



# *GROWth Report*

**Galewood Early Elementary School**

***"Our Roots Start Here!"***

Volume 1, Issue 3

## **Principal's Corner: A Note from Steve Chartier, Principal**

Nearly every child has experienced some form of teasing during their childhood years. In fact, most adults would consider it an innocent part of growing up. Often times, the taunting is from a sibling or close friend and as a result, it is viewed as harmless fun. Words, however, can be painful, and innocent teasing can have lasting effects. But how does one go about truly identifying the difference between harmless fun, and something that is far more serious such as a psychological impact? To help, consider this:



A girl kept staring at a boy until he was really annoyed. He told her to stop but she didn't. The next time they lined up he deliberately walked up to her and made fun of her hair. He did so again during recess the same day. This is teasing (or even bothering): unskilled kid behavior that annoys other children. Boys and girls tend to tease and bother differently, but they both do it. You see it in your own children (and if they never do this type of thing, then you see it in friends' children). Teasing or bothering other children happens all the time in families and in schools. It is a normal, yet unpleasant, part of growing up and learning to get along. Not all children tease, bother or bug others, but many do—particularly during the kindergarten years.

So, what do we do about this sort of thing? Well, it is clear that the girl and they boy were doing similar things: their behavior was alike and both were wrong. The girl needed to quit deliberately being annoying, and the boy needed to use his words to say "Stop that" with good eye contact and a forceful voice.

Even if these same two children taunt/bother each other regularly, this is NOT an example of bullying. Teasing and bothering morph into bullying when they are targeted to a specific student for injury or humiliation repetitively, day in and day out. A bully wants another particular child to feel bad all the time, and every time. It is sustained and deliberate. Although we can coach children to respond to bothering and teasing by telling the person to stop, walking away from them, and talking it out at another time, bullying calls for a solution that involves the target, the bully, by-standers and supportive adults to stop the destructive cycle.

Bullying has become increasingly prevalent throughout the world and affects a great number of school-age children at some point within their lives. At Galewood Early Elementary, we take bullying and other anti-social behaviors very seriously and work with individual families, as well as the whole student body, to create a respectful and safe environment.

Kind regards-

Steve



## Important Dates

Included here are key dates to note within your calendar. **Check our school website often** as dates will be added there as events are scheduled within the building.

### November

11/12: Board of Education Meeting/Central Office:  
6:30 PM  
11/16: Kindergarten Thanksgiving Festival/Select  
Classrooms: 9:45-11:00 AM  
11/19-11/23: NO SCHOOL THIS ENTIRE WEEK  
11/26: School Resumes at 8:45 AM;  
Principal's Coffee/Gym from 5:15-6:00 PM;  
PTSO Meeting/Gym at 6:00 PM

### December

12/3: Developmental Kinder Holiday Performance/  
CPAC: 7:00 PM  
12/10: Board of Education Meeting/Central Office:  
6:30 PM  
12/24 – 1/4: Holiday Break: NO SCHOOL

### January

1/7: School Resumes Today;  
Board of Education Meeting/Central Office:  
6:30 PM  
1/10: Galewood Math Night: 6:00-7:30 PM  
1/11: Mobile Dentist Visits GW  
1/14: Winter NWEA Testing Begins  
1/18: Half-Day of School: Dismissal at 11:36 AM  
Breakfast Served; No Lunch Service  
1/21: Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Day: NO SCHOOL  
1/28: Principal's Coffee/Gym from 5:15-6:00 PM;  
PTSO Meeting/Gym at 6:00 PM



## Bond 2018



On Tuesday, November 6th, voters throughout Charlotte will head to the polls to cast their votes pertaining to our current ballot initiative, the Bond of 2018. The overall focus of the initiative/proposal is to create facilities that contribute to the best teaching and learning environments rich in innovation, collaboration, safety and security, as well as aligned with the diverse interests of our students. Specifically, the goals are as follows:

- Support academic success by providing improvements to learning spaces and technology for all students
- Strengthen safety and security in our schools
- Improve health, accessibility and energy/operational efficiencies in our buildings
- Enhance specialized program spaces to bring additional opportunities to students and community members—new Agricultural Sciences Pavilion, new gymnasium and activities space, new tennis courts

All facilities will be impacted by the bond, but we do want to share highlights currently being considered for Galewood—a dedicated early elementary school to serve the district's earliest learners:

- five new classrooms
- a new entryway that is safer and more secure
- upgrades to instructional technology
- ADA upgrades
- new classroom furniture in alignment with 21st century learning styles
- renovation to classrooms including new lighting, flooring, finishes, casework and marker boards
- site work to included expanded parking and auto/bus loops.

Information pertaining to the bond has been sent to community members throughout the course of the past few months. If you care to review our proposals again, or simply seek additional information, please visit [www.CPSBond2018.com](http://www.CPSBond2018.com), or email our Superintendent, Mark Rosekrans, at [rosekrm@charlottenet.org](mailto:rosekrm@charlottenet.org).

