

WEDNESDAY BULLETIN

Wednesday, March 10, 2010

FULL DAY OF SCHOOL, FRIDAY, MARCH 12, 2010

PIZZA DAY– The next pizza day scheduled is for THURSDAY, March 18, 2010. All orders for pizza day must be received by no later than THIS Friday, March 12, 2010. We CANNOT accept payments after that date.

Lunchroom reminders: We are requesting that parents and caregivers refrain from delivering “fast food” items (i.e. McDonald’s, Burger King) to students for lunch. We would also like to remind everyone that students should not bring glass containers or carbonated beverages to school for lunch. We appreciate your cooperation.

Bullying Workshop: On March 24, 2010 GWCS will be inviting Victim Services Center of Montgomery County to present their Bullying and Teasing Prevention Program to students in grades 4-8. On March 18, 2010 at 6:30p.m. Parents are invited to attend a preview of this workshop and view materials as well as have questions answered and concerns addressed. Questions regarding the workshop can be directed to Rebekah Kanefsky at 215-482-2679. **PLEASE SEE ATTACHED LETTER!**

HATS 4 HAITI – Your chance to help! The 1st and 8th grade classes are working on a fundraiser for the victims of the earthquake in Haiti, and we need your help. We are raising money to give food, water, shelter, and medical care to the millions of survivors. The money we raise will be donated to the American Red Cross. Donate \$4 or more to our fundraiser, Hats 4 Haiti, and wear your hat to school on Friday, March 26th. See the attached flyer for more information. If you cannot participate in Hats 4 Haiti, please try to stop by our penny jar in the front office and drop in any loose change. Together we can save lives! **PLEASE SEE ATTACHED FLYER!!!**

Dance for RND—Our Jr. SLT will be holding a “fun”-raiser to benefit a former GWCS student and sister of a current 7th grader as she continues her painful battle with Reflex Neurovascular Dystrophy (RND). On Friday afternoon, March 26th, Middle School students will be dancing to the tunes of our own in-house DJ, 7th grade student, Raahsul Barnes. Admission to the dance will be \$5.00. Money raised will be donated to support RND Research at the Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia. If you are not into dancing, but would like to give to this very worthy cause, please send your donation to school in an envelope marked Jr. SLT – RND Research. Checks should be made payable to GWCS. Thank you! – **FLYER ATTACHED!!!!**

Yearbook Message and Advertising Opportunity: Once again, it’s time for the 8th grade students to offer you the chance to place a message and/or business ad in the GWCS 2009-2010 yearbook. Say something memorable to your student, or give your business a “shout-out”! This year, a portion of the funds raised from the sale of yearbook space will go to the Haiti relief efforts of our students. Please see the attached letter and order form for more information. Thank you for your help!

YEARBOOK PHOTOS NEEDED! – Please help our 8th graders capture the spirit of the 2009-2010 school year by sending in photos of GWCS school events, including field trips, class visits, recess, etc. Mrs. Starke would happily accept these pictures in several forms: via e-mail at nstarke@greenwoodscharter.org, burned on to a CD which can be placed into her mailbox, or even hard copies which can be scanned and then returned. Please remember us when you’re snapping that next picture! Thank you.

Baseball season is right around the corner! Make sure your child does not miss out on a great sports experience. Chestnut Hill Youth Sports Club (CHYSC) has baseball registration for boys and girls ages 5 to 15 through March 15th. Register now and qualify for two free baseball basics clinics on the next two Sundays at Chestnut Hill Academy. Register at CHYSC.ORG today. It is quick, simple and inexpensive. Contact Craig Hosay at: craig@hosaylaw.com if you have any questions. REGISTER TODAY AND DON'T DELAY!

TD Bank Affinity Membership Program/Fundraiser:

The TD Bank Affinity Membership Program offers a great opportunity to provide financial assistance to Green Woods Charter School. The program is simple: the more Green Woods members who bank with TD Bank, the more money your school can earn. There are no costs involved – in fact it actually pays to belong.

