



Siberian News



News from Mrs. Uriano

Dear GHS Families,

As we enter into this very busy month, there is a tangible sense of excitement and wonder in the air. Between the snowflakes that sometimes fall during the school day and any of the upcoming holidays, it is a wonderful time to be in a primary school!

The school year's first round of report cards will be coming home this month. These are important communication tools that will provide information regarding your child's progress so far this year. Please let your child's teacher know if you have any questions or concerns.

We look forward to seeing you at the many upcoming events at GHS and thank you for all you do to support your children and our school. We wish you all the best throughout the month and a very Happy New Year!

Sincerely,

Katie B. Uriano

Principal



**HAPPY
NEW
YEAR!**

December 2018

Gilead Hill School
580 Gilead Street
Hebron, CT 06248
(860) 228-9458
(860) 228-1106 fax
Health Room
(860) 228-4933



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Kindergarten Registration for the 2019/2020 School Year

Gilead Hill School is registering eligible students for the 2019 - 2020 school year. Parents/guardians of children who will be five years of age on or before December 31, 2019, and are planning to have their child attend public school in Hebron, are asked to contact the Gilead Hill School office at 860-228-9458 by Tuesday, January 15th, 2019 to begin the registration process.

Registration packets will be mailed to parents/guardians and are asked to **be returned to Gilead Hill School during school hours (7:30 am – 4:00 pm) prior to Friday, January 25th, 2019.** Parents/Guardians are required to return their registration packet completed along with your child's **original** birth certificate (which will be returned to you), a non-returnable photo and a utility bill for proof of residency.

PreK students (Peer Model Program or School Readiness) that attend Gilead Hill School at this time do not need to call for a registration packet.



December/January Calendar of Events

Tuesday, December 11th—Report Cards Sent Home Today!

Wednesday, December 12th—Grade 1 Holiday Concert as follows:

9:15 am—Losi/Terry/Shah

10:30 am—Folkes/Stone

Wednesday, December 12th—Early Dismissal Day (1:10)/Staff Development

Thursday, December 13th—Board of Education Meeting, 7:00 pm (GHS Music Room)

Friday, December 14th—Parent Coffee Hour, 9:00 am (GHS—Room 4)

Friday, December 14th—CCMC School-Wide Pajama Day

Thursday, December 20th—Carol Sings as follows:

8:55—Grade 2

10:30—PreK/Kindergarten

1:00 - Grade 1/pm PreK

Friday, December 21st—Early Dismissal (1:10 pm)

Monday, December 24th—Tuesday, January 1st, 2019—School Closed (School Recess)

Wednesday, January 2nd—Welcome Back!!

Thursday, January 3rd—Hebron Board of Education Meeting, 6:00 pm (GHS Music Room)

Thursday, January 10th—Hebron Board of Education Meeting, 7:00 pm (GHS Music Room)

Friday, January 11th—Parent Coffee Hour, 9:00 (Room 4)

Thursday, January 17th—Hebron Board of Education Meeting, 6:00 pm (GHS Music Room)

Thursday, January 24th—Hebron Board of Education Meeting, 6:00 pm (GHS Music Room)

Hebron Public Schools Mission Statement

The Hebron Public Schools' mission, in partnership with families and the community, is to instill confidence, resolve, and the fundamentals of learning in each child, so that they are motivated to explore possibilities in the world and to succeed in their chosen path.



Nondiscrimination Statement

The Hebron Board of Education prohibits harassment and discrimination in education programs, services, or employment on the basis of race, color, religious creed, age, marital status, military or veteran status, national origin, sex, ancestry, sexual orientation, or past or present physical or mental disability in accordance with Titles VI, VII, or the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Title IX of the Educational Amendments Act of 1973, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, the Americans with Disability Act of 1991, and appropriate state laws.



