

# December 2018

## **Greetings from Mrs. Curvey:**

This month marks the end of the first semester of school for our kindergarten and first graders. There has been a great deal of learning and instruction over these few months. It's great to see the progress your child(ren) have been making. Something to remember is that not all students progress at the same rate and at the same time. It takes a lot of work both at home and at school to foster successful academic growth. Both home and school have to be a team in order to see that progress.

Many of you attended the Parent/Teacher conferences in October which is one step to helping your child(ren) succeed. Another important aspect of success is the extent of the parents' involvement at home. Designating a homework time and place is essential for building good homework habits that will be necessary during their academic careers. Instilling the importance of hard work and dedication also help in fostering that academic growth. When talking with your child(ren), don't forget to ask how they struggled and did they make mistakes. Your child(ren) know that accepting challenges and learning from mistakes are KEY to growing and learning. Please continue to help us create courageous learners who enjoy challenges and are not afraid of making a mistake because they know they will learn from the mistake. Instilling a Growth Mindset within your child is one of the greatest gifts you can give. This isn't only productive when they are students but through every aspect of life. It's a mindset that will propel your child(ren) into all future successes.

## **Community Christmas Box**

In an effort to help those less fortunate in our community, Gilson Brown is participating in the Community Christmas Food Drive. We have a box for donations in our lobby. Please consider donating to the drive. Just for fun, as next week is the last week for the drive, we are doing 2 Can Tuesday, One can Wednesday, and 3 Can Thursday. They will pick up the box on Thursday. You're welcome to donate one can or more than one it's totally up to you. Just send the cans with your student and we will get them into the donation box.

## **Holiday Season**

As we approach this holiday season, please know that the greatest gift you have is your child(ren) and we are so glad that you entrust them to us every day. I hope the holidays are full of family, friends and joy for each and everyone of you. Happy Holidays from your Gilson Brown family!

**Gilson Brown's Faculty & Staff Wish You & Your Family HAPPY HOLIDAYS!**

This year's Kindergarten and First Grade Christmas Concert will be held on Thursday, December 6th at the Alton High School auditorium.

The concert for Kindergarten, Ms. Sherwin and Mrs. Slater's class begins at 6:00 p.m. with students arriving at 5:50. The concert for 1st grade and Fensterman's class begins at 6:45 p.m. with students arriving at 6:35.

Please come join us as we celebrate the season and the hard work your child has put in the last few months.

### **Greetings from Kindergarten:**

It's a Wonderful Time of the Year in Kindergarten!

As our first semester comes to an end and we prepare for a new year, the kindergarten students will be working hard reading, writing sentences independently, finding ways to make 10, and practicing popcorn words, numbers and shapes.

We will be keeping up with the holiday spirit by making gingerbread houses, learning about the spirit of giving, and participating in other festive holiday activities.

Remember, as the colder weather is upon us, be sure to dress your child appropriately for school. Students will be going outside for recess whenever possible. Now is a great time to continue to practice buttoning and zipping coats, not to mention tying shoes. As always thank you for your support.



### **Greetings from 1<sup>st</sup> Grade:**

It's an exciting time of year for first graders! 2nd quarter comes to a close this month. Our students have been growing and sharing their knowledge through a variety of ways.

By December, first graders are reading more independently and for longer periods of time. Encourage your child to read at home, especially over our winter break. In math, first graders will be learning to build on their addition strategies and add with larger sums.

The month of December brings colder weather and growing excitement. We will be learning about signs of winter and holiday traditions in countries around the world as we get ready to celebrate the season with our families.