



# GIG HARBOR ACADEMY

## SFN Recap

**December 7, 2011**

### Upcoming Events:

**Winter Concert:** Thursday, December 15<sup>th</sup>, Gig Harbor High School, show starts at 6:30 PM. Attire is black top and black bottoms. Mrs. Swanson will be providing the other pieces of the kids' costumes.

**Winter Break:** Last day of school before break, Friday December 16<sup>th</sup>. Check with classroom teachers for any special events for your classes before break. We are back on TUESDAY, January 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2012. The office will officially be open on the 19<sup>th</sup>, 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> of December 9:00 AM – 12:00 PM.

**Next SFN Meeting:** Wednesday, January 4<sup>th</sup>, 2012 (the day after we are back from break) in the library at 9:00 AM.

**Snack Sales:** Thursday January 12<sup>th</sup> hosted by Pre-K.

Thursday, January 24<sup>th</sup> hosted by Faculty and Staff

**Parent Education Seminar:** Saturday, January 21<sup>st</sup>, 2012, 9:00 AM to noon on Campus. For GHA families and all parents. This is a chance for parents who might not know about GHA to find out more. Teacher Diana will speak on the topic of "Purposeful Play", Mrs. Perry about "Homework Battles" and Marci Hardy will talk about Nutrition. There might be another speaker talking about "Outdoor Education". Marci is doing a terrific job organizing this seminar; please contact her if you have any ideas for speakers, especially topics that would appeal to parents of Kindergarten through 5<sup>th</sup> graders. Check future newsletters for information about attending.

**Open House:** Saturday, January 28<sup>th</sup>, 2012 from 1:00 – 3:00 PM. Invite interested families!

**Head of School Search:** Three candidates have visited campus and met with the committee, interested parents, and faculty and staff. Thank you to everyone who came to the morning meet and greets.

**Holiday Wreaths:** Thank you to parent Russell Scott for providing wreaths available for pick-up at the school with net proceeds going to the school. Hope everyone who ordered is enjoying his or her wreaths. Last delivery will be Friday (the 16<sup>th</sup>, last day before break). If you would like a wreath but did not put in an order, check with the office because there are a few extra available for purchase. Lots of wreaths have been purchased and final numbers for how much was raised for GHA will be in the newsletter.

**Special Kid Driven Fund Raising Project for Playground Monkey Bars– Notepads and Holiday Cards:** When the kids voted for monkey bars for the playground, I asked my kids if they had an idea where the funding for such things would come from...well, the crafty Wotherspoon family has come up with a creative solution. Third grader Catherine, with assistance from her parents, is making original holiday cards and notepads. Buy yours, at very affordable prices, from third grade - proceeds towards... Monkey Bars!

**Emergency Preparedness:** Please let your class representative or Nichole know if you would like to be included in a phone tree to be notified of school closures (this might be especially helpful if you live outside the Gig Harbor area). Class representatives will ask parents if they wish to be included in a phone tree.

**Annual Fund Update:** Check the newsletter for participation and other numbers. Roberta and Eric thank everyone for great response to appeal, including gifts from grandparents, students and other family members. Annual Fund has raised almost twice as much as its goal amount. 5 classes, so far, have reached 100% participation and will receive matching funds from the board. Thank you to Roberta and Eric for leading an excellent campaign.

**Community Service Holiday Project for Foster Kids:** Imka reported that the kids really appreciated their holiday gifts and the generosity behind them. Thank you to everyone who donated and thank you to Imka for organizing.

**Lost and Found:** Glad that many have been re-united with misplaced items. Come by and claim from the lost and found before winter break or look for your stuff at Goodwill in 2012.

**Thank you from the West Family:** Big thank you to all of the families that contributed by bringing meals to the West family! They really appreciated all of the generosity! We were able to provide them with meals 2 or 3 times per week, all the way to the Holiday break. Great Job!

**Weekly E-mail Newsletter:** The Weekly E-Newsletter will include a section on GHA marketing – look for link to GHA on King 5 News in this past newsletter. Videos that Niki makes can also be accessed from the newsletter. Niki, Cristina and faculty are putting a big effort into making sure everything you need to know about GHA (and more) is included in the newsletter. If you have any announcements for the school community, please see Niki or Cristina.

**Preschool Committee Update:** Committee, lead by Tina Myers, is focusing on possibility of adding a two day a week, half day, program for two year olds. Also looking at reaching out to home school families, specifically offering specialist programs for homeschoolers during the school day.

**Teacher Meetings at Lunch/Recess Time:** Last year teachers met at lunch/recess time once a week for meetings. They will be starting these meetings again after break. When the day of the week is determined, a call for volunteers to take over classes from 11:30 AM to 12:30 PM will go out.

**Parenting with Love and Logic Seminars:** Tentatively scheduled for on campus March 3<sup>rd</sup> and March 10<sup>th</sup>. These seminars are run by the Love and Logic group and they handle registration. Having the seminar on campus will hopefully give the school more exposure to the larger community. Details to follow.

**SFN Family Fun Nights:** Thank you all for filling Chalet Bowl to overflowing! Based on overwhelming attendance at first family fun night, considering doing a skating night in a few months, as well as setting up a group event to the Tacoma Rainiers in the spring. More information to come, contact Marlene if you have any thoughts about Family Fun Nights.