

April showers bring May flowers ...and assessments. Our 3rd, 4th, and 5th grade students will be participating in the administration of the NYS English Language Arts and Math assessments. While it is important that students are encouraged to do their very best on the assessments, we don't want them to be afraid of them. Educational research proves that students are more focused and function better if they are well rested and having nutritional needs met. We are confident that with encouragement and support from home, your child will be prepared and confident.

These assessments will be given to all 3rd, 4th, and 5th grade students across New York State. The tests will take place at Gordon Creek Elementary School on the following dates:

English Language Arts: Grades 3, 4, and 5 students (3 days of testing)

- Tuesday, April 14th, Wednesday, April 15th, Thursday, April 16th

Mathematics: Grades 3, 4, and 5 students (3 days of testing)

- Wednesday, April 22nd, Thursday, April 23rd, Friday, April 24th

The PARP closing ceremony took place on April 1st. During this school-wide assembly, the winners of both Reading Rewards contests were announced. The poster contest winners' posters will be made into bookmarks for GC students and staff! The Rewards writing contest asked students to write instructions on how to engage in a special activity so that other students could read and follow their instructions to make or do something rewarding. Finally, "Harry Potter" stopped in to talk about the powerful magic in reading. He also acknowledged those students who reached their reading goals for all four (4) weeks of PARP. These fabulous K-2 readers read 50 minutes each week while their fabulous grade 3-5 counterparts read for 100 minutes each week. Impressive!

Our second [Proctors Artist-in-Residency Program](#) culminating performance is on the horizon. Our fourth grade production will be Wednesday, April 29th, at 6:30PM, and feature Greek mythology.

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April events -your attendance and support are always welcome.

- **Spring Recess | Friday, April 3rd - Friday, April 10th**
 - **Gordon Creek Day | Saturday, April 18th, 2015 | Throughout the day**
 - **Dining Night at Sara Bella Pizza | Monday, April 20th, 2015 | 4:00PM - 8:00PM**
 - **Grade 4 Culminating Performance | Wednesday, April 29th, 2015 | 6:30PM - 8:00PM**
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