



Academy Notes

December 16th, 2011

Just a reminder to everyone that the GCA offices will be **closed** at 11:30AM on Dec. 21st and will re-open Thursday morning, Jan. 5th, at 7:30AM. During the Christmas break, the lobby area of the ES/MS building will be remodeled to provide more efficient workspace for office personnel and to provide additional security features for our main entry.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year from the GCA Administrative Team!



Mark your Calendars!

Re-entrustment begins on January 12th

Re-entrust your current GCA students on January 12th or 13th for **only \$150 per student** - that's a \$100 discount! Re-entrustments **must** be received by the GCA office **before** 4:00PM Friday, Jan 13th, in order to claim this discount. After that time, you can re-entrust for \$200 per student (a \$50 discount) through the end of February. Re-entrustment packets will be sent home with K-5th grade students, in Friday Folders, on Jan. 6th; re-entrustment packets for MS and HS will be mailed on that same Friday.

Did you know???

When you refer a family to GCA* and they enroll a student, your family will receive a \$100 discount on tuition for the year! This is just a small way to thank our GCA families for sharing their positive experiences with their relatives and friends. We know that our best advertisement is YOU!

Please spread this word, too:

GCA is now accepting Kindergarten applications for only \$150—that is \$100 off the normal application fee! But hurry! This offer ends January 31st.

*In order to receive the discount, the new family must mention your name during the interview so that this can be documented by the principal.



Inclement Weather Policy

As Winter deepens (you know this weather, nice as it is, won't last forever), please be reminded that **GCA will follow Knox Co. schools with regard to school closings, delays or early dismissals due to inclement weather.**

There will not be a separate announcement for GCA on the radio or TV.

♪ Let it snow, let it snow, let it snow! ♪

CALENDAR of SCHOOL EVENTS

Dec. 16-21 HS Semester Exams (schedule on pg 2)
Dec. 19 8th Grade Semester Math Exams
Dec. 20 8th Grade Semester Science Exams
Dec. 21 End of 2nd Quarter
Early dismissal for all grades
Dec. 22-Jan. 04 Christmas Break
Jan. 05 Students return

Jan. 05-13 Winterim for HS Students
Jan. 06 Report Cards sent home
Jan. 10 Kindergarten Open House 6:30PM
(for prospective students & their parents)
Jan. 12 Re-Entrustment begins
Jan. 16 No School-Martin Luther King Jr. Day
Jan. 19 8th Grade Parent Meeting 7:00PM



Mini-Me Cheer Nights

Spots are still available for your little cheerleaders to join the varsity cheerleaders on the sidelines during the first half of the Lady Rams home basketball games.

Cost is \$20 for the 1st game per child, then \$10 for each subsequent game per child; cost includes a set of cheer poms and signed megaphone.

Register online through ParentsWeb. Log in to ParentsWeb, go to Web Forms, click on "Mini-Me Cheer Nights Registration Form" and choose the game(s) at which your little cheerleader would like to perform. Payment must be made prior to the performance; please make checks payable to GCA.

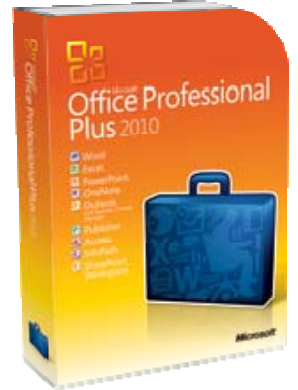
Give the Gift of Productivity this Holiday Season!

Parents, students, faculty, and staff - you can purchase the full suite of Office 2010 Pro Plus from ACSI partner Paragon Micro/EDU for the incredibly low price of **ONLY \$99!** Office 2011 for Mac is also available for \$99.

In addition, for every suite ordered, Paragon will credit GCA \$5 towards future technology purchases.

To order, click [HERE](#). But hurry! This offer ends December 31st.

Questions??? Please contact GCA Technology Coordinator, Polly J. Brake, at PBrake@gracebc.org.



Uniform Sale

Educational Outfitters is having their semi-annual sale throughout the month of December—**10% off everything in the store!** (embroidery and logos excluded). This is a great time for parents to make those last minute purchases for Christmas and prepare for the inevitable growth spurt that occurs over Christmas break!



8th Grade Semester Exam Schedule

Dec. 19 - Math; Dec. 20 - Science

Students will take their semester exam during their regular class period

HS Semester Exam Schedule

Dec. 16	period 7 exam 1:50 - 3:05
Dec. 19	period 1 exam 8:15 - 9:30
	period 2 exam 9:45 - 11:00
Dec. 20	period 3 exam 8:15 - 9:30
	period 4 exam 9:45 - 11:00
Dec. 21	period 5 exam 8:15 - 9:30
	period 6 exam 9:45 - 11:00

December 19th-21st,

HS students will be dismissed at 11:00 AM; the HS building will close at 11:30 AM
HS students do not need to report to school unless they are taking an exam; HS students who have an exam during the first time period, but not the second, may leave at 9:30 AM; HS students who do not have an exam during a time period, but are on campus due to transportation issues, must be in the gym or a designated study hall room
HS students MUST be in GCA dress code during exam days

Writing Contests for cash & prizes!

