

The WEEKLY

February 12, 2020

DATES TO REMEMBER

Feb. 13	Math Lab 2:30-3:15
Feb. 13	Art Club 2:30-3:15, Grades 5-8
Feb. 14	Valentine's Day Dress Down - \$1
Feb. 15	Sweetheart 1980s Dance – 6:30pm
Feb. 17- Feb. 21	Winter Break – School Closed

FROM THE OFFICE

- ◆ School re-opens – Monday, February 24th
- ◆ Open House – Wednesday, February 26th
- ◆ Apokries, pre-lent Carnival – Friday, February 28th
- ◆ Dress Down Day – Friday, February 28th
- ◆ Mr. Thanos, our Afterschool Chorus Director, will continue meeting with Group B only (Grades 1, 2, & 3) for the whole month of February.
- ◆ The After School e-mail address gaiafterschool@gai-edu.org

- ◆ The Nurse's phone number is 347-810-7810

FROM THE PTO

- ◆ Saturday, February 15th - will be our annual Sweetheart Dance with an 80's theme! Best costume prize will be awarded! Dress as your favorite 80's styled sweetheart couple, performer or movie character. Be original! Donations appreciated, Volunteers wanted. Starting set up at 5 pm on Saturday.
- ◆ Chocolate Sale winners will be announced after the break.
- ◆ Book Fair – Wednesday, March 11 and Thursday, March 12
- ◆ **Save the Date:** Thursday, April 2nd – Fashion Show. Shopping list for the Fashion Show will be handed to classes before Winter Break
- ◆ Contact us at gai.pto1@gmail.com.

February 12th, 2020

I have read this week's edition of "The WEEKLY"

Student's Name

Parent's signature

GREEK AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF NEW YORK

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TEL. (718) 823-2393



CYNTHIA DAFNIS
Assistant Principal

YIOTA PAPAGRIGORIOU
Director of Greek Dept.

JOHN ATTANAS
Principal

February 12, 2020

Dear Parents,

On Monday a representative of the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society visited our school and spoke to our students about these serious diseases. Although some might find these subject depressing or frightening, our students found the representative's talk informative and engaging.

My father passed in 1992. He was taken by leukemia. I watched him wither away from his normal stout self to a shadow of the man he was who could no longer climb the stairs in our house and eventually could not get out of bed. Serious illness is, sadly, a part of all of our lives. Ms. Dafnis, Ms. Yiota, and I do not want to scare our students. Rather, we want to inform them about the facts, inspire them to work for a cure, and urge them to show compassion for those who are ill. We are very lucky to have students and families who care and are involved in the process of helping those in need.

Next week we begin a much needed one week break. Let us rest, let us enjoy the many wonderful things that surround us, and let us avoid the germs that bombard us daily. I hope we all spend the week in good spirits and in good health. When we return there are so many things to prepare for: the March 25th production, the Greek Independence Day Parade, and standardized tests, just to name a few. The school year is half over, but there is still so much left to accomplish.

Enjoy your break.

John Attanas

February 2020

Dear Parents,

Valentine's Day is around the corner. With that comes love....a little extra love, especially to those in need, such as dealing with an illness. This brings me to the fundraising we did every year on Valentine's Dress Down Day. In the past, we raised money for the Miracle Foundation. This year we are shifting it to The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society. A representative visited the school on Monday, February 10th, to kick off the fund raiser with an assembly.

This is very near and dear to my heart. In 2000 my husband was diagnosed with Chronic Lymphocytic Leukemia, also known as CLL. It was his birthday and I was a few days away from giving birth to my second daughter. A year to that date, he passed away to complication of pneumonia from a stem cell transplant. My youngest, Nasia was not even a year old and Despina, was in Pre-K. During that one year, there were chemo treatments and two rounds of stem cell treatments. With it came many days of calling out sick from work to recover. The Leukemia and Lymphoma Society assisted with our daily expenses. I have always donated back to the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society to now help others. Unfortunately, all of us have someone we know that is affected by this or cancer. It becomes an emotional, physical, and financial struggle. I am kindly asking everyone to help me give back a little more.

I leave you with this....Entering the hospital one morning for treatment, we saw parents bringing in their frail children for chemo treatments. My late husband turned to me and whispered, "Let it be me and not them." He was the strongest person I knew. Let's help give that strength to others. Valentine's Dress Down Day will be on Friday, February 14th.

Thank you in advance and I wish nothing but health for everyone.

