



WELCOME

Kindergarten Orientation

Wednesday, August 23, 2017

Ms. Ryan - Principal



# **Glen Acres Elementary**

## **Shared Mission**

Our mission is to educate and inspire our students to achieve their personal best.

## **Shared Vision**

We believe that by working together, adults create a future where all children achieve at high levels.

## **Shared Values/Commitments**

We value respect, responsibility, and kindness. We commit to providing differentiated instruction and targeted intervention to move each child forward.

# *We Are Your Team*

Principal-

Ms. Donna Ryan

Kindergarten Teachers-

Mrs. Nicole Clayton

Mrs. Mary Kate Phillips

Mrs. Erin Malikowski

Dr. Kate Alba

Miss Brielle McAliney

K Teacher Floater-

Ms. Ally Caputa

Learning Support Teacher –

Mrs. Kristen McCown

Reading Specialists-

Mrs. Deb Whitmire,

Mrs. Kara Root

Mrs. Lisa Howe

ELL Teachers-

Mrs. Denise Mastrangelo

Mrs. Carmen Pacheco

ELL Instructional Support-

Mrs. Ana Lassen

Ms. Ligi Joseph

K Support- Mrs. Joan Di Salvatore

School Counselor and School Psychologist-

Mrs. Stewart and Mrs. Elliott

Instructional Coach-Suzanne Fanelle

# *Supports Offered to Students*

## **Reading Support**

Small group instruction provided by reading specialists focused on literacy.

## **Enrichment**

Instructional Coach/Gifted Resource Teacher collaborate with teachers to provide higher-order thinking lessons in classes.

## **English Language Learner (ELL)**

Small group instruction provided by ELL teachers to assist students learning English.

## **Speech Therapy/OT/PT**

Individual or small group therapy to support students needing additional support with speech and language, OT, PT.

# *Reading Support and Title I*

- ✓ What is Title I?
- ✓ How do we use the Title I funds in West Chester?
- ✓ What is reading support?
- ✓ How does my child qualify for support?
- ✓ How do the reading support teachers facilitate learning in the core classrooms?

# *The Importance of Kindergarten*

## **Learn the Basics**

Children will be taught the academic standards from the PA Core. Our goals are to have students reading by the end of kindergarten and gain an understanding of mathematical concepts and number sense so they are ready for first grade.

## **Socialization**

Kindergarten prepares children for the following school years because they meet new friends and learn how to communicate. We work with children on learning related behaviors to help them adjust to life in school.

## **Play Based Learning**

In Kindergarten, children will learn through play based activities that are integrated with the curriculum. They will explore the content areas through different forms of play.

# *The First Week of School*

Mon, August 28, 2017 ALL Students A-L

Tue, August 29, 2017 ALL Students M-Z

Wed, August 30, 2017 All K students

Thu, August 31, 2017 All K students

# *Our Day*

- ✓ The students should be sitting in their classroom seat by 8:35 A.M.
- ✓ Attendance will be taken at 8:40A.M.
- ✓ Buses start to depart at 3:10 P.M.



# *Our 4 Day Schedule*

- The students will have a different 50 minute special each day- Art, Music, PE, and Library
- For example Day1- Art, Day 2, Music, Day3 PE, Day 4 Library, and then Day 1 again Art
- If we have off the next day after Day 1 due to a weekday holiday or snow day, when the student returns it will be Day 2
- Students have lunch and recess from 10:45 until 11:45
- ELA and play in the A.M.
- Math, Content, Specials and Play in the P.M.

