

# The Principal's Corner Glover School



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Principal

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R.L.

“A child can teach an adult three things:  
To be happy for no reason  
To always be busy with something  
And to know how to demand with all his might which he desires”  
Paulo Coelho

One of my favorite activities is to cover the recesses. They vary by grade but the differences are not so much in the sophistication of play but rather by physical development. If you walk about the playground you will see an amazing variety of activities. There are always several forms of sports going on. You may have kids playing basketball, football, soccer, or wall ball on the hardtop. Sometimes it's one sport or two or three. In one corner you may find students playing wiffle ball. There will groups of students running back and forth playing some form of tag with rules as fluid as the clouds above. You often find clusters of students making fantasy houses out of rocks or sticks. If you join them they will proudly explain the layout that often includes swimming pools and multi layers of various purpose rooms, driveways, and garages. There are groups of girls doing cartwheels or tumbles. I have learned from the girls that the most important part to master is the pose before and after the cartwheel. You will see students making mud pies or some kind of messy things. As far as I can see there is no plan in place and the activity is as organic as the materials they are using. The most interesting are the rock crushers. On any given recess you will find groups of students ranging from two or three to a dozen all working industrially taking big rocks and whacking smaller ones until they become dust. This is an all-inclusive activity and students simply join in. It lasts all recess long. When they are done there is a pile of dust and rocks left aside for the next grade of crushers. When you ask them why they are doing this there really is no answer. It is a mystery, but one that is repeated twice a day at each of the recesses. What is important to them makes little sense to adults. This is what makes childhood so fleeting and important. Whatever the activity whether rock crushing, building, or sports, they are using their imaginations, creating social norms that work for anyone in that activity, and just plain having fun. They don't need to justify what they are doing for pleasure, something we as adults seem to have lost.

December 11, 2017

Dear Glover School Families:

**Recess Dress:** Now that snow has arrived students must have the proper snow clothing to be able to participate in recess; jackets, mittens, gloves, hats, scarfs, snow pants, and boots. If there is snow on the ground and a student is not properly dressed, they are limited to the hard topped area only.

We highly recommend you send in a complete change of clothes. This outfit can be kept in their locker until needed. There is nothing more uncomfortable than a child sitting all day in wet clothing.

**Science Curriculum:** Work continues on integrating the new state science standards into our existing curriculum. The district has ordered science kits from Foss. The teachers will begin the process evaluating the kits, receiving training and creating supplemental materials. Work will continue under the guidance of Dr. Smith, Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum and Teaching.

**Treats for Troops:** The Marblehead Police Department notified the school that we had collected over 300 pounds of candy! It is an amazing testament to how dedicated our students are to our motto of “choose kindness.”

**Lost and Found:** It is located under the main stair well in the lobby. All unclaimed clothing will be donated to the Magic Hat December 15.

## **Glover Third Grade Fine Arts Night**

Concert and art exhibit with songs, instrumental pieces, dance, and visual art portraying seasons and cycles in nature and life

When: Wednesday January 17th, snow date Thursday January 18th  
students meet at 6:15pm in room 204, performance at 6:30pm

Where: Glover School Cafe

**Magic Hat:** December 12-16 is our week at The Magic Hat. This is the PTO's single largest fundraiser. When you volunteer your valuable and precious time you are ensuring we will continue to have all the wonderful enrichment programs the PTO sponsors at Glover.

Here is the signup link:

<http://www.signupgenius.com/go/60b0949aaaa2daa8-glovermagic>

Important: You don't have to wait for our dedicated week. It is only on Saturdays that all logged hours go to the dedicated school of the week.

**Coffee with the Principal:** On the Wednesday December 20<sup>th</sup> @8:15, please join me over a cup of coffee and talk about Glover. There will be coffee, tea, or water and plenty of open dialog. The Coffee is simply a time I can bring you up to date on what is happening at Glover. Most importantly it is also an open forum where you can ask questions. If you have a question please feel free to forward it to me, so that I can be sure to address during our coffee.

**Parent Volunteer Signup:** It would be a tremendous help for the school if you could sign up and be placed on the volunteer signup sheet as the need arises.

You could sign up to cover a specific grade or for as much time as you feel able to give. If a staff member is absent, the office will give you a call and if you are available, you would then come in and cover the time(s) you are available for.

The lunch and recess schedules are:

Kindergarten: 11:55-12:15 lunch and lunch recess is 12:15-12:35

1<sup>st</sup> grade: 12:00-12:20 recess and 12:20-12:40 lunch

2<sup>nd</sup> grade: 12:45-1:05 lunch and 1:05-1:25 recess

3<sup>rd</sup> grade: 12:50-1:10 recess and 1:10-1:30 lunch

I would be happy to provide more information if you are interested.

**Lunch Recess Aide:** **We are in need of a lunch/recess aide.** It is a ten hour paid position that runs from 11:45-1:45 five days a week. If you are interested or know someone who might be, please give me a call and we can discuss the position. *Until we hire a lunch aide, I have been covering the recesses and lunches so there is plenty of supervision.*

**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:**

- Parent Conferences December 12<sup>th</sup> from 1-4PM and then 6-8PM
  - Early release at 12:00.
- Magic Hat December 12<sup>th</sup>-16<sup>th</sup>
- Coffee with the Principal, December 20<sup>th</sup> at 8:15
  
- ***MCAS dates: The English Language Arts test dates are Sessions 1-3 April 24-26th and the math dates are Math sessions 1&2 May 10-11<sup>th</sup>***

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

Regards,

Brian

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