Hebron Superintendent of Schools
Timothy Van Tassel, Superintendent
 580 Gilead Street
 Hebron, CT 06248

Town Manager

Andy Tierney	15 Gilead Street, Hebron, 06248	860-228-2871 x122
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Hebron Board of Selectmen

Daniel E. Larsen, Chairman	147 Hope Valley Road, Amston, 06231	860-228-9170
Gail Richmond, Vice-Chair	276 Hope Valley Road, Amston, 06231	860-228-3404
John B. Collins	23 Coates Farm Drive, Amston, 06231	860-549-3273
Brian O'Connell	47 Brennan Road, Amston, 06231	860-228-2036
Clara O'Brien	56 Ames Road, Amston, 06231	860-228-8173

Hebron Board of Finance

Malcolm Leichter, Jr., Chairman	62 Wellswood Road, Amston, 06231	860-228-0601
David Veschi, Vice-Chairman	9 Mohegan Lane, Amston, 06231	860-228-3809
Diane L. Del Rosso	9 Judd Brook Lane, Amston, 06231	860-965-1343
Peter Kasper	54 West Branch Drive, Hebron, 06248	860-918-4503
Ramon W. Bieri	137 Senate Brook Drive, Amston, 06231	860-530-1082

Hebron Board of Education

Erica E. Bromley	224 Burnt Hill Road, Hebron, 06248	unlisted
Maryann Leichter	62 Wellswood Road, Amston, CT 06231	860-228-0601
Kevin Williams	122 Scarboro Road, Hebron 06248	860-228-1358
Geoffrey Davis	88 Attawanhood Trail, Amston, 06231	860-214-7751
Kathy Williams	239 Jagger Lane, Hebron, 06248	860-228-9649
Heather R. Petit	92 Old Colchester Road, Amston, 06231	860-530-1189
Christopher L. Aker	16 Mohegan Lane, Amston, 06231	860-759-2562

PE... Mr. Anthony Pitrone



All first and second grade classes have now completed their fitness testing. Some 2nd grade students' scores may even qualify them for a Fitness Award! All classes have also begun work on the horizontal climbing wall, as well as some holiday-themed station work.

Most classes will begin working on cup stacking with "Speed Stacks" before the holiday break. This will help develop and improve hand-eye coordination as well as encourage students to use both sides of their brain and body. Students will also use their cup stacking skills in some fun and active cardiovascular Speed Stacking movement games! Please remember to encourage your children to be active as the cold weather sets in. When they are dressed appropriately, children can still be active and get their exercise outdoors!

****Note**** As the snow starts to fly and children come to school in boots, please also be sure to send students to school with sneakers on their P.E. days! We are experiencing far too many students coming unprepared for class wearing boots and Uggs... please help your child remember to pack sneakers on P.E. days so they can participate safely!! Thank you!

Library News...Mrs. Erin Madeira

Library volunteers are welcome! I could really use help shelving books and assisting with book check in/out. Please contact me at 860-228-9458 ext 2115 or emadeira@hebron.k12.ct.us if you're interested.

Second grade: We've learned about the "neighborhoods" in library - nonfiction, fiction, easy reader, everybody, biography and graphic novels - and how to read a call number to figure out which neighborhood to go to in order to find a certain book. Students worked with buddies to locate call numbers throughout the library. We reviewed using Kahoot! an online assessment tool and are ready to move on to exploring Destiny, our online card catalog.

First grade: We discussed how the Everybody books (picture books) are organized by the authors' last names and how to match a call number to an author. We spent time searching the shelves for certain call numbers with a buddy so that students can start to locate favorite authors on their own. We're working on book recommendations now using the app Book Creator. When we're finished each class will have an ebook with a picture of each child's favorite book, the call number and their voices telling why someone should read the book.

Kindergarten: After reading *Little Green Witch* (a version of *Little Red Hen*) students worked in teams to put pictures from the story in the proper sequence. Each member of the team was assigned a character and they then retold the story. Students also practiced their mouse skills by decorating a cupcake on the computer following the story *Pinkalicious*. We discussed bucket filling and dipping while reading *We Gather Together...Now Please Get Lost!* and student drew pictures and wrote about what they were thankful for.

In **PreK**, I read *Duck in a Truck*, *Z is for Moose*, *The Umbrella*, and *Little Red Fort* and students used the iPads to put the letters of their name on a refrigerator, match rainforest animals, and match shapes.

Finally, Mrs. Giammarco and I are coordinating ColorCycle which is a marker recycling program by Crayola. All used markers and highlighters, regardless of brand, that are ready to be thrown away, can be dropped off either in the library or the art room. These markers will then be sent to Crayola where they will be turned into fuel.