# *Raptor & Volunteer Clearances*

## **Raptor**

**Limited Contact** – no clearances, license will be scanned at office before any event or activity in the school

## **Volunteer Clearances**

**Substantial Contact** – need all 3

Three Clearances (good for 5 years)

- Act 114: Federal Criminal Check
- Act 34- PA Criminal History Check
- Act 151: Child Abuse Clearance Check

\*\*Submit a copy to youngest child's school; notify all schools where you have children

More info at [www.wcasd.net](http://www.wcasd.net)

# *Absences*

- ✓ Please call in your child's absence to the attendance line
- ✓ Please follow it up with a signed note either handed in to your child's teacher or scanned in and signed by you ( we do not accept emails)
- ✓ You have 3 days to get your absence note into school otherwise it is unlawful
- ✓ Your child is allowed 7 parent note absences. Absences after 7 require verified doctor's notes. Family vacation days need approval from the principal in advance. Family vacations in excess of 5 days will not be approved

# *Report Cards*

- WCASD Standards Based Report Card
- We report out in a rubric system
  - 1 Below Basic – limited progress toward standard
  - 2 Basic – significant progress toward standard
  - 3 Proficient – consistently meets standard
  - 4 Advanced – consistently exceeds standard
- Report Card goes home three times a year  
December, March, June
- Parent Conferences held twice per year  
November and March

# *Communicate!*

- Never assume we already know! Feel free to share information that helps us better serve your child
- You will hear from me regularly, on Sundays.
- Visit your child's class and attend conferences.
- Feel free to email me, call me, or schedule a meeting with me at any point. If it is a classroom issue, please reach out to the teacher first.

# *Ms. Ryan's Final Thoughts*

- ✓ If you have not already, please complete the *parent survey* and return it to school on the first day.
- ✓ Transportation: check the mailer to be sure your child's transportation is correct to and from school and incorporates any daycare needs.
- ✓ See you at Sneak-a-Peek tomorrow @ 2pm

# *Meet Mrs. Phillips!*

- This is my twelfth year teaching Kindergarten!
- I received my Bachelor's Degree in Elementary Education from Penn State University in 2004 and have my Master's Degree in Elementary Education.
- I am married, have two sons—a seven year old named Ryan and a four year old named Patrick, and a dog named Tyson.
- I will be running my 7<sup>th</sup> half marathon in September and my 1<sup>st</sup> full marathon in November.

# *Meet Mrs. Malikowski!*

- This is my fourth year teaching Kindergarten!
- I received my Bachelor's Degree in Elementary Education from Lynchburg College in 2008. I received my Master's Degree in Education and Reading Certification from Cabrini University in 2017.
- I have been married for three years and I love to ride and train horses!



# *Meet Mrs. Clayton!*

- This is my second year teaching Kindergarten, but my fourth year here at Glen Acres!
- I received my Bachelor's Degree in Elementary Education from West Chester University in 2014.
- I am married and am working towards my Masters in Education degree.
- I enjoy traveling, cooking, and going to the beach!

# *Meet Dr. Alba!*

- This is my first year teaching Kindergarten, but my eleventh year of teaching.
- I received my Bachelor's Degree in Elementary Education in 2005 and my Master's Degree as a Reading Specialist in 2009, both from West Chester University. I received my Doctorate in Educational Leadership from Temple University in May.
- I am married and we have a fur baby named Bonnie.

# *Meet Miss McAliney!*

- This is my first year teaching Kindergarten, but my third year teaching in the district!
- I received my Bachelor's Degree in Elementary Education from West Chester University in 2014.
- I went skydiving this summer and spent time at my family's beach house in North Carolina.
- I have a 9 month old Bernese Mountain Dog named Bennett.

# Notes

It is essential that you put information in the form of a note. This gives me a clear understanding of the information you wish to convey. Examples: pick-up changes, family trips, absences, etc. If your child is absent, a note explaining their absence must be sent into school within three days. Please place notes in your child's folder.

**Please note: We are not always able to check our email or voice messages throughout the school day, therefore a written note to convey important information is best\***

# *Buses*

A bus tag will be given to your child.

Please verify that this information is **CORRECT**, then please make sure that your child's bus tag is in a Ziploc baggie and pinned to his/her book bag on the outside so that the tag is visible. If your child's transportation plans change, a note is required.

# *Pick Up Arrangements*

If you or anyone else will be picking your child up from school, a note must be sent in explaining the arrangement if this is different from how you established it in the beginning of the year.

If you forget, you may call the office and send in a scanned signed note. Please send it in by noon.