The Alliance for Young Artists & Writers and The Scholastic Art & Writing Awards are accepting submissions in 29 categories! New York Life awards six \$1,000 scholarships to youth artists and writers whose works deal with loss or bereavement. Check out www.artandwriting.org for deadline dates and more information.



The Optimist Club of Knoxville announces its Essay Writing Contest for students under age 19. Prizes range from \$125-\$500 in cash to a \$2,500 scholarship! The entry must be between 700-800 words on the topic "How my positive outlook benefits my community". Each school can submit up to 3 essays in the competition. Please see Mrs. Nordhorn for details and contest guidelines. Entry deadline is mid-January.



Be a part of History—HonorAir-Knoxville

HonorAir-Knoxville is taking applications for **student escorts** to accompany area veterans to Washington, DC. Interested students can find an online application at <http://honorairknoxville.com/>. For more information, call 938.7701 ext. 226 or email applications@honorairknoxville.com.

The next HonorAir flight is scheduled for Apr. 18th, 2012.

Winterim 2012 Schedule January 5th-13th

- ◆ Signed Winterim Assignment forms need to be handed in to the HS office ASAP!
- ◆ Every student is required to wear **SCHOOL DRESS CODE** unless their course teacher or internship employer has instructed otherwise. These instructions will be on the Winterim assignment forms.
- ◆ Course fees (where applicable) need to be paid on January 5th.
- ◆ January 5th will be a **FULL** day of courses and internships. There will be NO orientation meeting on this day. Students should report directly to their first course or internship on January 5th.
- ◆ All-Day classes will meet from 8:00-2:30 with lunch from 11:00-11:30 in the HS Dining Hall.
- ◆ Morning classes meet from 8:00-11:00; lunch is 11:00-11:30; afternoon classes meet from 11:30-2:30.
- ◆ TAs will eat in the ES/MS Cafeteria with their TA teacher and class.
- ◆ Students involved in off-campus internships must spend at least 6 hours per day (excluding lunch) working with their employer.
- ◆ During Winterim, students must call the school office if they are going to be absent. Students with off-campus internships must also call their employer if they are going to be absent.
- ◆ Winterim experiences receive a grade of P (Pass) or F (Fail) with 0.50 credit per year but no GPA points. Winterim is required for graduation.
- ◆ Students who miss more than two days of a Winterim experience in any given school year will receive a grade of F (Fail) and 0 credit for the course.
- ◆ **Winterim Journals are due on Tuesday, January 17th.**

More GCA Fall Sports Achievements

Congratulations to junior **Kennedy Wade** for being named to the PrepXtra Volleyball Second Team. Congratulations to both **Kennedy Wade** and senior **Morgan Crawley** for being selected for the All-KIL Volleyball team.



Congratulations to these Rams for being named to the All-District Football Team: seniors **Jarrett Galloway, Caleb Melton, Jake Minga, and Harley Palmer**; juniors **Bill Dixon, Will McKamey, and Bryson Shelton**; and sophomore **Devin Smith**. Players receiving Honorable Mention kudos include seniors **Jared Carlton and Parker Shelton**, juniors **Sterling Bowery and Jonathan Griffith**, and sophomore **Andy Eddins**. Senior **Christian Steward** was named Defensive Player of the Year, senior **Preston Morris** was name Lineman of the Year, and **Coach Randy McKamey** was named Coach of the Year! Awesome season, Rams!



Middle School Athletics

Dec. 19	Basketball vs. Berean	Girls B-4:30; Boys B-5:30
Dec. 20	Basketball @ Webb	Girls B-4:30; Boys B-5:30
Dec. 26-30	Basketball @ Karns Tournament	TBA
Jan. 06	Basketball vs. Webb	Girls B-4:00; Boys B-5:00

Jan. 09	Basketball @ Berean	Girls B-5:00; Boys B-6:00
	Basketball vs. Maynardville	Girls A-5:00; Boys A-6:00
Jan. 10	Basketball @ Holston	Girls A-4:30; Boys A-5:30
Jan. 12	Basketball @ Sacred Heart	Girls B-4:00; Boys B-5:00; Girls A-6:00; Boys A-7:00



Ram Swimmers make a SPLASH!

The GCA Swim Team were among 500 swimmers who were representing 24 schools from all divisions in Knoxville and surrounding counties who at the Ray Bussard Invitational Swim Meet last Saturday. In the HS events, Jack O'Connor was GCA's high point winner with a 1st place (50m freestyle), a 2nd place (200m freestyle), and a 5th place (100m butterfly). In the MS events, Sean O'Connor was GCA's high point winner with a 2nd place (butterfly) and two 3rd places (freestyle and individual medley). Three middle school swimmers placed in the top 12 in the finals: Leslie Beecham (freestyle and breaststroke), Eric Beecham (individual medley, butterfly, and freestyle), and Savannah Sponcia (butterfly). Other swimmers that represented GCA well with top 50 finishes were Abigail Seal, William Wallace, and Chasity Jenkins. Great job, Rams!

Take your Mark, Get Set, GO!!!

