

## Important Dates

Feb. 27 2:45- 3:15pm	Community Meeting - K-2nd Graders
Feb. 28	End of term
Feb. 28 at 6:00pm	Enrollment Information Session
March 1-2	No School - PD Days
March 5	First day of term
March 9 9-9:30am	Breakfast with Books - K-4th Graders
March 13 at 6:00pm	FTO Meeting
March 14 at 6:00pm	Enrollment Information Session
March 28 at 6:00pm	Enrollment Information Session
March 30- April 6	No School - Spring Break



# Parent Newsletter

## February, 2018

"Like" us on Facebook! 

7th graders interviewed Brave Buckeyes on February 20th about having courageous conversations between cultures in the Columbus community. Brave Buckeyes included the Ohio State Superintendent, City Councilman, non-profit CEO's, activists, authors and faith leaders in the community!



### Morning Drop Off Reminder

Please do not drop off your student(s) in the back lot until 8:30am. A GEMS staff member must be present during drop off. If you arrive before 8:30am please stay with your student(s) until the GEMS staff member arrives.

Check out our new website! Same address but a new site -

[www.GemsSchool.org](http://www.GemsSchool.org).

We hope you enjoy the new site!



## Congratulation to Trimester 1 award winners!

### Exemplary Citizen

5th	Sarah Cordes
6th	Gabe A'Neal-Pack & Nilaysia Hawkins
7th	Julian Kay & Carine Eдорh
8th	Sadatu Ali-Oumar



### Golden Ruler

5th	Dmahjai Jackson
6th	Lily Fiera-Barnett & Sir Griffin
7th	Naina Gurung and Greg McCune
8th	Allie McVay



### Expedition Leader

5th	Devon Kinnison
6th	Isys Williams & Dawit Meeker
7th	Julian Dupuy & Sage Hamilton
8th	Joshua A'Neal-Pack



### The Golden Gryphon

The Golden Gryphon honor will be given to students who exemplify the “gold standard” of the qualities of a gryphon that we value at GEMS as demonstrated by earning EE’s for the 2016-2017 school year in multiple habits of learning.

6th	Gabriel A'neal-Pack, Astrid Chapman-Layland, Erianna Motley, and Natalie Guntara
7th	Thomas Brown, Amara Brown, Christopher Todd, and Abraham Vasquez
8th	Joshua A'neal-Pack, Tiranne Outland, Alison Schell, and Paige Straight



Attendance is important!

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.

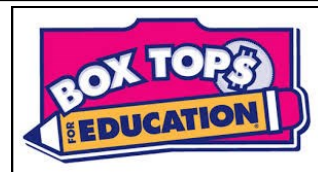
Note\* - Missing as few as 2 days per month is considered chronically absent! We want to see your student in school every day!

### Celebrate GEMS



Stop by the front office today to purchase your **GEMS car magnet** for \$3.00.

Did you know GEMS collect Box Tops for Education? Last year GEMS received over \$225 for Box Tops submitted by our families! Please send them to school with your student and drop them off in the front office. Thank you for your support!



### 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

February 28

March 14

March 28

AT

The Graham School

The Charles School at Ohio Dominican University

GEMS

For more information please visit the school's websites

[www.thegramschool.org](http://www.thegramschool.org)

[www.thecharlesschool.org](http://www.thecharlesschool.org)

[www.gemsschool.org](http://www.gemsschool.org)

### Help GEMS Raise Money!

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](http://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: 39476 (**New school number! 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](http://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!



**Kindergarten:** is so excited to be celebrating the 100th day of school! We have started our Spring Expedition and are very excited for all the work we will be doing! More on that to come! In Skills Block we are reading and decoding 3 letter words and even some words that end with a Magic E!

---

**1<sup>st</sup> Grade:** Champions have started our second Expedition. We are learning all about animals and how animal features help them to survive. In math, we are exploring place value in many different ways. We will spend a lot of time with informational books as we use close reading strategies to gather evidence about animals. We will use this evidence to write informational paragraphs to teach others what we've learned. February was the best for first grade! We learned about Ruby Bridges, a brave girl who integrated a school as a first grader. We will present what we learned at our next Community Meeting.

---

**2<sup>nd</sup> Grade:** have begun working in their expert groups to learn about specific butterflies. In math, we are working on regrouping with three-digit numbers. We are still teaching social skills and the importance of reading using Black History texts. We have finished mid-year assessments and will begin teaching small groups in skills block based on this data.

