



Mix It Up Day at GCS Middle School

On Tuesday, November 9th students in grades six through eight spent their lunch period participating in National Mix It Up Day activities along with 2,909 other schools across the nation. Mix It Up is a national campaign to improve intergroup relations, reduce prejudice and build inclusive learning communities. The day is a simple call to action, asking students to move out of their comfort zones and connect with someone new over lunch.

As our middle school students entered the cafeteria they were randomly assigned to tables, joined classmates and either a member of the school staff or a high school student. Students introduced themselves and then participated in a variety of “icebreaker activities” throughout the period. Mr. Reeve, principal of the Middle School commented that, “Students kept an open mind with Mix It Up and enjoyed the conversations with other students. The day was a success as both students and staff worked together to continue creating a positive learning environment for the Middle School.”



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Thanksgiving Comes Early for Kindergarten Students

Kindergarten students at Scott M. Ellis Elementary School celebrated Thanksgiving with a Thanksgiving Feast on Monday, November 22nd. As part of the Kindergarten curriculum students learn about holidays and customs. For the month of November students learned about the first Thanksgiving and each class made a food item to share with the entire group. Family members volunteered to serve students popcorn, carrots, juice, muffins and cookies as a snack before lunch. As part of the community celebration students were encouraged to sit with classmates they did not know to make new friends. Students also made Pilgrim hats and bonnets and Native American headdresses to celebrate the occasion.

2010 Multicultural High School Achievers Award Recipients

On October 2, 2010, the University of Albany recognized Kelly Olmsted and Christopher Rodriguez of Greenville High School, as two of its' 2010 Multicultural High School Achievers.

The university recognized 177 high school seniors from the greater capital district. The award recipients were recognized for their academic excellence and leadership in their schools and communities.

The students were honored at the campus and the recipients were given a tour of the campus provided with informational sessions and the day culminated with an award ceremony.

Greenville Central School District would like to congratulate students and their families on this prestigious selection.



Athletics at Greenville

The fall season of athletics ends with several students recognized for their efforts. The Most Valuable Players for Varsity Girls' Soccer were TaylorAnne Young and Alexandria Van Auken. Both TaylorAnne and Alexandria were also named to the Patroon Conference All Star First Team. Participating in the Second Team All Star team was Heather Carl, Mackenzie Kiefer and Rita Lord. Jessica Schonning was awarded the Coaches Award. TaylorAnne finished her career third on the all-time scoring list with 79 goals.

The Girls' Volleyball team held the league record with 14 wins and 2 losses and an overall record of 15 wins and 4 losses. Jennifer Hicks was recognized as the Most Valuable Player and the Coaches Award was given to Addie Ferrer. Participating in the Patroon Conference All Star First Team was Jennifer Hicks and participating in the Second Team were Addie Ferrer and Kacee Womack. Honorable Mention went to Emily Fishlinger.

Congratulations to the Modified Girls' Volleyball team on a successful season ending with 10 wins and 1 loss.

International Baccalaureate English

IB English A1-HL is a two-year, four semester course that will culminate in the IB Language A1 exams to be taken in May of the second year. Students in the International Baccalaureate English program at Greenville High School will be enrolled in IB English A1 during their junior and senior years. IB English A1 will model and reflect the mission of the International Baccalaureate, which “*aims to develop inquiring, knowledgeable and caring young people who help to create a better and more peaceful world through intercultural understanding and respect.*”

The focus of the course is three-fold: to further develop and enhance each student’s appreciation of literature as an art form and a universal language; to cultivate life-long learners by developing each student’s critical thinking and communication skills in both oral and written forms; and to instill in each student an understanding of and appreciation for internationalism, with a sense of compassion and a shared bond with and for people of all backgrounds.

The course will be instilled with internationalism through the study of literary works that originated in and concern the backgrounds, thoughts, lives, and viewpoints of individuals and groups (both fictional and non-fictional) from a wide variety of places and cultures. In growing to be lifelong learners, students will gain the open-mindedness required to develop a compassion for all people, whether they be from the Deep South of the United States, like Zora Neale Hurston, or from Japan like Yasunari Kawabata and his characters. Students will learn to recognize not only the commonalities in the issues that cultures face (such as the racism encountered by Langston Hughes in the United States and that encountered by Dalene Matthee’s *Fiela* in South Africa), but also the comparison and contrasts of how people in different cultures and places deal with those issues.

The AP/IB English HL class is finishing a study of *The Kite Runner*, a novel set in Afghanistan and America. *The Kite Runner* touches on several contemporary world themes, including human rights and political issues. The students have written five literary analysis papers based on their reading, class discussions, and connections made between the novel and contemporary national and global issues. One essential question we continue to ask concerns the possibility of redemption, as the main character, Amir, struggles to find a way “to be good again.” *The Kite Runner* offers an interesting contrast to the summer reading assignment, *Zeitoun*, which concerns issues of racial profiling during Hurricane Katrina. This week we are moving from modern day America and Afghanistan into the American Jazz Age of the 1920’s as we begin a study of *The Great Gatsby*. This semester of IB English focuses on the Individual Oral Presentation, which will be completed in January.

