

TWO TEAMS ... ONE PURPOSE!

*St. Clare School invites students from Grades 5-8
who are interested in becoming empowered eco-leaders!*



Don't sit on the sidelines! Come play for either ...

The ELF Team for Grades 7 and 8



**E
Environmental**

**L
Leaders**

**F
Fellowship**

or ...

The Globetrotters for Grades 5 and 6



**Special Student Orientation Session and Parent Meeting on Wednesday, Sept. 14,
for those interested in joining the ELF or Globetrotters:**

- ELF Team and Globetrotters – Student intro session, 2:40-4:30
- Parents join us for meeting/overview, 4:30-5

Benefits of the environmental experience

Students will:

- enjoy fun, hands-on, real citizen science experiences all-year round that truly have an impact on the world around us!
- become confident in collecting field data using the protocols set forth by accredited environmental agencies like the Globe Program as we work with experts in the field.
- work on inquiry-based team projects in the field, in the lab and at home with guidance from the program facilitators and even older students.
- be leaders during regular class activities involving these same skills, protocols, tools
- receive grades for individual/group effort on the team project which will fulfill their science fair requirements.
- present their work at some showcase events at school and Ecology Day at the Staten Island Mall
- earn community service hours for special projects that involve stewardship.
- receive extra lab and computer time.

FACILITATORS

Mrs. Mary Lee and Mrs. Maureen Miller – Field and school sessions
Mrs. Meghan Vautrinot – Project support at school (lab and computers)

OVERVIEW

Our ELF and Globetrotters members will be trained in many protocols for field studies including, but not limited to, those set forth by the Globe Program, the Hudson River Estuary Program, Trout in the Classroom, the Billion Oyster Project, the Department of Environmental Protection (NYS Eel Monitoring Project), the National Park Service (Horseshoe Crab monitoring). They will be asked to take on a leadership role in their classes in school during related lessons and field trips and help maintain the lab organisms. They will be involved in a number of community service projects and an intensive field study. We present our work to the community so that other can become inspired to become citizen scientists.

*** GLOBE stands for “Global Learning and Observations to Benefit the Environment.”

SOME OF OUR AFFILIATIONS and PARTNERS



SCHEDULING , TRANSPORTATION, GRADING AND OTHER KEY CONSIDERATIONS

- There are times the ELF team and Globetrotters meet together and times they alternate Wednesdays and meet independently of each other.
- Sessions are generally on a Wednesday after school, but we sometimes meet off-site for special events or projects on other days/times. Eel and horseshoe crab monitoring, for example, are actually in the evening. Different options to meet at these particular sessions usually help avoid scheduling conflicts.
- Some sessions will be in the field and some will be in the lab.
- Our lab sessions may be focused on either learning new skills or protocols or planning our next field trip. Sometimes we work on our presentations (posters, research, interactives) to present our work at school or community events like Ecology Day.
- Children need to get own rides to all off-site sessions (most families carpool). Most off-site sessions after school run from 3:30-5. We have several fall and spring sessions scheduled at Clay Pit Ponds to work with environmental educator Emily Becker again. Other places we plan to visit are: Richmond Creek in Richmondtown (eel monitoring), Great Kills Park (horseshoe crab monitoring), Richmond County Yacht Club (oyster cage monitoring), Freshkills Park (tour) as well as some off-site cleanups.
- Since the children will be graded on their work (this counts as a science fair project), attendance, behavior, field notes, project contributions will all be factored in.
- Lab sessions after school start after school and run until 5. Children should bring own snack and drink (peanut free). When we meet at the lab, pickup will be at the cafeteria or lab door in the main school yard; cars not permitted in lot at pickup for safety reasons. Children can be dismissed to Aftercare if noted.

TENTATIVE MEETING DATES

This is not a finalized schedule. It is a sneak peek at what is being planned and where we stand now.

A more definitive schedule will be distributed at the mandatory orientation/parent meeting on September 14.

