



Panther Press

A publication of the Georgia Academy for the Blind

Thursday, February 15, 2024

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

2895 Vineville Ave.

Macon, GA



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Mark your Calendar

2/16 & 2/19 - Holidays for Presidents' Day

2/23 - Black History Program at 10:30AM

2/23 - School Council Meeting at 2:00pm

3/2 - Cornhole Tournament Fundraiser at GAB


3/7 - Braille Challenge at GAB

3/28 - Spring Concert at 10:30AM

3/29 through 4/5 - Spring Break

4/11 through 4/14 - SCASB Track & Field

5/16 - Prom at GAB

5/23 - Graduation 

5/24 - Last Day of School

Hello Parent/Guardians!

We are at the end of yet another busy week! As always, our student scholars participated in a variety of enriching activities aimed at supporting learning and independent growth. To celebrate their hard work, our students will be treated to a nice vacation beginning Friday, February 16 and returning to learning on Tuesday, February 20.

Just a few reminders, we are asking that you please take the time to take part in the Georgia Student Health survey. The survey is another opportunity for you to support GAB by letting us know how we are doing. We are also asking that you complete and return the form attached to the newsletter if you wish for your child to opt out of participating in the survey. We are hoping to have as many parents and students to participate this year as your voice does matter!

Finally, the mysterious Dr. Love and I would like to say **“Happy Valentine’s Day”** to all, and we hope that you have a safe and enjoyable weekend.

Alicia M. Jackson

**Interim School-Level
Superintendent**





Dr. Gardiner and Mr. Burch's ECC class learned about dental care when Dr. Paulomi Shah came to visit GAB with her two dental assistants. They taught the students about brushing and flossing teeth, healthy nutrition for teeth, and the importance of dental care.





The girls of Cottage (C4) have been enjoying ***"Black History Month"*** by listening to the stories of African Americans that have made contributions and sacrifices that help shape our nation. The girls put the spotlight on some of the heroes, and they were treated to an amazing evening by the RAs with a ***"Put A Little Love In Your Heart"*** **Valentine Supper** and a Karaoke Celebration on Tuesday evening!





Dear GAB families,

As our school's **Box Tops** for Education Coordinator, I want to thank you for all your support this year with Box Tops! We are close to achieving our earnings goal for the school year — and with your continued support, I know we can reach it!

Our goal is to earn \$100.00 through **Box Tops** this year to help with our student fund. We are currently **80%** of the way there.

Every **Box Tops** product counts towards our goal!

Let's work together to get GAB to the finish line.

If you need help with the Box Tops app, please let me know.

-Miss Layson

slayson@doe.k12.ga.us





**KIDS
HEART
CHALLENGE™**

**AMERICAN
HEART
CHALLENGE™**

GAB Families,

Get ready for the American Heart Association's Heart Challenge! This year, our school will be learning about staying strong in body and mind. We'll get moving with fun activities and raise funds for the health of all hearts. Plus, they'll feel good for doing good! Remember to send colors for your child to wear on **Wellness Wednesdays**:

Feb. 14th-Red

Feb. 21st-Yellow

Feb. 28th-Purple

Ms. Raegan with
Adyen, showing
love by wearing his
RED HEARTS!
*Happy Valentine's
Day!*



Look out for the American Heart flyer in the GAB newsletter and your child's backpack. Also, download the Heart Challenge App or visit heart.org/KHC to learn about all the ways your family can help to create a community of lifesavers by learning the lifesaving steps of Hands-Only CPR. It's quick, easy, and fun!

If you would like to make a donation, please make any checks payable to the American Heart Association and send them in a labeled envelope. Have your child turn them in to Mrs. McDavid. We will be collecting donations until February 29.

Thank you for keeping more hearts beating strong!

Dawn McDavid

Teacher: Physical Education and Health

Georgia Academy for the Blind



Please join us for the...

Black History Program *Celebration*

Celebrate Black History through the Arts.

