

# Bulldog Bulletin

## Dates

Tues. December 11	GMS gr. 7& 8 Winter Concert 7:00 PM @ CHS auditorium
Thurs. December 13	Snow Date GMS Winter Concert
Wed. December 19	Progress Reports close
Thurs. December 20	School Comm. Mtg 7:00 PM @CHS
Fri. December 21	Early Release 11:00
Mon. December 24 through Tues. January 1	NO SCHOOL— Holiday Break
Wed. January 2	Classes resume

GMS after school clubs will begin the week of January 7, 2019. Club lists will be posted before the winter break. All clubs start January 7th **except Solar Cars** which will begin on January 28th.

Follow us on Twitter: @Galvinmiddle

### Spirit Week

**Monday 12/17- USA/Red, White, and Blue Day**

**Tuesday 12/18- Canton Spirit Day**

**Wednesday 12/19- Onesie /Pajama Day**

**Thursday 12/20- College Shirt Day**

**Friday 12/21– Ugly Sweater Day**



Dear Galvin Community,

I cannot believe that it's mid-December and that we're preparing for our winter break already. I feel like the year just started! New Year's is always a time of reflection for me. This year, in particular, there is much to reflect on as it's been a year of change. I am so grateful for the opportunity to work with your children and the staff of the Galvin each day. I've learned so much in the last 4 months and met so many wonderful people. I'm inspired by the teachers at GMS who are incredibly dedicated to our students and have really been working hard, reflecting on their own practice, and opening themselves up to new challenges as we consider what GMS is all about and who we want to be. I'm also inspired by our students who come each day ready to learn and to contribute to our Galvin community. Being with and around your children - after three years away from schools - gives me energy every day and solidifies that I made the right choice in coming to the Galvin!

As I look ahead to 2019, I am excited to engage our students and you, their parents and guardians, in the conversation about who our GMS Learner is, what our goals should be, and how we can achieve our vision. I'm continuing to think about student voice and agency (students having an active role in their learning) and how we increase both as well as how we can bring more of **you** into our school community. I have a few ideas for this, so please stay tuned!

This break is a time for us all to disconnect from the tight schedules, homework demands, and early morning wake ups. To help facilitate this, **all students at GMS will be homework free this vacation**. Our teachers are committed to providing each child with the opportunity to truly rest, relax and enjoy being a kid. I hope that in providing this opportunity to your child(ren) it also gives you some relief. This is also a great opportunity for you to talk with your child about how his/her/their year is going and what his/her/their greatest hopes are moving forward.

Thank you for the opportunity to serve as your principal. My wish for you all is some time for friends, family and yourself. Happy New Year - I'm looking forward to an awesome 2019!

Warmly,  
Sarah

# Student Leadership

The Galvin student leaders have gone above and beyond this year thanks to their partnership with Coins 4 a Cure and Annie's Threads. In September, the student leaders held a "Go Gold" day where they sold gold ribbons and raised money for pediatric cancer through Coins 4 a Cure. Most recently, on October 30th, the students held a "breast cancer awareness" day where they sold pink ribbons and t-shirts made by Annie Factor of Annie's Threads. All money raised for breast cancer was donated to the Kay Yow Cancer Fund. All together, the student leaders raised over \$1,000 during these two days thanks to the support of the Galvin families and staff.



# Socratic Seminar

Almost 40 of Mrs. Shaughnessy's 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade students stayed after school to participate in an enrichment Socratic seminar. Students were engaged as they discussed Linda Sue Park's *A Long Walk to Water*. Students were thoughtful in their questions and comments regarding the Lost Boys of Sudan and the current need for water wells in South Sudan. Students are looking forward to discussing Cynthia Lord's *Rules* in January.



# Grade 7

## English

In English, we are wrapping up drama units; as a nice treat to conclude our drama study, we attended the CHS play *Alice in Wonderland* (see photos below). In Term 2, our focus will be on argument essay writing and historical fiction in the latter half. In addition to developing their reading comprehension and vocabulary skills by reading a novel, students are learning about significant time periods in our nation's history, such as WWII and the American Revolution.



