



GEMS

Graham Elementary and Middle School

2019

Parent Newsletter

May

Important Dates

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	13 May	14 3rd-4th Community Meeting - 2:45-3:15pm K-2nd Community Meeting - 2:45-3:15pm FTO Meeting - 6:00pm	15 1st-4th Celebrations of Learning 5:00-6:00pm Enrollment Information Session at 6:00pm	16 5th-7th Student Led Conferences 8th Passages K-3rd - Student Led Conferences 4th Passages No School - PD Day	17 5th-7th Student Led Conferences 8th Passages K-3rd - Student Led Conferences 4th Passages No School - PD Day	18
19	20 7th Celebrations of Learning 5:30pm	21	22 5th Celebrations of Learning 6:30pm	23 8th Awards Ceremony & Graduation	24 5th-8th Last Day of School Zoombezi Bay Trip K-4th Field Day 1:30-3:10pm	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	
No School - Summer Break (first day of school is Tues. Sept. 3)						

Save the Dates

Back to School Night - Wednesday, August 28 - details will be sent over the summer

First Day of School for 2019-20 - Tuesday, September 3 (school hours 8:45am-3:30pm) [Click here for the full academic calendar.](#)

Returning student Registration Packets due this week

K-4 Field Day - Friday, May 24th, from 1:30pm-3:10pm!

Please have your child dressed to participate in active, and possibly, wet fun! Parent volunteers help make this day fun for everyone. To volunteer please contact Mr. Owens at owens.2@gemsschool.org.

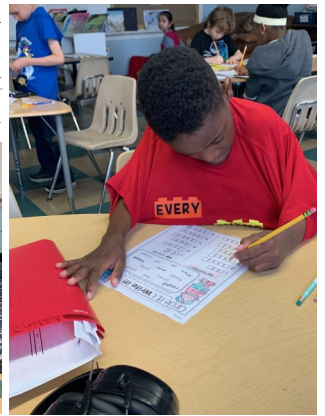
GEMS 140 E. 16th Ave. Columbus, OH 43201 614-253-4000

Front Office Hours: 8:00am-4:45pm

K We are working on writing and decomposing ten numbers. During modules, students are using all that they have learned about trees to complete an expert book on one of the trees around our school. Students will also begin working on their final project about why we need trees. In skills block, students are continuing to work on how to write a sentence. In crew, students are practicing for student led conferences. As we come up close to the end of the year, we are finishing up end of year assessments. Please make sure your child is getting a good nights rest. Please look out for your classroom newsletter for upcoming events during the last two weeks of school!

1st Everyday is a special day as we wrap up a successful year in first grade! Students are preparing for our Celebration of Learning by writing riddle cards about their expert birds. Riddle cards will be paired with a scientific drawing and copied to make a matching game. In reading, we are reviewing reading strategies like Stretchy Snake and Lips the Fish. These strategies help us when we get to a word that we don't know automatically. We are doing STEM projects in math as both enrichment and review of math skills that we learned throughout the year. It was a busy and wonderful year.

2nd As the year is wrapping up, second grade students continue to review social and emotional skills they can carry into the summer. Students will have their first Field Experience this month exploring butterflies at the Franklin Park Conservatory! This week we will start working in our garden for Celebration of Learning. Our Celebration will be held Wednesday, May 15. We will begin the end of the year assessments soon. We are reviewing math and literacy concepts we have learned throughout the year, and hope students remember to practice these in the summer!

