Parent Newsletter

Important Dates

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<td>2:45-3:15pm Community Meeting - 3rd-4th Grade</td>
<td>6:00pm Enrollment Information Session</td>
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<td>9-9:30am Math with Munchies - K-4th Grade</td>
<td>2:45-3:15pm Community Meeting - 5th-8th Grade</td>
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<td>2:45-3:15pm Community Meeting - K-2nd Grade</td>
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<td>1:30pm GEMS Fall Fest - K-4th Grade</td>
<td>2:45-3:15pm Community Meeting - 5th-8th Grade</td>
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GEMS Spirit Week - Details on page 6

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

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

Attention Parents/Guardians

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!

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**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.

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**K**

Are working on describing toys using details from our texts and counting to 5. In Skills Block we have learned the letters a, c, h, n, m, p, r, t, and v.

**1st**

Graders are learning about the patterns of the sun, moon, and stars during Modules and Labs. We are using Epic! online to do additional research for our final product. In math, students are working in small groups to master adding to 10. Students are also working in small groups in skills block to become great decoders of CVC words. The HOL we’re working on is Perseverance. Our goal is to show perseverance by re-regulating when we are not in the green zone.

**2nd**

Graders are continuing their expedition about schools and are starting to learn about what schools look like around the world. In math, we are beginning to learn about place value and will learn how to count up to 1,000 using ones, tens, and hundreds. In skills block, students are learning about the different types of syllables and how to tell what type of syllable is in a word. Students will also be learning about what it means to read fluently and how they can become fluent readers!

**3rd**

Graders will be diving deeper our first module, which is “Learning Challenges, Near and Far.” They are exploring “Youcubed” math lessons with an emphasis on grappling with complex math scenarios.

**4th**

Graders are diving deeper into our first module, which is “Poetry.” We will be looking at various artists and looking at literature using complex texts.
Music: This month each grade level is starting to learn and rehearse the music for our fall concert coming up in November. Kindergarten is working on using steady beat when learning music games. First grade is working on identifying and describing music with “Tas” “Ti-Tis”. Second Grade is discovering the music staff and how to read the notes on the staff that we have learned in songs and games. Fourth grade is demonstrating their skills with singing checks, and starting to learn about syncopation in music.

Physical Education: Third graders began the month learning playground games they can play at recess or at a park. They are now learning the skills of hockey. Seventh and eighth grade students participated in striking and fielding games earlier in October. The last weeks of the month have focused on target games.

Art: We are beginning to explore our expeditions through art. Kindergarten is learning how shapes can be used to draw anything we see. First grade is becoming more proficient with the tools of an artist. Second grade is exploring the art of the countries in their module. Fourth grade is investigating how artists get their inspiration and beginning to develop their own ideas.

Exploration: 3rd graders will be working on learning to research for their Genius Hour project. Also, Wednesdays are Book Buddies days in the Library, a time to read with a friend.

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.
Graders are beginning to work on their planet artwork for their planet definition videos. They will create a definition of a planet and write a persuasive essay to convince others to agree with their definition.

Graders are taking a closer look at our habits of learning through fieldworks at Waterman Farms, Summit Vision, and participating in a school clean up. Students will use these experiences to write their final product narrative and create their final art product.

Graders have been studying what immigration was like in our country in the early 1900s. We are visiting the Ohio History Connection Archives to read newspapers from the time period and to help us make connections to how immigration has changed over the past century. Students will be writing and recording a podcast about immigration to share with the community.

Graders have started discussing European colonization of North America.

GEMS at the EL 2019 National Conference

Last week more than 30 teachers and leaders from The Graham Family of Schools went to Atlanta for the ELNC 2019 National Conference. The theme for the conference was: One Vision, Three Dimensions. GEMS staff had a great time learning, presenting and meeting educators from all over the U.S.
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.

Picture Day Online Orders

Click here to order photos
K-4th Grade school code is: ZR439046Q0
5th-8th Grade school code is: ZR439247Q0

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.
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](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: 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](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](http://smile.amazon.com/ch/26-4350069) to get started!

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](mailto:addison.2@gemsschool.org) with any questions.

"This institution is an equal opportunity provider."