



Gales Ferry/
Juliet W. Long
School

October 2011

Message from the Principal

Dear Parents and Friends of GFS/JWL Schools,

As a result of Hurricane Irene, the Board of Education has approved a modified school calendar to make up for the days missed at the start of the school year. We will now have a half day of school on November 23rd and full days on December 23rd and February 21st. The updated calendar can be downloaded from the Ledyard Public Schools' main website.

Despite the late start, the first month of the school year has shaped up nicely. Students have learned the routines and are well into their academic pursuits. The first All School Meeting really helped the school community come together as one. As always, parents are invited to attend the All School Meetings, especially when their child's class is responsible for a portion of the meeting.

Open House was held at each building in early September. It was a pleasure to meet so many of you! Some of you had an opportunity to sign up for parent/teacher conferences, which will be held on November 30- December 2. These three days will be shortened sessions for students. Some evening conference times will be available. If you have not had an opportunity to sign up for a conference, please contact your child's teacher.

I would be remiss if I did not mention how proud I am of the sixth grade students who recently hosted a fundraiser at Applebee's. The students who took orders, sold raffle

tickets, served the food, and cleaned the tables did so in a very respectful and responsible manner. Dr. Austen and I both enjoyed the pancakes and spending time with the students and their families and friends. It is events like this that bring us together as a community and send the message to our students that hard work and dedication are important. The sixth grade trip to Boston is a worthwhile learning experience and serves as a way to motivate students to work toward a goal. Please consider supporting the sixth grade students as they sponsor other events to raise funds for this trip.

Happy Autumn!

Mrs. Anne Hogsten



Help Wanted

We are looking for substitute teachers and paraprofessionals. If you are interested in this important and rewarding work, please contact the school office for more information.

Reminder

Arrival and dismissal are busy times during the school day. If you plan to drop off your child in the morning, please follow the traffic flow to the left of the bus lane. It is important not to block the crosswalks. At this point in the year, we ask that parents say good-bye to their children at drop off or in the lobby area. We also ask that you exit the building after picking up your child at the end of the day in order to reduce the congestion in the JWL gym and the GFS lobby.



News From The Nurses

GFS-Cassandra Allen 464-2458,

callen@ledyard.net

JWL-Susan Baker 464-6929,

sbaker@ledyard.net

Medication at school

If your child will need to have medication administered by the school nurse, please contact her to get the necessary forms and remember that:

-any medication a student needs to take at school must be accompanied by a doctor's order, even over-the-counter medications.

-medications must be in the labeled container from the pharmacy. Over-the-counter medications must be in the original, unopened package.

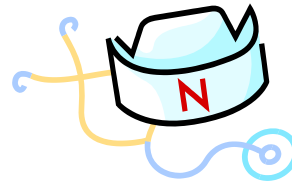
-medications must be delivered to the school nurse by a responsible adult. The nurses are usually in their offices from 8-3:30. If you need to come earlier or later than that, please give the nurse a call. DO NOT send medications with children.

Absences

When you are calling the office to report your child's absence, please state exactly what is wrong with him or her so we can track any contagious illnesses, such as flu.

Emergency Information

Thank you to everyone for returning the emergency cards so promptly. This information is used to update your child's record. The health information is shared with your child's teacher unless you specify that you do not want the nurse to do that. If your child has a condition that could potentially be life threatening (such as a bee sting allergy) that information is shared with all the staff at the school, along with his or her picture. If you have any concerns about this, please contact your school nurse. If this information changes during the school year, please contact the school right away. An easy and convenient way to contact us is by email.



News From Mr. Shaw

Mr. Steve Shaw

sshaw@ledyard.net

Many students have expressed an interest in playing a musical instrument this year. If you have a band instrument that you would be willing to donate, please contact Mr. Shaw.



A+ School Rewards

From October 6, 2001 - March 29, 2012, Gales Ferry School and Juliet W. Long School will have the opportunity to earn cash through the Stop & Shop School Rewards Program. All you need to do is log onto www.stopandshop.com/aplus or dial 1-877-275-2758 to register your card over the phone. Every time you use your card at Stop & Shop, you will earn cash for the schools. If you participated in the program last year, you must re-register this year. Please take some time to register your card to benefit Gales Ferry School using ID #06924 or Juliet W. Long School using ID #07169.



Jaret Kulmann Food Locker

We are in the process of organizing and restocking the Jaret Kulmann Food Locker. We are seeking your donations in order to make goods available to the community, as well as support some of our holiday giving. Please consider making food and/or toiletry donations by sending them to school with your child.

Suggestions for food donations include (but are not limited to):

- **Proteins** - canned meats, tuna, chicken, fish and peanut butter
- **Soups and Stews** (particularly the chunky variety)

- **Canned goods** - vegetables, tomatoes and sauces, and fruits
- **Rice and Pasta**
- **Prepared Meals** - Microwave dinners
- **Cereals and single serving oatmeal**
- **100% Fruit Juice** - Cans, bottles, or boxes
- **Snacks** - Trail mix, individually wrapped cookies and crackers, microwave popcorn, and granola bars

The food locker is located across from the front entrance of Juliet W. Long School. We are currently working to stock the shelves. Please remember that if you need any of these items, you may contact the school nurses at either GFS or JWL. All requests will be kept confidential.

Thank you so much for your help and support as we all work together to help those in need!



All School Meetings

Mrs. Pantalone's fifth grade class will be hosting the All School Meeting on October 13th at 2:00. The theme will be "The Statue of Liberty." The next meeting will be held on November 4th at 9:00. All meetings are held in the GFS gym.



PE News



Congratulations to the following students for participating in the 24th Annual Harry "O" Fun Run held at Mohegan Park on September 18th.

Kindergarten

Sean Harren

Grade One

Sarah Bailey
Mason Day
Henry Denton

Grade Two

Ryan Brownson
Alexis Duyan
Katherine Harren
Jolie Isenburg
Rachel Solomon
Olivia Startz

Grade Three

Emily Bailey
Joshua Dunn
Tessa Finnegan
Michael Richard

Grade Four

Alyah de Ugarte
Heather Johnston
Cory Mates
Alexis Schultz
Alyssa Solomon
Thomas Welles

Grade Five

Nikolas Bailey
Miranda Chesnut
Damian de Ugarte
Bryce Gubbs

Kaitlyn Startz
Olivia Strelevitz
Alison Van Volkenburg

Grade Six

Caitlynn Davis
Elizabeth Richard
Kylie Schultz
Berkely Wachtmann

PTO News

Fundraising Makes it Happen!

The students need your support! Please take one more look at the *Jeannine Collection* sales brochure before you send your order back to the school. We really need your help in order to provide "extra" activities for the students. **Orders are due on October 10, 2011.** Selling even one item will help in our efforts. Any effort you can put forth will be greatly appreciated!

The Ice Cream Social held on September 22nd was a huge success! Many families enjoyed eating ice cream and socializing on the GFS playground. The weather was super, and the school spirit was apparent.



Upcoming Events

October 7th - Gales Ferry Picture Day

October 10th - Columbus Day
NO SCHOOL

October 13th - PTO Meeting 7:00 P.M.

October 21st - Movie Night- GFS Gym

October 26th - Shortened Day



Playground News

The wait is over! The new swings have been installed at JWL. It took a great deal of time and effort to make the swings a reality. Thank you to all who helped! We just have to make a few more adjustments before the students can use them.