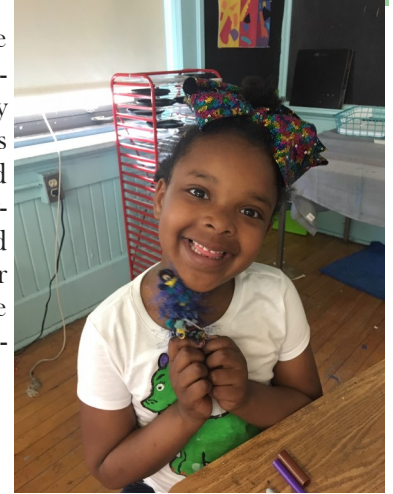


3rd We are looking forward to the meaningful and experiential learning we will be engaging in as we prepare for our Student Led Conferences [SLC's] scheduled on Thursday and Friday, May 16 and 17. Please check your child's Homework Folder for more information. Thank you to all the families who participated in our Breakfast with Books, Career Day, and Better World Day on Friday, May 3. Even though the rain was falling, we had a great time, and the sun did finally come out!



4th We are hard at work finishing up the year strong! We have spent many weeks focusing on our passages presentations and are eager to share them with friends and family May 16th and 17th. In addition to passages, we are also working on a project tying our modules American Revolution information to art. We are designing an original poster that we will be sharing during our Celebration of Learning May 15th at 5:00 PM.

Art: Students are wrapping up their last month in art with some exciting projects! Families are invited to the **Spring Art Walkabout during Celebrations of Learning on May 15th**. Artwork created by students in K-4 will be on display in the hallways. In class, Kindergarteners have been creating "Worry Dolls" and Second Graders are working with recycled materials to create sculptures. Third Grade is finishing Peter Pan Character Collages and Fourth Graders will be making war posters tied to their Revolutionary War studies.



Guidance: K-4 had their career day on Friday May 3rd! Some of the careers that students got to learn about were; police officer, power mechanic, zoo keeper, veterinarian, inventor, and many more! Thank you so much for all the volunteers that took time out of their day to share their careers with our students!

Music: In music for the last month of school we will be finishing up our unit on ukuleles! Each class has been working towards earning their ukulele licenses and is now preparing a song to sing and play on the ukulele. They will listen to the recording of their song as a class and work with me to give themselves a grade. Earlier this month we had a K-2 performance for Better World Day. Everyone did such a wonderful job! I am so proud with the hard work that they put in! In the final week of the year we will be creating our musical instruments using the knowledge we have learned this year!



P.E.: K-4 students are finishing the year learning playground games they can play at recess or at home during the summer. Field Day is Friday, May 24th, from 1:30pm-3:10pm! Please have your child dressed to participate in active, and possibly, wet fun! Parent volunteers help make this day fun for everyone. If you would like to volunteer please contact Mr. Owens at owens.2@gemsschool.org.

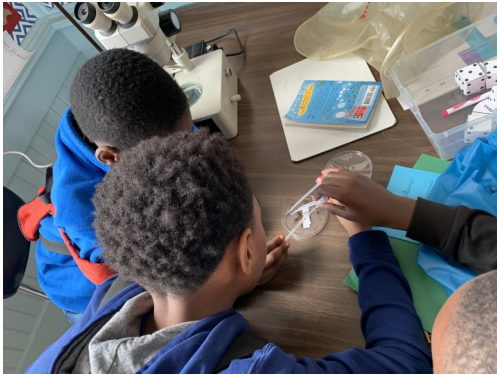
Student-Led Conferences (K-3rd grade) Passages (4th grade) - May 16-17

Student Led Conferences for grades K-3rd and 4th grade passages will take place on May 16th and 17th. Please sign up with your student's classroom teacher. We strive to have 100% attendance.

5th

Graders worked on identifying the ants they collected from field-work using microscopes and dichotomous keys. Now, we will work on creating our own dichotomous keys of ants in our ecosystem!

Please join us at our Celebration of Learning on Wednesday, May 22nd from 6:30 to 7:30 PM at the Grange Insurance Audubon Center.



6th

Graders attended NAMI Ohio's Resiliency Ring on May 9 at the Ohio Statehouse where they heard from speakers and formed the "resiliency ring" with other schools across Ohio. Look for us in the Columbus Dispatch! [Click here to see GEMS 6th graders on ABC6 news!](#)



7th

Graders went back to the Glacier Ridge Vernal pool and discovered new creatures including salamander larvae!