TD Bank will contribute a percentage of the annual balance in every one of our member's accounts. Checking, savings, money market, CD's and retirement accounts are all included. And, there is no limit on the amount of our potential contribution.

If you are already a TD Bank customer, visit any branch and ask to have your balances included as part of Green Woods Affinity Membership Program. If you are not a TD Bank customer, sign up now. As a special incentive TD Bank will add \$25 when you open a new non-interest bearing checking account.

Extended Special Offer

Open a new non-interest bearing checking account by April 30, 2010 and TD Bank will add \$50 to your new account.

Baby Shower for Wildlife: Flyers were sent home in students backpacks highlighting The Schuylkill Center's "Baby Shower for Wildlife" on Saturday, March 20, 2010. We are asking that families that are unable to attend this event and still wish to contribute to this worthy endeavor, drop off donations to GWCS's main office. A list of suitable donations is attached.

From the Health Room: The purpose of lunch is to provide the individual with brain food and energy for the rest of the day. Learning happens *all day long* and it's important that kids don't have a "brain drain" between the hours of 1PM -3:00PM because their lunch didn't provide them the fuel they needed. Many kids also need energy for after-school sports or playtime. It's okay to constantly remind your kids that **good food makes you feel good, think better and get stronger**. Someday they'll thank you for it, and for now, you've been charged with your family's nutrition.

Healthy Packable Foods for School Lunches:

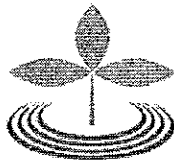
Cut veggies with dip - cherry tomatoes, carrots, pea pods, cucumbers, cauliflower or broccoli spears, celery, fresh green beans, colored peppers - dip - hummus, homemade yogurt dip or yogurt cheese dip, ranch dressing / Apples and natural peanut butter (kids love to dip!) / yogurt with fresh fruit in it / dried organic fruit / Homemade low sugar, whole grain muffins & breads (i.e. banana bread, pumpkin muffins) / cheese and whole grain crackers / unsweetened applesauce / wholesome granola bars not the bars that have the same amount of sugar as cookies / cottage cheese with various mix-ins

UPCOMING EVENTS

- FULL DAY OF SCHOOL – Friday, March 12, 2010
- Pizza Orders Due – Friday, March 12, 2010
- Pizza Day – THURSDAY, March 18, 2010
- Parent Meeting – Bullying Workshop – Grades 4 - 8 – Thursday, March 18, 2010 – **6:30p.m.**
- Parent Meeting – Planned Parenthood - Grades 4 - 8 - Thursday, March 18, 2010 – **7:30p.m.**
- FULL DAY OF SCHOOL – FRIDAY, MARCH 19, 2010
- BOOK FAIR – March 22 and 23, 2010 – Family Night – March 22, 2010 – 5:30-8:30 p.m.
- Board Meeting – Wednesday, March 24, 2010 – 7:00 p.m.
- Friday, March 26, 2010 – Interim Report Cards go home
- Friday, March 26, 2010 – Dance for RND – Fun Friday – Grades 5-8
- Friday, March 26, 2010 – 8th Grade sponsored Dress Down Day
- Friday, March 26, 2010 – Hats for Haiti Fundraiser
- SPRING BREAK - March 29, 2010 – April 2, 2010. School resumes Monday, April 5, 2010.

ATTACHMENTS:

- Letter to families from Jean Wallace, CEO and Dennis Winters, President GWCS Board of Trustees
- Hats for Haiti Flyer
- Yearbook Ad Flyer
- RND Dance Flyer
- Bullying Workshop Letter
- Schuylkill Center “Baby Shower for Wildlife” Flyer



Green Woods Charter School

THE WORLD IN OUR HANDS

March 10, 2010

Dear Green Woods Families,

On Saturday, March 6, 2010, the Board of Trustees held a special meeting at our school. The purpose of this meeting was to hear presentations in support of the growth of Green Woods Charter School, as well as to gain input from our GWCS community regarding our plans. It was WONDERFUL to see so many parents in the audience!!

