Deaf Awareness Month

International Week of the Deaf, started by the World Federation of the Deaf, is a time to spotlight issues important to the Deaf community. This year’s theme is “Reaffirming Deaf People’s Human Rights,” which addresses several topics. One is Inclusive Sign Language Environments. This is a critical need for Deaf and Hard of Hearing children. In order for successful language development to occur, the child needs inclusive sign language environments at home and school. Another topic is Equal Opportunities for All Deaf People. Deaf people should have the same access to employment, housing, services, and, critically, communication, as hearing people. For more information, you can visit http://wfdeaf.org/.

Deaf Culture

What is Deaf Culture? Like any culture, Deaf culture centers around shared language and history. Bill Vicars of ASL University states, “Deaf culture consists of the norms, beliefs, values, and mores shared by members of the Deaf community. We believe that it is fine to be Deaf. If given the chance to become hearing, most of us would choose to remain Deaf.” This belief that it is “fine” to be Deaf is a distinct attitude among members of the Deaf community. Deaf culture views Deafness as part of a valuable identity and culture as opposed to a pathological view of deafness as a disability and something that must be “fixed.” At GSD, we value Deaf culture and believe fostering a positive Deaf identity in our students is essential.

American Sign Language

Here in the US, American Sign Language (ASL), is not only a fully accessible language for people who are Deaf or Hard of Hearing, but an essential part of American Deaf Culture. So...how’s your ASL? Feeling a little rusty? Need help with specific topics like math or science? Feel like you are stuck at beginner level? Check out the resources on the GSD webpage! We recently reorganized and expanded our resources into one easy-to-use spreadsheet. Check it out today at https://www.gsdweb.org/asl.

Happy birthday to Le’Ondre! He was very excited to turn 5 last week! His class celebrated with cupcakes. Pictures: Le’Ondre beaming a smile with his cupcake. Autumn is wearing a birthday hat and signing the first part of “birthday.”

Students in Cory Richardson’s Physical Science class learned how to determine volume for solids, gases, and liquids.

Left: Haley stands beside a yard stick attached to the wall with a balloon on one end. She is measuring the volume of a gas.

Center: Daiva’nte uses an instrument to measure a solid.

Right: Justin uses a ruler to measure a solid.
Suicide Prevention Month

As part of Suicide Prevention Month, senior Jackie Williams gave a presentation to the high school students about the prevalence of suicide and resources and strategies that can be used if one is considering suicide, feeling depressed or anxious, or having other problems. Social Worker Jackie Blanchard explained how she is available to the students and additional counseling services can be provided if needed. The key takeaway: Don’t wait. If you need help, ask!

Get To Know GSD’s New Staff Members!

Mikaela Shimko, 4th/5th Social Studies & Science

Hi everyone! I am Mikaela “MK” Shimko. I teach upper elementary science and social studies. I love working with our staff to prepare our students for the GA Milestones. I am excited to reach my own, too! I started my dream job, rented my first house, and celebrated my 5th anniversary with my partner on Saturday. I look forward to putting down roots and finding my community here. Go Tigers!

Upcoming Events

- Thurs 10/8 Transportation Day
- Fri 10/9 No classes/Teacher workday
- Thurs 10/15 Flu shots
- Fri 10/16 End Quarter 1

Fire Safety

GSD’s 5th grade students participate in Floyd County’s Fire Safety program each year. Floyd County has been providing this valuable program for 44 years and we are grateful they include GSD. Due to COVID, the program’s first session was online. Loren Frick led the presentation and shared information about what help is available in case of a fire. These pictures of the students watching Loren present also show how GSD is socially distancing in the classroom.

Julie Burton’s ASL students don’t just grow their ASL skills, but their gardening skills, too! Students followed directions in ASL to successfully plant marigold seeds in pots with soil and water them. They will continue to care for their pots and learn more about how to tend plants. A fun and practical way to sharpen ASL receptive skills!

Left to right: Allie Kate, Christian, and Layla show off their pots. Their smiles are proof they enjoyed this activity!
Elementary and Middle School girls had a fun time playing “photo shoot” on a beautiful afternoon.

It seems like bad news is all we see on the news and social media. So how about some GOOD news??

When GSD reopened last month, there was some natural trepidation. Many wondered: Will the students remember to follow the safety guidelines? Well, we never should have doubted these GSD Tigers! Everyone is so impressed by the way the students have adapted to wearing masks, socially distancing, washing hands, etc.

One person who has definitely noticed how well the students are doing is Andy Gentry. Andy has been a paramedic for many years and now works at GSD as part of our maintenance team. He’s had a key role in the reopening as one of his duties these days is as a temperature checker! Andy says he’s so impressed by how the students wear their masks, wait patiently to have their temp taken—even ask him to take it if he passes them in the hallway!

The students aren’t the only one deserving recognition—the teachers are going above and beyond this quarter, teaching both in-person and virtually! It’s not easy to do both everyday, but GSD is fortunate to have so many amazing, dedicated teachers who are willing to go the extra mile to make sure all of our students receive the best education possible.

