

GEMS

Graham Expeditionary Middle School

Newsletter ~ March 3, 2011

2nd Trimester Highlights

As we draw closer to our final trimester of the year, **Please note on your calendars that our Celebration of Learning has moved from Monday, February 28 to Monday, March 7 from 6pm - 7pm.** Please join us as we celebrate the meaningful work accomplished by our students this term! Some of our highlights from the 2nd trimester, titled 'Adventure & Survival', include the following:

- 7th & 8th grade sales pitch to 6th graders, TCS staff, administration and GEMS staff for moving to their American Colony
- Fieldwork to Camp Mary Orton and The Columbus Zoo
- Discovering basic mountaineering in English
- Listening to representatives from the Franklin County Juvenile Court system regarding teen needs
- Creating a 'Survival Guide' for teens in central Ohio
- Learning about biomes
- Learning about energy & slopes and then creating roller coasters to apply what was learned
- The Valentine's Day dance!
- Measure of Academic Progress (MAP) scores increased for GEMS!



ABOVE TOP: 6th grade students working on their roller coaster project in science class.
ABOVE BOTTOM: Matthew Garwood observes Abdou Doumbouya put on mountaineering gear during our fieldwork in which students learned from the personal experiences of a mountain climber.



ABOVE LEFT: 6th grade students working on their roller coaster project in science class; **BELOW FAR LEFT:** 7th grade student, Derna Malone, during a group initiative on mountain rescue; **BELOW MIDDLE:** GEMS students at the winter dance; **BELOW RIGHT:** 6th grade student, Nora Bell, on the climbing wall!



School Cancellations

If Columbus City Schools are canceled, you can expect Graham Expeditionary Middle School to be canceled as well.

Watch for notification on local TV stations for information listed as follows:

Graham Expeditionary Middle School

Franklin County

*We will always be listed separate from The Charles School and The Graham School

Calamity Days

Although we have already made up one of our calamity days (February 22), we may not have to make up any more. Ohio Senate Bill 18 may provide all public schools, including charter schools, with a total of 5 calamity days for the 2010-2011 school year. So far, GEMS has used 4 calamity days and made up 1 for this school year. The bill will be up for vote in the next few weeks.



COLUMBUS
METROPOLITAN
LIBRARY

Announcement:

EVERY branch has a designated space to provide students with FREE homework assistance, school supplies and computer access. Our goal is to raise grades and test scores by working with area schools and providing homework help. Opening 21 HHCs in six years is a testament to the support we receive from generous donors, customers and the community.

Upcoming Dates

March 4

Celebration of Learning
6pm at GEMS

March 3-4

Mid-Spring Break - *NO SCHOOL*

March 5

Have-A-Heart: A lively evening of food, drinks, auctions, and student performances supporting all three schools.

The Griffin Student Center @ ODU

March 7

Celebration of Learning
6pm @ GEMS - in the gym

March 9

Enrollment Information Session
6pm @ GEMS

March 14

Start of 3rd Trimester
2nd Trimester Grades mailed
out this week

March 23

Enrollment Information Session
6pm @ GEMS

March 31 - April 1

PD Days - *NO SCHOOL*

April 6

Enrollment Information Session
6pm @ GEMS



BOXTOPS FOR EDUCATION

&

LABELS FOR EDUCATION

WE ARE NOW COLLECTING
BOXTOPS FOR EDUCATION AND
CAMPBELL SOUP LABELS. PLEASE
BRING YOURS TO THE GEMS
OFFICE!



Please visit www.marketday.com or pick up an order form in the GEMS office to place an order and support the school. Market Day offers a wide variety of products including low fat, low calorie and all-natural food options. The next order is due in the GEMS office on March 8th and the pick-up date will be March 13th from 10:00am to 11:30am in the school gym. Please contact our chairperson, Terri Fisher (Betsy's mom) at 614.432.8910 with any questions!