
JAMES GETTYS GAZETTE 2023



January 3, 2023

Dear James Gettys Families,

Happy New Year!

I do hope everyone had a relaxing and enjoyable holiday break. I enjoyed seeing the students' smiling faces as they returned this morning happy and eager to start the new year.

A Fresh Start: Every year at this time, as we begin a new year, many of us make resolutions and set personal goals. Some of these may be new commitments to things untried, others may be a recommitment to goals and expectations already established. With that said, now is the perfect time for all of us to review and recommit to our **Warrior Way**:

- Be Here: Every Day & On-time
- Be Involved: Participate, Engage, All In
- Be Committed: to our STAR Expectations: *Safe Choices, Take Responsibility, Achieve, Respect*
- Be Kind: Include others, kind words/choices

Our students have done a tremendous job of late, with our ticket jar being filled twice in the month of December. *Keep it up Amazing Warriors!!*

SNOW Make -Up Day: As our district called for a traditional snow-day on Dec. 22nd, March 17th was communicated as the make-up day. Please mark your calendars accordingly as school will be in session March 17th.

FID (Flexible Instructional Days): Previously, our school's FID plans were communicated with all families. Included in this newsletter (see pages 5-6) are another copy of those plans.

James Gettys PTO: Now is a great time to start anew and get involved with our PTO. Our PTO does so many great things for our students and staff. If you have never attended a meeting, won't you consider attending your first this year? January's meeting is scheduled for **Tuesday, January 10th at 7 p.m.** We always welcome and appreciate the support of all our families.

Together, Students-Staff-Families, WE will make 2023 the best ever!

Sincerely,

Mr. Wells



Happy January!

Let's fight the flu together!

This year especially with flu, RSV, and Covid being prevalent already, it's important to get your family vaccinated. It's one of the best ways to help protect yourself, along with good hand washing, eating well, getting plenty of rest, and staying home when feeling sick.

With the colder temps looking like they are here to stay, please remember to dress your child in a warm coat, hat, and gloves, they will be going out for recess. If you need any of these items please let us know.

In February Family First dental services will be returning to provide dental exams, x-rays, cleanings, fluoride treatments, sealants, and oral hygiene education. Before the winter break, a purple consent form will be coming home with your child. If you would like them to participate in this program, please complete the form and return it to school.

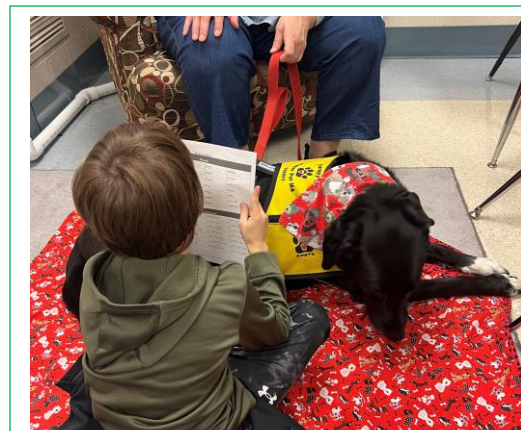
Bring on the New Year!

Melissa Weikert RN
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Meet Ms. Bonnie and Danny. They are a part of Keystone Pet Enhanced Therapy Services (KPETS). KPETS is a non-profit organization established to promote animal assisted therapy/animal assisted activities. KPETS provides a network of dependable registered pet therapy teams whose passion is Touching Lives & Warming Hearts by providing comfort, encouragement and rehabilitation through human/animal interaction.

Ms. Bonnie & Danny visit James Gettys every Wednesday. Students are able to interact with them individually or in small groups within the classroom along with Mrs. Effinger. Danny loves when students read to him, share their projects with him, or tell him about their own pets. He is a great listener!



JANUARY DATES TO REMEMBER:

- January 10 - PTO Meeting 7:00 in Library
- January 11 - Workout Wednesday
- January 13 - RIF Day
Marking Period Ends
- January 16 - No School, Martin Luther King
- January 19 - Theme Thursday - Beanie/Hat Day
- January 20 - PBIS Casual Day
- January 25 - 5th Grade Band/Orchestra Rehearsal, GAMS, 8:50-12:15
- January 26 - 4th Grade Band/Orchestra Rehearsal, GAMS, 8:50-12:15
4th and 5th Band/Orchestra Concert, GAMS 7:00
- January 27 - Amazing Warrior Assembly 1:00 and Quarterly Celebration 2:00

Tara Zimmerman, our GASD Family Navigator, will be at the following locations & dates listed below. Families are welcome to stop by and meet Tara if you have questions or concerns about anything related to, but not limited to: education, counseling, resources, school, needs, attendance, etc. - anything at all! Or, if you're just passing by, please stop by to say hello! You can find her here:

Gettysburg Public Library (basement) - January 13 from 9:00-11:00AM.

