

Sylvio J. Gilbert Elementary School

Monthly Newsletter



Principal's Pen

February 8, 2021

Dear Gilbert Family and Friends,

I hope you are enjoying the weather and outdoors this winter with your families. February is Read to ME month for the State of Maine, encouraging families to read at home and make reading fun. Contact your child's teacher if you are interested in being a guest reader virtually. We are also encouraging students to read 30 minutes a day and exercise 30 minutes a day during February break. Students will be rewarded for participating in the February break challenge with prizes and rewards.

Also, at the beginning of February, grades 2 – 6 will be taking the NWEA test in Reading and Math. The information we gain from these tests help to inform instruction and understand individual student strengths and weaknesses. Please let me know if you have any questions.

Please be on the lookout for our winter fundraiser soon. We will be selling chocolates again this year. More information will be sent home soon.

As always, please contact me if you have any questions or concerns.

Educationally yours,

Sarah Landry
Principal

We are taking registration information for Preschool screening for school year 2021/2022. Please call Gilbert School at 626-2491 if your child will be 4 years old by October 15. At this time, we do not have screening dates but will contact you as soon as we do.

We are also taking registration information for Kindergarten Screening. Current Pre-K families should contact their home school to schedule an appointment. At this time, we do not have screening dates but will contact you as soon as we do. Phone numbers for your home school are listed below:

- **Gilbert – 626-2491**
- **Lincoln – 626-2483**
- **Hussey – 626-2461**
- **Farrington – 626-2479**



February Newsletter

This is the month where the groundhog tries to predict our continued relationship with winter, we reach our 100th day of school, and we have a winter break. As all of these events approach, we are encouraging students to think of ways to be kind to one another or adults with their words or actions.

I recently watched a video presented by a 9 and 10 year old boy. They talked about kids being mean to one another, but they put a twist on it. They said we all have the capability to use unkind words or actions. They mentioned that usually when we are unkind, there's something else going on inside our hearts we really don't want anyone to see so we play the "blame game." I tend to hear this a lot when students come to my office "But he did this, or she did that" where I respond with, "but what did you do?" When we reflect on our own actions then stop and examine what we are doing, we get the power back to change. The young boys noted when we focus on the negative there can be a mean person in all of us. Kindness is a big task—it takes being positive to ourselves first, then we can become better with our words and actions with others. Kindness means controlling our feelings or moods, thinking before we speak, and essentially treating others the way we want to be treated.

We do mindful moments in the morning right after the pledge and they really give everyone in the Gilbert building a moment to stop, center themselves and ground their thoughts before moving on to the rest of the day. When you pay attention to your breathing and your smile (even under a mask), it's amazing how the day changes. As the ebb and flow of our school moves daily, I want to thank you as a parent for letting your child be part of our Gilbert community.

Come on, Mr. Groundhog—let's end this thing we call winter!

Mrs. Lakeman, Dean of Students
626-2491 ext. 3659

Call anytime 😊



February Vacation

Family Fun Ideas

Do a Family Treasure Hunt

Make a list of items you are looking for at home or somewhere you are visiting. Kids could make the list by drawing the items they want to add.

Cleaning Helpers

Enlist your kids to help you clean at home and maybe you help them clean and organize their room!

Dance Party!

Turn on a favorite tune and dance around the house or dance around the yard!

Family Dress Up Day

At school, we have dress up days, PJ Day, Twin Day, Special Color Days - pick one that will be special for your family!

Board Game Night

Turn off the electronics and get out the Old School Gaming options! Guess Who is one of my favorites!

UPCOMING EVENTS

Feb. 15-19	- FEBRUARY BREAK – NO SCHOOL (return to school February 22, 2021)
March 3	- 1 st Wednesday of the month – NO SCHOOL FOR STUDENTS
March 19	- WORKSHOP DAY – NO SCHOOL
April 7	- 1 st Wednesday of the month – NO SCHOOL FOR STUDENTS
April 16-23	- APRIL VACATION – NO SCHOOL (return to school April 26, 2021)
May 5	- 1 st Wednesday of the month – NO SCHOOL FOR STUDENTS
May 31	- MEMORIAL DAY – NO SCHOOL
June 10	- ANTICIPATED LAST DAY OF SCHOOL



NEWS FROM THE NURSE

FEBRUARY IS HERE!

Please continue to keep children home when sick. Encourage handwashing often, social distancing, and wearing a mask when in public.

Kindergarten and Pre-K parents, please continue to pack extra clothes in backpacks. This is a huge help. Thank you!

When we return from February vacation, I will be starting vision and hearing screening for Pre-K, kindergarten, 1st, 3rd, and 5th graders. I will send home more information on this soon.

