

Robert S. Gallaher Elementary

Panther Press



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News From Mrs. Cassel and Mrs. Lynch:

Hello Gallaher Families! We are excited for spring break, and look forward to finishing strong when we return! We will have our state assessments starting at the end of the month, as well as our final benchmark assessments at the end of May. We look forward to communicating our progress at that time! Please continue to keep those skills sharp using Lexia and Iready over spring break. We look forward to a strong finish academically and behaviorally when we return! Thank you so much for the support you continue to provide to Gallaher!

From the Office



Counselors' Corner

This month Ms. Wilson will be doing in class counseling lessons on the topic of Hygiene.

Spring is here! It's important to take care of your mind and body. It's a great time to get outside to go for a walk, bike ride, play sports, etc.

Studies show that exercise improves mental health by reducing anxiety, depression and negative mood by improving self-esteem and cognitive function.

*Please continue to check out our Parenting Series 2.0 in collaboration with Child Inc. Our April parenting class dates are the following:

4/8, 4/16, 4/22, 4/30

Nurse's Notes

There are many celebrations that take place in April, including Autism acceptance day, and Earth day. Make a difference and plant a tree.

Earth Month	April 1
National Parks Week	Week-long event in April
World Autism Acceptance Day	April 2
Day of Silence	2nd Friday of April
Earth Day	April 22

Important Dates

March 29 – April 5 - No School (Spring Break)

April 8 – First day back after spring break

April 10 – No School

April 11 - PTA meeting

April 25 - Celebration of Leadership and Diversity

School Spirit Days!

April 12 – Dress for your future Career

April 19 – Science Theme Day

April 26 – Gallaher Shirt Day



Related Arts



Mrs. Finocchiaro - Library/Tech

Students are going to start researching a country that their family is from and learn all about the culture there.

Did you know studies have shown that adults who regularly read fiction are more likely to engage in charity and volunteer work?

Ms. D - Visual Arts

Students in Grades 5th-3rd are starting their 3D Sculpture and Form Unit.

Ask your student: "What is the difference between a 2D Shape and a 3D Form"

Students in grades KN-2nd are learning about expressing themselves through their artwork, making collages, and Abstract Art!

Ask your student: "What is Abstract Art?"

Ms. DeLeo- STEM

In 4th grade, students are using Makey-Makey circuits to create interactive games, music, game shows, and more!

They are using their creativity to create useful tools that can be hooked up to electrical circuits.

Mr. Fortunato - P.E.

Students will now be able to jump in and participate in a volleyball game and racket sports when the opportunity arises!

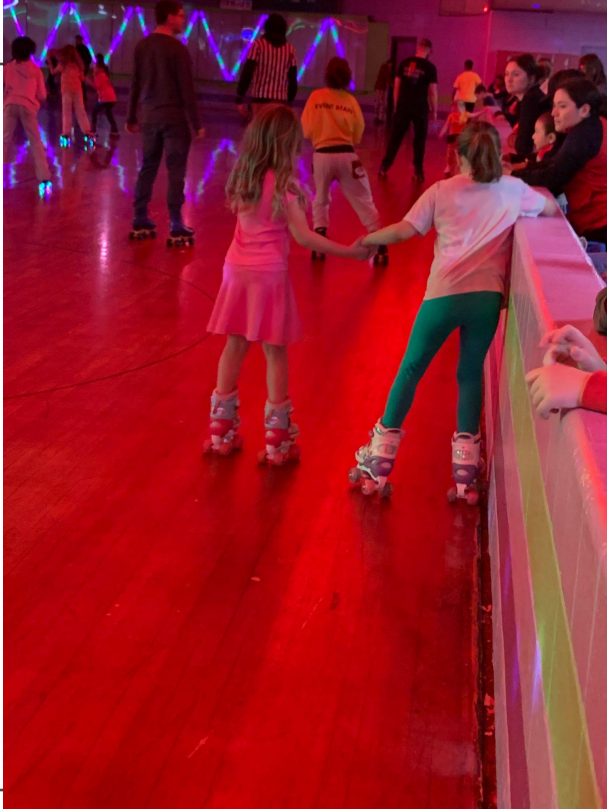
This month we will be able to get out on the field and play sports that we've learned in the gym.

