

Bulldog Bulletin

Dates

Monday, February 18—Friday, February 22
No School Winter Recess

Wed. February 27 CFED Mtg. 7:00 pm
@CHS

Thurs. February 28 School Comm. Mtg.
7:00 pm @CHS

Fri. March 1 and Sat. March 2
GMS Musical Honk

Mon. March 4 GMS CAPT Mtg. 7:00 pm
@GMS

Wed. March 6 Early Release 11:00 am

HONK

GMS Musical
Friday, March 1 and
Saturday, March 2,
7:00 PM at Canton High
School Auditorium

work hard
& be kind.

that is
all.

Follow us on Twitter: @Galvinmiddle

Dear Galvin Families,

Ask most middle school parents and guardians what one of their biggest challenges is and your conversation is bound to circle around at some point to electronic devices, screen time, cell phones, video games, Snapchat and more. As a parent of two boys - a 7th and a 5th grader - I am having the same conversations and the same challenges. And, while I can appreciate the new dance moves my boys have learned from playing Fortnite, trying to manage their time on Xbox, Twitch, Instagram and YouTube is exhausting. If your child is not playing video games, he/she/they may be texting too much, Snapchatting, posting selfies, waiting for likes, or more. The question is, do you, as the responsible adult in your child's life, know how much time he/she/they are using their devices? Do you know what he/she/they are doing or watching? Are you monitoring his/her/their texts, posts, pictures? Do you know if his/her/their usage is impacting his/her/their identity or social emotional well-being?

If you have concerns about the impact technology is having on your children, you are not alone. A simple Google search on screen time and adolescent mental health will yield you a plethora of articles and resources. One resource that exists is the documentary SCREENAGERS. From their website, SCREENAGERS is an "award-winning documentaries on mental health, [in which Delaney Ruston, a physician and filmmaker,] takes a deeply personal approach as she probes into the vulnerable corners of family life, including her own, to explore struggles over social media, video games, academics and internet addiction. Though poignant, and unexpectedly funny stories, along with surprising insights from authors, psychologists, and brain scientists, SCREENAGERS reveals how tech time impacts kids' development and offers solutions on how adults can empower kids to best navigate the digital world and find balance." Through the generosity of the **GMS CAPT**, we will be bringing SCREENAGERS to Canton. We will be showing the documentary to all GMS students in late March, following their viewing up with classroom discussions. In conjunction with showing the students, **we are inviting all parents and guardians to a viewing and follow up panel discussion on Monday, March 25th at 7pm in the Canton High School auditorium.**

It is our hope that this movie will spark conversations both at home and within the schools. Having both students and parents view the same movie and talk about it together is where the power is. Technology can be a divisive force in our homes. Grounding a conversation with your child in the content of SCREENAGERS can help you navigate these muddy and difficult waters. We know that as parents you will need more support than just this movie and hope to provide you with some additional resources in the future. This is the start of our work - please join us for this important movie and follow up discussion.

Tickets to the event are FREE, but we'd ask that you reserve your seat by [logging on to our Eventbrite site](#). We are opening this opportunity up to all parents within CPS and want to be sure we can accommodate all who are interested in attending. Your RSVP will help us do that.

Warmly,
Sarah Shannon

Grade 6

Math: In sixth grade math, students are currently being introduced to algebraic expressions. They are learning the different methods for generating equivalent expressions, including using prime factorization and exponents, the various properties of operations (commutative, associative and distributive property), as well as learning how to combine like terms. This is the cultivation of elementary math skills and is laying the groundwork for future algebra courses.

ELA: The 6th grade English classes are currently wrapping up a unit on text-based evidence in paired texts. ~The texts share common themes, such as the tone of writing, or plights of the narrators. The short stories, poems, and interviews are used to provide evidence in ~support of a claim in their writing. They were also introduced to strategies to write multi-paragraph essays with the end result being one completed essay encompassing the strategies for evidence, as well as those previously taught related to revising and editing.

