



GEMS

Graham Elementary and Middle School


2020


Parent Newsletter

January

Important Dates

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
12 January	13	14	15	16	17 2:45-3:15pm Commu- nity Meeting - 5th-8th Grade	18
19	20 No School - Martin Luther King, Jr. Day	21 2:45-3:15pm Commu- nity Meeting - 3rd-4th Grade	22 6:00pm Enrollment Information Session	23 5:30pm College Access and College Credit Plus Infor- mation Night at The Charles School at ODU	24 9:00am Breakfast with Books - K-4th Grade 2:45-3:15pm Commu- nity Meeting - 5th-8th Grade	25
26	27	28 2:45-3:15pm Commu- nity Meeting - K-2nd Grade	29	30	31 2:45-3:15pm Commu- nity Meeting - 5th-8th Grade	1
2 February	3	4	5 6:00pm Enrollment Information Session	6 No School - PD Days	7 No School - PD Days	8
9	10	11	12	13	14 2:45-3:15pm Commu- nity Meeting - 5th-8th Grade	15

Click here to Follow GEMS on Instagram 

Click here to Like GEMS on Facebook 

**K**

Just started learning about weather! Ask your students what they know about meteorologists and weather. We will also start decoding 3 letter words now that we know all of our letters. Please continue practicing letters at home with your child.

1st

Graders will be reviewing expectations at school. We will be discussing how our Habits of Learning look and sound at school. Later this month, we are beginning our new Expedition on birds. In math we are working on measuring with nonstandard units. In skills block we are learning how to read words with l blends. We're so excited to be back!

2nd

Graders will be starting our next expedition about butterflies. In math, we will be continuing to learn about double digit addition and begin double digit subtraction. Please remind your students to wear warm clothing for recess.

3rd

Graders are working on their frogs module. They are writing Pourquoi tales to explain why pollywogs wiggle. They are also re-addressing classroom norms. In math, we are reviewing Commutative Property of Multiplication.

4th

Graders are starting the next module learning about Animal Defenses. We are using multiplication skills in solving area and perimeter problems. We are getting ready to start long division. MAP assessments will be administered next week.

Music: This month we are diving into learning about musical instrument families and playing musical instruments. We are going to start preparing for a musical performance with colorful, exciting musical instruments. Ask your students about the instrument's funky name!

Physical Education: Fourth Grade will be playing Golf and learning how to putt. They will get to build a mini-golf course following skill practice. Later in the month they will participate in Striking and Fielding games, which include Wiffle ball and kick-ball. Sixth graders are participating in Target games that include Pinball, Bowling, and Golf as well as Striking and Fielding games.

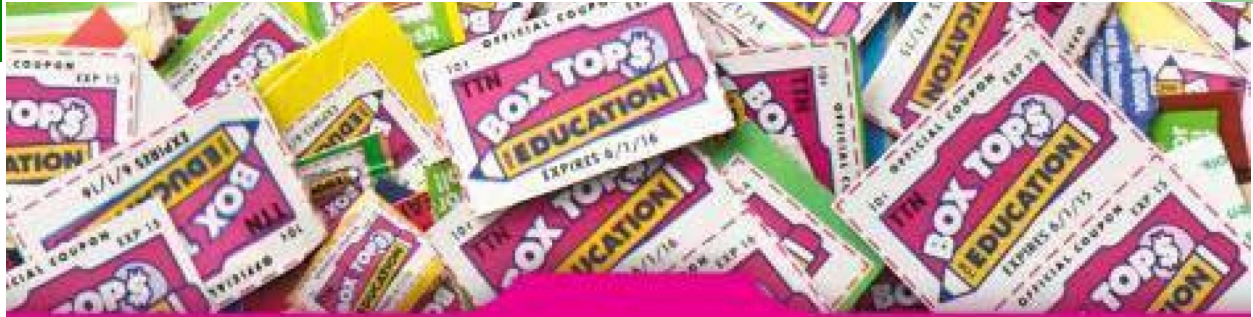
Exploration: Fourth grade students are completing an online course titled Compassion Project, in which they have learned about compassion and empathy, understanding themselves and how to practice these skills with others. We are next diving into Vault, in which they will get an introduction into the world of finances and making good decisions for their future.

Art: In January we are beginning to explore each of our expedition topics through art. We will also begin introducing studio choices into our art-making process. Our habit focus is Quality as we develop and practice our skills with different materials.

Follow Us:



or www.GemsSchool.org



EVERY CLIP COUNTS!

BOX TOP COMPETITION

**Help raise money for GEMS by collecting
Box Tops this season!**

- 1)** Each classroom will be given a box for collecting clipped Box Tops.
- 2)** Students, staff, and families have until **February 14th** to turn in as many Box Tops as they can.
- 3)** The classroom with the most Box Tops collected will earn a class party of their choosing!

Deadline: February 14

[Click here for more information about Box Tops!](#)

Follow Us:



or www.GemsSchool.org

5th

Graders are continuing to look into the question “What are Human Rights?”. Students are learning more about this question by reading the *Universal Declaration of Human Rights*. Additionally fifth graders will learn interviewing skills in preparation for interviews with local refugees towards the end of the month.

6th

Graders this month are continuing to work on our expedition-”Watts my Impact?” In English, they are reading novels with environmental issues as the main conflict. They will be learning about how we can reduce their impact on the environment at school and at home and getting ready to start their final product work!

7th

Graders podcasts links: bit.ly/citrinespodcasts or bit.ly/opalspodcasts. 7th graders are beginning their expedition “When Cultures Collide” to learn about what happens when various cultures come in contact through history. The goal of the expedition is for students to recognize that they can find common ground with people who are different from them.

