

Gateway Middle School Newsletter



November 29,
2024



Principal's Message

Happy December! As the holiday season begins, we are filled with gratitude for our incredible school community and the many ways we come together to support our students and one another.

First, I want to thank everyone who participated in our recent Cowboy's Caviar fundraiser. Your generosity and enthusiasm helped make this event a tremendous success! The funds raised will directly benefit our students, enhancing programs and activities that create meaningful experiences here at our school.

This month, we are excited to share some wonderful events that highlight the talents and spirit of our students. Our Junior Band will be performing their much-anticipated concert, showcasing the hard work and dedication they've put into their

music. Be sure to mark your calendars for this special performance!

We also look forward to seeing many of you at our Family Christmas Night, a cherished tradition where we come together to celebrate the season with festive activities, warm connections, and holiday cheer. It's the perfect way to end the year on a high note.

As always, thank you for your partnership and support. Wishing you and your families a joyful holiday season and a happy, healthy New Year!

Warm regards,

Mrs. Angela Ellis

In this newsletter
you can expect:

Christmas
Festivities

Important Dates

Screen Time
Awareness
Week

Top AR Earners

Board Games @
Lunch

Basketball

Family Christmas Night

We're excited to invite all students and their families to Gateway's Annual Family Christmas Night! Join us on **Thursday, December 12th**, from 7:00–8:30 PM for an evening of holiday fun and togetherness.

Enjoy a variety of festive activities, including:

- Cookie decorating (\$1.00 per cookie)
- Board games
- A photobooth
- Make-and-take craft stations

Warm up with complimentary apple cider and hot chocolate!



New this year:

The SCC is hosting a **Family Picture Fundraiser** in the library. For just \$10, you can have a professional photo taken in front of a beautiful Christmas backdrop, with a digital copy sent to you the next day.

We can't wait to celebrate the season with you and your family!

Indoor Fun for Winter Lunch Hours

As the winter chill sets in, students will have the option to stay indoors during lunch recess on scheduled days to enjoy board games in the library with friends. It's a great way to stay warm, have fun, and build connections!

JSMS Winter Play

We have been invited to watch Jonas Samson's Winter Play, "The Grinch," on Friday, December 13th, at 10:15 AM. We plan to walk over, but if the weather is unsuitable busses will be booked. We look forward to enjoying this festive performance with our students!

Top AR Earners- November

1. Parker Evans - 290.4
2. Chase Nicholson - 128.5
3. Onyx Aubichon - 109.1
4. Eli Cappelle - 106.7
5. Luke Nicholson - 106.4
6. Kian Amisola - 100.2
7. Kyan Benedicto - 75.7
8. Kaden Angus - 70.9
9. Jaren Bear - 65.9
10. Isuka Peduru Hewage - 57.9
11. Cody Munro - 52.7
12. Nate Cappelle - 51.2
13. Ellie Myette - 47.9
14. William Pickett - 46.5
15. Trevor Thompson - 42.7
16. Dane Semeniuk - 42.4
17. Conner Neufeld - 41.0
18. Sakindu Dammalage - 40.5
19. Madisyn Holmes - 39.0
20. Payton Wall - 34.5
20. Trey Ludwig - 34.5

Christmas Activity Afternoon

As a festive tradition, Gateway School hosts a Christmas Activity Afternoon on the last day of classes before the holiday break. Students will have the opportunity to sign up for a variety of fun and engaging activities, including:

- Floor hockey
- Basketball
- Speed stacking
- Mini-stick hockey
- Rocks and Rings curling
- Crafts
- Board games
- Coloring



We look forward to celebrating the season with an afternoon filled with excitement and holiday cheer!

Dates to Remember

- **CHRISTMAS BAND CONCERT @ CHS**
December 11 - 7pm
- **FAMILY CHRISTMAS NIGHT**
December 12 - 7-8:30pm
- **SCREEN TIME AWARENESS WEEK**
December 9-13
- **GRINCH** Performance @ Jonas (All Students)
Dec. 13 - 10:15 - 11:30am
- **BOYS HOME BASKETBALL TOURNY**
December 13 - 14
- **CHRISTMAS FEAST**
Free Christmas Dinner for all students!
December 18
- **CHRISTMAS ACTIVITY AFTERNOON**
December 20

Band Christmas Concert

Join us for an evening of music and talent as Gateway Middle School and Jonas Samson Middle School come together for their first concert of the year!

 Date: Wednesday, December 11th
 Location: Carpenter High School Theater
 Time: 7:00 PM

Admission is by donation, with all proceeds supporting band instrument repairs and purchases for GMS and JSMS.

We look forward to seeing you there and celebrating the season with beautiful music!

“Take Care of Each Other”



Scent Aware School

To ensure a safe and comfortable environment for all, Gateway is committed to being a scent-aware school. To support this initiative, we kindly ask everyone to follow these guidelines:

- Aerosol products are not permitted at school.
- Avoid wearing strong perfumes or colognes.
- Choose mild-scented or scent-free deodorant.

Thank you for helping us create an inclusive and welcoming space for everyone in our school community!



Basketball

Our Junior Basketball programs have begun and we are excited for our young athletes to compete.

Practices:

Girls: Monday & Wednesday 3:30 - 5:00

Boys: Tuesday & Thursday 3:30 - 5:00

The boys' home tournament is scheduled for December 13th and 14th and the girls' home tournament is scheduled for January 10th and 11th.

Our Grade 5/6 basketball program will start after the Christmas break.

Screen Time Awareness Week

Throughout the week of **December 9 - 13**, students will participate in Screen Time Awareness Week. This initiative will include engaging classroom activities, meaningful discussions, and a fun Screen-Free Activity Bingo challenge!

Strategies to Limit Screen Time:

- **Set time limits:** Use timers or alarms to manage screen usage.
- **Create screen-free zones:** Keep areas like the dining table and bedrooms device-free.
- **Engage in alternative activities:** Encourage hobbies like reading, crafting, sports, or outdoor play.
- **Model healthy habits:** Adults can lead by example with balanced screen usage.
- **Schedule device-free family time:** Plan activities like board games, cooking, or walks together.

We're excited to explore ways to balance screen time and foster meaningful connections!

Thank you for reading!

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