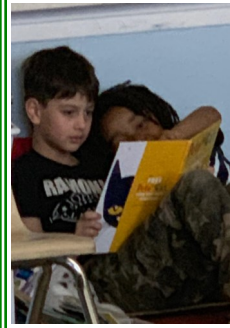
8th

Graders attended the Ohio Veteran Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony at the Riffe Center, May 1. After the ceremony, GEMS 8th graders interviewed the Veterans for their final product where they will be writing an Ohio Veteran's story to put in a published book. [GEMS 8th grade class in the news!](#)



Student-led Conferences (5th-7th grade) Passages (8th grade) May 16-17

Student-led Conferences (5th-7th grade) and Passages (8th grade) are coming up next week! We will not have regular classes on Thursday, May 16th and Friday, May 17th to schedule these events. A scheduling form has been sent home with your student. Please return the scheduling form to your student's Crew teacher, or call the office to schedule as soon as possible. These conferences are a very important part of GEMS!



Thank you!

Thanks to your donations and a generous grant from the GEMS FTO, all GEMS students were able to choose a free book to help jump start their summer reading. Elementary students selected a title at the book fair and middle school students will receive the books they ordered soon!

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: AD234 **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: www.gianteagle.com/about/apples-for-students to sign up online or by calling 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!

Follow Us:

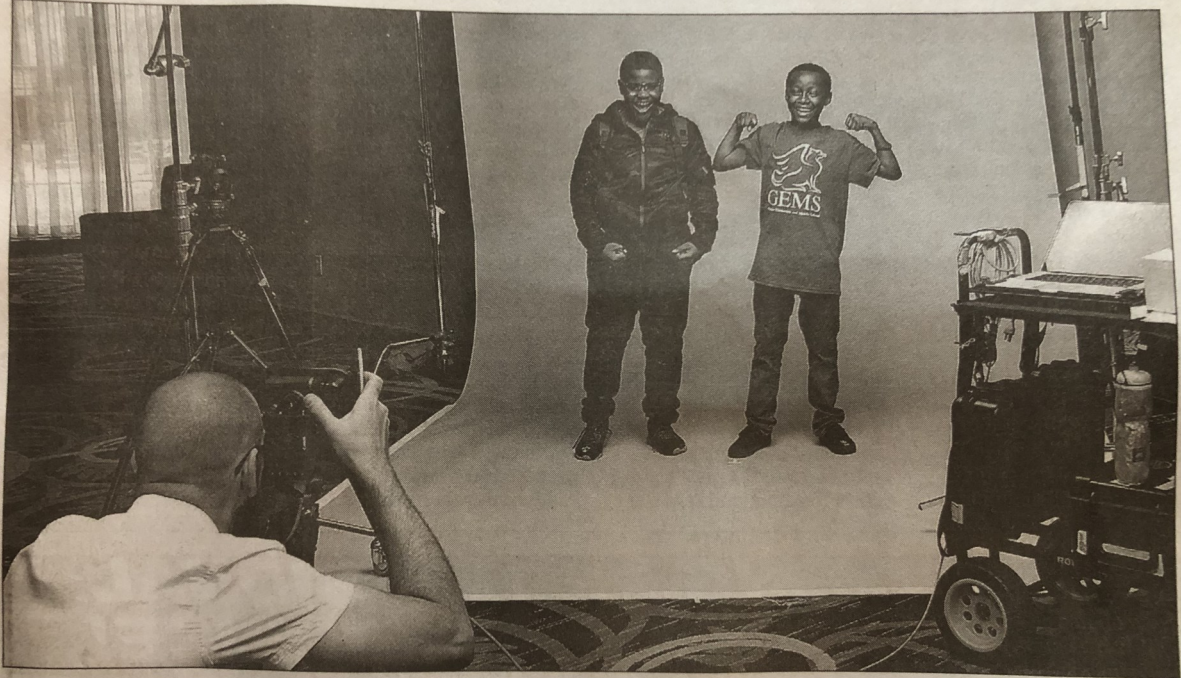


or www.GemsSchool.org

Technology: For these last few weeks in Technology, we will be finishing up our 5W (who, what, when, where, why) research and Google Slides presentations about a chosen Holiday, and if there is still time left in the Trimester, we will be doing a short unit on the two different kinds of “memes”: Internet vs. Origin memes!

