

Sylvio J. Gilbert Elementary School

Monthly Newsletter



Principal's Pen

November 9, 2020

Dear Gilbert Family and Friends,

Thank you to all that participated in conferences last month. There were some great conversations with families about the progress students have made so far this year.

We also had a Parent Forum to discuss remote learning and Title 1 School wide this year. It has been a very different start to the year with remote learning being an integral part of school.

As a reminder, please complete the attendance form for those days that your child is NOT in person. We will be contacting families regarding truancy for those students that do not log attendance daily. Also, it is important that students participate in the activities assigned on SeeSaw or Google classroom. Even though we may not see a student in-person every day, students are still learning 5 days per week.

The School Board recently approved the 1st Wednesday of every month to be a professional development day for staff. Teachers will be working on learning more about, and preparing for, remote learning on that day. There will not be any remote learning on the first Wednesday of each month.

The weather has started to become cooler so please remind your student to bring cold weather gear (jackets/coats, hats, mittens, etc.). Also, it helps for you to label those items so they do not get lost. Once we start having snow on a regular basis, students will be required to wear snow boots and pants in order to play beyond the paved areas.

We want to recognize all of the Veterans that have served our country on Veteran's Day. We also hope that you have a wonderful Thanksgiving!

Please feel free to contact the office at any time.

Educationally yours,

Sarah Landry
Principal

Just a reminder that the 1st WEDNESDAY of every month is Professional Development for teachers. Students WILL NOT be required to check in on those days.



Dear Gilbert Families,

November is one of my favorite times of the year—it seems to be the perfect balance of fall and winter along with pumpkin spice flavor at Dunkin Donuts! November is a good month to set aside time and reflect about everything or everyone that has blessed our lives.

It was wonderful to meet with families for parent/teacher conferences. Thank you for joining us either by phone or zoom meeting and continuing to build our school community. We are working really hard to remind all families that students need to be doing school work 5 days a week regardless of whether they are in the building or NOT. We are also asking families and students to check on their teacher's SeeSaw or Google Classroom to do the attendance daily.

During the holiday season, we strive extra hard to keep the communication between home and school open. This season of change can be challenging to navigate for students but with a bit of patience and teamwork, we can work together to ensure all of our Gilbert Students are supported.

Every month, students are selected from each classroom for "Student of the Month" This year it looks a bit different (along with everything else from 2020!) During the first week of every month, the students selected to be honored will have their names announced on the intercom and then Mrs. Lakeman will make the rounds with her Student of the Month treat cart.

The Augusta School District has challenged all schools to maintain attendance which this year includes keeping an eye on all students and their level of engagement in schoolwork 5 days a week. From my own perspective, I love having the students here even if it's for two days; hearing their voices and seeing their faces makes my day!

On a final note, you should see how hard the cafeteria is working to have good food come out of our cafeteria during this difficult time. Remember there are days when you can drive to Cony and get free breakfast/lunch bags to help out at home.

It takes a village to raise a child and together we can accomplish great things!

Kendra Lakeman
Dean of Students at Gilbert School
626-2491 ext. 3659

Fall Update from Mrs. Michaud



I have been working in all classrooms delivering lessons from our Counseling Curriculum.

Kindergarten has learned the I CARE RULES.

We listen to each other.

Hands are for helping not hurting.

We use kind words.

We care about each other's feelings.

We are responsible for what we say and do.

Grade One is learning about being in control of ourselves.

Grade 2 is learning about getting along with others.

Grades 3 and 4 are learning about friendships and dealing with conflicts.

Grade 5 is learning about bullying and the impact it has on all who participate and all who witness bullying.

In **Grade 6** we are beginning a lesson series on Procrastination, and how to get out of the Procrastination Rut.

UPCOMING EVENTS

- November 11 - **VETERAN'S DAY – NO SCHOOL**
- November 16 - **PICTURE RETAKES – forms are available in the office if needed**
- Nov. 25-27 - **THANKSGIVING BREAK – NO SCHOOL (return to school Monday, November 30)**
- December 2 - **Professional Development for Teachers – students do NOT need to check in**
- Dec. 23-Jan.1 - **WINTER BREAK – NO SCHOOL (return to school on January 4, 2021)**
- January 18 - **MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. DAY – NO SCHOOL**



NEWS FROM THE NURSE

NOVEMBER HERE WE COME!!

The weather is getting colder!! Please send kids to school with the appropriate clothing for outdoor recess. This includes jackets, hats, and mittens or gloves.