School Nurse News...Mrs. Kelly Delton

- ◆ Vision Screening has been completed by the Hebron Lions Club. I will be sending home a note with referral information if there is any concern about your child. Prompt attention to referrals is important since vision or hearing problems can have significant impact on learning
- ◆ It gets very windy on Gilead Hill. Please be sure to dress your child for the weather: including a coat, hat and mittens. From November through March all students are required to wear coats outdoors. Sweat shirts are not considered appropriate outerwear. Children go outdoors as long as the temperature is above 20°. Hats and mittens keep little ears and fingers warm so the children can enjoy their full play period. Students, who come to school without a coat, will be sent to the health room to borrow one.
- ◆ It is the time of year for boots. Please remember your child's scheduled gym day. It might be a good idea to pack an extra pair of sneakers in your child's backpack to keep at school.
- ◆ Extra changes of clothes are kept in the health room for emergencies. Please wash and return any borrowed item. Your help keeps the health room stocked with many sizes. If you are cleaning out closets, the health room can use girls/boys pants and shirts sizes 5-10.

Happy Holidays! Enjoy the time with your family.



Music News...Mrs. Karen Sanstrom

First grade students are excited to celebrate many Winter Holidays with you during their concert. Through speaking parts, instruments, songs and dances we will learn about Hanukah, Christmas and Kwanzaa.

Concert dress please, no jeans (if possible).

Wednesday, December 12th at 9:15 am

Miss Terry's class

Miss Losi's class

Mrs. Shah's class

Wednesday, December 12th at 10:30 am

Mrs. Folkes' class

Mrs. Stone's class



On **Thursday, December 20th**, friends and family are invited to our annual GHS Holiday Carol Sings. Bring your singing voices and join us in singing many Holiday favorites.

8:55 am - Second Grade

10:30 a.m.- AM Preschool/Kindergarten

1:00 p.m.- PM Preschool/First Grade

Also, selected first and second graders will be performing at the Hometown Holiday Craft & Community Fair on Saturday, December 8th.

First graders perform from 10:30-11:00 and second graders from 11:00-11:30. Thank you to all of the performers for spreading some Holiday cheer!

December Tips for the Reading and Math Room

Kindergarten: Help your child practice identifying the beginning and ending sounds of words. Play I Spy – “I spy something that begins or ends with t /t/.” Create a BINGO game where your child has to find the letter he/she hears at the end of a word you say.

At the grocery store, ask your child to find items that are triangles, circles, rectangles, and other shapes. Read the calendar and determine the number of days until an upcoming event. Look around the house to find groups of 2 objects, such as pairs of gloves or socks. Look for groups of 3’s, 4’s, and on up to 10’s.

First Grade: Practice sight words. Make BINGO or memory games to practice the sight words. Write sight words on sticky notes and spread the sticky notes around the room. Turn the lights off and have your child use a flashlight to search for the sticky notes and read the words on the notes.

Read a recipe and have your child measure the amounts for the ingredients. Use different measurements such as teaspoons, cups, and pints. Dice, cards, and board games can help your child learn addition combinations. Dominoes reinforce counting by 5’s. The card game “War” helps children recognize which number is greater and which is less. Here are more games for math practice: Yahtzee, Mancala, Checkers, Chinese Checkers, and any game that includes counting board steps, such as Chutes and Ladders.

Second Grade: When your child has sounded out an unfamiliar word, have him or her re-read that sentence. Often children will lose the meaning of what they’ve just read when they are busy trying to figure out the word. Create a writing toolbox. Fill a box with drawing and writing materials. Have your child create shopping lists, write thank you notes, and make birthday cards.

Practice counting down from any double-digit number. For example, use a calendar to count down the number of days to an upcoming event. At this age children are developing more complex ways of reasoning — they like strategic thinking games such as checkers, chess, Monopoly, and Clue. Other good math games include Dominoes, Mancala, and Cribbage.

