



Fairytales in First and Second Grade

During the current Forest Year theme, the first and second grade multiage classes focus on fairytales as one of their units of study. Students are immersed in a variety of fairytales, including the classic favorites, and many modern versions. The stories are read aloud, read together, with a partner or enjoyed independently.

Fairytales are one genre of literature used to improve comprehension. Fairytales are also used to teach students the elements of a story: setting, characters, conflict, solution and sequence of events. Students become familiar with several versions of the same fairytale and by comparing these versions students experience a lively classroom dialogue. Retelling is another way to help students understand the story; students are encouraged to retell what's important in a way that makes sense and without telling too much. This can be done with a partner or as a group.

Another activity using fairytales, is Reader's Theatre. Reader's Theatre helps build fluency in a students reading. The fairytales are read aloud to an audience after some practice in a small group. The children enjoy this activity and look forward to performing.



GCS Superintendent Parent Community Forums

Greenville Central School District Superintendent Dudley meets with GCS parents and community members to hear views about and suggestions for our schools. The next scheduled meeting is Saturday, March 7th from 9:00 am to 11:00 am at the High School Library. The topic of this meeting is Gifted and Talented Education and International Baccalaureate.

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- 8th Annual Youth Leadership Forum
- A Celebration of Black History Month at GCS Middle School
- Jump Rope for Your Heart at Scott M. Ellis
- Greenville High School Student Participates in Puerto Rican/Hispanic Youth Leadership Institute
- Winter Celebration at Scott M. Ellis
- GCS High School Students Experience a Food Demo
- Alumni Chefs Visit GCS
- Winter Athletics

8th Annual Youth Leadership Forum

Greenville High School is proud to announce that three of our students were chosen to attend the 8th Annual Youth Leadership Forum on February 9th and 10th at the Legislative Office Building in Albany. Rebekah Voisey, Joseph Zeitler and Daniel Beeman attended the two-day event which was sponsored by the Association of NYS Youth Bureaus, NYS Partnership for Children, Youth and Families, and NYS Office of Children and Family Services. The forum is an interactive leadership and educational seminar being offered to youth ages 12 and older and Youth Bureau personnel from across New York State. The youth engaged in fun teambuilding exercises, participated in discussion groups and were inspired to bring what they learned back to their communities. The keynote speaker this year was JT Robertson from Cattaraugus County whose service in his community brought Extreme Makeover Home Edition to Western, New York. Prior to departing the students attended the Legislative Breakfast at the State Capitol where Joseph Zeitler was selected to recite the Pledge of Allegiance to the entire group.



A Celebration of Black History Month

Students in Deborah Mrozek-Ferrara's Computer Enrichment class researched and displayed information for Black History Month at Greenville Middle School. Students researched Harriet Tubman, the Harlem Renaissance, Jacki Robinson, Martin Luther King Jr., Rosa Parks and the inauguration of President Barack Obama. Once the research was completed, students collaborated to create a display for the Middle School hallway. Students were also able to view an interactive timeline of Black History in computer class.

Jump Rope for Your Heart at Scott M. Ellis

205 students in grades three through five from Scott M. Ellis Elementary School participated in the Jump Rope for Your Heart event on Friday, February 13th. This year students raised \$8,879 for the American Heart Association. Scott M. Ellis students have participated in this event for the past thirteen years and in that time have raised \$105,233. Many students jump in honor of family members. All donations go to the American Heart Association for research, education and the prevention of heart disease. This event was organized by Eileen Kiefer, Ryan Morris and Justin Bruce, Elementary Physical Education teachers. Special thanks go to Bryants Country Store for their donations of fruit for students to enjoy during the jump-a-thon.



Greenville High School Student Participates in Puerto Rican/Hispanic Youth Leadership Institute

Greenville High School tenth grade student, Christopher Rodriguez, was chosen to participate in the Angelo Del Toro Puerto Rican/Hispanic Youth Leadership Institute Training Course in Albany. He was one of 200 students representing 12 delegations statewide to learn about the legislative process, develop further leadership skills, to dialogue with youth and community leaders and to share this information with his school and community. The program was a 3-day experience and an opportunity to meet other selected students.



Winter Celebration at Scott M. Ellis

Third and fourth grade students in Denise Mulholland, Bill Kiefer and Kate Gruhle's classes celebrated winter on Wednesday, February 4th with snowshoeing and sledding on campus. Many parents volunteered for the event and students enjoyed hot chocolate and goodies from home. Mrs. Gruhle commented that, "Everyone had a wonderful time, despite the fact that it was 50 degrees that day and the snow was starting to dwindle!"



GCS High School Students Experience a Food Demo

Students in Kathleen Schlenker's Food and Nutrition class experienced a food demonstration by Paul Ventura, Food Service Supervisor. Mr. Ventura demonstrated the creation of a stir fry dish utilizing shrimp. Students were introduced to a variety of Asian products and how each should be prepared. Mr. Ventura cooked the dish demonstrating the use of a wok and students had the opportunity to sample the stir fry. Students were very interested in creating stir fry dishes and enjoyed tasting the wonderful product.



Alumni Chefs Visit GCS



The Greenville Central School Culinary Club welcomed two past alumni chefs in the months of December and January. Chef Quinn Ventura and Chef Michael Mastrontano, class of 2005 and 2008 respectively, shared their creative talents with over 25 students and faculty members. Mr. Paul Ventura advisor for the culinary club noted, “This is a great opportunity for our student body to tap into.”

In December Pastry Chef Quinn Ventura arrived just in time for the holiday season, teaching club members cookie baking with all types of variations. Quinn is a baker at Bountiful Breads in Stuyvesant Plaza in Albany. She is also a student in the culinary arts program at Schenectady County Community College. She explained the life of a full time student as well as keeping baker’s hours, having to report to work at 2:00am in the morning.

In January Chef Michael Mastrontano shared a wonder chicken dish of his own creation. Chef Mike works with his family at Sophia’s Restaurant in Greenville, as well as being a full time student at Schenectady county Community College. Chef Mike answered many questions on the realities of working in a restaurant. Passion was the theme, for choosing his profession and you could see from his teaching that he is living his words.

Mr. Ventura noted that, “Having these past students come to our club members, to speak and show the kids what being in this business is all about, was priceless. You could see the sparkle and interest in their eyes. This was rewarding not only to the club but to me as well. A special thank you goes out to our guest chefs.”



Winter Athletics

Our Greenville Spartan and Lady Spartan student basketball and cheerleading teams enjoyed their last regular season home games as seniors this past week. The players and parents were given a carnation in recognition of the hard work and commitment they have invested in Greenville Athletics. Thank you to all of our players and families, and good luck in the future.

