

FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK...

Tiger Points of Interest:

Dec. 6-10: Interim Testing, grades 1-5

Dec. 7: School Council Mtg. 7:30-8:30

Dec. 9: PTA Meeting, 7:00 p.m. (Chorus Performs) Celebration for the Broad Award and Reflection winners, 6:00 p.m. (media center), Personal Safety Meeting, 6:00 p.m. (Parent Center)

Dec. 14: Candlelight Luncheon, grades 2nd, 1st and 4th.

Dec. 15: Candlelight Luncheon, grades K, 3rd, 5th.

Dec. 17: End of 2nd nine weeks, Winter Parties in classrooms

Dec: 20-Jan 3; School Closed for winter break.

Dec. 25: Christmas Day

Dec. 26: Kwanzaa (12/26-1/1)

Jan. 4: Beginning of 3rd Nine Weeks; Students Return from Winter Break

Jan. 14: Report Cards sent home. PTA Executive Board Meeting 7:00

Jan. 14: Newcomers' Breakfast

Throughout the month of December:

Discover three (3) ways to spread JOY in the world.

SPARKS' WORD OF THE WEEK

Commitment

SCHOOL MATTERS

WE ARE HALFWAY THERE!

We have reached the halfway point—an extremely important stage of development within our business of teaching and learning. The term “halfway” presents many challenges and, at the same time, many possibilities. It allows us to see where we are in relation to where we need to be and provides us with an equal amount of time to get there. Our CRCT scores have enabled us to be recognized as a Title I Distinguished School by the State Department of Education. In terms of system-wide progress, we were selected to participate in a **Harvard Study**, in which researchers from Harvard University will observe and investigate the procedures many of our teachers use to maintain high student achievement. We are very excited to be selected for this study.

Principal for the Day

On November 18, 2010, we were honored to host **Mrs. Barbara Bender**, a member of the Snellville City Council and Vice President of Hamilton Financial. Mrs. Bender participated in our morning announcements and visited many of our classrooms and meetings. She was very impressed with our school and truly enjoyed her visit!

PRINCIPAL HAS NEW NAME

I am sure your child has given you the news that I recently married over the Thanksgiving Holiday in Ocho Rios, Jamaica. My new name is **Lorraine Henry**. The students are doing a great job remembering my new name!! Sometimes, I even forget who they are talking about...smile.

GCPS WINS THE BROAD PRIZE!!

The winner of the 2010

Broad Prize is Gwinnett County Public Schools. As the winner of the largest education award in the country, Gwinnett County Public Schools will receive \$1 million in college scholarships for its high school students. “GCPS has demonstrated that an unwavering focus across a school system— by every member of the district and community— can lead to steady student improvement and achievement,” said Secretary Arne Duncan. More than half of Gwinnett’s students are African-American or Hispanic, and half are eligible for subsidized lunches. **Why was GCPS selected?** GCPS outperformed similar districts in GA, narrowed the achievement gaps, achieved high SAT, ACT, AP participation rates, and more students performed at advanced levels. Way to go Gwinnett! Celebration on Thursday at 6:00 p.m.

BE HERE THURSDAY NIGHT

This Thursday at 6:00 p.m., we will celebrate GCPS winning the Broad Award. During this time, we will also recognize our **Reflection participants** and winners. Join us for cake and punch and support our students.

CHORUS

Our wonderful chorus led by Mrs. Pat Ryan, will perform this Thurs-

day evening at 7:00 p.m. in the gym. Our chorus has worked extremely hard and always performs well. Please support our students and hear some wonderful holiday music!

SPELL CHECK WINNERS

Our top winners of the Spell Check Challenge will also be awarded this Thursday evening. Winners include

- Kindergarten—Arthur Grant
- Grade 1—Darnell Lias
- Grade 2—Isaac Johnson
- Grade 3—Kaylyn Manlove-Simmons
- Grade 4—Vance Cranston
- Grade 5—Jazmine Theus
- Grand Prize —Arthur Grant