

GATOR GRAM



William B. Gibbs, Jr Elementary School
12615 Royal Crown Drive, Germantown, MD
www.gibbsespta.org

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President's Message

By Sue Amick

I hope everyone had a safe and enjoyable Thanksgiving. This is a busy time for all of us, but try to remember to enjoy your family and try not to get too stressed.

The MCPS Board of Education is setting up a "round table" discussion to develop a plan to keep Monocacy Elementary School open. Dr. Weast has recommended closing Monocacy ES due to under enrollment. One of the solutions being discussed is changing boundaries within the Clarksburg Cluster to send some of our children to Monocacy. We do not know if this will affect Gibbs students but, as it will affect Clarksburg Cluster students, we need to let the Board of Education know that we do not want our students disrupted to benefit approximately 180 students. It is painful to close a school but to have children in our cluster spend an additional 30 minutes on a bus to keep an under enrolled school open just doesn't make sense. It is very important for our cluster to come together to fight this proposal. Please take a few minutes to e-mail the Board of Education (BOE@mcpsmd.org) to let them know how you feel about this.

Yearbooks on Sale

By Debbie Free

Yearbooks will be sold the month of December. Look for the flyer in your child's backpack the first week of December. Cost is \$20. Don't miss out!

For questions call or e-mail: Debbie Free 301-515-1762 or (debndonfree@verizon.net)

Yearbook Pictures Needed

If you have taken pictures at any of the school events this year (Assemblies, Harvest festival, Grandparents Tea, Walk to School Day etc.) and are willing to share them, please e-mail them to Debbie Free debndonfree@verizon.net.

Grandparent's Tea

By Lee Marshall

Monday, November 23rd was a landmark day for the Gibbs Staff, the PTA and our student families. It marked the first annual Grandparents' Tea. We had a tremendous response with lots of grandparents and special guests turning out for the event. The morning started off in our All Purpose Room with "coffee and conversation" along with a huge array of wonderful baked goods provided by our volunteer families. A weekend power outage caused a problem with some of the electrical outlets we were using for our new, and generously donated, coffee urns. But our delightful guests were patient as we worked through it and we thank them for that. Before too long, the coffee was flowing and Mrs. Bosnic invited guests to head up to classrooms to enjoy a teacher directed activity with the students. Not to be excluded, the afternoon PEP and Pre-K classes also got to enjoy special time in their classrooms with guests and refreshments. Thanks to Mrs. Allen for providing a special welcome for them.

Landmark events like this are not possible without the help of our PTA volunteers and school staff. We would like to thank everyone that helped, especially the long, long list of people who provided baked goods for the guests. Everything was delicious and we appreciate the fact that you took time out of your busy weekend to help. We also want to send a special "thank you" to Global Children's Center for their assistance during setup for this event and the cooperation of the children. Thanks to Karen Ward, Kathryn Hoffpauir and Nikki Haddad for working the event with a smile even during the hectic moments. Our Food Service Manager, Mrs. Maguire, deserves a big Great Gator for coming to the rescue and brewing coffee when we couldn't. And thanks to Mrs. Bosnic, Mrs. Allen, Mr. Bell and building services staff.

GLOBAL CHILDREN'S CENTER

CORNER

"WHERE CHILDREN LEARN THROUGH PLAY"

We are now enrolling for our Before and After care program @ William B. Gibbs Elementary School.

Our program features:

- Special Clubs and Activities
- Designated Home work time
- Convenient Hours and location
- Highly Qualified Staff
- Open most days during school closings and early releases
- Indoor and outdoor play
- Gym Time with special sports activities!

Pls. call us @ 301.972.5982 or 301.972.5882 Steve and Monika Utrecht (Directors)

Toys for Tots & Coat Collection

Global Children's Center is collecting old coats kids/adults and toys for tots in partnership with Bergman's Cleaners and U.S. Marines Toys for Tots program. **Please drop off items in marked green tub in the multi- purpose room.** Any and all contributions are welcome.