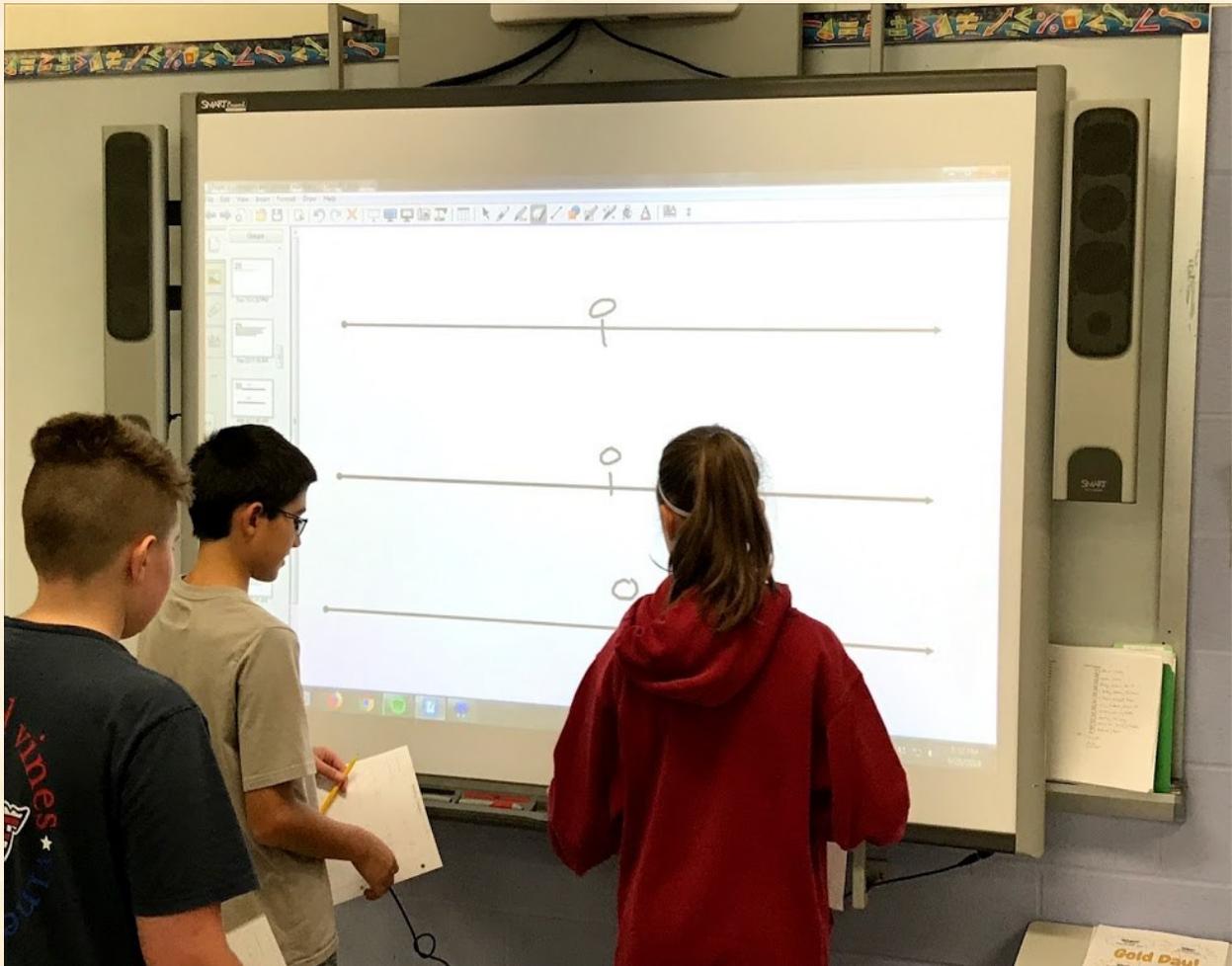
## World Studies

Currently, in world studies we are exploring Europe. During this unit, students are working with maps and analyzing how physical features impact people's lives. They will use this information and research on specific countries in the European Union to create a Google Slide Presentation. Our next stop on the map will be Africa. The students will learn about the diversity of this continent.