# *Other Transportation Information*

- ✓ Drop Off and Pick Up is in the Circle in front of the gym
- ✓ Buses drop off in front of the school
- ✓ When students arrive, they will walk straight down to their classrooms and sit in the hall until 8:30 A.M.
- ✓ Students can enter the classroom at 8:30 A.M. and will be marked late by 8:40 A.M.
- ✓ The hallways will be supervised by staff members
- ✓ If you are driving your child to school, please try to car pool and arrive in the circle before 8:30 A.M.
- ✓ If your child will be taking the bus, please supervise them at the bus stops. The bus driver will drop off your K student at the stop EVEN if you are not there to pick them up unless you notify the bus driver.

# *Parental Involvement*

## Ways to Help in School:

- Become a homeroom parent
- Help in the library
- Be a Field Trip Chaperone
- Join the PTO
- Attend Meetings
- Volunteer to help in the classroom

## Ways to Help at Home:

- Talk with your child about school daily
- Check your child's folder daily
- Stay connected with the teacher
- Support School Rules & Routines
- Help your child with homework
- Be sure your child comes to school prepared and ready to learn



# *School Supplies*

Please do not label supplies (supply list sent via email) as all students will share them!

\*Send supplies during your child's first week of Kindergarten☺

\*A complete change of clothing **to be kept in child's backpack**— please send seasonal appropriate clothes in a Ziploc bag with your child's name on it.

\*Each student will also need a **full size backpack** – large enough for a take home folder, a lunchbox, and a change of clothes, but may NOT have wheels.

# *Kindergarten Wish List*

Items on the Kindergarten wish list are not required but are greatly appreciated. Throughout the year a tree will hang in the kindergarten hallway. If you wish, you may send in a wish list item with your child.

Items most often found on the tree are:

- \*Ziploc Bags (any size)
- \*White Paper Plates
- \*Playdough
- \*Large Safety Pins
- \*Brown or White Paper Bags
- \*Crayola Washable Paints (any color)
- \*Wiggly Eyes
- \*Clothes Pins
- \*Extra Snack (Goldfish, pretzels, crackers, etc.)

# *Lunch*

- Your child will eat lunch here at school. If you wish for your child to buy lunch please send money in an envelope marked with your child's name/teacher (Aramark will communicate more information with you).
- There are free and reduced lunch forms available in the office if you are interested.
- We highly recommend sending in a PACKED lunch the first week or two of school as children are learning the new routine.

**Please label all lunch boxes, snacks,  
water bottles, etc.**

# *Birthdays*

As part of the school wellness policy, students are not permitted to bring in food for their birthdays. You may send in a different treat if you choose (goodie bags, stickers, pencils, etc.).

\*\*Party Invitations will NOT be distributed in school\*\*

# *Snack*

Your child will need a snack every day. Please send in one small, healthy snack item to school. Snacks should be finger foods such as pretzels, carrot sticks, apple slices, etc. Our classroom is a peanut and tree nut free zone due to allergies. Please be sure your child's snack does not contain either of these items. We have a water fountain, but you may send in a water bottle with your child if you prefer. Milk, Juice and juice boxes are not allowed.

Parents are welcomed to donate an occasional bag of pretzels or goldfish to the class for children who forget their snack.

# *Read Aloud*

Each month, a sheet will be sent home for you to record the number of books that your child read (or had read to them) during that month. Return the list at the beginning of the next month and students with 15+ books read will receive a prize.

# *Star of the Week*

Each child will have a chance to be our Star of the Week. On the Friday prior to your child's week as star, a tote bag will come home with a folder, a "Totally Terrific Me" book, a journal, and our Classroom stuffed animal.

On Monday, you are welcome to send in pictures of your child to be displayed in the classroom for the week.

During this week, your child will have a chance to...

- Share their "Totally Terrific Me" book with a special visitor

# *Scholastic Book Orders*

Book order forms will be sent home every month. If you choose to order, please order online or send in a check payable to Scholastic along with the order form. **NO CASH WILL BE ACCEPTED.** Orders take 2-3 weeks to arrive.



# *Classroom Parties*

Some parties are open to guests (with a valid ID—must be scanned with the main office), while others are celebrated within the classroom throughout the entire school day.

