100 DAYS!!!!

It’s hard to achieve, but not hard to believe because this group is awesome! The Lower Elementary department (grades Pre-K to 3rd) earned 100 PEACE DAYS!! As part of PBIS, this means that for 100 days straight, there were no office referrals for inappropriate behavior. WOW! This group really knows how to be Respectful, Responsible, and Resilient! Everyone celebrated last Friday with a pajama party that included blanket forts, pizza, popcorn, movies, dancing, and more! Congratulations to the students and teachers—keep the streak going!

Everyone together signing “100”

Holly

Guadalupe

Zaiden signs a heart.

Layla

Hayden

Le’Ondre

Dai’myah

Kingsley dances with Jamie A

Sleepyhead Allison

Autumn has fun!

Valentine’s Day is almost here! ASL students made cute Valentine’s decorations and Jenelle made some Valentine’s art in her art class.
**Absolute Math**

Students in Tiffany Brown’s 6th grade math class worked in groups to determine absolute value in real world situations. Absolute value is the true “size” of the number, without negative or positive. Cool!

Jenelle and Itzel work together. Jordyn and Diego find the answer. Braydence, Aaliyah, and Jose work as a team; Aaliyah explains how she solved the problem.

Trell and Raul feel the “mother” breathing; Trell checks out a nursing mannequin that looks like George Bush; Raul isn’t too sure about holding the new “baby!”

The topic for Rome High School Leadership this month was Education and the students visited 4 local colleges and universities: Georgia Northwestern Technical College, Georgia Highlands College, Shorter University, and Berry College. While at GNTC, the students were shown the labor and delivery mannequin that “births” a baby! It also simulates breathing, talking, and movement. Fascinating, if a bit creepy!

**Upcoming Events**

- February is Spay/Neuter Awareness Month
- Feb 13-19 Random Acts of Kindness Week
- 2/12 Autism Sunday
- 2/15 Susan B. Anthony Day
- 2/14 Valentine’s Day
- 2/15 & 2/16 Dorm shopping at Dollar General
- 2/21 Academic Bowl scrimmage vs ASD
- 2/11 Progress Reports sent home

**Rebekah Knisley**

Get to know GSD’s 4th & 5th grade Math & Science teacher!

**Favorite color:** green

**Home town:** Jefferson City, TN

**Pets:** 2 cats, Tiger (orange torbie) and Bagheera (black)

**What are you enjoying about working at GSD?** Getting to know and love my students!

**Favourite Place to Visit** Knoxville, where I attended college
As part of our ongoing 175th Anniversary celebration, GSD is bringing back the Little Miss GSD and Miss GSD Pageant! There are several age categories so students of all ages can participate. The pageant will be on 12 April and the deadline to register is 28 March. Full information and the registration form is attached to this newsletter and can also be found on our website. The pageant will be a lot of fun and a great experience for all involved. Questions? Contact Pageant chairs Jamie Herston or Candace Heflin.

Don’t forget about the FREE Sign It! account you can get for your family!! A fantastic, virtual way to improve your ASL skills! Make it your 2022 resolution to improve communication with your child. Complete the registration form attached or contact Marie at 706.331.6314.

In honor of GSD’s 175th Anniversary, we are bringing back the Miss GSD and Little Miss GSD Pageant!

**Date/Time:** Tuesday, April 12, 2022 @ 8:00pm

**Location:** Georgia School for the Deaf

**Entry Fee:** $20.00 (late entry, payable to Georgia School for the Deaf)

**Age Divisions:** 5-8 Years Old, 9-12 Years Old, 13-15 Years Old, 16 and Up

**Award Categories:**
- Miss Congeniality
- Pretty Miss GSD
- Little Miss GSD
- Junior Miss GSD
- Miss GSD

**Contest Guidelines:**
- Students participating in the pageant will need a pageant dress. This can be a Sunday/Church dress or worn formal if you wish.

**Order of Events:**
- Group Presentation, Individual Walk, Final Question

**Deadline to Enter:** March 29, 2023

**Questions:** contact Jamie Herston (Scherston@GSD.edu, 706-331-6310) or Candace Heflin (Candace.Heflin@GSD.edu)

**GSD has prepared and pageant dresses for students to win and choose from (started store and online).
SignIt! Account Registration

Great News! Many parents and family members wish there was a way to improve communication with their child, but ASL classes are not available in their area. SignIt! to the rescue! GSD has purchased licenses for ALL GSD families! SignIt! is virtual, so anyone can use it anytime. Access to SignIt! will be FREE for all GSD families. All you need to do is contact Marie Dickinson (706.331.6314, Talking Points app, or mdickinson@doe.k12.ga.us) OR fill out this form and she will get an account set up for your family. Don’t delay—get started with your FREE SignIt! account today!

Each family can have one account to share with everyone in the family.

First Name __________________________________________

Last Name __________________________________________

Email ____________________________________________ (this email address will only be used for your SignIt! account)

Student Name ______________________________________

We will set up your family’s account, then contact you with the username and password so you can get started!
Little Miss GSD & Miss GSD Pageant

Registration Form

Student Name ____________________________________________

Age _____________________________________________________

Registration Fee: $20.00 ______(check included) ______(pay via phone)

(Please include the registration fee with this registration form. Make checks payable to: Georgia School for the Deaf; you can also call Jennifer Sanford at GSD, 706-777-2200, to pay the registration fee via phone)

Registration Deadline: March 28, 2022

Pageant Guidelines

1. Dresses should be Church dresses or more formal

2. Dresses should be age appropriate

3. Hair and makeup should be age appropriate and should follow GSD’s dress code

Questions: contact Jamie Herston, jherston@doe.k12.ga.us OR Candace Heflin, cheflin@doe.k12.ga.us
All GSD students will graduate with a positive Deaf identity as bilinguals in American Sign Language and English, and will be prepared to make successful life choices.

Leslie D. Jackson, Superintendent
Sharion G. Gooden, Principal

Jamie Herston, Special Ed Director

Parents, Guardians, Families, and Students:

Beginning next week (Sunday, 13 February), masks/face coverings will be optional at GSD. Students and staff can wear masks or can choose to not wear a mask. This applies to school and the dorm. This is the revised policy for the State Schools Division.

Please note that federal law requires masks to be used on all school buses. Parents are responsible for providing their child with masks to wear on buses to and from GSD and while on GSD campus. This means that all students should continue bringing masks to school with them each week.

If you want your child to continue wearing a mask at school/in the dorm and want GSD staff to enforce that your child wears a mask, we will do our part to make sure your child wears a mask. Please be sure to send enough masks to school with your child.

If you want GSD staff to ensure your child wears a mask, please contact Marie Dickinson at 706.331.6314, via the Talking Points app, or mdickinson@doe.k12.ga.us.

Thank you,

Leslie D. Jackson
Superintendent