***Please note that when we go to Clay Pit Ponds, we meet at the INTERPRETIVE CENTER at 2351 Veteran's Road West

FALL SESSIONS

LAB SESSIONS (at School) – 2:40- 5

- **Orientation Session and Parent Meeting (ELF and Globetrotters) - Sept. 14**
 - ELF Team and Globetrotters intro session, 2:40-4:30
 - Parents join us for meeting/overview, 4:30-5
- Project work – (ELF) – Nov. 16, Dec. 14
- Project work (Globetrotters) – Dec. 7, Dec. 21

CLAY PIT PONDS – 3:30-5

*** Team Project (Inquiry based/SCI Method)

Pond Investigations involving Water testing/Macroinvertebrate Sampling --

- Investigations (ELF) – Sept. 21, Oct. 12, Oct. 26, Nov. 9
- Investigations (Globetrotters) - Oct. 5 , Oct. 19, Nov. 2, Nov. 30

OTHER

- Fall Cleanup (Service project) at New Creek Bluebelt (Hylan Blvd, Dongan Hills) - Oct 1 (SAT), 9-10:30
- No sessions planned at this time for: Sept. 28 (No school), Nov. 23 (Day before Thanksgiving)

SPRING SESSIONS

LAB SESSIONS (at School) – 2:40- 5

(Some of these may be converted to off-site event – landfill tour, eel intro/hike, visit to oyster cage, etc)

- Project work (ELF) – Jan. 4, Jan. 25, Feb. 15
- Project work Globetrotters – Jan. 11, Feb. 8, Apr. 5
- Finalize presentations for Ecology Day (Globetrotters and ELF) – April 12
- In lab or possible off-site excursion, Details TBD (ELF and Globetrotters) – May 10
- Final session, Details TBD (ELF and Globetrotters) – May 30 (TUES)

CLAY PIT PONDS – 3:30-5

***Various Citizen Science and Service Programs

Project Budburst, Invasive Species ID, Pond/Water Testing follow up

- Project Budburst (ELF on Mar. 1; Globetrotters on Mar. 8)
- Water Testing follow up (ELF on Mar. 15, Globetrotters on Mar. 22)
- Invasive Species Identification (ELF on May 17, Globetrotters on May 24)
- Special Cleanup Event (ELF and Globetrotters) – April 26

No sessions planned at this time for: Jan. 18 (Midterms), Feb. 1 (Robotics Research Forum), Feb. 22 (Midwinter Recess), Mar. 29 (State ELA Exam), April 19 (Easter Recess/No School), May 3 (State Math Exam), May 31 (Finals)

The following still need to be included

- Ecology Day at Mall – Date TBD ***This is our big showcase!
- Eel monitoring dates (Richmond Creek) and Horseshoe Crab Monitoring (GK Park)
- Oyster cage visits – Richmond County Yacht Club (1-2 visits total in fall/spring)
- Possible Fresh Kills Tour visit
- Other possible service projects – cleanups, distribute water at Capt. Martin Egan Memorials Run (spring)

More on SCIENCE PROJECT CREDIT AND SERVICE HOURS

Being part of the Globetrotter program for the full year will take the place of a science fair project and will also provide built-in service hours. The grade will be determined by the quality of your work by the teachers facilitating the program. Your service hours will be determined by the amount of time spent on service projects (citizen science projects at Clay Pit in spring, counting eels and horseshow crabs, caring for trout at lunch, cleanups, etc). You need to keep track of your own hours. The actual team project will not count as service.

COST

The cost of the program is \$300 for the year to cover costs of all field materials and equipment, presentation items, classroom overhead and staffing. Over 40 hours will be provided. Team members will receive a team T-shirt. Money will be charged to SMART Tuition (in increments). A team sweat shirt can be ordered for an additional fee.

TEAM ATTIRE

The children should wear the **team shirt** which is included. They should also wear team **sweatshirt** if cool weather (and if they order them).