---

**3<sup>rd</sup> Grade:** have officially made it half of the school year! Crews Zircon and Ruby are hard at work setting and reaching goals. We have finished the Winter round of our MAP testing. We are celebrating our tremendous success in Math! In Expedition we have begun our spring project: ENERGY! We'll be creating a coloring book featuring energy source characters. In Mrs. Hatch's classroom, Ms. Snyder is finishing up a poetry unit for language arts. In Mr. Kaveti's class we are building our stamina with independent reading and learning to use "Reader Response Journals" to record our thoughts about what we read. In February the students of GEMS will celebrate Black History Month and will complete activities and projects.

---

**4<sup>th</sup> Grade:** have been working tirelessly on their dinosaur project for COSI. We presented on February 21st against several other schools in Columbus and received "Honorable Mention" ribbons at the Awards Ceremony! In school, we started a new math unit on fractions....so exciting! Our Expedition focus is shifting more to some current events and issues related to the Black Lives Matter Movement and Social Justice. Come check out Morganite's Class' Harriet Tubman project or Alexandrite's Documentation Panel outside the room!

---

**PE:** 4th graders are learning the sport of Sport Stacking. Sport Stacking, or cup stacking, is a fitness based sport that promotes fitness, academic learning, and can help improve self-esteem.

For all K-4th, get ready for Jump Rope for Heart! This year's campaign is set to begin February 20th. More information will follow in the coming weeks.

---

**Art:** Students in every grade are looking at abstract art. The focus is on line, shape, and color, which will help them understand realism. All grades are getting ready to start learning about the human face in the spring. Learners will be able to draw eyes, a nose, and a mouth!

---

**Yoga:** Kindergarten and fourth grade students are continuing to learn yoga postures and breaths to help be more self-aware and manage their emotions. Students are learning how to tell what their most challenging pose is and what pose comes easiest to them. All students know how to warm up with a Sun Dance. Ask your student to teach you a yoga pose and learn how to do belly breaths to calm and focus your brain!

---



**Technology:** 3rd graders are finishing up their unit on coding and typing. They are continuing to improve their accuracy and speed. All students can successfully type a paragraph with 90% accuracy or more. Students can continue to practice on sites like Dance Mat Typing and Turtle Diary. They especially love the key boarding games! I am proud of their thoughtful practice. They have all persevered to better themselves during Trimester 2.



5th grade students visited the Bhutanese-Nepali Community Center to learn about the services they offer to Nepali refugees that are new to Columbus. They practiced speaking and had their names written in Nepali. Students also participated in a Nepali dance class. The 5th graders will be using their research to create their final product this trimester, which will be donated to the BNCC.

## Have you made your annual fund gift?

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 visit our website ([www.GEMSSchool.org](http://www.GEMSSchool.org)) and click on the donate button. **Thanks in advance for your participation!**

GEMS Leaders Club is creating a school store! Please share and consider donating if you would like.

<https://www.donorschoose.org/project/supplies-for-the-gems-grocery/3028931/>

## Nurse Notes:

With the cold season still in full swing, just a reminder that students are **NOT** to be carrying any prescription **OR** over the counter medication with them during the school day. We have supplies at all schools, and if there is a specific medication needed, please have it given to the front desk staff for administration.

### Vaccination Reminders:

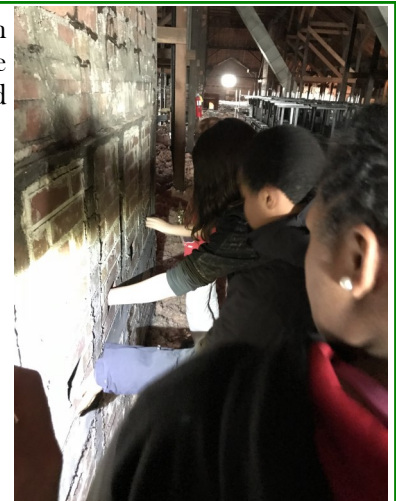
- All incoming 7th graders are required to have a TDap vaccination and a MCV4 vaccination prior to entry in to the 7th grade.
- All incoming 12th graders are required to have 2 MCV4 vaccinations, unless the first dose was given **AFTER** the 16th birthday.
- Make sure to get these at your next doctors appointment and send in the updated records. These can be sent in at any time, no need to wait until the next school year.



On Friday, February 9th, GEMS students celebrated their 4th community bonus event: the first-ever GEMSFest, celebrating our school community's commitment to service and habits of learning. In the afternoon, eligible students participated in a variety of fun events, including an escape room activity to escape from Mr. Treadway's room. The afternoon ended with the whole school coming together to watch Mr. Kutnow be silly-string attacked by Mr. Eckenrode's crew, who won the privilege by donating the most items during the service drive.



**6th graders** went on a tour of GEMS with engineer, John Seryak, to determine where energy is being wasted in our 110 year old building.



This institution is an equal opportunity provider.