During this special meeting, a presentation was made by Mr. Jerry Santilli, our Controller, about the need to grow our school to ensure financial security and sustainability. Jean used this time to share our many school-wide strengths, as well as to review a history of our ongoing challenges in regards to space. Jean also spoke about our unsuccessful efforts over the past 8 years to work with the Schuylkill Center to obtain the space that is legally required in order to both meet the academic needs of our students and to ensure fiscal sustainability.

Following the presentations, members of the audience engaged in a very thoughtful Question and Answer session. We all learned a great deal from each other.

As was reported in an earlier communication, on February 24, 2010 the School Reform Commission (SRC) approved a policy allowing successful charter schools to apply for additional students. We want and need to take advantage of this exciting opportunity for growth as increasing our enrollment is essential to the future of Green Woods.

A reminder to those unable to attend this meeting is that our budget is based on the number of students we enroll. Not increasing our enrollment forces us to live on a fixed income, meaning any plan for growth of our academic programs and resources (including qualified teachers and other personnel) is impossible. Parents in the audience heard directly from our teaching staff as to how our lack of space and resources can negatively impact our program.

After hearing from Mr. Santilli, from Jean, and from the community, the Board voted unanimously to have Green Woods sign a Letter of Intent to increase our enrollment to 675 students over a period of years, most likely to begin in September 2011 with the goal of reaching capacity (if all goes as planned) by 2018. What was truly inspiring to us was the unexpected round of applause that erupted in the room once the unanimous vote of the board was recorded!

Delivering the Letter of Intent to the SRC on Monday, March 8th is the first step in this process. We then have to submit a full application to the SRC by April 5th. The review of our application will take 8-12 weeks after which the SRC will give us a ruling on our application.

Until then, we will begin to actively seek a potential new home for Green Woods Charter School, with the understanding that nothing can or will be decided until the SRC hands down their decision to us.

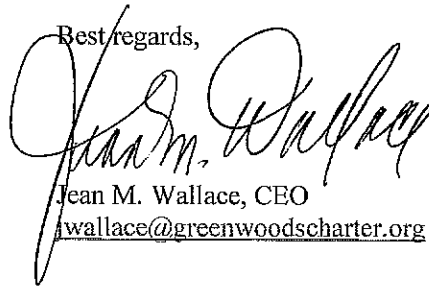
In the meantime, please keep the following in mind:

- Our increase in enrollment will allow us to enhance our academic success and our stellar program.
- We will actively seek a diversity of environmental partners to support the hands-on, experiential learning for our students.
- We are funded by taxpayer dollars and we have a fiduciary responsibility to ensure that we are planning for a successful and sustainable future.
- We have worked hard and become a model for environmental education in our state. Our focus on environmental education **will not** change.
- Please do not listen to speculation and rumors. If you have any questions or hear anything that may not sound correct, or if there is something you are unsure of, don't hesitate to call Jean (215) 482-6337 or reach her by e-mail at the address below.
- You have our word that we will update everyone when we have **facts** to share regarding our forward progress.
- We will continue to deliver the same level of excellence in education that we have always delivered to our students.

Yes - we have A LOT of work to do to carry out this plan for growth, but we do have experts to guide us. And the positive energy in the meeting room on Saturday will certainly provide the momentum we need to carry us forward.

In closing, thank you to everyone who took the time to attend this meeting. For those unable to join us, there will be more meetings announced as we have information to share and insight to gain from our community.

Best regards,



Jean M. Wallace, CEO
jwallace@greenwoodscharter.org



Dennis R. Winters, President
 Green Woods Charter School Board of Trustees



Green Woods Charter School

THE WORLD IN OUR HANDS

March 8, 2010

Dear Parents,

You are invited to an evening of learning with experts from your community! As parents, we need to stay as current and informed as possible on issues that our children are facing on a daily basis. With this in mind, we have invited two guest speakers to provide informative parent presentations as a preview of what will then be discussed with your children in the classroom later in the month.

On March 18th at 6:30 pm, Victim Services Center (VSC) will hold a Parent Preview program for parents of 4th-8th grade students on the topic of bullying/teasing. Parents who attend this program will have the opportunity to view the program materials, as well as have any questions or concerns addressed. VSC will be presenting in the classrooms on March 24th, grades 4-8.

