-emotional learning is incredibly important to me and is at the heart of every effort we make here at Glover. I'm so thrilled to share with you the exciting news that I have applied for and been awarded a DESE Safe and Supportive Schools Grant in the amount of \$10,000 to support Glover's efforts! Dr. Karen Spaulding (PMS Principal) and I submitted this grant together on behalf of both Pierce and Glover. This grant is the continuation of the grant we were awarded last year that allowed Glover to complete an SEL self-assessment and action plan and form our Glover

Behavioral Health Support Team, which has had incredible impact. This grant will allow us to continue this very important work. Part of this grant will be directed towards a partnership with Dr. Carlos Hoyt, who is a leading expert in social identity, bias, and justice. To learn more about Dr. Hoyt, please visit <http://www.carloshoyt.com/>.

As a staff, we are also looking into the Calm Classroom approach. I am fortunate to be one of MPS's representatives in the ExSEL (excellence in SEL) consortium that includes 9 districts from across the state. In my last meeting at Holy Cross, I connected with principals from other communities who shared about Calm Classroom. We are excited to pilot it here at Glover. Lots of great things happening in the SEL world!

Movie Night/Diversity Committee/PTO! On Wednesday, we will be hosting our third Diversity Committee/PTO meeting evening, complete with childcare provided by MHS seniors and a movie! We encourage any and all to join us for some invigorating and powerful conversations! This month's Diversity Committee meeting will focus on our efforts to create a safe and supportive learning community for all, specifically looking at active bystander training for both families and students, anti-bullying campaigns, and new programs being piloted, as mentioned above. Please consider joining us at 6pm!

Winter Weather: 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. If you missed it, here is what we do on snow days...<https://youtu.be/7K33d6pTXoQ>

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 consider attending!

For over ten years, Rachel has studied the politics of girls' relationships. She's empowered thousands of parents to help their daughters negotiate some of the most painful moments of their lives. Rachel's rigorous research and unparalleled experience with girls makes her a favorite of parent associations around the world. Weaving down-to-earth advice with analysis of girls' development, Rachel provides parents with concrete strategies and scripts to help kids cope with best friends, worst enemies and everything in between. An intimate observer of girls' social world, she offers parents a window into the hidden culture of girls' aggression. **Parents are welcome and encouraged to bring their daughters ages 9 and up.** This session will have Rachel's books for sale and an opportunity to have books signed. There will also be an

opportunity for parents/daughter to attend Odd Girl Out breakout sessions to be held on Saturday January 13. Several Milton homes will host age-specific group discussions led by a facilitator regarding the main talking points from Odd Girl Out. More details will be presented the night of the event.

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.

Bystander Intervention Training: At our next Diversity Committee meeting, the agenda includes this important topic. For adults interested in learning more about how to address implicit and explicit racism and bias, please consider attending this Bystander Intervention Training on Saturday, January 27th from 10-1 at the First Congregational Church of Milton (495 Canton Ave). Please enter and park in the rear.

This is a joint effort between Courageous Conversations and True Story Theater. This three hour workshop is tailored specifically to the work of Courageous Conversations and the needs of our community. I have personally worked with the Courageous Conversations team and can tell you that this will be time very well spent. Please register ahead of time by following this link.

Wildcats Tutoring: Are you looking for a tutor? Wildcats Tutoring is a free program run by dedicated high school students. It runs every Monday and Wednesday from 3:30-5:30 at the Milton Public Library on a first come, first served basis. Tutoring is available in ELA, Math, Science, French, and Spanish. If you have any questions, please email mhswildcatstutoring@gmail.com. Tutoring begins January 8 and runs every week (excluding long weekends and holidays).

Preschool Information Night: Are you or someone you know looking for a preschool program for your three or four year old? Milton Public Schools has a variety of programs for those children who will turn three or four on or before August 31, 2018. Mark your calendars and join us for an information evening on January 11, 2018 at 6:30pm. The information session will take at MHS. This is guaranteed to be an informative evening as preschool staff and administrators outline the similarities and differences in the programs offered as well as answer any questions families may have. Please feel free to contact Marti O'Keefe McKenna, Family Outreach Liaison, at preschool@miltonps.org or 617 980 7343 if you have additional questions. We look forward to seeing you there.

Kindergarten Information Night: Calling all future kindergarteners! Kindergarten Registration for September 2018 is upon us. As we prepare to welcome our new kindergarteners next September, the first step for families is to pre-register your new

student. After you pre-register, we hope to see many kindergarten parents and guardians at Kindergarten Information Night on Tuesday, January 23rd at Milton High School. The final step is to attend Kindergarten Registration (by appointment on February 13th, 14th, 15th) with your completed registration packet that you will receive on January 23rd at information night. Questions? Please email Laurie Dunn. We look forward to meeting the class of 2031!

Chessapalooza! It's back! Please see attached flier about this exciting opportunity for chess players of all abilities on March 3 from 9:30-1. Registration information attached- must be received by February 17.

Upcoming Dates:

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

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

Thursday, January 11: Preschool Information Night- 6:30 at MHS

Monday, January 15: No School- MLK Jr. Holiday

Monday, January 15: MLK Evening Community Celebration- 6:30-8pm (see above)

Wednesday, January 17: Glover SEPAC Event- 6:30-8:30 at Milton Public Library (see above)

Thursday, January 18: Fifth grade field trip to see Pierce Players "Seussical" (9:30-11:30)

Tuesday, January 23: Kindergarten Information Night- 6:30pm at MHS

Saturday, January 27: Bystander Intervention Training (see above)

February 19-23: February Break

Saturday, March 3: Chessapalooza at Milton Public Library- 9:30-1 (see attached)

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