Thank you to Maine General Medical Center for providing the Flu Clinic at Gilbert School. Many children and staff were vaccinated during the clinic.

Tooth Angels have been providing dental hygienist visits for the past several weeks and will continue to do so.

We also have another great opportunity from the Maine Oral Health Program which will be providing fluoride treatment to our students if permission slips came back to school. This will take place in December.

Thank you to all of you for doing such a good job of keeping your children home when they are sick! We ask that you continue to do so as we work to keep COVID-19 out of our schools. If you have any questions as to whether your child should be in school or not, please reference the Augusta School District COVID-19 Guidelines that were sent out a few weeks ago, or call me if needed.

Accidents happen - please send extra clothing in backpacks - THANK YOU!!!

As always, please call with questions/concerns.

Emily Davis, MSN, RN
626-2491

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

Mrs. Loiko (Kindergarten)	Cael Hathaway, Liam Hall
Mrs. Mattice (Kindergarten)	Connor Avila, Lyla Bolduc
Mrs. Cooper (Kindergarten)	Adrian Arnold, Benjamin Beavers
Ms. Marston (K/1)	Romy Partridge, Isabella St. Pierre Robbins
Ms. Lettre (1 st grade)	Madelyn McLaughlin, Jason Tompkins
Mrs. Guthrie (2 nd grade)	Connor Davis, Silas Partridge
Mrs. Simonton (2 nd grade)	Nicholas Ross, Trent Smith
Mrs. Moore (3 rd grade)	Sterling Horton, Brooklyn Landry
Ms. Sementelli (3 rd grade)	Micah Bailey, Joey Belanger
Mrs. Laliberte (4 th grade)	Layla Gunnison, William Wardwell
Ms. Libby (4 th grade)	Savaeah Hernandez, Evan Frary
Ms. Pottle (5 th grade)	Khloe Price, Carson Mattice
Mrs. Dow (5 th grade)	Rashard Perkins, Madison Chabot
Mr. Meader (6 th grade)	Isabella Davis, Raiden Ramkissoon
Mr. Johnston (6 th grade)	Shu Jun Chen, Leilani Tover
Mrs. Pelletier	Jacob Fairfield

If your child still has any book(s) checked out from the Gilbert Library from last year, could you please help them locate and return the book(s) to school so that he/she will have a clear record and be able to check out books once the library is able to start loaning books to students again.

PICTURE RETAKES

If your child was absent on Picture Day, or if you are unhappy with the pictures you received, send the entire package back to school on **RETAKE DAY (November 16)** and have your child's photo taken again. You will receive the same package as your original order. If your child is in Cohort B or C, please call the office (626-2491) to make an appointment.

Every month we will be spotlighting a different grade November is 1st Grade

Our focus for the first two months of school was getting to know the rules, routines and expectations of first grade. We have been learning to be respectful, responsible and safe in and out of the classroom.

In Math, we are learning addition number stories. We are creating math stories and equations; soon we will be working on vertical equations. Once we get into chapter two, we will be working on subtraction. Over these past few weeks we have been reviewing letter names, sounds, and high frequency words. With this information, we will be starting small reading groups. During writing workshop, we are listening to good examples of writing to brainstorm and get ideas for our own writing. Miss Lettre's class made a class book on ways we can help.

Our Guidance Counselor, Mrs. Michaud, will be focusing her sessions on The I-Care Rules...

1. We listen to each other.
2. Hands are for helping, not hurting.
3. We use I Care Language.
4. We care about each other's feelings (Empathy).
5. We are responsible for what we say and do.

One way to be responsible is... **preparing for Cold Weather!** Colder weather is on its way so please make sure your child is dressed for the weather. Please **label your child's clothing** so that we know who it belongs to. Show your child where you label just in case they need to go looking for them. **When you purchase winter boots, please keep in mind boots that are kid friendly AND teacher friendly!** Your child needs to be able to get themselves dressed for recess. Please practice at home so that your child can get completely dressed in 1-2 minutes!!! A lot of students will have black snow pants...**please label them!**

1st grade team

Miss Lettre and Miss Marston

PARENTS – IF YOU ARE PICKING UP MEALS ON MONDAY AND WEDNESDAY, PLEASE CALL THE OFFICE (626-2491) WHEN YOU GET HERE AND MEALS WILL BE BROUGHT OUT TO YOU. THIS WILL SAVE TIME FOR THE KITCHEN STAFF AND THEY WON'T HAVE TO STAND OUTSIDE IN THE COLD!! THANK YOU