Ms. Polman - Music

Kindergarten families:
Ask your students which animals helped them learn that music can be high or low and slow or fast!

4th grade families:
Ask your student how their Recorder Karate practice is going?

Kindergarten



Ms. Arban - Room 128

Think Spring!! We began this new season by planting beans. Over the last several weeks we have been observing, drawing and writing in our plant journal. So exciting to see our seeds turn into plants. This was a great way to combine reading, writing and Science. In Math, we are practicing our addition and subtraction skills.

Mrs. Walsh - Room 125

We love showing kindness to our friends!

In math, we used triangles and squares to make a new quilt and find the patterns and compare it to the other one we made.

We also love doing our math and reading centers!

In writing, we have been working on a research report about penguins!

Did you know penguins eat fish, shrimp, and squid?

We have been working hard to complete more iready and Lexia lessons.



Ms. Childs - Room 126

Spring is finally here! We have been enjoying deciding every morning whether the day's weather is like a lion or a lamb. We are also noticing and observing some of the things that happen outside as the season has changed! We have improved so much with our Reading skills and are working on our short vowel sounds in CVC words. We are also wrapping up our Push, Pull, Go unit in Science!

Ms. Evans-Wilson - VA

We are observing the weather as it transition from winter to Spring. We have discussed how birds prepare for Spring. We also did a research report on Pandas. Did you know Pandas have 6 fingers? The fingers help them eat Bamboo which is 99% of their diet. We also enjoyed learning about shapes and practicing our addition and subtraction facts. We were excited each day to listen to a new story for March Book Madness.



We Need Your Help!

Would you be willing to share your culture with the Gallaher community?

We are looking for families that are interested in sharing their culture at our Leadership and Diversity night on April 25, 2024 from 5:30-7:30PM.

Some ideas might include, but are not limited to:

Traditions	Celebrations	Language	Recipe/Food	
Music	Photos	Sports	Artifacts	Clothing
Famous Places/Landmarks	Money	Craft	Game	

Contact Mrs. McLaughlin if you are interested in showcasing your culture!



Scan Me!

EMAIL: AMANDA.MCLOUGHLIN@CHRISTINA.K12.DE.US

Attention Families,

Please complete this very brief state survey regarding School Climate. Gallaher is committed to continuous improvement. Please take a moment to fill out this brief survey as it relates to School Climate. We use this information to make important school decisions. The survey closes on March 29. It can be accessed here:

English:

https://delaware.ca1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_54FgdPaoj89MIG6

Spanish:

https://delaware.ca1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_9TbJD58TvG27Jbg

Thank you so much!!
~Mrs. Cassel

First

Ms. Carrell - Room 123

Room 123 is excited for Spring Break. We are becoming fluent readers and addition and subtraction experts. During number corner, we learned to tell time to the hour and half hour. In math, we are learning the difference between 2D and 3D shapes. Many of our everyday items are examples of 3D shapes. The balls we play with during recess are spheres. We are excited for the spring weather.

Ms. Cagle - Room 122

We are so excited to start our new science unit! Mrs. Cagle is going to bring in her pet tortoise, Titus, so we can learn all about his defenses! We are super excited to learn about animal and plant defenses. We have been saying our morning affirmations everyday to help us learn to be kind to our minds. We have enjoyed learning our new math curriculum and just finished learning about adding and subtracting tens to two digit numbers! We have also been collecting seeds all year from our lunches and now we have 7 apple/orange trees growing in our classroom!

Mrs. Greenzweig - Room 120

We have been learning about fractions, attributes of shapes and telling time (to the hour and half-hour). In Reading, we have read stories about learning from our mistakes. We have been writing opinion stories with different kinds of sentences. We finished our Light and Sound Unit and are looking forward to our next unit, Plant and Animal Defenses. We learned about producers and consumers in our Economics Unit. We all wrote Doghouse Book Reports. Get your paws on a good book!