Social Studies: 6th Grade Ancient Civilizations will soon be completing our studies of the fascinating ancient Egyptians. This unit will be followed by a brief unit on the ancient Phoenicians - known as the “people of the sea” because of their skilled maritime abilities. Another brief unit follows on the history of ancient Israel and the beginnings of Judaism. Finally, most of the spring dedicated to the ever – influential and inspiring ancient Greece and ancient Rome.

Science: Sixth graders have been exploring plate tectonics in science during the past two months. They are creating models of plate boundaries and sea floor spreading and have discovered how mountains, valleys, volcanoes, and earthquakes form. This unit will wrap up before February vacation and students will be assessed on their knowledge. The next unit in our integrated science program is a life science one and includes cells and body systems.

GSA

The Galvin Middle School is kicking off its first Gender Sexuality Alliance meeting by inviting students and staff to an afterschool gathering on Monday, March 4 from 2:15-3:00 in Room 102. The goal of the GMS GSA is to create a fun and safe place for students to meet other LGBTQQ & Ally students, talk about topics and issues of interest surrounding them, as well as work together to continue to make Galvin a safe, welcoming and inclusive community. Everyone is welcome -- LGBTQQ students, straight students with LGBTQQ families as well as those who simply want to be allies. Hope to see you on Monday, March 4th!

AWOD

A World of Difference is at GMS! This fall sixteen 7th and 8th graders embarked on a journey to make a difference in our school and our community. They attended four full days of training in November. The AWOD students have been presenting to 6th grade homerooms during Bulldog Block and presented to 7th grade Social Studies classes during our February half day. The students are a diverse group across both grades with the same goal of inclusivity, tolerance, acceptance and anti-bullying. With activities and games about RESPECT and inclusivity and diversity/tolerance the students' presentation are fun and informative. More topics and activities will follow each month with our 8th grade teams having AWOD present to them on our next half day, March 6 during their History classes. Upcoming for AWOD is a field trip to the Youth Congress in Boston on April 12th and many more presentations including to our faculty, parents and the school committee! These students are excited, invested and talented. They truly make a difference and our future is in good hands with them as leaders!



Teacher on the Trail

The talented Alaska mural painters are working hard to finish before Mr. Hickox leaves for the Idiarod.



Teacher on the Trail

On Wednesday, February 13, just a few days before Hickox leaves for Alaska as The Teacher on the Trail, Maureen Holland organized a day of exploration and learning for our eighth grade students that featured videos of *Alpha* and *Toughest Race on Earth Iditarod*, as well as two 90-minute presentations from dog sledders and their crew. It was awesome to watch our students learn first hand about how dogs are cared for as they compete. Second generation Musher Bailey Vitello, from Northern Exposure Outfitters in Brookfield MA traveled here with more than a half dozen sled dogs to help us all learn first hand about huskies and his passion for the sport of mushing. Students stood in the cold and mushy snow as he described how they care for the dogs (Many sled dogs live up until the age of 20 because of the exercise and care they get!), what equipment is necessary, and finally led the dogs on some laps around the field in the back of the school. For more info about Mr. Hickox's journey, go to <https://iditarod.com/edu/category/teacher-on-the-trail/>



Sled Dogs



Spelling Bee

This year's Scripps School Spelling Bee was held on Tuesday, February 12, and Wednesday, February 13. All the spellers in this year's bee were awesome! Mr. Currivan, newly retired but returned as our guest moderator commented that it was the best group of spellers he's worked with in YEARS!

The Bee was extended over two days because of the strength of our spellers.

Eventually at 2:02 on Wednesday a winner emerged.

Tied for second are:

Madeline Wilson and Caroline Ye, both sixth graders!

And our winner this year is

Trisha Cherukuri, a seventh grader.

Trisha will take a written spelling test on March 1. The top 50 finishers in our region will advance to the Regional Bee in Lynn, Massachusetts, in mid March!

Congratulations to Trisha on achieving **FIRST PLACE** in this year's Bee.



CAPE

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 for information on volunteer opportunities or how you or students in grades 3rd-12th, or local businesses and community groups can participate or provide sponsorship to the Spelling Bee.





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 January's PAW'S Nominations

Ariana Gonzales Ludjmie Salvant Charles Gong-Harjula

Do what is
RIGHT,

Not what is
EASY.