As always, please call with questions or concerns.

Emily Davis, MSN, RN
626-2491 ext. 3658

Every month we will be spotlighting a different grade February is 4th Grade!

We have been very busy in 4th grade as we move through the year! We have done a great job building community within the classroom, even virtually. In math, we have been very busy working on multiplication and division. Keep practicing those facts at home! Additionally, we have been working on using reading comprehension strategies that help us to better understand what we read. In writing, we are learning about persuasive essays and have been practicing writing about our own opinions. It's been a great year so far, and we look forward to more hard work as we continue to move toward 5th grade!

-The 4th grade team

*2021 Yearbook information has been sent home – **THE DEADLINE TO ORDER IS THURSDAY, APRIL 1. LATE ORDERS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED.** All ads and messages are due March 15.*

6th Grade only – Baby pictures must be turned in by March 15.

You may also order online at ybpay.lifetouch.com – the Yearbook ID Code is 11488821.

We still have a limited supply of yearbooks from previous years. They are available for a cost of \$5.00 on a first-come first-served basis. If you would like one, please contact the office.

CONGRATULATIONS FOR BEING CHOSEN AS DECEMBER'S CITIZEN OF THE MONTH:

Mrs. Loiko (Kindergarten)	Paxton Barrows
Mrs. Mattice (Kindergarten)	Ricky Schmidt
Mrs. Cooper (Kindergarten)	Aurora Lau, Mackenzie Mattice
Ms. Marston (K/1st)	Romy Partridge, Alayna Cruz, Rhiannon Letourneau
Ms. Lettre (1st grade)	Alden Flint, Skylar Pushard
Mrs. Guthrie (2nd grade)	Carson Bolduc, Jocelynn Lewis
Mrs. Simonton (2nd grade)	Wyatt Comer, Guinevere Brown
Mrs. Moore (3rd grade)	Jayleigh Parkman, Ross Kalloch
Ms. Sementelli (3rd grade)	Caleb Frith, Christina Davila
Mrs. Laliberte (4th grade)	Victoria Derry, Danara Mae Millington
Ms. Libby (4th grade)	Elizabeth Smith, Vanessa Tyler
Ms. Pottle (5th grade)	Max Soucy, Serena Cormier
Mrs. Dow (5th grade)	Adrianna Bonselaar, Olivia Duplessis
Mr. Meader (6th grade)	Owen Eastman, Aleah Hernandez
Mr. Johnston (6th grade)	Logan Pelkey, Arianna Davila

CONGRATULATIONS FOR BEING CHOSEN AS JANUARY'S CITIZEN OF THE MONTH:

Mrs. Loiko (Kindergarten)	Zander Taylor, Cael Hathaway
Mrs. Mattice (Kindergarten)	Lyla Bolduc, Brent Trundy
Mrs. Cooper (Kindergarten)	Luca Jordan, Benjamin Beavers
Ms. Marston (K/1st)	Jeremiah Belanger, Brooklynn Morrissette
Ms. Lettre (1st Grade)	Sophia Marquis, Brooklynn Grant
Mrs. Guthrie (2nd Grade)	Mokhtar Al Bujasim, Alexander Hinkel
Mrs. Simonton (2nd Grade)	Gage Sukeforth, Granson Geishaker
Mrs. Moore (3rd Grade)	Evahlyn Baxter, Elizabeth Mead
Ms. Sementelli (3rd Grade)	Cooper Selwood, Carson O'Neil
Mrs. Laliberte (4th Grade)	Denise Dow, Gavin Perry, Layla Gunnison
Ms. Libby (4th Grade)	Christopher Lane, Bentlee Alkurabi-Kerr
Ms. Pottle (5th Grade)	Madeline Hopkins, Connor Lewis
Mrs. Dow (5th Grade)	Brooke Strout, Lexi Lessard
Mr. Meader (6th Grade)	Autumn Morin, Kaylee Bumford
Mr. Johnston (6th Grade)	Alivia Cooper, Austin Bucknam

February Break Challenge

This year we are going to challenge all you to do 30 minutes of reading per day and 30 minutes of movement per day. Please have your parent sign off for every day that you complete those two activities. Then, bring your signed challenge back to school after the break, and you will earn a reward.

Monday:



Parent Initials: _____



Parent Initials: _____

Tuesday:



Parent Initials: _____



Parent Initials: _____

Wednesday:



Parent Initials: _____



Parent Initials: _____

Thursday:



Parent Initials: _____



Parent Initials: _____

Friday:



Parent Initials: _____



Parent Initials: _____

Please return to school by Wednesday, February 24th in order to receive a reward.