

Dear Glover Families,

We had a great week and next week is going to be exciting! Glover is partnering with the Sandy Hook Promise organization and joining schools across the nation to bring “Start With Hello Week” to Glover. This special project has been created by the Sandy Hook Promise, a national non-profit organization founded and led by families who lost loved ones in Newtown. The organization is focused on preventing violence before it happens by mobilizing and educating parents, schools and communities on mental health and wellness programs that identify, intervene and help at-risk individuals.

These past two weeks, we’ve been focusing on **welcoming** in our Second Step program and this will allow us to put our learning into action. The mission of this project is to make a difference in someone’s life and make them feel included. Through this project, we will learn about how to continue to build a school culture where everyone feels connected and included. It starts with three simple steps: see someone alone, reach out and help, and start with a smile.

On **Monday**, each student and staff member will receive a special nametag on a lanyard that they will personalize with “conversation starters” for when they meet new friends.

On **Tuesday**, we will have a “**No One Eats Alone**” day. We will encourage everyone to reach out and meet someone new during lunch to make sure that no one eats alone. Students will wear their nametags so that they can address each other by name and start conversations with new friends.

On **Wednesday**, we will have a “**No One Plays Alone**” day. Again, all students will be encouraged to invite someone new to play at recess and they will wear their nametags so that they can get to know each other. Teachers will be joining students on both days to facilitate and support conversations.

On **Thursday**, the whole school will participate in “**Hey Day!**” All of us, educators, administrators, staff, and students, will wear nametags and for this one day, we’ll break the “Volume 0” rule in the hallways. Students will be encouraged to greet each other by their first names in the hallways, cafeteria, playground, and classroom. Students will be encouraged to say “hey”, smile, or nod when passing others in the hallway.

Why are we doing this? The purpose of this project is to help us create a more connected and inclusive school community, to hopefully inspire others and create

lifelong friendships, and to make a difference in someone's life and help them feel accepted, included and valued.

"Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world; indeed, it's the only thing that ever has." – Margaret Mead

A Look Ahead...

Open House: We look forward to seeing you all this coming Thursday, September 26 at 6:30pm for Open House. If you cannot attend, please let your child's teacher know so that materials can be sent home. Open House is for parents/guardians only but if childcare is a barrier to attendance, please let me know.

Room Parents/Guardians:

Thank you to those of you who have volunteered to be a Room Parent for your child's teacher this year! As a Room Parent, you are the primary liaison between the PTO and families in the classroom, helping families enrich the experiences of our children in school.

Room Parent/Guardian responsibilities include (but aren't limited to) sharing pertinent information about classroom and school-based events with families, organizing teacher appreciation activities, organizing classroom volunteers, and collaborating with the PTO. It is very helpful for room parents/guardians to be able to attend regular PTO meetings which are the third Wednesday of every month. If you are interested, please be sure to complete this Google Form: <https://forms.gle/ck23EKLC9aznpxb8>

We are still looking for Room Parents for the following teachers: Stallions, O'Leary (Shauna), Bodkin, and Maliel. Also, many classrooms only have one room parent but we know that many hands make light work so feel free to sign up if you are still interested! Thank you!

Selected Room Parents will be notified by teachers on Monday and we ask that you schedule a time to connect in person or via phone with your child's teacher if selected to be a Room Parent. All Room Parents will be introduced at Open House on Thursday.

Volunteer sign-ups will be coordinated through Room Parents this year and classroom directories will be shared. Again, if you DO NOT want your child's contact information shared only with his/her classmates for the purposes of social opportunities, please

email me directly. Otherwise, your child's contact information will be included in the Classroom Directory so that friends may reach out for social connections only.

Use of Cell Phones and Other Electronic Devices:

According to the MPS Handbook, "inappropriate/unauthorized use of cell phones and other electronic devices is a tremendous distraction from the learning process. Cell phones, smart watches, and other electronic devices should not be visible, heard, or on during the school day. If such devices are seen or heard, we will ask that it be immediately placed in the student's locker or backpack. For the safety of our students and in order to maintain an environment conducive to learning, parents/guardians should not contact their student via cell phone, smart watch, or text message." In the era of devices on our wrists, we ask that those devices either be left at home or left in backpacks/lockers. Devices that simply tell time and/or track movement are acceptable as long as they are not a distraction but devices that can be used to communicate with others should be left at home or in lockers. Thank you for your understanding and partnership.