Gettysburg Starbucks (Peebles Plaza) - January 24 from 9:00-11:00AM.

All school menus are available on the James Gettys Homepage or at the following links:

JANUARY BREAKFAST MENU:

<https://www.gettysburg.k12.pa.us/site/handlers/filedownload.ashx?moduleinstanceid=1256&dataid=10999&FileName=Elementary%20Breakfast%20-%20January.pdf>

JANUARY LUNCH MENU:

<https://www.gettysburg.k12.pa.us/site/handlers/filedownload.ashx?moduleinstanceid=1256&dataid=11000&FileName=Elementary%20Lunch%20-%20January.pdf>



Dear James Gettys Families,

*Thank you for "Being the Torch" by supporting the **Kid's Heart Challenge** this year! We had a record-breaking student registration year of students accepting the challenge to "Be Kind" or "Move More". We also exceeded our donation goal for the **American Heart Association** of \$5,000!*

*First grade registered the most students with Mrs. Raffensberger's class winning the "Frankie" (Be a Leader) clips for 100% registration! Second grade was top in donations. Mrs. Seibert's class lead the way with the generous help of the top donor in the school, Lemar Fazenbaker! Mrs. Seibert's class received the "Hearty" (Be Kind and Help Others) clips. 25 families completed Finn's CPR challenge! 14 families completed 8 of Finn's Missions! Two student's opened golden eggs in Dr. Schiefer's class! Her class will be entered into a drawing to win a visit from Finn and his mother 😊. I was able to redeem my **AHA** rewards points for 15 **KHC** basketballs for our school!*

*During this event, all students were engaged in vigorous heart stations and learned the benefits of making **BEST** choices for their hearts and minds through the **KHC characters**! **A special thank you to Rice Fruit Co. for generously donating beautiful crisp apples which promoted choosing a nutritious snack to refuel after exercising.** Please continue to reinforce healthy choices throughout the school year with your child 😊.*

All prizes that needed to be ordered for students will arrive in 3-4 weeks and will be delivered at school.

With a grateful heart,

Mrs. Pecaitis

Good Afternoon Gettysburg Elementary Families,

We hope that everyone has experienced a great start to the school year and is looking forward to our upcoming winter break. As the possibility for winter weather approaches, we wanted to provide you with some information and expectations in the event that the Gettysburg Area School District would move to a Flexible Instructional Day (FID). During a Flexible Instructional Day (FID), students will learn from home and engage in flexible learning based upon the schedule and expectations below.

- **Emergency FID** (students do not have their devices at home) - If an emergency FID or electrical outage/other emergency issue occurs, please utilize the teacher FID folder that will be sent home on 12/16/2022.
- **Planned/Anticipated FID** (students have their devices at home) - If it is a planned/anticipated FID, students will be sent home with their Chromebooks and follow the schedule below.

K-5 Flexible Learning Schedule

- **9:00-11:00**

- Classroom teachers will release asynchronous (self-paced/adult supported) learning activities to students by 9am.
- Activities may include Seesaw, ConnectEd, ThinkCentral, offline/non-tech activities, Discovery Education, math games, Freckle, teacher-created activities, Lexia, Google Classroom, Journeys, 95%, etc.
- Teachers will also be available during this time frame to assist students with their learning activities via email, Seesaw Messages, zoom, etc.

- **11:00-12:30**

- Lunch and Recess

- **12:30-2:45**

- Students will continue to work on their assignments released by their classroom teachers.
- Classroom and support teachers will be meeting with small groups/individuals
- **Specials/Counselors**

- Teachers will release learning activities to the classes they teach each day prior to their normally scheduled special time.
- Counselors will release learning activities to students via Seesaw by 11 am.
- Assignments should be no more than 20-30 minutes and are due prior to the next scheduled special class for that specific special (4 days). This provides more flexibility to families and allows for changes due to unforeseen circumstances.
- **Special Education/Reading Specialist/ESL/Speech**
 - Teachers will reach out to students/families to provide support on classroom learning activities and additional learning opportunities to meet the needs of individual students.

Attendance: Students earn daily attendance through daily engagement measure(s): ○ Completed/Submitted tasks and asynchronous learning activities

- A student is considered absent if the student does not have documented engagement with the learning activities **or** daily contact with the teacher **or** documentation of completion/turn-in of daily assignments.

Thank you for your support with this process.

Sincerely,

The Gettysburg Elementary School Principals