

PRINCIPAL'S  
NEWSLETTER

May 2009

Dear Parents,

What an exciting and fun auction we had!!!!!!!!!!!!!! Not only did we get to party with the likes of Tom Selleck, John Belushi, Madonna, Axel Rose, Cyndi Lauper, John McEnroe, Ozzy Osbourne and others, but we raised needed funds for Glenwood school. Many thanks to our incredible auction chairs, Mark Piersante and Nicolle Dougherty for their months of work organizing this amazing event. A big thanks also to auction chairs, Rachelle Larson, Lisa Lord, Melinda Bromberg, Lisa Salomon, Renee Knee, Denise Andresen, Jeff Woodhead, Dana Clark, Kim Bauer, Ingrid Schoenlank, Stephanie Edgerton, Michelle Shilstone, Celeste Wilson, Eric Schnurpfeil, Per Caroe, Kate Plaskon, Dierk Herbermann, Kara Romanik and Ellen Clark. The auction would never have happened without the tireless efforts of all these people. A big thanks to all of you at Glenwood who supported our auction in any way.

Friday, April 24th, was an exciting day for students at Glenwood. Fourth grade classrooms were the place to be if you wanted to learn about Helen Keller, Orville Wright, Alexander Graham Bell, Rosa Parks and many more accomplished people. Our students were participating in the annual Fourth Grade Wax Museum presentations. For this presentation, students wrote an autobiography of a famous person, dressed up as that person and recited an autobiographical speech written by that person. Students from other classes and many parents visited the wax museum exhibits. This was a fun learning opportunity for all and an excellent opportunity for fourth grade students to practice their public speaking skills.

Also, on Friday, April 24, Ane Carla Rovetta, artist/storyteller extraordinaire, spent the day with our third grade students. During her presentation, students enjoyed art, stories, and song and dance revolving around the Miwok and Pomo cultures. Ane drew a woodpecker and tulle grasses as she told stories from the native cultures of Marin County. Later, the third graders created rope and dolls from tulle and dice from native black walnuts with abalone specks. Thank you to Toni Pellegrini for organizing this program and to the PTA for making the funds available for this event. We look forward to seeing Ane Rovetta again next year.

This month, our second through fifth grade students will be taking the Standardized Testing and Reporting tests (STAR tests) which includes the California Standards Tests (CST's). California Standards Tests are multiple choice tests that are required for all students in grades two through eleven. Items on these tests are developed by California educators and test developers and are written specifically to assess student's achievement of California standards. Please help our students do well on STAR testing by making sure that your child is well fed and rested on the days of testing. Also, whenever possible, do not schedule appointments during the scheduled testing time in your child's classroom. Your child's teacher will be giving you a copy of your child's testing schedule so that you know what times your child especially needs to be in school.

**Swine Flu update :** We are monitoring the situation with the swine flu very carefully here at Glenwood and in the district so that we can assure the safety of our children. Governments at every level—national, state and local—are working together to keep information current and to ensure that medical staff and supplies are available where and when needed. In Marin County, our schools, with the coordination of the Marin County Office of Education, are working with the Marin County Department of Public Health to keep informed and to prepare for any possible eventualities.

Here are some facts about Swine Flu:

- Swine flu is a respiratory (breathing) infection caused by influenza viruses found in pigs. People do not normally get swine flu.
- Symptoms of swine flu are similar to those of seasonal flu and include fever, cough, sore throat, body aches, headache, chills, fatigue and sometimes diarrhea and vomiting. Please see your healthcare provider if you or your child experience any of these symptoms. To date, most cases of swine flu in the United States have been mild.
- Swine flu is spread person to person through coughing and sneezing from infected people. It cannot be transmitted by eating pork or pork products.

The most effective precautions for you and your family to take are the following:

-  If you are sick, stay home from school or work to avoid contact with other people and the risk of infecting them.
-  Cover your nose and mouth with a tissue when you cough or sneeze. Throw the tissue in the trash after using it.
-  Wash your hands often using soap and water, especially after coughing or sneezing. Alcohol-based hand sanitizers are also effective.
-  Avoid touching your eyes, nose or mouth. Germs spread that way.
-  Try to avoid close contact with sick people.

This is a rapidly changing situation. For the latest information, you can go to <http://www.marinschools.org/> and click on “Swine Flu.” There you will find updated information and several sites to visit for more details on what is happening at the state, national and international levels.

Congratulations to Kim Goodhope, who was selected by the Glenwood staff to be our Golden Bell recipient this year. Every year, Glenwood staff votes on the staff member who they feel most deserves this prestigious award. Recognition from one’s peers is always one of the highest honors a teacher can receive. Please join us on Thursday, May 28, 2009 to celebrate our Golden

Bell Recipient, Kim Goodhope. The program will begin promptly at 4:30 in Angelico Hall at Dominican University.

We have many exciting events coming up at Glenwood in May and June. Open House will be held on May 21st from 7-8:30. Kindergarten orientation is on May 27<sup>h</sup> from 2:00 to 4:00. Multicultural week is scheduled for the week of June 1<sup>st</sup>. Field Day will be on June 15<sup>th</sup> and Fifth grade celebration will be Thursday, June 18<sup>th</sup>. Please mark your calendars for these important events.

Our calendar for the 2009/10 school year is available for viewing. We are including a copy with this letter for your convenience. Also, you can access the calendar on line by going to [www.srcs.org](http://www.srcs.org) and clicking on the link to the calendar. The first day of school next year will be August 26th.

As always, it is a pleasure to be involved in the lives of your wonderful children. You should be proud of all you do for them every day. Please contact me at any time if you have questions or concerns related to your children!

Sincerely,

Liz Block  
Principal

Future dates:

May 21	Open House 7-8:30 (Minimum Day - 12:10 Dismissal)
May 25	Memorial Day – no school
May 27	Kindergarten orientation
June 15	Field Day
June 18	Fifth grade graduation