GEMS in the Columbus Dispatch

Keeping mental wellness in mind



Photographer Aaron Conway takes a portrait of Graham Elementary students William Mullen, left, and Jusiah Mason during an event at the Sheraton Columbus Hotel at Capitol Square following a youth rally at the Statehouse on Thursday. The rally was hosted by the National Alliance on Mental Illness of Ohio and YouthMOVE Ohio to raise awareness of the need to support school-based services that assist with suicide prevention and promote mental wellness. [BROOKE LAVALLEY/DISPATCH]

Enrollment Information Sessions!

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.

Wednesdays at 6:00pm

May 15

June 5

June 12

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.thegrahamschool.org

www.thecharlesschool.org

www.gemsschool.org

2019-2020 Registration Packet Due!

2019-2020 Registration Packet were sent home with your student(s). We ask all our of parents/guardians to complete the registration packet every year for the safety & well-being of the students. These forms are required by the Ohio Department of Education and our sponsor (ESCCO) to be updated annually or when there is a change in information regarding the student.

Please note: your student's enrollment at GEMS is not guaranteed for the 2019-20 school year until all necessary forms are returned. All forms are due May 13, 2019 to secure your student's enrollment for the 2019-2020 school year.

[Click here to print another copy of the Registration Packet.](#)

In addition to the Registration Packet, we are mandated by the Ohio Department of Education to obtain a new proof of residency every school year. This can be a copy of a utility bill, lease agreement or mortgage statement. Proof of residency must be submit on or before the first day of school. Utility bills must be dated on or after July 1, 2019.

Graham Elementary and Middle School is a public community school that is open to all students. The school has high costs each year supplying items such as technology, paper, printer ink, and class supplies that allow our students to have significant class experiences during their time at GEMS. We are asking our families to help with these expenses by making an annual school contribution of \$35.00. You can pay with credit card, cash, check or money order in person or by mail.

If you have any questions or concerns, you can contact Sarah Salvatore at ssalvatore.1@gemsschool.org or by calling the front of-fice at 614-253-4000. Thank you for your prompt response and continual support of our school.

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 WILL NEED TO BE SUBMITTED WITHIN TWO WEEKS OF 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 new House Bill 410 law requires a preventative approach to excessive student absences. An Attendance Team has been established to work with our 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!

[Click here to check out the job opportunities at The Graham Family of Schools!](#)

Anti-Bullying Form

Please check out our new 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.](#)

"This institution is an equal opportunity provider."

Nurse Notes

As we come to the end of the school year, if your child has a prescription medication at the front desk, please make arrangements to pick it up by the last day of school. If they are not picked up, they will be disposed of.

Vaccination requirements for next year:

- All incoming 7th graders will need a TDap and one dose of the Meningococcal vaccination (MCV4).
- All students in grades 7-10 are required to have one dose of the Meningococcal vaccine (MCV4).
- All incoming 12th graders are required to have 2 doses of the Meningococcal vaccine (MCV4).

Please take time over the summer break to make sure your student is up to date in their vaccinations. Franklin County Public Health has free vaccination clinics. Click here for more information <https://myfcph.org/health-wellness/shots/>

Thank you GEMS FTO

Stop by and see the newly planted tree in the front yard at GEMS. The tree was donated by the GEMS FTO and GEMS parent Meghan Gergis. GEMS first graders planted the tree on Better World Day.



Kings Island Trip

Mr. Treadway's class received a grant from GEMS FTO to take 50 8th grade students to Kings Island. The students engaged in real-life activities at Kings Island to utilize their learning of slope, energy, and Newton's Laws.



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.