

GRAY-NEW GLOUCESTER
MIDDLE SCHOOL

PARENTS as PARTNERS
NEWSLETTER



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December 18th, 2009
#8 09/10

Dates to remember:
Dec. 24-Jan 3- Winter Break

Holiday Wishes

It has been a busy and productive fall here at the middle school. Now, as we enter the holidays and vacation we hope that students, teachers, staff and all of their families will have the opportunity to relax, reflect on the past year, and recharge for what's ahead. Wishing you and your families a safe and happy holiday season!

Holiday Concert

Congratulations to all the members of the band and chorus for their wonderful performance at the Holiday Concert. It was evident that they had worked quite hard in preparing for what can only be described as a marvelous evening. Those in attendance would agree that we have some very talented musicians, singers and students in our school. A Special thanks to Ms. Whitney and Ms. Polletto for all of their efforts with our students.

Appropriate Dress Reminder

A friendly reminder that as the weather turns colder it is imperative that students wear appropriate clothing; coats, hats, gloves, and footwear as we will continue to go outside at lunch time. In addition, please label your students clothing as our lost and found pile is getting quite large.

Dismissal Reminder

We have implemented a new dismissal procedure for the end of the day. We ask parents wishing to dismiss and pick-up their students at the end of the day to do so prior to **1:40**. Office staff will be stationed at a desk outside the main office entrance to sign students out. We thank you in advance for your cooperation in this effort.

Next Dance

The next dance will be December 18th from 6:30-9:00. The dance is open to 6th, 7th and 8th graders.

Figure It Out

The "Figure it out" math challenge has expanded to a weekend edition. Solve the problem and email the answer to me at scarbonneau@msad15.org

If 6 boys fill 6 notebooks in 6 weeks and 4 girls fill 4 notebooks in 4 weeks, how many notebooks will a class of 12 boys and 12 girls fill in 12 weeks?

News from the Library

“Baffled by TV ratings? Don't give up! Can a movie review make your life better? Are online games taking over the video and computer game world? Finding great websites for kids isn't hard. From Elmo to Eminem you can trust our children's music reviews. Finding great books for children makes them lifelong readers.” The GNGMS Library home page has a link to www.commonsemmedia.org . This site is a terrific place for parents to use when looking for reviews on television shows, movies, games, websites, music and books. So many times we wonder if a new movie or video game is age appropriate for our child. This site can help! I hope you'll have time to explore this useful tool.

Have a healthy winter break. May you have time to read a book!

We are asking that ALL library books be turned in by Dec 22. Exceptions can be made by speaking with Mrs. Strout!

"Balance of Power"

The Civil Rights Team was pleased to present the Camfel Productions multimedia presentation of "Balance of Power" on Tuesday, December 15th. The show was generously co-sponsored by the Patriot Parents. The movie's powerful message was shared with students in grades 5-8. This presentation encouraged students to stop blaming and accusing others when things appear unfair in life. Instead, it suggested that students use a perceived disadvantage as a challenge to try harder to achieve their goals.

The Civil Rights Team is grateful to all school staff for their flexibility and time. We especially would like to thank Mr. May and the custodial and kitchen crews for the orderly set-up and the sharing of cafeteria space. Additionally, we are grateful to the parents of CRT members who brought their students to school at 6am to set up for the show.

We look forward to this yearly presentation returning again next December!

A message about School Messenger!

Now that our school messenger program is up and running we would ask that if you need to make an adjustment to your preferences please call the office as soon as possible. As a default all enrolled emails and phone numbers are set to accept emergency, early dismissal and general notices. If you would like to choose to be contacted for snow days or late starts you would need to choose that separately. Most households have already done this and received the notification when we had our first snow day. If you did not receive an email or call you may want to change your preferences to be included. Please call the office with questions!