# Grade 7

## Math

In math class during the month of December, seventh grade students will continue their exploration of ratios, proportions, and percents and will start to investigate algebraic expressions. Specifically, students will continue to analyze and solve percent problems regarding markups, markdowns, commissions, tax, and simple interest. In addition, students will begin to write algebraic expressions to represent real-world situations. Students will also learn how and why comparisons are made on a daily basis. Planned assessments include mini-quizzes, constructed response writing assignments, and a variety of quizzes and tests. Parents can utilize [www.pearsonrealize.com](http://www.pearsonrealize.com) to check and monitor their child's online math homework (please email your child's math teacher if you need the username and password)



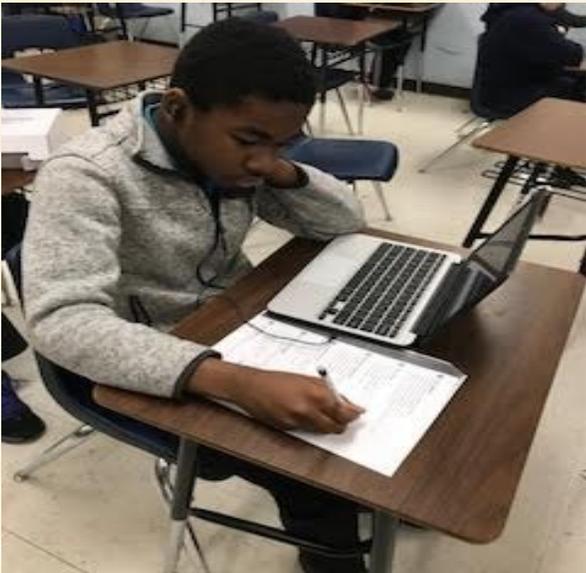
# Grade 7

## French

French students are off to a great start. French students have been practicing conversations in French, and are progressing well. They are currently working on the school unit and learning about how schools are different in France and the United States. Students have been busy practicing likes and dislikes. They will be learning time and creating a school schedule in French. French students also had the opportunity to attend a workshop at Canton High School with Brice Kapel, a French speaking performance artist.



Performer Brice Kapel teaches middle school French students French sign language.



Leo Chery uses a chromebook for a listening activity in French class.



Audriana Deplat and Gayatri Dixit present a puppet show in Mr. Snipe's French class.

# Grade 7



French students work on a keys to literacy group activity in Mr. Snipe's French class.



Middle school French students complete a choreographed dance routine at Brice Kapel's workshop at the high school.

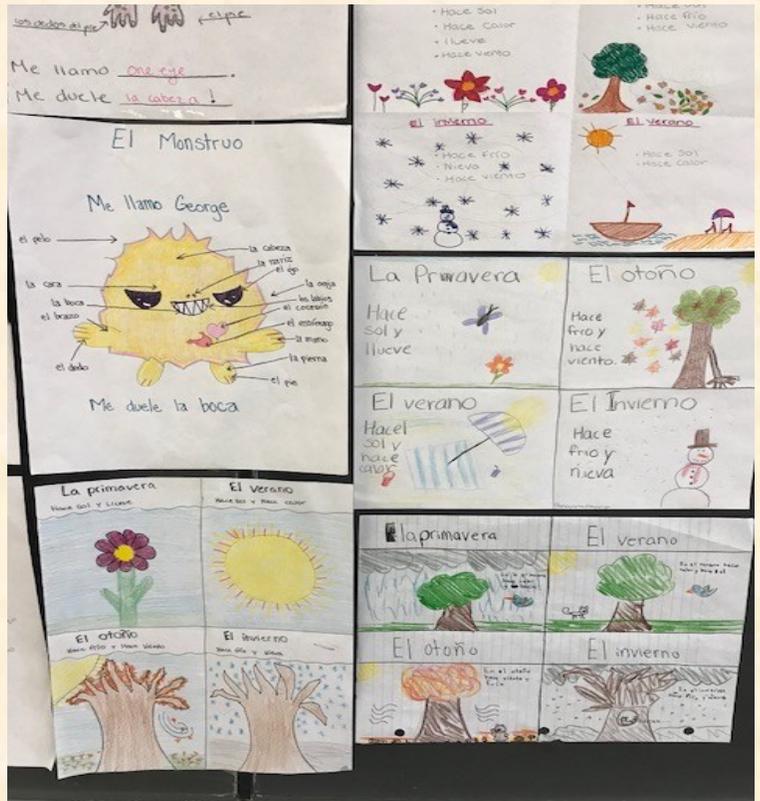


Grade 7 Science scavenger hunt.

# Grade 7

## Spanish

Spanish students have been very enthusiastic about learning Spanish. They are enjoying learning to communicate in Spanish while greeting each other, asking daily questions, and expressing their likes and dislikes. Students have been busy describing their personality traits and those of their peers. They wrote a poem about themselves using adjectives, and verbs. While learning Spanish, they are also getting familiar with the diverse cultures and customs around the world.