Building Access and Security:

We value a strong community presence here at Glover but balance this with the importance of ensuring student safety at all times by closely monitoring access, entry, and movement of all adults around the building. In order to ensure student and staff safety, please adhere to the following procedures:

- All adults/visitors must use the main entrance of Glover School. Entry through any other door during the school day (8:50-3:19) is prohibited. Only students and employees may enter the building through entrances other than the main entrance.
- During the school day, guests must ring the doorbell to gain access to the vestibule and once again to gain access to the school. Office staff must be able to clearly see your face on the camera before you gain entry. It may seem strange that we ask you the nature of your business, especially if we know you and the purpose of your visit, but this is a practice that we use with all visitors consistently. Thank you for your understanding.
- All adults who plan to stay in the building should give the office staff a valid state-issued ID so that a Visitor's Badge can be printed. All adults without a

badge will be asked to immediately return to the office to receive one. Badges must be visible at all times.

- All adults must sign in on the Visitor's sheet located in the main office. Upon leaving, guests should sign out and return their badge to office staff. Guests should always exit through the main entrance unless escorted by an employee to a different exit in the building.
- All adults who stay in the building need a CORI form on file. CORI forms need to be filled out through the office. On the night of Open House, we will be available after your visit in your child's classroom if you'd like to complete a CORI then.

BOKS is BACK! BOKS will be starting up again in November as the weather turns colder and days get shorter. For those of you new to the Glover community, [BOKS](#) is a free, morning fitness program of fun activities that have been created in partnership with Reebok. We are only able to offer this at Glover because we have a team of parent volunteers who know that morning exercise helps kids get more motivated and focused the rest of the day! We currently have 2 vacancies on the *core* team that we must fill in order to run the program (we will also *occasional* volunteers to drop in throughout the term). The commitment is twice per week for 6 weeks (Nov. 5-Dec. 12); Tuesdays and Thursday from 7:45-8:45am). No previous training or teaching experience is needed - just bring sneakers and enthusiasm and we will teach you the rest. Contact Ellen Stoddard if you are interested! estoddard2013@gmail.com/ 617-285-9406.

Milton Goes Gold: Wow! Thank you all for your incredible donations and support! We are off to a great start! Gold laces are back-ordered but will be in by the 26th! You can always order [online here](#). Thank you for your generosity!

Glover Lantern Walk: Please mark your calendars for this special Glover tradition! On Friday, October 18, we will be joined by our Tucker friends for a walk around Turner's Pond with our lanterns! Our Lantern Walk begins at 6pm and we ask that you stay with your children at all times. Immediately following our Lantern Walk, you are invited to the back playground for some cider and donuts and a movie in the gym!

On Wednesday, Oct 16 at 6:00pm, we will be having our Lantern Making Workshop during our PTO meeting. We will have helpers in the cafeteria and students are invited to bring an empty 2-liter plastic bottle with them so that we can make it into a lantern.

While your children are lantern-making, we invite you to join us for a brief PTO meeting!

If you cannot attend the lantern making workshop, making a lantern is easy! Simply peel the wrapper off of a two-liter bottle and cut it in half. Punch a hole on either side to attach a ribbon, wire, or string as a handle. Use white glue and tissue paper to cover the outside of the bottle. Last, put a light source (flashlight, glow bracelet/stick, electronic tea light) inside and voila!

PTO Annual Appeal: Each year, the Glover PTO reaches out to families for financial support so that we can continue to fund wonderful enrichment programs at the school. With your donation, the Glover PTO is able to fund initiatives that otherwise would not be possible, such as:

- The Lantern Walk and Skating Party
- Science Fair and Field Day/End of Year Picnic
- Physical updates to the school such as classroom flexible seating and document cameras and the hallway sensory paths!
- Museum of Science & N.E. Aquarium visits for all grades
- Field Trips for Grades K-5 (bus cost and portion of admission)
- Cultural Events like author visits, storytellers, and Historical Perspective performances

Your donation, in any amount, helps make these wonderful opportunities possible for our children. You can make a donation, big or small, by sending in a check along with your child, made payable to **Glover PTO.*** Please reference “Annual Appeal” in the memo section. OR, you can **Venmo your donation @Glover-PTO.** Thank you so much for your generosity and for considering donating your time and talents to the Glover PTO! The Glover PTO is a registered nonprofit organization and your donation is tax deductible.