When: February 23, 2024 in the GAB Auditorium at 10:30am



Georgia Academy for the Blind



TOURNAMENT

To benefit the Students of GAB

When: Saturday, March 2, 2024

Registration 10:00 a.m.

\$40 per team of two (**cash or check**)

Tournament 11:00 a.m.

Where: Georgia Academy for the Blind
2895 Vineville Ave, Macon

Our tournament is sponsored by **C&W Contracting** this year.
This an event you won't want to miss!

\$1000 Cash Payout:

1st place - \$500

2nd place - \$300

3rd place - \$200

**Shot in the
Dark Contest**

Family Fun



😱😱 My kid did **WHAT?!?!!** 😱😱



FACTS:

- 1) The Internet can be a very dangerous place.
- 2) Kids don't always make the best decisions.
- 3) Things posted online are permanent.

Do you know what your children are doing online?

HELP IS ON THE WAY!

Join us for an EMPOWERING workshop for FAMILIES!

- Learn the dangers kids face on the internet and ways you can help protect them.
- Discuss online enticement, sextortion, and cyberbullying with professionals.
 - Take away tools to help monitor your children's online activities.
- Hear from one of our very own parents whose child was groomed by sex traffickers for two years and what unfolded when traffickers showed up at school to take her.

ZOOM IN

(links coming soon)

March 5th – 7:30 – English & ASL

March 7th – 7:30 – English & Spanish

Special Agent April Griffith works with the **Exploitation of Children and Computer Crimes Unit** of the **Georgia Bureau of Investigation** where she conducts investigations involving crimes against children on the internet and commercial sexual exploitation of children. S/A Griffith holds degrees in both Psychology and Criminal Justice and has trained local law enforcement across the state in how to deal with those that suffer from mental illness, developmental disabilities, and addictive diseases.

😱😱 Mi hijo hizo **¿QUÉ???** 😱😱



HECHOS:

- 1) Internet puede ser un lugar muy peligroso.
- 2) Los niños no siempre toman las mejores decisiones.
- 3) Las cosas publicadas en línea son permanentes.

¿Sabes qué hacen tus hijos en línea?

¡Únase a nosotros en un taller para EMPODERAR a las FAMILIAS!

- Conozca los peligros que enfrentan los niños y jóvenes en Internet y las formas en que usted puede protegerlos.
- Hable sobre la incitación en línea, la sextorsión y el ciberacoso con profesionales.
 - Tome las herramientas para ayudar a monitorear las actividades en línea de sus hijos.
- Escuche a uno de nuestros propios padres cuya hija fue involucrada emocionalmente por traficantes sexuales durante dos años y lo que ocurrió cuando los traficantes aparecieron en la escuela para

¡LA AYUDA ESTÁ EN CAMINO!

Por ZOOM

(enlaces próximamente)

5 de marzo – 7:30 pm – en inglés y en ASL

7 de marzo – 7:30 pm – en inglés y en español

La agente especial April Griffith trabaja con la Unidad de Explotación Infantil y Delitos Informáticos de la Oficina de Investigaciones de Georgia, donde lleva a cabo investigaciones sobre delitos contra niños en Internet y explotación sexual comercial de niños. S/A Griffith tiene títulos en Psicología y Justicia Penal y ha capacitado a las autoridades locales en todo el estado sobre cómo tratar con quienes padecen enfermedades mentales, discapacidades del desarrollo y enfermedades adictivas.

BRaille CHALLENGE



DATE: March 7, 2024



TIME: 8:30 - 3:00



PLACE: Georgia Academy for the Blind

2895 Vineville Ave.

Macon, GA 31204



Contact For Parents: Jennifer Minter

478 - 751- 6083 ext. 1140

Contact For TVI's and Students: Dawn Day

mday@doe.k12.ga.us



February 2024

Birthdays

Ryder	2/2	Brian	2/6
Jayden	2/2	Arianna	2/11
Elisha	2/3	Ambria	2/18
Kailyn	2/4	Roni	2/22
		Dorrian	2/24