Sincerely,

Ms. Dafnis

Newsflash by Ms. Dafnis

- Please read my letter regarding the Valentine's Dress Down Day on Friday. All monies raised will go to the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society.
- Attached is an Open House flyer. Please pass on the flyer to family and friends that may be interested in Kindergarten- 8th grade. A scholarship is available, for qualifying families with children entering Kindergarten or is coming from a public school. Please inquire within.
- Thank you to parents and teachers for displaying the Open House Flyer on your social media accounts. Keep spreading the news.
- If you have a child born in 2016 or 2017 or know anyone else interested in 3K/PKA, registration is now open on schools.nyc.gov
- Congratulations to Eleftherios Perselis from 8th grade for being the recipient of the Kastorian Society Scholarship.
- Tennis club is still open. Send permission slips as soon as possible.
- A new club will soon be added...Volleyball Club. Stay tuned.
- Many of you have expressed clarification for school uniform in a form of pictures. Attached are pictures for the 2 types of gym uniform and formal uniform for lower and upper grades.
- Please review the Student Handbook regarding school uniform. Sneakers cannot be worn with full uniform. Leggings cannot be worn on gym days. Tights cannot have any designs. We will soon be sending out pictures of what is expected for proper uniform.
- Please review the attached revision to the Student Handbook regarding lateness. Detention will be given to students late more than three times in a marking period. After three detentions will result in suspension. No excuses. This took effect January 1, 2020.
- Attached below are wish lists from homeroom teachers. They would greatly appreciate any donations.

We cannot express how grateful we all are for all the donations made to the classrooms. The excitement the teachers and students express upon receiving items from their wish list is priceless.

Wish List

Kindergarten/Ms. Johansson:

- 2 Lakeshore Low Storage Cubby Shelves
- Seasonal/Holiday books
- 11 lb Kinetic Sand

First Grade/Ms. Tabussum:

- Whiteboard Easel
- 18 taller desks

Second Grade/Ms. Siino:

- Muse Magazine
- Faces Magazine
- Sports Illustrated Kids
- National Geographic Kids
- Whisper Phone element ClassPak, Grades K to 4, Pack of 12
- The Miraculous Journey of Edward Tulane by Kate DiCamillo- Paperback
- Crayola Pip Squeaks Kids' Marker Collection, Washable Mini Markers, 64 Count
- Magna Tiles 32 Piece Clear Colors Set, STEM approved
- Giggleyway Electric Motor Robotic Science Kits, DIY STEMS
- Snap Circuits Jr. SC-100 Electronics Exploration Kit,
- The Chocolate Touch by Patrick Skene Catling, Margot Apple- paperback
- Frindle by Andrew Clements, Brian Selznick- paperback
- Fiskars 100580-1002 Precisian Rotary Bypass Trimmer, 12 inch

(ALL OF THE ABOVE ITEMS ARE LISTED ON AMAZON)

Third Grade/Ms. Petre:

- 3 Bookshelves- Lakeshore #JJ676
- Manipulative Shelf- Lakeshore #JJ166
- Supply Shelf- Lakeshore #JJ156
- Teachers College Reading Units of Study for Grade 3 (Heinemann.com)
- Teachers College Writing Units of Study for Grade 3 (Heinemann.com)

Fourth Grade/Ms. Plevritis:

- *What Was? & Where Was?* books series

Sixth Grade/Ms. Katechis:

- Teacher's desk
- Greek children's books for grades-K, 1st, 2nd, & 3rd

After School/Ms. Katechis:

- Board games- example...Candy Cane, Connect Four, Uno, Jenga
- Manipulatives
- Balls
- Books
- Crayons
- Markers
- Reading books
- Storage box for all materials

Greek Lab/Ms. Yiota:

- Projector
- Small air condition

Math/ Ms. Collins:

- Large book bins – 30 count

https://www.amazon.com/Storex-70110U06C-Assorted-Colors-Inches/dp/B07T4VTY7D/ref=sr_1_35?crid=3JUMEC903RXKY&keywords=sturdy%2Bmagazine%2Bholder&qid=1580678058&sprefix=sturdy%2Bmaga%2Caps%2C159&sr=8-35&th=1

- Folding Geometric Shapes

https://www.amazon.com/Learning-Resources-Folding-Geometric-Shapes/dp/B0006PKZ54/ref=sr_1_5?keywords=3D+geometric+shapes&qid=1580678409&smid=ATVPDKIKX0DER&sr=8-5

Recess:

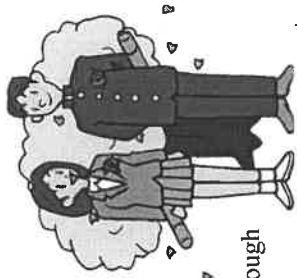
- **2-Connect Four Game (2 feet tall)**
- **Soft footballs**
- **Ring Toss Game**
- **Bean bags**

