

GRAY-NEW GLOUCESTER
MIDDLE SCHOOL

PARENTS as PARTNERS
NEWSLETTER



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December 4th, 2009
#7 09/10

Dates to remember:

Dec. 8-Winter Band/Chorus Concert 7pm (12/10 snow date)

Dec. 14- early release

Dec. 24-Jan 3- Winter Break

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.

Lost and Found!

We have a substantial amount of lost and found items. Many of these are expensive clothing items. We encourage you to have your child look through the items, located out side of the main office, for anything he or she may have lost. Any item NOT claimed by December 11th will be donated.

5th and 6th Grade Socials

The next 5th and 6th grade social will be December 11th from 2-4. Admission is \$4 and students should arrange for a ride promptly at 4 o'clock.

Next Dance

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

Hannaford Helps Schools *ENDS THIS SUNDAY!!!****

We are registered with Hannaford in Gray for their "Hannaford Helps Schools" program. If you purchase participating products you will receive a certain number of "school dollars" with your receipt. These "school dollars" can be deposited in the collection tower at Hannaford in Gray, or if you shop at other Hannaford locations, you can turn the "school dollars" into the Middle School office and we will get them to the Gray store for collection. More details of this program are available at www.hannaford.com/hhs or you can pick up a flyer in our office. The deadline for earning Hannaford "school dollars" is December 6, 2009. All funds collected from this program will go towards Middle School activities.

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

Last Weekend winners are: Mike Cormier's Family, Kaitlyn Spaulding's Family and the Ferguson and the Sutherland Family. Congratulations.

This weekend's Figure it out! It rains here one day out of three. Our local meteorologists, who are pessimistic by nature, are wrong in their daily forecasts one time out of two when they should have predicted good weather but wrong only one time out of five when they should have forecasted rain.

Each morning, Francine leaves home for the day. If she departs without an umbrella and it rains, she is twice as annoyed as if it had been fair and she had taken her umbrella with her. "Would I be wiser," she wonders, "to listen to the morning weather forecast and take my umbrella only if rain is predicted? Or should I consistently carry it? Or should I never take it? What would you advise Francine to do?"

News from the Library

Our Scholastic Book fair was very successful! The total amount sold was \$3097.94. Our profit was \$774.49 (25%). This money is used to purchase books throughout the year. Thanks to everyone who helped out!

The fourth book in the *Diary of a Wimpy Kid* series, *Dog Days*, has been very popular. Students are enjoying this comic-style series featuring Greg Heffley, a middle school student. The author, Jeff Kinney, has signed a movie deal!

The Maine Student Book Award program is an on-going reading program for students in grades 4-8. Committees of teachers and librarians have compiled a list of about 30 books they feel are outstanding. Students are encouraged to read the nominated books. In March students who have read at least three of the books can participate in the voting. In April the title with the most votes is announced as the Maine Student Book Award winner! More information and reviews can be found at <http://efolio.umeedu.maine.edu/~masl/msba/> . There are some excellent titles to choose from. Students should make sure the books they choose are appropriate for their own reading level as the program spans 5 grade levels.

WinterKids

Applications for the WinterKids program are available for parents of 5th, 6th and 7th graders to pick up in the main office and online at www.winterkids.org. WinterKids is a program that provides Maine children the opportunity to enjoy winter outdoor recreation activities at a free or reduced cost.

Holiday Assistance

The holiday assistance coordinators of New Gloucester and Gray work with area businesses, church groups, organizations and individuals in an effort to make the holiday season brighter

for families in need. If you feel you need assistance this year please obtain one of the forms from the office; fill it out and return it to the school. The forms are also available in the town office or public library.