Ms. Weldon - Room 119

We had so much fun learning about fractions, telling time, and shapes during math. It has been awesome learning about wants, and needs, and goods and services in social studies. We are excited to begin our new science unit about animals and plants! We have been writing opinions in writing. We read all about technology in reading. Technology is everywhere and it makes life easier! Happy Spring!

Ms. Leonhard - VA

Happy Spring! Our class just finished a reading unit all about technology. We loved reading about robots. Our new unit is about stories that teach lessons. In math we have been telling time and we are getting better with our addition and subtraction facts. We learned about a lot of important women for Women's History Month. We've learned how to write an opinion piece. We are excited for spring break!



Staff Spotlight



Ms. Schock

Hi everyone! My name is Ms. Schock and I am the Kindergarten and 1st grade special education teacher at Gallaher! This is my second year at Gallaher, and second year teaching overall. I am currently working towards getting my Master's degree in Special Education Instruction from Wilmington University. In my free time, I love spending time with my friends and family, reading books, going to the beach, listening to Taylor Swift, and drinking coffee of course!

Second



Ms. Alms - Room 116

We are excited to learn geometry in Unit 6 for math. Ask us about 2-D and 3-D shapes and see what we can tell you about what we have learned. We had fun writing about our favorite technological inventions. We worked hard to type our essays also. We are proud of our reading skills and want to get even better. So we are going to read one story every night before bed!

Mr. Brutscher - Room 117

Spring break is right around the corner. We have started a new unit in math; we are learning all about geometry. In reading we are learning about different cultures and what they can teach us. WE just finished up our opinion writing about what is the best invention in the world. Social studies is focused on economics where we are focused on saving and spending money.

Ms. Wilson - Room 118

Our field trip to Winterthur was so much fun! We had visitors from Winterthur Museum come and show us what children from long ago played with. Everyone had a chance to sample some "old" toys! In reading, we learned about famous inventors and their inventions. In writing, we wrote about our favorite technology device. We can identify coins and their values and count to 1,000..

Third

Ms. Read - Room 101

In reading we have been working hard on completing performance tasks so we are ready to go for SBAC testing in the spring. We just finished learning about fact families in math and now we are working on learning about attributes of quadrilaterals and other shapes. For social studies we are preparing for Mini-Society! We came up with a store name, the currency we will be using, and now are working on our business plans.

Ms. Dannaker - Room 103

We are proud of recently finishing up our technology unit in reading and starting a new one about character's actions. In math, we are learning about quadrilaterals and other shapes. Our class is working hard on their business plans for Mini Society and excited to open our store. We are also looking forward to spring break!

Ms. McClarin - Room 104

We can't believe we've reached Spring Break! We have been so busy learning about all types of quadrilaterals and what makes them unique in Math. Our class is also continuing to get better and better with our multiplication facts. As state testing approaches, we have been preparing for what we can expect and how we can show what we know. This school year has been flying by!

Ms. Elmagrisi- VA

In Reading and Math, we have finished the 5th unit. In Math, it was all about multiplication and division. In Reading, we learned about technology like phones, deaf technology and famous inventors. This unit led to some interesting conversations with our elders about making phone calls when they were our age, video games and listening to music. We met each other in person in March doing our SBAC Interim practice. It was fun!

What's happening in class?

Do you want to know what your student is working on in ELA or Math?
Click the links below and choose the grade level you need.

April ELA: Unit 6 and 7
[Elementary ELA \(K-5\)](#)

April Math: Unit 6
[Elementary Math](#)

News from the PTA

Please join us for our April PTA meeting!

Thursday, April 11th, 7pm.

You can come in person to the Gallaher school library or join us on Zoom at the following link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83542706879>

We hope to see you there!



Our Book Fair last week was a big success! We finished with over \$7000 in Sales, over half from eWallets! We thank you all for your support.

After spring break, be sure to have your student check out the Playground to see the surprise waiting for them from the PTA!