MCAS Dates: We have tentatively planned our MCAS dates for the spring. We know that families sometimes plan trips around April break and we wanted to let you know as early as possible so that you avoid dates that your child is participating in MCAS. While we do offer make-up sessions, the best test environment for your child is with his/her peers in the classroom. Attendance is important always, but especially on these days. Thank you!

Tuesday, March 31 and Wednesday, April 1: Grade 5 ELA MCAS
Thursday, April 2 and Friday, April 3: Grade 4 ELA MCAS
Tuesday, April 7 and Wednesday, April 8: Grade 3 ELA MCAS
Tuesday, May 5 and Wednesday, May 6: Grade 5 Math MCAS
Thursday, May 7 and Friday, May 8: Grade 4 Math MCAS
Tuesday, May 12 and Wednesday, May 13: Grade 3 Math MCAS
Thursday, May 14 and Friday, May 15: Grade 5 STE MCAS

Monster Dash Art Contest: Halloween is around the corner, and once again the Milton Foundation for Education is looking for artwork to print on the front of race t-shirts for the Milton Monster Dash. Create your best design and submit one entry by Wednesday, September 25th. The winner will see their drawing on race t-shirts, and help start the runners on race day, October 27th. Please see attached for more information.

TO PARTICIPATE:

- Artwork should have a Halloween theme
- Children living in or attending school in Milton are eligible
- Entries must be on white, unlined 8 ½" x 11" paper
- Entrants should use a black, thick Sharpie for their artwork
- Include child's name, school and age on back of artwork
- Submit the artwork by Wednesday, September 27
- Deliver drawing and entry form to the main office of your school
- Artwork will not be returned
- All decisions of the Milton Monster Dash Committee are final.
- Contact Liddie Sutter with any questions at liddievs@gmail.com

Glover's Makerspace- Donations Needed: As part of our library revitalization (thanks to MFE), we are fortunate to introduce students to our new Makerspace. Over the course of the year, students will have the opportunity to visit the Makerspace and innovate. We would love your help! We need donations of household items in order to fill our Makerspace. Please see attached and send in anything with your child if you want to donate! A bin is located in the lobby to collect all items. Thank you!

Diversity Committee Update: Last night, we met to brainstorm about this year's exciting initiatives which include the Community Dinner Project, the Diverse Reads

Family Book Club, and more! To learn more, please mark your calendars and join us on Thursday, October 24 at 6:30pm.

Fifth Grade Committee News: The Fifth Grade Committee will be continuing the Glover tradition of selling Goodie Bags at Open House. These \$3 bags can be placed in your child's locker or brought home on Thursday evening. Additionally, there will be a bake sale and raffle items such a classroom gift basket and Glover Gear gift basket- bring cash for these! All funds raised go directly to the graduating fifth grade class. Glover Gear will also be available for purchase.

For Your Calendar:

Monday-Thursday: Start With Hello Week at Glover!

Saturday, September 21: Children's Hospital Blood Drive behind Cunningham

Tuesday, September 24: Designing Inclusive Schools PARENT Speaker Series- 6:30pm at MHS (see attached)

Thursday, September 26: Glover Open House- 6:30pm

Friday, September 27: No School (Professional Development Day for Staff)

Wednesday, October 2: Walk/Bike to School Day

Thursday, October 9: Yom Kippur- No School

Monday, October 14: Columbus Day- No School

Wednesday, October 16: PTO Meeting and Lantern Making Workshop- 6pm

Friday, October 18: Glover Lantern Walk

Wednesday, October 23: Early Release Day (12:30)- PD for Staff

Thursday, October 24: Glover Diversity Committee- 7pm in Glover Library

Sunday, October 27: MFE Monster Dash

Thursday, November 14: Early Release Day (12:30)- PD for Staff

As always, please don't hesitate to reach out to me any time with any questions or concerns. Have a wonderful weekend!

In Partnership,

Karen McDavitt

Principal, Glover Elementary School