2012 Pre-Season workouts for Grace Track & Field will begin on Tuesday, Jan. 5th. Team members should meet in the HS foyer after school; workouts will run until 5:30PM on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Dress warm because we WILL be outside! If you plan to participate but are unable to attend, please contact Coach Al Rodd (ARodd@gracebc.org or 865-269-4644).



High School Athletics

Dec. 16	Basketball vs. Tellico Plains (Christmas Night)	
	JV Boys-4:00PM; Girls-5:30PM; Boys-7:00PM	
Dec. 17	Swimming @ Clinton Community Center	9:00AM
	(Karns & Anderson Co.)	
	Wrestling Christmas Clash Tourney @ Central	9:00AM
	JV Basketball vs. Hardin Valley	Boys-10:00AM
Dec. 23	Wrestling Duals @ Bearden	9:00AM
Dec. 28-30	Midway Basketball Tournament	
Dec. 30	Wrestling Duals @ Alcoa	10:00AM
Jan. 06	Basketball vs. Midway	
	JV Boys-5:00PM; Girls-6:30PM; Boys-8:00PM	
	Wrestling Duals @ William Blount	5:30PM

Jan. 07	Wrestling Tournament @ William Blount	9:00AM
	JV Basketball @ South Doyle	Boys-6:00PM; Girls-7:00PM
Jan. 09	JV Basketball vs. Campbell Co	Boys-7:30PM; Girls-8:30PM
Jan. 10	Basketball vs. Berean	Girls-6:30PM; Boys-8:00PM
Jan. 12	Wrestling @ Sevier Co.	6:30PM
Jan. 13	Basketball vs. Tellico Plains (Decade Night)	
	JV Boys-5:00PM; Boys-8:00PM	
	Basketball vs. Greenback	Girls-6:30PM

Guidance Information

Class of 2012 Parents: The FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) will be available Jan. 1st, 2012. Be sure you have your PIN number for filing the FAFSA; both student and parents will need a PIN number. To create a PIN, go to www.pin.ed.gov.

Dual Enrollment: Juniors or seniors planning on taking dual enrollment courses next semester will need to complete a dual enrollment application even if enrolled in a dual enrollment course this semester. Log on to www.tn.gov/collegepays to complete the application.

Standardized Tests:

The next **ACT** will be **Feb. 11th**; registration deadline is Jan. 13th. Register at actstudent.org

The next **SAT** will be **Jan. 28th**; registration deadline is Dec. 30th. Register at sat.collegeboard.com

The **ACT Poster Contest** for juniors and seniors runs Dec. 5th-Jan. 28th. Create an original poster that answers the question, "Why take the ACT?" and you might win a \$5,000 scholarship! Official contest rules are posted at www.actstudent.org/postercontest.

College Visits, Programs and Information:

UT's Medical Exploration program allows students to learn about careers such as nursing, physical therapy, physicians and dieticians. To prepare for the 2012 summer program, interested students are encouraged, but not required, to attend the fall lecture series that meets at 4:00PM one Thursday a month (September-April). For more information visit gsm.utmck.edu or call 865.305.9294.

UT Knoxville will host a series of "Introduction to Engineering" courses for rising 7th-12th graders during the summer of 2012. Participants will learn about careers in engineering, explore the UTK campus, tour engineering labs and spend a weekend living on a college campus! Register online at www.engr.utk.edu/edp/pre_college.html before Mar. 2nd.

Scholarship Information:

The **Elks National Foundation** provides several scholarship opportunities for seniors. Eligibility, deadlines and applications for the Most Valuable Student Award, Legacy Award and Educational Grants can be found at www.elks.org/enf/scholars/.

Burger King Scholars is accepting applications from seniors with a minimum GPA of 2.50. Applicants must plan on enrolling in an accredited 2-year or 4-year institution next year. Application deadline is Jan. 10th. Visit www.haveyourwayfoundation.org/bksp_scholarship_eligibility.html to apply.

The **American Legion Tennessee High School Oratorical Scholarship** Program is open for 9-12 grade students who have the desire to speak clearly about the Constitution of the United States. Interested students should see Ms. Poole by Jan. 13th. For more information, visit www.tennesseelegion.org or call 423.754.4817.

UT Chattanooga's Grote Chemistry Scholarship awards \$14,000 to freshman chemistry majors. Seniors with a minimum 3.50 GPA, 26 ACT and chemistry grade of A or B should apply by Feb. 1st. For more information, call 423.425.5296 or find the online scholarship application at www.utc.edu/chemistry/students/scholarship/grote/groteinfo.php

The **KFC Colonel's Scholars Award** is open to seniors with an entrepreneurial spirit, minimum GPA of 2.75, demonstrated financial need and who plan to attend a public, in-state college. The \$5,000 award is renewable. Apply online at www.kfcscholars.org before Feb. 8th.

GE-Reagan Foundation Scholarship is accepting nominations for seniors with exemplary leadership skills, minimum GPA of 3.00 and a demonstrated financial need. Teachers, coaches, community or religious leaders can nominate students before Feb. 12th. Go to www.reaganfoundation.org/GE-RFScholarships.aspx to find an application.