Technology:

- **Classic Lego Building Bricks**
- **Magna Tiles**
- **18 pairs of headphones for computers**
- **18 stick on hooks for headphones**
- **Small projector**
- **3 iPads or Fire tablets**
- **2 Code & Go Robot Mouse Activity Set**
- **2 Botley the Coding Robot Activity Set**
- **Snap Circuit's Beginner Exploration Kit**
- **4 Sets of Learning Resources Answer Buzzers**
- **K/Nex Building Set**
- **Osmo Explorer Starter Kit**
- **Osmo Genius Starter Kit**
- **Technology Themed Books**

DRESS CODE

Full uniform must be worn at all times with the exception of designated dress down days (please refer to school calendar).



BOYS' UNIFORM -- Grades K-8

- ✓ Blue slacks (worn down to shoes)
- ✓ Belt – 1st - 8th grade
- ✓ White, button-down collared, oxford shirt or polo shirt at the discretion of the administration.
- ✓ Navy tie – 1st - 8th grade
- ✓ Grey V-neck cardigan sweater purchased through The Gym Uniform Company – K - 8th Grade
- ✓ Grey vest purchased through The Gym Uniform Company – K - 8th Grade
- ✓ Grade
- ✓ Black shoes
- ✓ Navy socks
- ✓ Hair no longer than the top of the shirt collar
- ✓ No artificially dyed, colored, or bleached hair
- ✓ Any type of hat or hair covering cannot be worn in school
- ✓ No earrings

GIRLS' UNIFORM -- Grades K-8

- ✓ Plaid jumper – K - 3rd grade
- ✓ Plaid, blue uniform skirt down to the knee (may not be rolled up) – 4th - 8th Grade
- ✓ Plaid cross-tie – 1st - 8th grade
- ✓ White, button-down collared oxford-style shirt or polo shirt at the discretion of the administration.
- ✓ Grey V-neck cardigan sweater purchased through The Gym Uniform Company – K - 8th Grade
- ✓ Grey vest purchased through The Gym Uniform Company – 4th - 8th Grade
- ✓ Dark shoes (no platform shoes or clogs and shoes at or above the ankles.)
- ✓ Navy blue knee socks (pulled up) or tights
- ✓ Hair accessories in navy blue or white only
- ✓ No make-up except for clear nail polish
- ✓ Stud earrings may be worn on the earlobes, and only one pair of earrings (one earring per ear) is permitted
- ✓ Hoop earrings are not permitted.
- ✓ Hairstyles and jewelry must be appropriate for a school or professional setting

- ✓ Extreme and/or trendy hairstyles, including shaved or buzz cuts are not permitted; unnatural colors are also prohibited
- ✓ Any type of hat or hair covering cannot be worn in school (except for religious reasons)
- ✓ No scrunching of t-shirts.

SUMMER UNIFORM (Days are announced in the Weekly)

- ✓ G.A.I. polo shirt
- ✓ Boys – navy blue shorts, belt
- ✓ Girls – navy blue skort

GYM-UNIFORM – May be purchased through The Gym Uniform Company.

- ✓ Navy gym shorts OR navy sweatpants with school emblem
- ✓ White socks
- ✓ Sneakers
- ✓ G.A.I. T-Shirt or white polo shirt
- ✓ G.A.I. sweatshirt

DRESS DOWN DAYS

For days when students may come to school without their uniforms, the following dress code is required.

BOYS & GIRLS

- ✓ T-shirts with any offensive symbols, profanity, and/or products illegal to minors (e.g. cigarettes) prohibited
- ✓ Shorts must be at least mid-thigh
- ✓ Extremely baggy or tight pants are prohibited
- ✓ Pajama pants are not allowed
- ✓ No hats or hair coverings
- ✓ The usual dress code regarding hairstyle, earrings, jewelry, and make-up applies
- ✓ No tank tops or t-shirts that look like undershirts
- ✓ No ripped clothing
- ✓ No flip-flops or skipper-like shoes



GIRLS-DRESS DOWN DAYS

- ✓ Belly shirts, tube tops, and spaghetti straps cannot be worn
- ✓ No short skirts

BOYS-DRESS DOWN DAYS

- ✓ Shirts that look like undershirts are not allowed

be available to lend support and encouragement to their child during the homework process. Homework assignments may be found on G.A.I.'s Homework Website, as a courtesy. If the website coordinator is not present, it will not be posted.