At 7:30 pm, Jennifer Pennington, Community Education Manager from Planned Parenthood of Southeastern Pennsylvania (PPSP), will share with our Middle School parents the program she will be presenting to our 5th, 6th, 7th & 8th grade students in April. Ms. Pennington will be presenting to our Middle School on the topics of Gender Roles, Puberty and Reproductive Anatomy.

As stated, both organizations will be in the classroom later this month; we are offering this evening parent workshop as a preview of what will be presented.

If you have any questions about these programs please contact Rebekah Kanefsky, Guidance Counselor, at (215) 482-2679 or Mimi Wainwright, School Nurse, at (215)482-1613. We do hope that you will take this opportunity to learn more about these important topics and to work in conjunction with Green Woods Charter School, Victim Services Center of Montgomery County, Inc. and Planned Parenthood of Southeastern Pennsylvania.

Greenwoods Charter School

March 18, 2010

Victim Services Center: 6:30-7:30 pm

Planned Parenthood of Southeastern PA: 7:30 -8:30 pm

Refreshments will be served! We look forward to seeing you there!

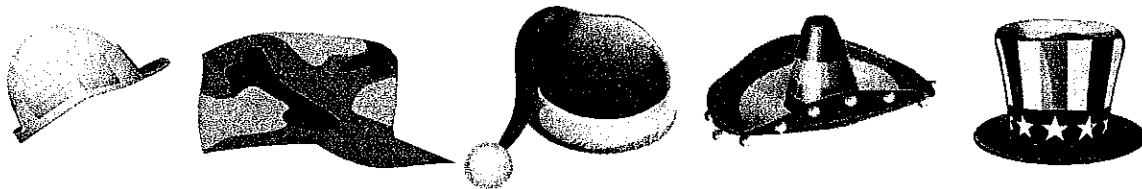
8480 Hagys Mill Road •• Philadelphia, PA •• 19128
Main (215)482-6337 •• Fax (215)482-9135

Hats 4 Haiti



**American
Red Cross**

Green Woods is raising money to rebuild Haiti by hosting a **HAT DAY**, sponsored by the 1st and 8th grades. For one special day, you can wear your favorite or funniest hat to raise funds to support the Haitian rescue effort.



HAT DAY, is Friday, March 26th. The cost will be \$4 dollars.
(Please feel free to give more money if you like!)

All proceeds will benefit to The American Red Cross. Your contributions will purchase much needed supplies such as food, clean water, shelter, and health and family services. The people of Haiti need your help with recovery after the 7.3 magnitude earthquake that destroyed homes, schools, and lives, on January 12th 2010.

PLEASE DONATE!

Please return with \$4.00 or more per student, by March 26th, to participate in **HAT DAY**. Thank you on behalf of all the people of Haiti!

Family Name: _____

Amount Donated: _____ Grade: _____

DEAR GREEN WOODS MIDDLE SCHOOL FAMILIES:

Hi! My name is Nicole. I am a 7th grader at Green Woods. With the help of Ms. Wallace, Ms. Wainwright and the Jr. SLT, we have planned a middle school (in school) dance scheduled for Friday, March 26th during the last 2 periods of the day.

I hoped that this special event could raise funds to support research for Reflex Neurovascular Dystrophy (RND). I also hoped that it would raise awareness for this pain syndrome which affects children and many times goes misdiagnosed. This disorder is intensely painful and disturbs the life of children and their families. It causes intense suffering and disability.

My sister, Gabriella, graduated from Green Woods Charter School last year and was diagnosed with RND before the start of her freshman year of high school. She has struggled through this year with extreme pain throughout her body, making it difficult to do all the things that most teenagers love to do or find easy to do. She is also dealing with other RND symptoms such as swollen joints, memory loss, fatigue, dizziness, anxiety issues, insomnia, and some days she has difficulty walking. It has been sad for me to watch my sister deal with RND. I am hoping that with the help of Dr. Sherry & his therapy group at CHOP, there will be hope for Gabriella and many other children suffering from RND.

