

# The Principal's Corner Glover School

February 13, 2017

“Be happy in the moment, that's enough. Each moment is all we need, not more.”  
— Mother Teresa

Brian Ota  
Principal



Volume 2 Issue 25

I write the Principal's Corner over the weekend and I had to rewrite some of it this morning because it is now our 3<sup>rd</sup> snow day. It is ironic, the students look for snow days while the rest of us look for dry roads and an easy commute. It would be great if we could recapture the absolute wonder and joy of child's view of a heavy snowfall! Right now with three snow days our last day of school is now June 26<sup>th</sup>.

With three days off in a row there is not a lot in this newsletter.

**Fill Rocky With Love:** The Fill Rocky With Love will still end on Valentine's day. We have just about completely filled Rocky with hearts. He is on display in the main lobby, if you come into the building take a look at how beautiful he has become.

**Fit February:** Mr. Fargo has to readjust his schedule for Jump for Heart with so many missing days.

He will be sending home the pledge forms with your students as they have physical education classes with him. If you have not received the packet by Friday call the main office and we will send one home.

The PTO Enrichment Committee presented the **Food Play** on Tuesday and it was a huge hit with the students and staff. Thanks to the PTO and Stephanie Siden for her hard work.

**Winter Clothes:** A reminder that snow pants, boots, gloves, hats and mittens are essential for the students going out to recess. Please pack waterproof gloves instead of the knitted or fleece kind. The students make snowmen or slide using their hands as brakes and the fleece and knitted gloves clump up with snow and very quickly their fingers and hands get cold.

A change of clothing is very important. Even with full snow gear they still manage to get wet and a dry change of clothes is a welcome necessity after recesses.

**MCAS:** The 3<sup>rd</sup> grade is first time students take the MCAS. This year Massachusetts has changed back to MCAS instead of the PARCC exam. MCAS 2.0 blends the established MCAS with elements of PARCC. Our 3<sup>rd</sup> grade teachers are preparing our students for MCAS using sample tests from the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE). They are also training students how to take open response questions and various strategies in test taking. We spend a lot of time teaching students how to take such a long test because it is highly stressful for them and the more familiar they

are with the test format and with test strategies the easier it will be for them.

The tests are scheduled as follows:

ELA is on April 25, 26, and 27<sup>th</sup>

Math is on May 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup>

Please do not take vacations or schedule doctors' appointments during the days of testing. One of the measurements taken by DESE is attendance during testing. There are makeup days, but that requires staff and rooms to hold them.

**Virtual Backpack:** There are a lot of exciting activities and events taking place in the community. Don't miss out on any of these wonderful events. You will find a complete listing on the district website; <http://www.marbleheadschoools.org/index.php/quicklinks/virtualbackpack>.

**Important Dates:**

- Jump Rope for Heart Feb 13
- February Break February 20-24<sup>th</sup>
- MCAS for 3<sup>rd</sup> grade: ELA is on April 25, 26, and 27<sup>th</sup> and Math is on May 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup>

On behalf of our very caring, dedicated, and most excellent staff have a great week.

Regards,

Brian