



GEMS

Graham Elementary and Middle School

2019

Parent Newsletter

September

Important Dates

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
15 September	16	17 2:45-3:15pm Commu- nity Meeting - 3rd-4th Grade	18	19	20 2:45-3:15pm Com- munity Meeting - 5th-8th Grade	21
22	23	24 2:45-3:15pm Commu- nity Meeting - K-2nd Grade	25	26	27 2:45-3:15pm Com- munity Meeting - 5th-8th Grade 9-9:30am Break- fast with Books - K -4th Grade	28
29	30	1 October	2	3	4 No School - PD Days	5

2019-2020 Proof of Residency Due Today!

If your proof of residency (utility bill dated on or after July 1, 2019, lease agreement, or mortgage statement) is not turned in by **Monday, September 23rd** then your student has to be held out of school starting September 24th until proof of residency is submitted.

If you have any questions or concerns please contact LeMoyne Jackson at ljackson.1@gemsschool.org at or by calling the front office at 614-253-4000.

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

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

K This month, we are practicing how to write the letters /T/ and /t/ and our names during skills block. We are also learning how to sort objects based on their attributes in math. During our modules, we have learned about what it means to be a good friend and a good citizen in our community. We practiced a fire drill as well!

1st Graders have practiced school routines and learned how first grade works! In reading we are picking out just the right books to read at school. In math we are reviewing counting and numbers to 10. We are looking forward to starting our Modules. Stayed tuned to see what we will be learning about!

2nd Graders have been focusing on the GEMS Habits of Learning by reading stories and retelling them. We have also been working on routines and procedures. We are reviewing math skills and we will be starting modules and labs at the end of the month.

3rd 4th Graders are practicing school routines, creating norms for our classroom work together, and developing our growth mindsets! In the second half of the month we will begin our ELA modules, accountable independent reading, math units, and continue to explore number flexibility during math mechanics.

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 through out 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.](#)

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 an address change. If evidence is not provided requests for additional documentation or a home visit may occur.

Art: In Kindergarten and 1st Grade, we are starting at the beginning with lines and shapes. We are learning how they are the building blocks of everything we make. Second grade is learning about printmaking. Fourth grade is investigating how artists are inspired and beginning to think about their own creative inspiration. Need 3rd grade in

Music: In music this month we are learning all about how to use our voices and diving into our mystery music work. In kindergarten we are learning about steady beat and how to make musical sounds! In first grade we are learning all about rhythms and melodies and using our solfege knowledge to learn new songs. Second graders are composing this month and adding to our knowledge of dance and solfege. Fourth graders this month are reviewing our musical knowledge from last school year and learning about more complicated rhythms and singing in two parts! I am so excited to dive into music and be creative together!

Exploration: 3rd graders are exploring how to use the Library, participating in Book Buddies every Wednesday, a time to read with a friend, and have just begun exploring topics for their Genius Hour projects.

Physical Education: 3rd grade has spent the first few weeks of school learning norms of class and activities, building social skills, practicing responsibility, and moving using different locomotor skills.

Nurse Notes

Reminder to all families in Kindergarten, 7th grade, and ALL new students - Please send your most recent immunization record to the office. These are required by state law to be on file and your student may be excluded from attending school without one.

Vision and Hearing screenings will begin soon. All students in grades K, 1, 3, 5, and 7 will be screened. A letter will only go home if there is an issue found. Please follow up with a specialist if needed. Vouchers are available for free eye exams and glasses if criteria are met. Please email Valerie Hessler for more information: hessler.2@mail.thegrahamschool.org

All medications, prescription or over the counter, are to be given by the front desk staff. Please send it in the original container with the doctors prescription attached. Students are not to be carrying medication unless it is an Epi-Pen or Inhaler prescribed for them. GEMS stops giving out medications 2 hours before the school day ends, no exceptions.

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!

