Happy Thanksgiving to all our GAB students, staff, family and friends! Whether you are traveling or “stay-cationing” we wish you a very safe and happy Thanksgiving holiday! Did you know that having your child help you plan, shop for, and prepare a meal reinforces math, literacy and Extended Core Curriculum skills! Check out these great tips on enlisting help from your child from our friends at AFB’s Family Connect:

Encourage your child to read over this week off! Maybe enjoy a family read aloud with the family! On the last page of this newsletter is a fun literacy activity to do over the break. Help your child complete this and return to their teacher when school begins again on November 27.

We are thankful for each of our students and their families. We look forward to our residential students return on Sunday, November 26 and classes resuming on Monday the 27th.

Give us your feedback! This newsletter is produced by Sonya Milam, Parent Mentor. For comments and suggestions and news items please contact her at 478-262-3303 or smilam@doc.k12.ga.us
Support After High School
Georgia Department of Behavior Health & Developmental Disabilities

Do you have a child age 10 or older who has a developmental, intellectual or mental disability? Will you need support after graduation?

Immediately following the Winter Program, come learn of the services provided through the Waiver programs that assist with a wide range of services including employment options, help with activities of daily living, building life skills, therapies, respite care and other supports designed to promote independence and inclusion.

Also learn about the other flexible services offered by the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities such as Family Support Services and specialized resources.

These programs are designed to keep Georgia residents in their homes and included in their communities.

At this presentation you will get your questions answered and learn how to apply for these free services.

Thursday, December 21 from 11:15 am-12:15 pm
Georgia Academy for the Blind, Hendricks building
2895 Vineville Avenue, Macon, GA
Presented by:
Catherine Ivy, LCSW and Nicki Wilson, MPA
Family Support Managers for DBH/DD

*Light refreshments served and a door prize awarded

*So that we will have ample seating and materials, you must rsvp!
smilam@doe.k12.ga.us, 478-262-3303
AUTUMN ACTIVITIES

GAB Project SEARCH at Navicent
By Angel Lopez, Graduating Senior and Project Search Intern

Project SEARCH at Navicent Health is on the move! We had many things going on for the last of October and for the month of November. On October 31st, we participated in Navicent’s annual Halloween Parade. We contributed to this event by purchasing candy and handing it out to the children who are patients at Navicent Children's Hospital. Staff members dressed up and departments decorated their areas to provide the children with a fun experience!

We also recognized White Cane Day on November 8th and 9th. White Cane Day brings awareness about the blind and visually impaired community and we are also using this opportunity to bring awareness to the Project SEARCH program at Navicent Health. We filed baggies with Braille and print information regarding Project SEARCH. We also placed candy canes and gum ball eyeballs in the bags and my fellow interns and I passed them out to customers at Navicent’s Create Café and the cafeteria.

Finally, all three of us are working in our first rotations this fall. I am now working in the Linen Services department where I do stocking, make deliveries, and make sure everything's in good shape. My colleague, Mr. Evans, is working at Create's restaurant where he wipes down the tables and booths, makes sure all condiments are well stocked, washes dishes, and other duties as assigned. Ms. Brooks is working in Central Supply where she does bagging and tagging of equipment, pulls and delivers supplies to different departments, answers the phone, and other duties as assigned.

This past week GAB Project SEARCH at Navicent interns spotlighted the Transportation Department of Georgia Academy for the Blind. This department has been very helpful in bringing us to Navicent hospital every day since our program began back in August.

Mr. Harris has been key in helping us with our transportation needs. He is the person that is over all of the bus drivers at GAB. He has helped by providing us with drivers to take us to and from Navicent each day. He has also helped us by sending a driver when we were late to work, or when we were sent back to GAB because we were out of dress code.

Mr. Harris is not the only important person on this team. Mr. Willy, Mr. Herschel, and Mr. and Mrs Daniels have also been helpful in driving us to work each morning. We are learning to use other modes of transportation when coming back from the hospital, but they are still very important to us. We would like to thank Mr. Harris and all of the bus drivers at GAB. We truly appreciate everything they've done for us.

