



September Newsletter



Welcome to our first 2020-2021 monthly newsletter. It is our hope that we will be able to provide you with up to date information regarding what's happening in our school through this communication. Each month, we will post information that should provide you with a better understanding of your child's education as well as share with you some tips and skills that we find are successful to use at home.

Kindergarten Students

As a friendly reminder, even though we are on remote learning at this time, please be sure that you have your child's physical and immunization records up to date and turned in to the school nurse. If we don't receive these, your child will be excluded from school.

Zoom Etiquette

I know the teachers shared what we call common etiquette rules for meeting as a classroom on Zoom, but I wanted to restate a few here just in case you weren't present when these were discussed with your child. Knowing these will help you help us ensure proper respectful Zoom classrooms.

STUDENTS---

- Raise your hand to speak.
- Mute your mic if teacher asks you to.
- Come to "class" dressed and ready to learn.
- Stay seated forward focusing on your teacher.
- Answer questions.
- No eating during instruction.
- No toys/items at your learning area.
- Be an active participant.

We also want to remind parents about some home etiquette that should be observed. Families should follow these points of etiquette.

PARENTS/GUARDIANS

- Be sure your child is on time, dressed, and ready to learn.
- The expectation is that every student attend live teaching. If there is an emergency or situation that arises that prohibits your child from attending live, you must contact the teacher before their morning Zoom classroom starts. If your student is absent, you still need to call the office and report him/her absent. 618.463.2175

- Any others appearing in the Zoom should also be mindful of clothing, language and behavior that are appropriate for the classroom.
- There may be times when the teachers invite students to introduce a family member or pet to the class. Other than specially scheduled guests, please help keep siblings and pets out of the Zoom “classroom”.
- Encourage your child to participate.
- At Gilson we take academic risks....we make mistakes....we love challenges....And we try hard every day.
- We ask that you allow the teacher to pace her instruction and engage with the student without parental interruption. Your vital role is to ensure your child is logged on and ready to learn and comes back from scheduled breaks.
- Your help encouraging your student when logging on and transitioning between classes is much appreciated. During class, your child’s teacher will provide instructions and redirection as necessary. As your child becomes more independent, consider limiting your own directives so that your child is focused on the teacher.
- After school each day, be sure to plug your device in so it is fully charged for learning the next day.

Fall Pictures

Because, as a district, we are under a remote learning plan, I’ve had to reschedule our fall picture day from September 23 to November 4, 2020.

Specials

Don’t forget to be sure to click on the Music, PE, and Library classes that are linked to your child’s Google Classroom. The music, PE and Library teachers are working hard to provide your child excellent recorded instruction. Typically, during a normal school year, there are always two PE and two Music classes each week as well as one Library class for first grade. Currently we are offering these classes as a recorded lesson. By clicking on these classes, your child will have a great time during the day engaging with other teachers and enjoy learning about music, reading, and fitness once they are finished with their core academics. This added instruction is key to helping your child grow and engaging with it now will prepare them for what they will need to know when we return to live instruction.

Movement/Screen Time

Research shows that young children need a variety of activities during the day. Once your child has finished learning through live instruction with their teacher, please be sure they take time away from the screen. Encourage them to play, move, and share with you what they learned at “school.” Read with one another. Early readers learn a great deal just by listening to and watching someone engage in reading. This is a vital step in learning to read and learning to love to read.

Papa John's Night

Our first Papa John's night is September 16th. If you order pizza on this night, part of your ticket comes back to Gilson Brown. It's a super easy and delicious fundraiser. Treat yourself and your family. You have been working hard teaching and learning remotely and you deserve a night off from cooking. When you order, let Papa John's know that you are ordering for the Gilson Brown Papa John's Night. Thank you in advance for helping support our school.

Attendance (Reminders)

- Every student should attend live every day.
- If your child is ill and cannot attend, call the office to report the absence.
- Your child will receive ½ attendance credit for attending math and ½ attendance credit for attending the Language Arts portion of the day. If your child only attends one, either Math or Language Arts, he/she will be marked a half day absence.
- Communication with your child's teacher is key!

A final note:

Thank you all for your patience, kind words, and support as we begin our second week of remote learning. We could not do this without your help. Some of you may be working and other family members or friends may be responsible for your child's remote learning. Please give them a sincere thank you from all of us at Gilson Brown. Together we will make this work! If you need anything please feel free to contact us. We are here for you.



Happy
September!