NYSSMA All-State Conference Participants Announced

The Greenville music department is proud to announce that two students have been recognized for their outstanding performance at the NYSSMA solo festival. Last spring thousands of students, across New York auditioned for the honor of representing their school as a member of one of the performing ensembles at the NYSSMA All-State Conference to be held December second through fifth in Rochester. Sydney Carella (alto) has been accepted to the All-State Women’s Chorus and Marta Kelly (soprano) has been accepted as an alternate. Congratulations to these musicians and their teacher Mr. Meredith.





Problem-Solving In Eighth Grade Math

Students in Erin Magee's Eighth Grade Math Classes are experiencing real-world problems that required the application of several math skills from the curriculum. As students walked into math class on Monday the 8th, they were given a number of variables including the starting and ending points, the amount of gas held by a car, the cost of gas, and a visit at the ending point with a series of questions including the overall travel time, and the cost of the trip using any tools in the classroom including an atlas. Students collaborated in teams to answer the questions using formulas they identified. This relevant approach was engaging for students and demonstrated a clear understanding of several mathematical concepts.

Fall All-County Music Festival

The Greene County Music Educators Association Fall All-County Festival was held at RCS High School on Friday, November 5, 2010. Over two hundred talented music students were selected from the 7 Greene County schools. Performing ensembles include Elementary Chorus, Junior Band, and Senior Chorus.

The Greenville music department is pleased to announce that fifty students from our district were selected to participate in this special event. Performing in the Elementary Chorus were Fifth and Sixth graders: Caitlin Lane, Lacie Hotaling, Hannah Smith, Shelby Doren, Isabelle Caffero, Cameron Baitsholts, Kennedy Foster, Charlotte Hutchins, Hannah Holznagel, Leann Cramer, Samantha Jones, and Meghan Peters.

The Junior Band included: Khrystina Warnstadt (flute), Elizabeth Boomhower (flute), Sarah Amedure (clarinet), Elizabeth Chase (clarinet), Bethany Mitchell (clarinet), Ali Macpherson (bass clarinet), Caroline Bobrick (alto saxophone), Rachel Coe-Scharff (percussion), Julianna Rauf (tenor Saxophone), Connor Statham (trumpet), Madeline Masi (trumpet), James Herbstritt (trombone), Carly Johnson (trombone), Cortland Tisch (trombone), Catherine Sielaff (tuba), Brittany Johnson (tuba), and Zoe Rudloff (percussion).

Vocalists selected to sing with the Senior Chorus included: Michael Amedure, Brian Cannon, Chris Carney, Cody Evans, Emily Evans, Marta Kelly, Rita Lord, Abigail McQuillen, James Parente, Krista Ragone, Chris Rodriguez, Milissa Silvia, Cathe Tisch and Kacee Womack.

This year the Fall All-County Festival included a Senior Jazz Ensemble conducted by GCS High School Band Director Michael Benedict. Greenville students selected to this ensemble were: Emily Bobrick, David Herbstritt, Michael Schonning, Marcel Dupuis, Joe DeTillio, Seth DeLuca, and Kate Kulas.

Congratulations to these fine young musicians, their parents and their teachers: Ms. Lewis, Ms. Rochler, Ms. Upson, Mr. Benedict, and Mr. Meredith.



2010-2011

Superintendent ~ Parent & Community Forums

Superintendent Dudley meets with GCS parents and community members to hear views about and suggestions for our schools. In addition for this year several special presentations have been scheduled for parents and community members on topics relevant to the District and our students. These are scheduled for Saturday mornings on the dates listed below from 9:00 am to 11:00 am and will be held at MS/HS Library Media Center.

January 8 Update on District Master Plan

Stieglitz Snyder Architecture and the District have been working for the past two years to outline a master plan for the school district campus and facilities to support an educational program for now and into the future over a thirty year time period. As a result of input from faculty, staff and various community stakeholders, discussion at this meeting will provide participants with the design and status of the plan to date.

High School Business Analysis Bake-Off

Each year the Business Analysis class at GCS High School formulates a business plan to create and run a bakery. Once the plan was created students designed a menu and as a culminating activity, selected one of the items for a bake-off. Ms. Esposito has designed this relevant, hands-on project for her students and also provided an opportunity for judges to rate the selected baked goods based on appearance, taste and creativity. This years participants included Ryan Edgington, Jessie Haley, Brett Lampman, Tabitha Myers, Logan O'Connor, Zachary Shaver, Wesley Wentz, and Steven Wood. The judges enjoyed all the baked goods but the winner was Chocolate Peanut Butter Supreme Cupcakes made by Tabitha Myers.



Peter Pan and Wendy at Greenville Middle School

