

Bulldog Bulletin

Dates

Thurs. October 4	School Comm. Mtg. 7:00 pm @CHS
Mon. October 8	NO SCHOOL
Thurs. October 11	Fit-4-Fund\$
Fri. October 12	Fit-4-Fund\$ Raindate
Tues. October 16	First Parent Mtg. gr.8 trip 6:30-7:30 GMS Library
Wed. October 17	GMS Picture Day
Thurs. October 18	School Comm. Mtg. 7:00 pm @ CHS
Mon. October 22	Gr. 8G Field Trip
Tues. October 23	Gr. 8S Field Trip
Thurs. October 25	Gr. 6S Field Trip Dodgeball Tournament 2:15-3:00 pm Gym
Fri. October 26	Gr. 6G Field Trip GMS Leadership Dance 6:00-9:00 pm Cafe

Fit-4-Fund\$

Thursday, October 11th
Come and cheer on your
child during their event!
All money is due this day
and goes right back to the
children of GMS!!



Follow us on Twitter: @Galvinmiddle

Dear Galvin Families!

Welcome to the first edition of our newly named ***Bulldog Bulletin*** (formerly known as #GMS); the Galvin Middle School newsletter that is published for families the first week of each month. Different from our Thursday Updates, the ***Bulldog Bulletin*** is designed to give you a peek into what's happening each month at GMS. In it you will find updates from teachers about what's happening in our classrooms as well as major GMS events (like Fit-4-Fund\$!). We also try to share photos of your students learning and their school spirit. We hope that you find the ***Bulldog Bulletin*** informative and that you look forward to its arrival each month.

As I reflect on our first month of school, I can't help but think of how quickly the month of September has gone by. It seems like just yesterday that our students were welcomed back for their first day of school. It has been a busy and awesome first month! For me, the highlight has been meeting and getting to know our students and staff. I have been so impressed by the GMS students. They are enthusiastic, polite and ready to learn. Each morning as they enter the building is a great morning!

This year our school is focused on three key areas: clarifying the vision for GMS, assessing and addressing our culture and climate, and talking about what transforming teaching and learning can look like for our students. As a staff we've started to have these discussions during our faculty meetings and professional development days. We asked to hear your voices about the strengths and areas of growth for GMS. Sixty-eight of you responded to the family survey. We are grateful to those that participated, but want to hear from more of you. On **Monday, October 29**, I will be hosting parent forums for those of you who want to share your thoughts but didn't have the opportunity via the survey. We hope that you will be able to join us for one of the sessions offered. We will be hosting parents and guardians at the following times:

7:30 - 8:30 am, 9:30 - 10:30 am, 12:00 - 1:00 pm, 2:30 - 3:30 pm, and 6:00 - 7:00 pm.

Hearing from students about their school experience is also very important to me. I believe that students should have a seat at the table when we are discussing things that impact them. To gather student input we will be asking students to fill out surveys during a Bulldog Block in October/November. I will also be hosting student "Lunch and Learn" sessions October 10, 11 and 12. During these lunches, students will be able to eat with me and talk about their GMS experience. All students are welcome. I am looking forward to learning both about our school and our students throughout this process.

As I gather all of the data collected via surveys and conversation, I will be reporting out to the GMS community what we've learned. It is my hope that this will be the start of ongoing conversations about GMS that we have together to tell the story of who we are as a school. Stay tuned for more and, please, join me on October 29! I look forward to hearing from you.

Warmly,
Sarah Shannon
Principal

Grade 6

Welcome to Sixth Grade! Students are doing a fantastic job transitioning to the middle school. We are busy learning the routine of the Galvin, navigating the school, and becoming experts at our lockers. Now in full swing, each class is fully engaged in various curriculum topics. One of the main goals a sixth grade teacher has is to develop relationships with every student and help students develop peers friendships. As the excitement grows for our field trip to Maplewood, which will focus on team and relationship building, we also stress these skills within the classroom. We firmly believe that if we work together, our student community will strengthen and grow as well.

Math:

Sixth grade students are off and running in math class and will be wrapping up their first unit at the end of next week. The first unit reviewed operations with decimals, multiplication and division of fractions, and emphasized solving real-world problems involving rational numbers. Students will be applying their knowledge of rational numbers in unit two when they learn about integers and rational numbers on the coordinate plane.

English:

As we ease into our sixth grade English curriculum, the students have been introduced to the writing process. This important unit is setting the foundation for all writing throughout the year. Moving forward, we will be using this process to develop our descriptive writing skills. To enhance the descriptive writing unit, we will use the mentor text Nothing Ever Happens on 90th Street by Roni Schotter. The descriptive writing unit will include: figurative language, sensory language, and more!