Websites of the Month:

www.funbrain.com

<http://www.mathplayground.com>

Town Meeting News

Each month our students meet as a grade level with Mrs. Uriano for a Town Meeting. At these meetings, Mrs. Uriano talks about behavior and does something fun. Each class is also recognized and complimented by Mrs. Uriano based on the information submitted by their teacher. Teachers recognized their classes this month for:

- ◆ Mrs. Caya recognized her class for working hard and trying their best during work times.
- ◆ Miss Craig recognized her class for working on classroom rules and respecting each other.
- ◆ Mrs. Conderino recognized her class for their super reader pointer power. They can point to a word and read it!
- ◆ Mrs. Monarca recognized her class for working carefully to add details to their drawing and lots of sounds in their writing!
- ◆ Mrs. Oriol Jones recognized her class for working hard at writing and reading.
- ◆ Mrs. Folkes recognized her class for the continued “acts of Kindness” displayed toward each other during this holiday season.
- ◆ Miss Losi recognized her class for officially becoming Word Detectives! Our class has worked hard to notice and solve tricky words using strategies!
- ◆ Mrs. Shah recognized her students for working so hard to publish their Small Moment writing stories.
- ◆ Mrs. Stone recognized her students for being kind by helping each other.
- ◆ Miss Terry recognized her class for always lending out a helping hand to their classmates.
- ◆ Mrs. Costa recognized her class for working hard during Math Workshop stations. They persevered while learning how to solve math addition and subtraction problems on an open number line!
- ◆ Mrs. Govoni recognized her class for earning 10 class paws by being kind community members.
- ◆ Mr. LeFevre recognized his class for completing their personal narrative writing unit.
- ◆ Mrs. Snayd recognized her class for everyone being able to sign their own name in sign language!

STEAM...Mrs. Kimberly Waldron

All children learn differently. Some learn through listening, seeing, or experiencing an academic topic. Most times, children learn the best with hands-on, minds-on experiences. Students have been enthusiastically walking into the STEAM room ready to tackle the next investigation planned! Inquiry is a strong component in the STEAM room. Students are engaged in explorations to elevate their natural curiosity and build on their prior knowledge

Invention Convention

Invention Convention is here again in Hebron for students K-6 for the 2nd year!!! Is your child excited about becoming an inventor? Each invention should be something that is from your child's life or a problem your family or community faces. Inventors should be passionate about the problem they hope to solve. The CIC program accepts inventions and innovations. That means your child could invent something that has never been invented before, or improve upon something that already exists. I encourage you to communicate with your child throughout the invention process. Your child may begin to ask about the problems you face or problems you see around the world in the news. Please encourage your child to speak with family members and friends and record their learning in their Invention Log. This is a great way to start coming up with ideas for solutions (inventions). Thinking of an idea for an invention is the absolute hardest part of Invention Convention. It requires collaboration, observation, and reflection. Thank you for helping your young inventor by being a sounding board for invention ideas. **All Initial forms were due back November 30th. A Parent Night is scheduled for Thursday December 6th in the Activity Room at GHS. The meeting is for ALL Hebron student participant parents!** Thank you to all those that took part and plan to be a part of Invention Convention. Please write me with any questions or concerns.

Wacky STEAM Wednesday Rotation in December!

December is Hour of Code! On Wacky Wednesdays, students will learn all about computer science and coding using the computers and ipads!

Pre-Kindergarten:

During the month of December, students will continue to work on the engineering design process with a focus on planning, creating, and improving designs. The students will learn basic directionality with coding. The children will use code-a-pillars to sequence and code it to where they want it to go.

Kindergarten:

This month in STEAM, students will learn to program using unplugged and plugged coding activities. The students will learn to sequence, learn basic algorithms for directions, and learn basic commands like looping and events. The lessons in this unit teach students to collaborate with others meaningfully, investigate different problem-solving techniques, persist in the face of difficult tasks, and learn about computer science and coding. The students will learn how to use Code-a-pillars and Blue bots to program algorithms for their robots to follow. By the end of the unit, students will learn to program both unplugged and plugged robots using basic directions or events.

First Grade:

This month in STEAM, students are working in the field of Computer Science! Students will learn the basics of programming, collaboration techniques, investigation and critical thinking skills, persistence in the face of difficulty, and internet safety. During the coding and robotics unit, students will create, compare, and revise sequences based on challenge criteria. Students will learn to use and code Botley robots. At the end of the unit, students will create their own maze for another student to program and solve.

