

# SCOTIA-GLENVILLE CENTRAL SCHOOLS



November 2009



OPAL

where students shine

Opportunities & Programs for Advanced Learners

## Parent Corner

Each month we will provide you with information regarding community activities for your children and/or information about gifted learners.

## Community Events

Empire State Aerosciences Museum  
[www.esam.org](http://www.esam.org)

New York State Museum  
[www.nysm.nysed.gov](http://www.nysm.nysed.gov)

## Parent Resources

### The Gifted Parent Online

A power point presentation worth a look.

[http://www.hoagiesgifted.org/parent\\_internet.ppt#256,1](http://www.hoagiesgifted.org/parent_internet.ppt#256,1), The Gifted Parent Online: Totally Free Internet Tools for Parent Support & Advocacy

SENG (Supporting Emotional Needs of the Gifted)

<http://www.SENGGifted.org>

GT World (online support community for parents)

<http://www.gtworld.org/index.html>

## Student Websites

Kerpoof

<http://www.kerpoof.com/>

Kids Mysteries

<http://kids.mysterynet.com/>

Art Pad

<http://artpad.art.com/artpad/painter/>

An open mind leaves a chance for someone to drop a worthwhile thought in it. " Anonymous

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## Primary OPAL

**Grades 1 and 2:** The interdisciplinary learning centers created from themed suggestions by classroom teachers remain in each classroom to address the needs of advanced learners as well as any other students who may move quickly through material. Topics for November include Native Americans (Gr 2) and Chrysanthemum (Gr 1).

Primary identification has begun, with instruction to begin later in the month.

## Intermediate OPAL

**Grade 3:** The identification process for third graders has begun and instruction should begin later this month. Students will be working within the theme of "Time" this year.

**Grade 4: Questions**—Students have been reading Because of Winn Dixie by Kate DiCamillo. They have completed character maps, looked at symbolism within the story, and have discussed essential questions such as "What does it take to be a good friend?" As we finish this novel, students will then be asked to compare and contrast the book to the movie version of the story as well as discuss quotes and write a letter to the author Ms. DeCamillo.

**Grade 5: Viewpoints**— The children are still reading novels like Mrs. Frisby and the Rats of Nimh by Robert C. O'Brien and Black Beauty by Anna Sewell. They are noticing that viewpoints of the characters change as situations arise in their lives. These changes are being tracked in their response journals. The fifth graders are also looking at things from a dragonfly's perspective after constructing models of compound eyes. They have realized that you are able to utilize those traits that you are born with, and that it is hard to adapt to a different trait, like a change in their sight.

## Odyssey of the Mind

Odyssey of the Mind is up and running for another year at Scotia Glenville. So far, we have 16 teams that involve 96 kids (K-8). Great job!! If you have any questions, please contact Suzanne Meeker at [WMeeker@nycap.rr.com](mailto:WMeeker@nycap.rr.com).