I am inviting all of my middle school classmates to Dance for Hope! We will be dancing to the tunes of our own in-house DJ, 7th grade student, Rahsul Barnes. That day is scheduled as a dress down day so we can dress comfortably and have fun! We will serve soft pretzels at no cost. The admission fee of \$5 for the dance will be donated directly to Dr. Sherry's Childhood RND Foundation which was formed to "educate health professionals and the lay population about the characteristics and treatment of RND and other amplified musculoskeletal pain syndromes in children." If you are not into dancing, but would like to give to this very worthy cause, please send your donation to school in an envelope marked Jr. SLT - RND Research. Checks should be made payable to GWCS.

Thank you for your generosity and support! -Nicole

PLEASE COMPLETE THIS FORM AND RETURN TO SCHOOL IN AN ENVELOPE WITH YOUR CHILD'S NAME MARKED RND DANCE, ALONG WITH \$5 ADMISSION FEE.

CHILD'S NAME _____ GRADE _____

CHILD'S NAME _____ GRADE _____

CHILD'S NAME _____ GRADE _____

AMOUNT ENCLOSED \$ _____

Dear Families of the Green Woods Charter School Community,

We, the 8th grade, have been working on our yearbook for quite some time now. Just like last year's yearbook, there will be extra pages at the end for advertisements and messages. In support of the 8th grade students, we are selling these advertisements at the cost listed below, and we greatly appreciate your support.

In past years, people have congratulated their children, wished them luck, or simply sent a message of love. You can also use this space to advertise your business.

If you would like to purchase a page please fill out the form below and send it in with payment. Once we have received your payment, we will send you a form which you can use to write your message. Please keep in mind that a portion of your donations will be given to our class gift. This year, the class of 2010 feel that our money is better used somewhere else, so we have decided to raise money for those suffering in Haiti. Next to all they own has been destroyed. The people of Haiti are in need of money to help rebuild their cities. Both we and the Haitians greatly appreciate your support.

**Thank You,
Class of 2010**

Please check the kind of page that you would like, and write the amount of pages you would like.

_____ Full page for \$20.00 Qty: _____

_____ Half page = \$10.00 Qty: _____

_____ Quarter of a page = \$5.00 Qty: _____

Family Name: _____

****Please enclose your money and/or check made out to Green Woods Charter School. If writing a check, please note **YEARBOOK** in the memo field. Thank you!****

Baby Shower for Wildlife

We're Expecting!

Each year, The Schuylkill Center's Wildlife Rehabilitation Clinic cares for thousands of injured or displaced wildlife. Spring's new baby animal arrivals mark the start of our Clinic's busy season – help us prepare by attending our annual Baby Shower for Wildlife.

At the Baby Shower, you'll enjoy one of our popular wildlife presentations led by Wildlife Rehabilitation Clinic Director Rick Schubert. Meet our 'wildlife ambassadors' and learn about the importance of protecting local wildlife, and preserving their natural habitat. Light refreshments will be served, and Clinic Volunteers will lead children's activities in our Discovery Center.

The Baby Shower for Wildlife will be held at The Schuylkill Center's Main Building at 8480 Hagys Mill Road, from 11am - 2pm. **Wildlife presentations are scheduled for 11:15am and 12:30pm.** (Each presentation lasts approximately 45 minutes). Children's activities are ongoing throughout the event.

Admission is free, but donations of items that the Wildlife Clinic uses throughout the year are requested (see list below).

Please join us for one of the Schuylkill Center's favorite family events!

Wish List of Items for Donation

Paper Towels

Tissues

Dawn Dish Detergent

Fragrance Free Laundry Detergent

Trash Bags (Large Kitchen and 33 gallon sizes)

Receiving Blankets/Flannel Blankets/Hospital Blankets

Fleece Fabric

Dog and Cat Food (canned or dry)

Baby Food (Jars)

Pedialyte (unflavored), electrolyte solution

Home Depot or Lowes Gift Cards

Grocery Store Gift Cards

Petco or Petsmart Gift Cards

Latex Gloves