Homework in the event of an absence: If a student is absent for more than one day, a parent or guardian should arrange to pick up homework assignments by dismissal **OR** designate a sibling or classmate to deliver the homework assignment to the absent student. Please call the school office in the **morning** so that the school may notify your son's/daughter's teachers and to coordinate pick up of homework assignments. In the event of an extended absence, the parent should communicate with the appropriate teachers to obtain the homework assignments. Regardless of the situation, it is the student's responsibility to make up any missed assignments due to absences.

Missed homework assignments: If a student neglects to do her/his homework, the teacher may (at his/her discretion) deduct credit. Poorly done, missing, or incomplete homework assignments will negatively affect a student's performance at G.A.I. Parents should not complete their children's homework assignments. Homework is posted on the school's website for grades 5-8.

INSURANCE

G.A.I. provides supplementary insurance coverage for all of our students in the event of school-related accidents. Students are covered while attending school and while participating in any school-sponsored activity. Due to insurance restrictions, students, who are not registered, will not be allowed to attend classes.

LATENESS



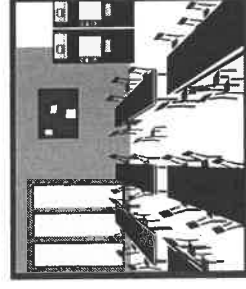
If a student arrives after 8:05 a.m., he/she is considered late. Students, who arrive from 8:05 to 8:15 a.m., will go directly to the office for a late pass. Students may be excused if an emergency has occurred and a note stating that

emergency is sent with the student to the office. Oversleeping, traffic problems, missing the bus, and so on are not considered emergencies. It is the responsibility of the parent, by law, to have his/her child arrive to school on time. Parents will be contacted if a student is tardy more than 3 times in a marking period. If tardiness continues, the student will receive a detention. Also, the school administrators and the Administrative Assistant reserve the right to contact a student's parents/guardians for any and/or all unexcused latenesses. It has been documented that excessive absences impede a student's education. High Schools examine a student's attendance/lateness records.

LOST & FOUND

Students should bring found items to the school office or the Principal immediately. Students may claim lost items in the school office. The school does not assume responsibility for lost items. Unclaimed items are discarded after one week of storage in the lost and found. Since school uniforms look similar, please place your son's/daughter's name somewhere on his/her clothing. Labeling student's clothing is recommended.

LUNCH PROGRAM



School lunch begins on the first day of school. Every family must return the confidential lunch program application prior to the first day of school. Otherwise, lunch will not be served to your son/daughter beginning with the second week of school. If you are applying for free or reduced lunches, please complete the entire form. If not, only fill out sections 1 and 5. If assistance is required, please contact the school's secretary.

The oldest child of a family should return the lunch form to his/her homeroom teacher during the first week of school. Each student has the option of purchasing lunch or bringing his/her own lunch. A meal will be given to any student, who has lost or forgotten his/her lunch. However, payment for this lunch is due the next school day. Because of the restructuring of the lunch program, we are no longer

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ATHLETIC TEAM/CLUB CONSENT FORM

Name of Activity: Tennis (K-8th)

Coach/Moderator: Ms. Rose + Mr. Michael

Practice Days: Tuesdays (2/25, 3/3, 3/10, 3/17, 3/24, 3/31)

Practice Time: 2:30-3:15

Please return form by: ASAP

Please complete below, detach and submit to teacher. (\$120 for 6 sessions)

I/we, the parent(s)/guardians(s) of _____ request that the school allows my child to participate in the _____

I/we realize that this request includes her/his accompanying the team, under the supervision of a coach, to practices and competitions within and outside of the immediate New York City area.

I/we hereby release and save harmless the Greek American Institute and any and all of its employees from any and all liability arising to my/our son/daughter as a result of his/her participation as a member of this team/club.

I/we give permission for emergency medical care for my/our daughter/son and agree to accept financial responsibility for such care.

It is also my/our responsibility to arrange for my/our son's/daughter's transportation from school after practice or competition.

Parents Signature

Date

Emergency Contact: _____

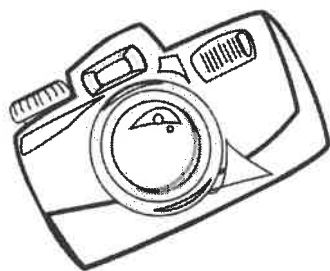
Emergency Phone Number: _____



YEARBOOK!

2019-2020

HAVE ADS FOR THE YEARBOOK?



PICTURES?

QUESTIONS?



CONTACT MS. TABUSSUM OR MS. PLEVITIS!
EMAIL: GAIYEARBOOK2019.2020@GAMIL.COM