As you can see, we never have a dull moment! Through Project SEARCH we are not only developing valuable job skills, but we are also learning how to be charitable as well as other skills that will enable us to be well-rounded and productive members in our communities.
Middle Georgia Families, grades 8-12: Save this date! “Mapping a Self-Determined Future: Where Transition Meets Real Life” will be back in Macon, January 27, 2017. You don’t want to miss this interactive day with other students and families preparing for life after high school!
Orientation and Mobility Tips

Vocabulary word for the week: Constant-contact technique – shoulder-width, side-to-side sweeping technique in which the cane is in constant contact with the ground. We sometimes refer to this as ‘sweeping’ the cane also.

Please encourage your child to use constant-contact technique when in your community.
For example, say: “Sweep side to side across your body” or “sweep left and right across your body.” Or you may just say, “Use constant-contact technique.”

Note: Some of our students don’t use this technique but instead use another.

Robin Cruise, Certified Orientation and Mobility Specialist ACVREP

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Media Center News

LATEST NEWS: Our latest Donors Choose project was funded! We will be receiving 18 new titles for our teen collection. Thanks for all who donated and shared!

DON’T FORGET! Before and after the Winter Music Program and Art Show there will be a live exhibition of our new 3D printer in action in the GAB Tech Lab. Make plans to attend!

DON’T FORGET! Follow us on twitter! gab_library

Mrs. Kim Smith, Media Specialist
kismith@doe.k12.ga.us, 478-751-6083 ext 1280

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Holidays are filled with food and fun. Please remember to check all your food packages for any BOX TOPS labels. Check out this list of participating products here! It’s more than food items!
http://www.gabmacon.org/files/_EGBdS_/82b3641074067f1d3745a49013852ec4/BoxTopsParticipating-Products-Flyer_mar2015.pdf If you have any questions contact Sylvia Layson at slayson@doe.k12.ga.us or call after 3:00 P.M. 478-751-6083 ext 1200. Thanks for all your help!

Senior Class Lawnmower ticket sales continue until December 20! Winner will be announced following the Winter Program on the 21st. Make a donation of at least $10 and get a chance to with a Hustler Raptor SDX Kawasaki 54 inch Mower donated by Vidalia Small Engine Services. Contact a member of the 2018 Senior Class or Rachel Towery, rtowery@bellsouth.net, 912-403-9302

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Senior Class Fundraiser Calendars still on sale! They are $8.00 each and contain a free menu item each month. Supplies are limited, so see a senior class member or staff member to order today! These make perfect gifts for the holidays!

Mr. Collins, mcollins@doe.k12.ga.us, or Mrs. Thomspson, mthompson@doe.k12.ga.us
# Building Literacy

## Let's Play READO!

READO ... It's just like BINGO! You do five activities in a line — across, up, down, or diagonally!

Return your completed READO sheet to your first period teacher and a prize awaits you from your Parent Involvement Coordinator!

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<td>Read a poem to a family member</td>
<td>Listen to a family member read a story.</td>
<td>Bring a library book home and read to a family member</td>
<td>Read a story and talk to a family member about the main character.</td>
<td>Make up a scary story and tell it to a family member.</td>
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<td>Listen to a family member tell a story about something they remember about school.</td>
<td>Read a story with a family member. Compare yourself to a character.</td>
<td>Read a story. Tell your family member about the story’s setting.</td>
<td>Select a book. You read a page then your family member reads a page. Take turns reading to each other.</td>
<td>Read two pages in a book to a family member showing great expression.</td>
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<td>You read a story. Think of 5 words to describe the story.</td>
<td>Talk with a family member and make a prediction about a story you are reading.</td>
<td>FREE</td>
<td>Read a story together. Discuss and create a new title for the story.</td>
<td>Read a story with your family. Talk about what you and they liked about the story.</td>
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<td>Read a non-fiction story with a family member. Tell 2 facts you learned from the book.</td>
<td>Make up a story during dinner. Each person at the table needs to add a part to the story.</td>
<td>Read a story together. Have your family member to describe 5 words in the story.</td>
<td>Have a family member read an interesting newspaper article to you. Retell the article in your own words.</td>
<td>Read a story by yourself.</td>
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<td>Make a prediction about a story before reading it. Discuss your prediction.</td>
<td>Read a story and talk about the main characters.</td>
<td>Read a story. Ask someone to describe the illustrations to you.</td>
<td>Help a family member write a grocery list.</td>
<td>Listen to a family member tell something that happened to them. Then you retell the story in your own words.</td>
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(Adapted with permission from Georgia School for the Deaf • Title I School)