Harvest Day/Halloween: Classroom Celebration—Homeroom parents will organize food and craft activity

Kindergarten & Buddy Thanksgiving Feast: Open to Guests—More info will be sent home

Winter Party: Open to guests—Homeroom parents will organize food and craft activity

End of Year Celebration: Open to Guests—Homeroom parents organize food (no craft activity is needed!)

# Homework

- Homework will be sent home on Monday and should be returned to school on Friday (unless otherwise noted).
- Use only pencils for writing and crayons for coloring. No markers or pens.
- Please let your child complete their own homework – help them, but do not do it for them.

\*\*Read every night for at least 15 minutes. As you finish a book be sure to record it on your Monthly Reading Log!\*\*

# *Physical Education*

Please be sure that your child wears comfortable clothing and sneakers on P.E. day. Physical Education is often outside so please keep this in mind when dressing for school on that day of the week.



Clayton: Day 2  
Malikowski: Day 3  
Phillips: Day 4  
Alba: Day 1  
McAliney: Split

# *Library*

The students will receive library time each week to check out a book to bring home. The book must be returned on the next library day.



Clayton: Day 4  
Malikowski: Day 1  
Phillips: Day 2  
Alba: Day 3  
McAliney: Split

# *Music*



Clayton: Day 3  
Malikowski: Day 4  
Phillips: Day 1  
Alba: Day 2  
McAliney: Split

# Art



Clayton: Day 1  
Malikowski: Day 2  
Phillips: Day 3  
Alba: Day 4  
McAliney: Split

# *Positive Behavior System*

A colored “ladder” will be displayed in the classroom and each child will receive a clothes pin with their name on it. At the beginning of each day, all students start on **GREEN**, but they have the opportunity to move up the ladder to **BLUE** or **PURPLE** and/or down the ladder to **YELLOW** or **RED**, depending on their behavior throughout the day. When a child is given a color change down the ladder, the reason is discussed and we work together to make sure that the action doesn't happen again. At the end of each day your child will color in their Behavior Calendar. If they are moved to yellow or red, a code will be written on their calendar indicating why he/she reached this level. Please keep this calendar in the back of your child's folder and initial it each night.

# *Stay Connected!!*

Newsletters will be sent home weekly through e-mail. Monthly calendars will be sent home in your child's green take home folder. Please be sure to check your email for these VERY important documents!



*A Word From Our PTO*

**PTO Meetings are  
the second  
Thursday of every  
month at 7PM.**

# Glen Acres PTO Executive Board

## Co- Presidents:

Tricia Gonci (703)967-9609 [tsaunders10@verizon.net](mailto:tsaunders10@verizon.net)

Tammy Vernacchio (484)832-6925  
[tvernacchio@hotmail.com](mailto:tvernacchio@hotmail.com)

## Co-VP:

Janey Wolff (610)368-0899 [wolffjaney@icloud.com](mailto:wolffjaney@icloud.com)

Jenn Frasca (610)613-8676 [Jennifer\\_frasca@yahoo.com](mailto:Jennifer_frasca@yahoo.com)

## Treasurer:

Stephanie Beisser (610)247-3245 [sbeissr@gmail.com](mailto:sbeissr@gmail.com)

## Recording Secretary:

Allison Garber (610)996-3716 [charlie514@hotmail.com](mailto:charlie514@hotmail.com)

## Corresponding Secretary:

Dianne Kochenbach (610)955-7964 [krainik1@yahoo.com](mailto:krainik1@yahoo.com)