Kudos and huge gratitude to you all!!
The flu shot will be available at GSD on Thursday 15 October at 10 am. If you want your child to be vaccinated against the flu (highly recommended), please complete this form and return it to the school.
**First Round of Orders Due by Monday, September 28**

(2nd Round will be due October 13th)

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<tr>
<th>Name</th>
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<table>
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<th>How many shirts?</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>XS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mummy Long Sleeve with hood</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mummy Long Sleeve</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mummy Short Sleeve with hood</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mummy Short Sleeve</td>
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</table>

**DELIVERY?**
- Your mailing address:
  - 

**Shipping if applicable:**
- $8.00 for up to 2 shirts.
- If more than 2 shirts, please contact Loren for accurate shipping costs.

**Grand Total**

**Payment options:**
1. Cash
2. Check out to GSD with "GSD Apparel" on the memo line...
3. See Jeannie to pay using credit card.
4. Over the phone: Contact Jeannie @ (706)777-2249

Please turn this form and $/proof of payment to the front office at GSD or mail to:
- Jeannie Neuman
  232 Perry Farm Rd SW
  Cave Spring, GA 30124

Any questions? Please ask the following GSD Apparel students: Darison, Jackie, Nolan, or Rusia or e-mail Loren at lfrick@doe.k12.ga.us.

Thank you for supporting GSD PTDA!

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**I ❤️ MY MUMMY With GLOW IN THE DARK**

Available in short and long-sleeve youth and adult sizes!

Hand-sewn orange/white polka dot bow with an orange button!

**YES, WE CAN SHIP TO YOU!**

We ship using Priority Mail Padded Flat Rate.

Miss the deadline for the Mummy shirts? Don’t worry, there is a second order! Get your form in by 12 October for these cute shirts! Order forms are available on the GSD webpage or email Marie at mdickinson@doe.k12.ga.us.

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**Middle School Science**

Everyone knows if you hold ice in your hand, it will start to melt. But did you know it melts because of heat transfer through conduction? These 8th graders do now! Tiffany Hebert’s students participated in this experiment as part of a unit on the various methods of heat transfer.

Left to right: Raybon, Yovanni, Alex, and Adaivun. Everyone except Yovanni looks like they are trying not to laugh as the ice drips through their fingers. Yovanni is stoic despite his cold hand!
Looking for something fun to do on Saturdays? Check out Camp Juliena Journeys! Camp Juliena, a summer camp for Deaf and Hard of Hearing students provided by the Georgia Center for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing, is offering innovative new ways for families to engage in fun, Deaf-friendly activities virtually. Be sure to register at the website on the flyer for these fun events!

Did you know that people who are deaf can get a FREE video phone (VP)? If you don’t already have one in your home, please apply for one! The only requirement is high speed internet. With a VP, you can receive and make calls just like with a regular phone—but a video relay interpreter is there on the screen to facilitate communication if one of the callers is hearing. Having and knowing how to use a VP is also important for safety—your child could use it to call for help if needed. There are several VP providers—Sorenson, Purple, Convo (Deaf-owned), ZVRS—and they also have apps to use on the phone! Contact Marie if you need more information.

https://www.sorenson.com/
https://www.purplevrs.com/
https://www.zvrs.com/
https://www.convorelay.com/
# GSD Apparel

We have added Cricut Machine now!

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>GSD Mug</th>
<th>Stainless Steel Tumblers $15</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>$5</td>
<td>Holographic Green Vinyl!</td>
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<tr>
<td>![Mug Image]</td>
<td>- 2 font options: cursive or all caps</td>
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<td>- Wording options: “Go Tigers” or get it personalized!</td>
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>GSD STUDENT PULL-OVER HOODIES</th>
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<tr>
<td>$18-20</td>
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<tr>
<th>FRONT</th>
<th>50/50 Gildan Heavy Blend</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Colors: Forest Green Azalea</td>
<td>Hoodie has: Draw Strings Pockets</td>
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<tr>
<th>Adult and Youth Sizes!</th>
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**20 oz Stainless Steel Skinny Tumbler**
- Stainless steel straw and straw cleaner
- BPA free food grade stainless steel
- Double-Wall vacuum technology: keeps hot over 8 hours
- Fits most cup holders
GSD Apparel Order Form
First round of orders due by **Monday, October 5th**.

Name ___________________________  Cell Phone/Text ___________________________

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Adult Sizes—How many shirts?</th>
<th>S</th>
<th>M</th>
<th>L</th>
<th>XL</th>
<th>2XL (add $2)</th>
<th>3XL (add $4)</th>
<th>Total Cost</th>
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<td>Azalea</td>
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<th>L</th>
<th>XL</th>
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<td>GSD Youth Size Hoodie</td>
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<td>Forest Green</td>
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<td>GSD Youth Size Hoodie</td>
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Stainless Steel Tumbler $15 each
Choose one font:
Font: ___ Cursive  ___ Capital Letters

Choose one wording:
___ Go Tigers!
___ Personalized Name: _____________________________________

How many? ______

Grand Total

Payment options:
1. Cash
2. Check out to GSD with “GSD Apparel” on the memo line.
3. See Jeannie to pay using credit card.
4. Over the phone: Contact Jeannie @ (706) 777-2249

Please turn this form and $/proof of payment to the front office at GSD or mail to: Jeannie Newman, GSD, 232 Perry Farm Rd SW, Cave Spring, GA 30124

Any questions?
Please ask the following GSD Apparel students: Darison, Jackie, Nolan, and Rusia
or e-mail Loren at lfrick@doe.k12.ga.us.

Thank you for supporting GSD PTDA!