Reading:

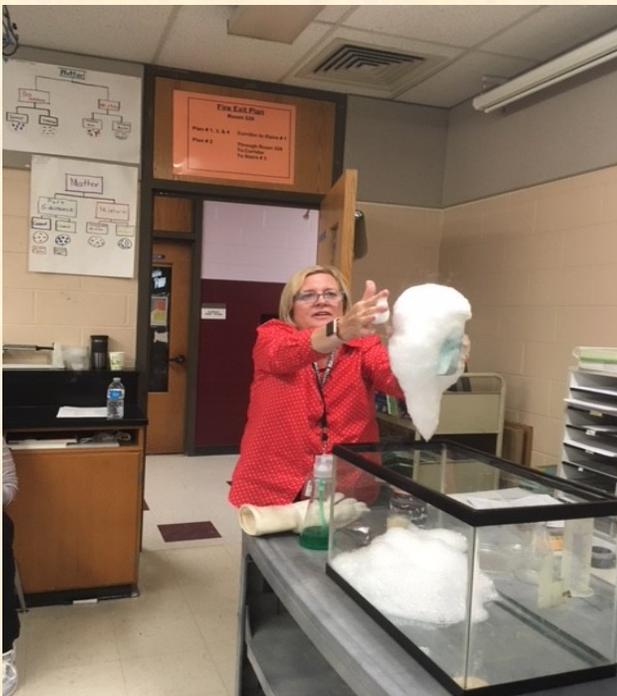
Sixth grade Reading class is starting off strong with our new sixth graders! We are establishing routines and getting involved in our pleasure reading books in class as well as at home. Students enjoyed talking about our summer reading book The Seventh Most Important Thing and working on their project. Our first unit centers around non-fiction text features and text structures, followed by identifying the central idea in non fiction text. All of these strategies will be incorporated into the rest of our non-fiction unit that will take us through January.

Social Studies:

Sixth graders have been expanding their map skills in Social Studies, specifically learning the continents, oceans, compass rose, hemispheres and lines of latitude and longitude. They learned how to plot dates on a timeline and were introduced to the different terms used in historical dating (BC, AD, BCE and CE). Finally, students learned to identify, define and give examples of both primary and secondary sources, and analyzed why sources are important to the study of archaeology, anthropology and history. Last week, students took a test on all of these topics, and we will be moving on to studying Early Humans this week.

Science:

Sixth grade science students started the year off learning about lab safety and states of matter. They are currently working on a superhero/villian project about elements and they are being very creative. The next unit will be plate tectonics and earth's early history.



Mrs. McGovern & Mrs. Shaw's 6th grade science classes doing dry ice experiments to show changes in states of matter.

Art Class

Students explore line and assemblage as they work together on a collaborative art piece on the first day of school in Ms. Johansen's art room.



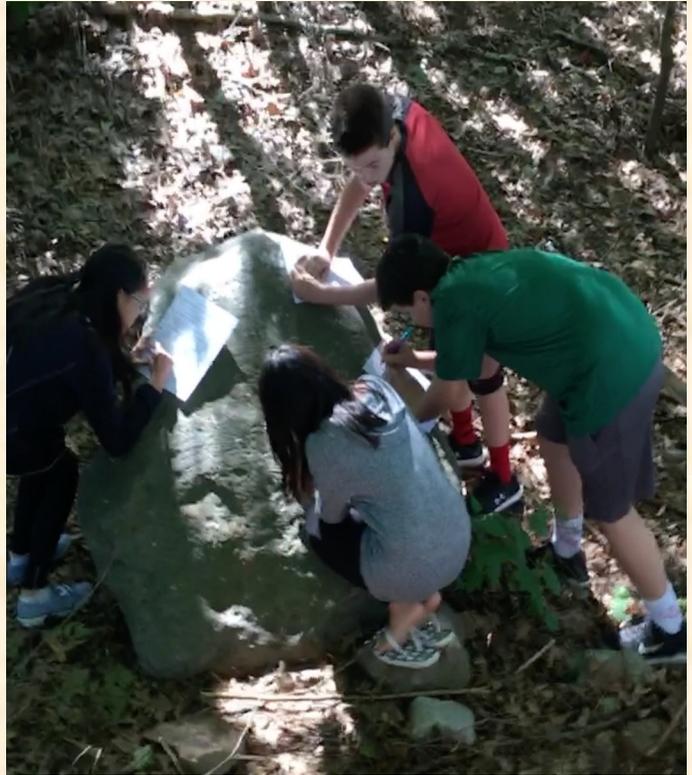
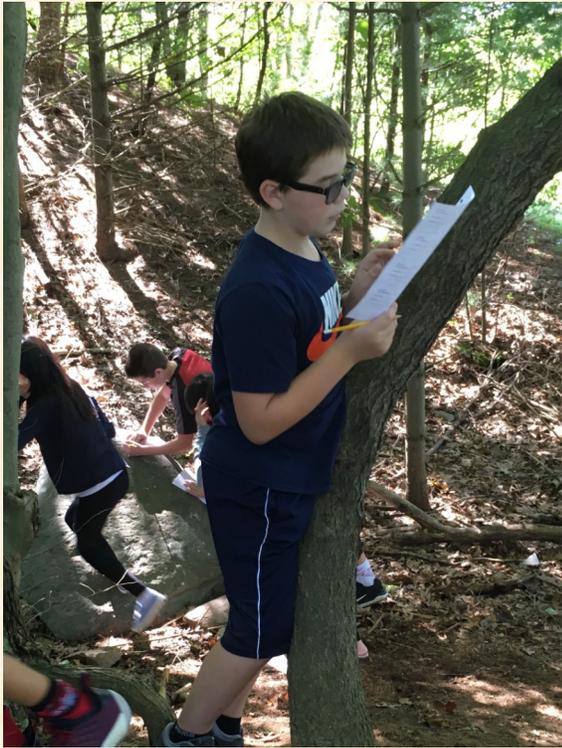
Grade 7 Science