Second Grade:

This month in STEAM, students are working in the field of Computer Science! Students will continue their work from last year on the basics of programming and coding. Students will learn Blockly and use the Dash robot to gain understanding of the need for precision in coding. Students will learn how to recognize a bug and how to debug the malfunctioning code. They will use algorithms to program, while including loops and events. Our end project is called "Dash-ing through the snow." Students will have to create a sleigh for Dash and program Dash to complete/solve a mission!"

All of the experiences that the children will have tie together by a core set of practices. These practices provide coherence and serve as a helpful reminder of the high-level skills students should be continually developing.

Problem Solving - Use a structured problem-solving process to help address new problems -View challenges as solvable problems - Break down larger problems into smaller components

Persistence - Value and expect mistakes as a natural and productive part of problem solving -Continue working towards solutions in spite of setbacks -Iterate and continue to improve partial solutions

Creativity - Incorporate your own interests or ideas into your work- Experiment with new ideas and consider multiple possible approaches -Extend or build upon the ideas and projects of others.

Collaboration -Work with others to develop solutions that incorporate all contributors -Mediate disagreements and help teammates agree on a common solution- Actively contribute to the success of group projects

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Second Step



Kindergarten

Students in Kindergarten are learning about their feelings and how to figure out what others are feeling based on their faces and body language. Students are also learning that some feelings can be stronger than others. We will read the books My Many Colored Days written by, Dr. Seuss and When I Feel Scared written by, Cornelia Maude Spelman. Why is this important? Students who can identify feelings tend to get along better with others and build and maintain friendships.

First Grade

Students in First Grade are learning about their feelings and how to identify feelings and emotions based on facial expressions and body language. First graders take a more in-depth look into their feelings. We will read the books The Way I Feel written by, Janan Cain and I'm Frustrated by Elizabeth Crary. Why is this important? Students who can easily identify feelings tend to get along better with others and maintain friendships.

Second Grade

Second Grade students are learning to identify others' feelings based on physical, verbal, and situational clues. We will read the book I'm Mad written by, Elizabeth Crary. Why is this important? This will help children have empathy for others. Students will also learn that people can have different feelings about something and that feelings can change.

We will also be integrating the book "Have You Filled Your Bucket Today" into each Second Step lesson throughout the school year. We read the book with each class during their first lesson of the year and introduced another book called "Bucket Filling from A-Z." During the month of November most classes will listen to and discuss the following short poems.

I is for Invite

Invite someone who's new
To join in all the fun.
Their bucket will be filled
Because of what you've done.

J is for Joyful

Joyful is the feeling
Your grandma gives to you.
When you give her a hug,
She's hugging you back, too!

K is for Kindness

Kindness leads to happiness.
It will brighten up your day.
The thoughtful things you say and do
Will chase the blues away.

Art News...Mrs. Susan Giammarco

*The holidays are coming soon.
Looking for unique gifts for family and friends?
Check out the Artsonia.com giftshop!*



Login to Artsonia.com now to view your child's art gallery!

Your child's artwork can be made into a one of a kind gift item and help a worthwhile cause. If you wish to purchase personalized items such as note cards, ceramic mugs, T-shirts, tote bags, simply login to your child's account and order. No need to pick up orders at school because all gift items will be delivered right to your front door! Artsonia giftshop items make great holiday gifts. All proceeds from Artsonia orders will help support The Hebron Art Booster scholarship program. **Please Note:** Preschool students will be participating at a later date.

Featured Art Work



Second graders are creating a new twist on the original self-portrait lesson! Students drew their profile and will include all of their favorite things in a collage-style drawing. Lesson art concepts include overlapping, drawing off page and color blending.

Creative Fun for Families



WADSWORTH ATHENEUM MUSEUM OF ART

Second Saturdays for Families

December's Theme is Winter Forest

December 8th @ 10:00 am – 1:00 pm

Celebrate winter at 45th annual Festival of Trees & Traditions.

Explore the trees on display, then create your own wintery artworks

to take home or give as a gift to a friend.

Museum admission is free during Second Saturday activities!