8th

Graders will be digging deeper into the topic of taking a stand. They are continuing to read *To Kill A Mockingbird* in English, exploring the topics of the Revolutionary War in Social Studies, looking at Geologic time and making claims in Science, learning about slope in Math, and analyzing and interpreting data from the GEMS Wellness needs assessment in Wellness class.

Silent Auction Items Needed

We are seeking items for the Have a Heart silent auction. Items could include gift cards, art work, jewelry, crafts, event tickets, and more! As you shop and talk with your friends and family please think about items that might help with this wonderful event. Please contact Jennifer Waddell, waddell.1@thecharlesschool.org or 614-643-5068 with any questions or to donate items.

Funds raised at Have a Heart will support expeditions.

College Access and College Credit Plus (CCP) Information Night

January 23rd - 5:30 - 7:15PM at The Charles School at Ohio Dominican University

The Graham Family of Schools is hosting our annual College Access and College Credit Plus (CCP) Information Night on January 23rd from 5:30 - 7:15PM at The Charles School (1270 Brentnell Avenue, Columbus, OH 43219). Families and students are invited to come learn about participating in the CCP program and talk to representatives from some of Central Ohio's CCP Programs. In addition to learning about opportunities for students to earn college credit free of charge while in grades 7 - 12 through CCP, there will be sessions on Ohio Dominican's Early College Program at The Charles School (grades 11 - 13), and conversations about high school graduation pathways. There will be refreshments and raffle/door prizes, so don't miss this great session on college opportunities for your student!

GEMS is a School-wide Title 1 program, enabling us to receive Federal Funds to ensure that our students receive the support they need to reach and exceed grade level goals particularly in reading and math. We welcome parent involvement in planning, review and improvement of Title 1 programs including the family engagement policy and the schoolwide program plan. Please contact Debbie Addison at addison.2@gemsschool.org with any questions.

Follow Us:



or www.GemsSchool.org

RESIDENCY VERIFICATION NOTIFICATION

Per House Bill 21 community schools are now required to perform a monthly review of student files and randomly select families for residency verification. **Please be sure to contact the school immediately in case of an address change.** Proof of residency must be submitted within two weeks of an address change. If evidence is not provided, requests for additional documentation or a home visit may occur.

Attendance

Attention Parents/Guardians

Attendance

Attending school daily is critical to student success. Ohio's House Bill 410 law requires a preventative approach to excessive student absences. An Attendance Team has been established to work with students and families to help improve daily attendance.

Note* - Missing as few as 2 days per month is considered chronically absent! We want to see your student in school every day!

GEMS Family Crew

At GEMS we know that involving students' families as much as we can is a great way to help kids grow. GEMS Family Crew will help facilitate volunteering and fundraising activities throughout the year. If you are interested in learning more about participating in this group please contact Jennifer Waddell at waddell.1@thecharlesschool.org.

[Click here to join the GEMS Family Crew Facebook page.](#)



Save the Date For

Have a Heart

Celebrating 20 years of Experiential Education and Honoring our Board members, past and present

Saturday, April 4, 2020 6:00 - 9:00 p.m.

at

New Location

The Boat House at Confluence Park

679 West Spring Street Columbus, Ohio 43215

Please contact Jennifer Waddell, waddell.1@thecharlesschool.org or 614-643-5068 with any questions.

Anti-Bullying Form

Please check out our online anti-bullying form to report bullying or other incidents. The link can be found on the parent tab on the GEMS website. [Or by clicking here.](#)

Follow Us:



or www.GemsSchool.org

GEMS Online Store is Open

The GEMS Store is open! You can now pay school fees (\$35) and lunch balance online at the Store.

[Click here to pay online at the Store.](#)

GEMS Needs Your Support!

You should have received a letter about the GEMS Annual Fund. The Annual Fund provides essential resources for our school. We hope to have parents, community members, and local businesses support this important effort. [Click here to make your donation.](#) Or mail in your reply envelope. Thanks in advance for your participation!

[Click here to show your support!](#)

Help GEMS Raise Money For Expeditions!

When you shop at Kroger, Giant Eagle, and/or Amazon you can help GEMS raise money! **Kroger - GEMS has a New School Number! Must Re-Enroll!**

Go to: www.krogercommunityrewards.com or call 1-800-837-4483 to enroll in the program. If you enrolled last year you must re-enroll each year to help GEMS. Add GEMS to your card. You can search for GEMS by name or use our school code: FD086 **New school code! Must re-enroll to help GEMS!** Shop! Every time you shop and use your Kroger Rewards Card GEMS gets rebates. Kroger totals those rebates and sends GEMS a check.

Giant Eagle

Go to: <https://www.gianteagle.com/schools/apples-for-students> to sign up online or call 1-800-474-4777. Add GEMS to your card. Our school ID number is 5512. Shop! Every time you use your Giant Eagle Advantage Card GEMS earns money.

You shop. Amazon gives to GEMS!

When you make a purchase on Amazon Smile they will now donate 0.5% of your total purchase to GEMS.

Go to <http://smile.amazon.com/ch/26-4350069> to get started!

Enrollment Information!

Please be sure to spread the word to friends and neighbors about our upcoming enrollment information sessions. If you know of students who might be interested in attending The Graham School, The Charles School at Ohio Dominican University, or GEMS, please let them know about our upcoming enrollment information sessions.

Wednesday at 6:00pm

January 22

February 5 & 19

AT

The Graham School
3950 Indianola Ave.

The Charles School at Ohio Dominican University
1270 Brentnell Ave.

GEMS
140 E. 16th Ave.

For more information please visit the school's websites

www.thegrahschool.org

www.thecharlesschool.org

www.gemsschool.org

"This institution is an equal opportunity provider."