Questions for the PTA? Email us at GallaherElemPTA@gmail.com

Follow us on Facebook! www.Facebook.com/GallaherPTA

Fourth

Mrs. Coughlin - Room 106

This month we started our 50 states project. So far we have learned about 3 states. Ask us our 50 states song! In math we focused on quadrilaterals and division. In reading we learned about different technologies and what is better for the environment. We have been working on leadership roles by collecting Coins for a Cause in our classroom.

Mrs. Brown - Room 108

In the month of March we learned about many historical women who have shaped our world. We also have been receiving letters from other states to learn about their demographics, and their school. In math we are learning different strategies to multiply and divide. In reading we finished up our unit about advances in technology. We researched which is better for us—a gas or an electric car. We are able to support our opinion with facts!

Ms. Smith - Room 105

Spring has sprung in room 105! We have been working hard in math class in our geometry unit! We are able to name different polygons and measure angles with a protractor. In reading, we have just finished learning about new and emerging technologies. Ask your student if they would rather have a gas or electric car! Finally, we reflected on our work from the year during student led conferences.



Ms. Frank - VA

We are continuing to work hard in 4th grade VA! In reading, we have been discussing the positive and negative impacts of technology. We are doing great with Geometry in math. Using a protractor online is challenging but fun. Our writing is continuing to improve every single day. We can't believe our improvement since the beginning of the year. Spring is here and we are ready for our Spring break!



Staff Spotlight



My name is Debbie Edwards and I am the lead in the kitchen. What I like about Gallaher is that I went to school here when I was young. I like to visit the beach, go to Florida and visit my grandchildren in New Hampshire. Say "Hi!" to me at breakfast and lunch!!



Fifth

Ms. Bucci - Room 111

In math we are learning about adding fractions and finishing a unit about that along with subtracting. In science we're learning about moon phases. In number corner we have finished our calendar. Our class also hit 1,000 iReady lessons, We can't even believe we're in the last quarter of fifth grade. All of our classmates are excited for spring break! We are going to miss our great student teacher Miss Miller.

Ms. Orndorff - Room 112

We can hardly believe we are in the 4th marking period already, but time flies when you are having fun! In reading, we completed 2 awesome Performance Tasks to help prepare for the Smarter Balanced test, and have been continuing to sharpen our close reading skills. In math we have been multiplying and dividing fractions, and have now begun our geometry unit. Our Science unit took us to the stars. And we continue to work toward reaching our iReady goals, individually, as a class, and as a community of learners.

Mr. Dabney - Room 109

Heading towards April, Community Leaders are moving right along- accomplishing great things in math operations, reading fluency and reading comprehension. I-Ready scores in reading and math are way up and so is enthusiasm. As of today, we stand at 84% for Math Lessons passed (70% or higher). For reading, we stand at 65% so there is some room to grow. We are looking forward to the challenge ahead!

Ms. Burton - Room 110

It's been a whirlwind in Room 110. We have been mastering the skill of multiplying and dividing fractions in math. Our reading lessons have had us to take a deep dive into the different technologies that exist (past and present). Be sure to show them some of the technologies you used back in the day. Finally, we've been sharpening our geography skills by practicing identifying locations on a map using longitude and latitude coordinates .

Ms. McDermond - VA

We are so excited for Spring Break. We have been working hard on learning about survival in Reading Class. We are reviewing the three types of writing. In math we are reviewing coordinate grids and will learn about 2 dimensional figures after break. In Social Studies we continue our unit on Geography. We created our own google maps of places we would like to visit some day. In Science we are learning about the stars and other constellations. We are really excited to watch the solar eclipse on Monday, April 8th.



Staff Spotlight



My name is Ms. Maggie Wilson

I am the school Counselor and the 504 Coordinator at Gallaher Elementary. As the school counselor I provide counseling to small groups, individual and classroom lessons for grades K-5.

.I am a mother of three adult children and a grandmother of one handsome grandson.

What I like to do with my freetime is I enjoy baking treats i.e. cakes cookies pies I am famous for my peach cobbler.

I also enjoy traveling to different places. My favorite place to go is the caribbeans or any place hot.