The 7th grade Sciences classes spent the day looking for evidence of weathering in our outdoor classroom. Mr. Masciarelli's, Ms. Stuart's, and Mrs. Winchell's classes spotted various types of chemical and mechanical weathering such as frost wedging, animal burrowing, lichen, oxidation, and root pry. We applied what we learned in the classroom to the world around us!



*Gr. 7 Science continued
next page.*

Continued



Coins for a Cure

September was Childhood Cancer Awareness month and to show our support, GMS had a “Go Gold Day” on Friday, September 28th to raise funds and awareness for Childhood Cancer. Many students and staff wore gold or yellow and donated \$1 in support of the charity **Coins For a Cure (C4AC)**. **Coins For A Cure** is a Non Profit Childhood Cancer Foundation that raises money for Childhood Cancer Research. They also send care packages to children with cancer. Our Student Leadership Council made ribbons, put up flyers, and made announcements in support of “Go Gold Day”. They also were in charge of collecting donations and handing out gold ribbons. The 2018 GMS Gold Day raised almost **\$300** for the “Coins For a Cure” charity, all of which goes directly to childhood cancer research. Thanks to everyone that participated. The **Coins for a Cure** foundation was started by former Galvin Middle School students and has raised over \$3500 for the fight against childhood cancer since 2014. For more information or to make a donation to **C4AC** you can visit www.coinsforacure.net.



Fit-4-Fund\$

Fit-4-Fund\$

We are just 1 week away!!!!!! We hope students are out fundraising with neighbors, relatives, family and friends. Donation envelopes can be sent back to school everyday with **Thursday, October 11th** being the final due date. At the end of this Bulldog Bulletin are flyers explaining all the details of the fundraiser including discounts for students participating in 8th grade trip, other important dates, details for all grades, Tug-of-War, prizes and much more! Funds raised are utilized **THIS** year on enrichment programs for all students! We welcome all parents/guardians to watch on event day, **October 11th. 6th grade-8:00-9:30, 7th grade-10-11:30, 8th grade-12:30-2:00.** We also need volunteers help at the water stations. It promises to be a fun day for all!!!!

"Together, everyone achieves more!" This is CAPT's only fundraiser of the year, let's make it a great one, all to benefit our students! Thank you.

Please see attachments at the end of the Bulldog Bulletin.



Fit-4-Fund\$ Kick-Off



Fit-4-Fund\$ Kick-Off



Fit-4-Fund\$ Kick-Off



Grade 6 Ice Cream Social

Last Friday grade 6 students enjoyed delicious ice-cream from Crescent Ridge while making new friends during our annual Grade 6 Ice-Cream Social. Students played Friend Bingo, listened to music, danced and created new friendships. Students had a great time and it was a pleasure to see students having fun together.



Thing to Know

Student Leadership Council will be sponsoring the following events in the upcoming weeks:

- **Monday, October 22nd-Friday, October 26th Teach-or-treat-** Would you like to see your favorite teacher dressed up for Halloween? If so bring in spare change and put it in your teacher's jar at lunch. The five teachers with the most money Friday will have to dress up on Halloween. All money collected will go to the Kay Yow Cancer Fund.
- **Friday, October 26th- Halloween Dance-** 6:30-9:00 at GMS- Admission will be \$5 and refreshments will be available for purchase. Costumes are encouraged (no masks please).
- **Tuesday, October 30th- Galvin Thinks Pink-** Wear pink to school to show your support for breast cancer awareness. Pink ribbon pins will be available for \$1 in the main lobby that morning.

Picture Day-Wednesday, October 17th

More information to follow.

Progress Reports

Grades for Progress Reports close on **Thursday, October 11th**. Progress Reports will be available on Portal Plus **Thursday, October 18th after 2:00 PM.**

You must have a Plus Portal account to see the progress reports.

Absent Call

781-821-5070

Press 1

If your child is going to be absent or tardy please remember to call into the above phone number.

Homework may **NOT** be requested until your child has been absent more than 1 day. Please have your child check their Plus Portal account as most homework is posted online.