We appreciate and value the support and partnership with each of you.

Please be sure to exercise your right to vote on November 6, 2018.

## Clothing Closet Donations

We are seeking donations for our clothing closet, particularly as we move into the winter months. If you are willing to make a donation of gently used or new items for both boys and/or girls, we would be most appreciative. The items needed at this time include:

- Underwear (new/sealed package only)
- Socks
- Long-sleeved shirts
- T-Shirts
- Pants
- Joggers
- Sneakers
- Coats
- Snow pants
- Boots
- Hats
- Scarves
- Mittens and/or gloves



We always have students in need, and would be grateful for any donations. Please send them to school or drop them off to the Main Office. So that we can route them to the Clothing Closet, kindly place the items in a bag that has been addressed to Vicki Lumbert, Clothing Closet Sponsor.

We thank you, in advance, for your generosity!

## It's Hip to Clip

Galewood School partakes in the Box Tops for Education program.



You can find box tops on hundreds of products, and it only takes a few minutes to clip them out. When sent to school, each box top earns Galewood approximately \$0.10.

Help us earn funding that makes a difference to the lives of our students. Clip your box tops and ask your family/friends to do the same. Send your Box Tops to school in a sealed Zip-Loc bag, and do so all throughout the year!

## Lost and Found

Did you know that Galewood has a Lost and Found center? We do! Located conveniently across from the Main Office, the center houses the many items that have been misplaced and are now unclaimed. If you are wondering where your child's hoody might be, or their water bottle or even their lunch box, please consider dropping by and checking within our Lost and Found. To assist in reuniting lost articles with their owners, we strongly suggest that you clearly label all of your child's belongings with their first and last names. So that you are aware, we periodically launder unclaimed items and either place them in our building clothing supply or donate them.



## Student Release Reminders

A few reminders:

- Consistently taking your child from school early can result in a valuable loss of instructional time. The school's truancy officer will be contacted when such cases arise.
- Parents are required to pick up students at the established dismissal times (3:31 PM for Full Day; 11:36 AM for Half Day), and in the designated areas only (gym entrance for vehicle pickups; entrance near the RR tracks for walkers; Main Office when prearranged).
- Staff supervision is not available prior to and after school hours. Students are able to enter the building beginning at 8:35 AM. Staff supervision is not available after 4:30 PM (M-TH) and 4:15 PM (FRI).
- While we realize your plans can change, it may not be possible to honor dismissal changes that are made during the last 30 minutes of the school day.
- Students are not permitted to ride school buses on which they have not been assigned. As a result, we cannot honor student or family requests for short-term transportation on a different bus. Changes in all ridership must be arranged by an adult, ahead of time, and through our Transportation Department (517-543-3400).

## School Closure Information



It is possible that sometime this year our schools might close due to an emergency such as inclement weather or mechanical failure. If this should occur, notification will be given as early as possible over local radio and television stations, or by calling the **Charlotte Activity Line at 517-541-5746**. A Skylert call would be made to all families in the event of a school emergency during the school day. So that our automated system can ensure a call to you, please make updates to your telephone number upon any change.

*Thanksgiving is for remembering the good times shared and for making beautiful new memories with the special people in our lives. We extend a heartfelt wish to you for a warm and wonderful Thanksgiving!*



## Oh the Weather Outside is Frightful

Please be reminded that our students will have outside recess anytime the temperature is above 5 degrees Fahrenheit, including the wind-chill. Kindly ensure that your child is dressed for the weather (i.e. jacket, snow pants, boots, scarf, hat, mittens, etc.), especially as we move into the colder months of fall/winter. Students will have inside recess when the temperature and/or wind-chill are 4 degrees or more below Fahrenheit, or when weather conditions are poor. Weather is monitored daily by our principal, Mr. Chartier.

A special note: often times, parents/caregivers inform us that their child is not well enough to go out for recess. Please know that we will only keep your child in from recess with a written doctor's note. If your child is not well enough to partake in recess, he/she is probably not well enough to be in school.



## Our Vision

The vision of Galewood Early Elementary School is to be the premier early childhood education destination fulfilling our promise that "Roots Start Here."



## Our Mission

Galewood's mission is to "establish the roots of lifelong learning."



CHARLOTTE ORIOLES™

## Our Core Beliefs

The Galewood staff believe that/in:

- Parents are their child's first teacher.
- School is fun!
- Providing a welcoming learning environment where all members of the school community feel safe and secure.
- The power of positive relationships.
- Honoring diversity, and that all people have value.
- All children are capable and learn differently.
- Children learn best in a nurturing environment through meaningful and engaging experiences.
- Our students can learn to manage themselves and their behavior.
- Students should contribute to their community.