

December 2017

Greetings from Mrs. Curvey:

Growth Mindset

Can you believe the holidays are upon us already? As we get ready to move into December, I wanted to share with you our Growth Mindset December Mantra. During the month of December we will be talking about how “We Love a Challenge!”

I’m amazed at the students and their desire for challenging work. I tell the students, “I hope you have to struggle, today.” And they know that means I hope that they grow because of their hard work and effort. If something is easy, it doesn’t help us grow. I tell them if school work was easy, there would be no reason to come to school. Please ask your child what challenges they had or how they struggled at school when they get home. Praise them for their efforts, not for being smart but for working hard, not giving up and never quitting.

Upcoming Event

In May, 2018, your students will get to come back to school one evening to participate in an exciting new event at Gilson Brown. During that event, we will showcase the student learning that has taken place over the 2017-2018 school year. At the beginning of each school year, there are many things that your child(ren) aren’t able to do. We’ve taught the students to say, “I can’t do this....yet.” By the end of the year, there will be so many things they will be able to do because of their determination, grit and not giving up. Please plan to join us that evening as we showcase your child(ren’s) learning. We have just begun making plans and I will have more information for you in the January newsletter. This will be the first event of its kind in the Alton School District!

Recess

As the days start to get colder, please remember to send your students with hats, coats, gloves, scarves. We go outside every day unless the wind chill is below 25 degrees.

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

Greetings from Mrs. Sharpe:

This year's Kindergarten and First Grade Christmas Concert will be held on Thursday, December 14th at 6:30 p.m. at the Alton Middle School auditorium. We ask that students arrive at 6:15 p.m. 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, and practicing popcorn words, numbers and shapes. We will be keeping up with the holiday spirit by making gingerbread houses, learning about winter animals, and participating in other festive 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 typing shoes. As always thank you for your support.



Greetings from 1st 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. As an extra incentive, first grade students will be taking part in a Winter Break Reading Challenge. It will be a fun way to encourage reading. Not only will your child get to create a snowman each time he/she reads, but we will also give a reward when the Reading Challenge sheet is completed and returned on January 3.

In math, first graders are building on their addition and subtraction and strategies. We are learning how addition and subtraction are related through fact families and using addition to check subtraction problems.

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.