# Glen Acres PTO

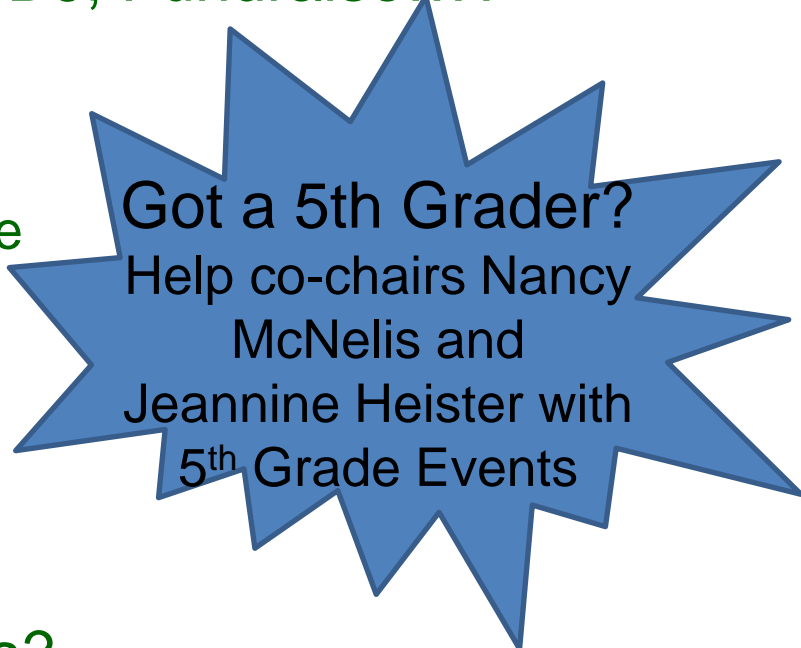
- Join the PTO
  - Only \$20 per family!
  - Weekly eblast from Alice for electronic membership form
  - Paper membership form sent home on first Thursday of school
- Each student receives approx. \$43 of benefits
  - Field Trip
  - Assemblies
  - Writer's day
  - Assignment book
- Membership also provides parents the ability to:
  - Vote at PTO meetings (2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of each month in library @7pm)
  - Hold an executive board position
  - Hold a committee chair position

# Glen Acres PTO Executive Board

- Co-Presidents
  - Tricia Gonci – [tsaunders10@verizon.net](mailto:tsaunders10@verizon.net)
  - Tammy Vernacchio – [tvernacchio@hotmail.com](mailto:tvernacchio@hotmail.com)
- Co-Vice Presidents
  - Janey Wolff – [wolffjaney@icloud.com](mailto:wolffjaney@icloud.com)
  - Jennifer Frasca – [jennifer\\_frasca@yahoo.com](mailto:jennifer_frasca@yahoo.com)
- Treasurer
  - Stephanie Beisser – [sbeisser@gmail.com](mailto:sbeisser@gmail.com)
- Recording Secretary
  - Allison Garber – [charlie514@hotmail.com](mailto:charlie514@hotmail.com)
- Corresponding Secretary
  - Diane Kochenbach – [krainik1@yahoo.com](mailto:krainik1@yahoo.com)

# Everyone can get involved in the PTO!

- Do you want to come into school?
  - Homeroom parent, Square One Art, Pretzel Fridays, School Store, Holiday Shop, Thursday Packets, Book swap
- Do you work during the day?
  - Incentives (box tops, Giant+), Spirit Wear, Kids Stuff Book
- Can you Decorate, Organize, DJ, Fundraise...?
  - Spring Fair, Monster Mash
- Are you sporty?
  - 5K, Field Day, Get up and Dance
- Do you like to cook?
  - Hospitality
- Are you a photographer?
  - Yearbook, PTO events
- Do you have a home business?
  - Vendor Event



Got a 5th Grader?  
Help co-chairs Nancy  
McNelis and  
Jeannine Heister with  
5<sup>th</sup> Grade Events

# Know what's going on!

- If you want to help at school you **NEED CLEARANCES**
  - Visit [WCASD.net](http://WCASD.net) – click on Volunteer Clearances



- To stay current on PTO events, find links for volunteer sign-ups and see photo's, like our facebook page: **GLEN ACRES PTO**
- Read the weekly eBlast and check your child's backpack on Thursdays for info on upcoming PTO events and volunteer opportunities
- **September Events:**
  - Ice-Cream Social – September 15<sup>th</sup> – school gym/playground
  - Great Wolf Lodge Social(reservations Req)– September 23<sup>rd</sup> – 24<sup>th</sup>

*Please pick up your child's folder before you leave.*

*We look forward to seeing you at Sneak a Peek tomorrow at 2pm!*

*We're excited for a wonderful year!!*