# Grade 7

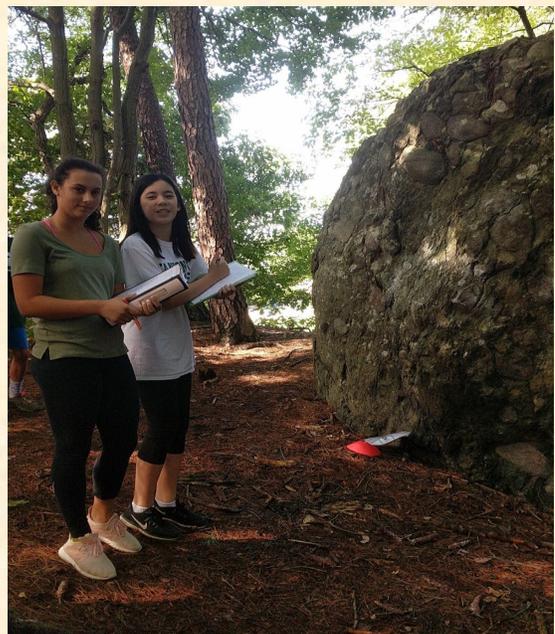
## Science

This year in 7th grade science, students will focus on systems and cycles using their understanding of structures and functions, connections and relationships in systems, and flow of matter and energy that include strands from physical, earth and life sciences.

Earth science was our first unit where we learned about the water cycle, landforms created by weathering, erosion & deposition, soil formation and conservation, along with volcanoes and earthquakes caused by plate tectonics. The students searched for signs of weathering and erosion in our outdoor classroom scavenger hunt. Our earth science unit concluded with research into various natural hazards that occur on earth (volcanoes, earthquakes, landslides, hurricanes, tsunamis, blizzards, etc), with student presentations on the resulting natural disasters and how humans can help to mitigate those impacts.

We are currently working on our life science unit which mainly centers on ecology concepts. We have been doing various activities to help the students learn about the organization of an ecosystem including its carrying capacity and the relationships within a population such as predator/prey and symbiotic relationships. We acted as bears competing for the same food source, we matched up with other organisms in a symbiosis card game, and we investigated the predator prey relationship between a lynx and a snowshoe hare. We have watched amazing footage on plants and animals and the incredible adaptations they possess in order to live, grow and reproduce. The students investigated food chains, food webs, and energy pyramids that explain how energy is transferred among organisms. We have demonstrated our knowledge by explaining the cycling of matter including water, carbon dioxide, oxygen, and nitrogen and researched the many different biomes that exist all over the world along with the adaptations organisms possess that allow them to live under those specific conditions.

Over the next several months, we will be discussing how ecosystems can change due to both natural and manmade forces such as an erupting volcanoes, forest fires, or development of the land for human habitation. We will discuss why biodiversity is important and the impact humans have on biodiversity. Lastly, this will be followed by several chapters on land, air, water and energy resources.





Each month teachers at the Galvin Middle School nominate students for being excellent citizens. Each student that is nominated receives a PAWS magnet, a certificate is placed on our PAWS board in the main lobby and your student is entered in a monthly drawing.

### Here are November's PAW'S Nominations

Seamus Brown	Sebastian Wilkins	Ashley Balunas	Sophia Barrangan
Glen Makarov	James Young	Riley Moriarty	Erika Duffin
Aiden Leonardo	Jimmy Podgurski	Alyssa Malafronte	Courtney Pratt
Jacob Labolitta	Emily Hales	Anthony Viau	

### Save the date!

The 13th annual CAPE Spelling Bee will be held on Friday, March 22, 2019. Be sure to mark your calendars. This is a town-wide event and lots of fun for students, teachers, parents, administrators and community members of ALL AGES!

For more information on CAPE (Canton Alliance for Public Education) please check out our new website: <http://www.cantonCAPE.org>

Like us on Facebook: Canton Alliance for Public Education (CAPE)  
Canton Alliance for Public Education (CAPE)

Follow us on Twitter: @CantonCAPE

Please contact Ellen Golden at [capespellingbee@gmail.com](mailto:capespellingbee@gmail.com) for information on volunteer opportunities or how you or students in grades 3<sup>rd</sup>-12<sup>th</sup>, or local businesses and community groups can participate or provide sponsorship to the Spelling Bee.