Follow Us:



or www.GemsSchool.org

6th

Grade's, first expedition will focus on 'habits to live by'. We will be reading Bud, Not Buddy in ELA and discussing what habits Bud uses to guide his life choices. We will be taking an in-depth look at each habit of learning; how you use them in the classroom and in life, how they can help you become a better citizen, and going on fieldwork to practice using the habits in the community.

7th

Graders are kicking off our 1908 expedition. Students looked at old pictures of our school building and began learning what life was like in the early 1900s. We also played an immigration game where each student portrayed an immigrant from the turn of the century and learned about the hardships that immigrants faced when entering America. This month, students will continue to study life in the early 1900s to build into our study of immigration.

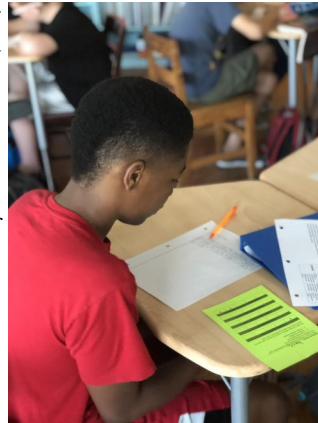
Photos: Crews worked on Tangrams during 9th period Culture Club to practice using a growth mindset on a challenging task.



8th

Graders are diving into their first expedition, Vote with your Fork. They have started reading The Omnivore's Dilemma by Michael Pollan. Their learning about food choices, systems, and where our food comes from will travel from English, to Science, to Social Studies and Math.

Photos: Students working hard on a writing diagnostic based on War of the Worlds.



Mrs Muller's crew attempting to line up in birthday order without talking.

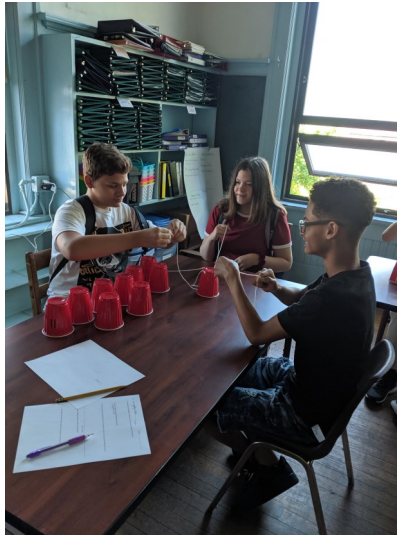
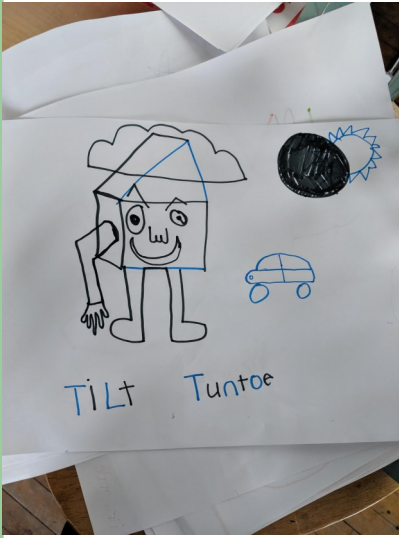


5th

Graders have just begun their first expedition focusing on “What is a Planet?”. In this expedition, students will discover our solar system, with a specific emphasis on what constitutes a planet. In ELA, students will be learning about the scientific method by reading Investigating the Scientific Method with Max Axiom, Super Scientist.

Teamwork in Science

7th and 8th graders in science worked on their teamwork skills! They created partner drawings one line at a time without talking to each other and they stacked cups in a pyramid using only a rubberband with string attached to it.



Please join The Graham Family of Schools 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.](#)

START

**your day the right way
with School Breakfast!**



School Breakfast
will give you **MORE** energy,
keep your body healthy
and help improve your grades!

School Name: Graham Elementary and Middle School

Breakfast Times: 8:25am

Prices: FREE

Location Served: The Gym



USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer

[Click here for more information about Free and Reduced lunch.](#)

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.

"This institution is an equal opportunity provider."