PLEASE PURCHASE THE FOLLOWING ON OWN FOR SPECIAL EVENTS:

- **PANTS FOR BOYS** - We also want the boys to wear black open-bottom fleece pants (sweat pants without elastic by ankles) and white gym sneakers especially when at special events like Ecology Day and other excursions.
- **PANTS or CAPRIS for GIRLS** – The girls could also wear the black open-bottom fleece pants like the boys or black capris. They should also wear white gym sneakers.
- Amazon has big selection and some reasonable choices of these pants.
- When in the park, children can wear the team shirt with jeans and work boots especially if conditions are messy.



PARENT SUPPORT

To help keep program affordable, we ask a parent or a representative assist at two Munch a Lunch/Brunch events no matter how many programs your child is enrolled. Proceeds benefit the teams and the school.

Munch a Brunch/Lunch Dates

1. 9/30/16 (FRI) - Grades 1-4
2. 10/12/16 (WED) - Lunch – Grades 5-8
3. 11/18/16 (FRI) – Lunch - Grades 1-4
4. 11/29/16 (TUES) - Lunch – Grades 5-8
5. 12/23/16 (FRI) – Brunch – Grades 1-4
6. 2/2/17 (WED) – Brunch K-4
7. 2/24/17 (FRI) – Brunch - Grades 5-8
8. 3/21/17 (TUES) - Lunch - Grades K-5
9. 5/5/17 (FRI) – Brunch – Grades 5-8
10. 5/18/17 (THURS) – Lunch – Grades K-4

MAIN CONTACTS

- Program Information - Mrs. Mary Lee - mlee@stclaresi.com (School phone: 718-984-7091)
- SMART Tuition charges - Gerri Smith - gsmith@stclaresi.com (Rectory phone: 718-984-7873)
- Munch and Brunch/Lunch (dates) – Jessica Bonavita – jbonavita@stclaresi.com (School phone: 718-904-7091)

St. Clare School – Environmental Programs

2016-17 School Year

REGISTRATION FORM

Program for which you are enrolling your child (Please check one)

____ **ELF Team for Grades 7-8**

____ **Globetrotters for Grades 5-6**

Student's name _____ Class _____

Street address _____ Zip _____

Parents' names _____

Home phone number _____

Other (Work/Cell numbers) _____

Parent's e-mail address (needed for group emails) _____

Emergency contacts (Please provide at least one in case parents cannot be contacted.)

Special considerations (health and medications, dismissal plans, team placement, etc.)

Munch a Brunch/Lunch Fundraisers

To help keep team fees affordable, we run the Munch a Lunches and Brunches. We ask that you or a representative volunteer at two of these events. Please circle any dates you can help:

Munch a Brunch/Lunch Dates

- | | |
|-----------------------------------------|------------------------------------------|
| 1. 9/30/16 (FRI) - Grades 1-4 | 6. 2/2/17 (WED) – Brunch K-4 |
| 2. 10/12/16 (WED) - Lunch – Grades 5-8 | 7. 2/24/17 (FRI) – Brunch - Grades 5-8 |
| 3. 11/18/16 (FRI) – Lunch - Grades 1-4 | 8. 3/21/17 (TUES) - Lunch - Grades K-5 |
| 4. 11/29/16 (TUES) - Lunch – Grades 5-8 | 9. 5/5/17 (FRI) – Brunch – Grades 5-8 |
| 5. 12/23/16 (FRI) – Brunch – Grades 1-4 | 10. 5/18/17 (THURS) – Lunch – Grades K-4 |

Note -- Brunches run from approximately 9-10. Lunches run from approximately 10:45-11:45. Parents should come earlier to set up and remain after to clean up. If a family has more than one child involved on science teams, they only need to do two days total. Any problems, please discuss with Mrs. Lee.

***Coordinator is Jessica Bonavita at jbonavita @stclaresi.com in case availability changes.

ELF T-shirt Ordering information (circle correct sizes)

T-shirt size (included): Child Medium Child Large Child XL Adult Small Adult Medium Adult Large Adult XL

OPTIONAL Sweat Shirt: Child Medium Child Large Child XL Adult Small Adult Medium Adult Large Adult XL

***Sweatshirts are \$25 - separate collection