

# GES Smoke Signal

Empowering Each Child to Design the Future

## Keep Your Child in School for the "Home Stretch"

It's hard to believe that the school year is almost over. Just as the jockeys know a horse race is often won when their horse charges on through the home stretch, it's vital for your child to be in school for the "home stretch," too - working hard in every class until the final bell on the last day of school.



Our goal is to provide your child with the very best education possible every day of the school year. The weather may be great, but don't be tempted to take your child out of school. The best experience you can give your child is the opportunity to learn. To motivate your child to attend school during the final days of the year:

- ▶ **Maintain routines.** The days may be longer, but your child still needs plenty of rest to do well in school. Stick with regular bedtime and morning routines.
- ▶ **Know what's happening.** The end of the year is always an exciting time filled with learning opportunities, important exams, and fun events for students and families. Check the school calendar with your child. Together, write important dates on your family calendar.



- ▶ **Share your enthusiasm.** Your excitement about all that's happening at school is the best way to motivate your child to attend.

May 8-10 and

May 13 - 17

**SC Ready and SC Pass Testing**

*See Teacher Newsletter for Your Child's Testing Dates*

May 22

**5th Grade Recycling Assembly**

May 23

**Green Team Field Study**

May 24

**Field Day**

*Times on Page 2*

May 27

**Memorial Day Holiday No School**

May 31

**Hello Summer! Dance for 3rd and 4th Grade**

2:30 - 4:30 pm

*Cafeteria*

---

## 3rd Grade Brings Learning to Life During South Carolina History Week

During South Carolina History week, our 3rd graders had the opportunity to bring our science and history standards to life! Throughout the week, we had different guest speakers share their knowledge with our students.

Mr. Pender, a Native American, shared the history of Native Americans in South Carolina and told stories that have been passed down for generations. The Historic Columbia Foundation shared what life was like for children during Civil War times. Students had the opportunity to play games the children played back then, and they were able to write their names with a feather pen and ink. We had a SC author, Jonathan Miller, come in and share stories of his writing and illustrations. We ended the week with Mr. Poppy with Savannah River Ecology Lab. He brought in animals that are native to South Carolina and talked about their life cycles, habitats, and adaptations. Some of the favorite animals were the alligators, owl and coyote. We had a wonderful week full of learning!



---

### GES Field Day - Friday, May 24



5th Grade - 8:00  
4th Grade - 9:55  
3rd Grade - 12:20

Students should wear appropriate shoes, a hat, sunglasses, and sunblock! Please send water with your student as well!

Gilbert Elementary School and GES PTO publish Smoke Signal monthly for GES parents and PTO members from 314 Main Street, Gilbert, SC 29054. Editor: Kim Patterson, Principal: P. Heath Branham, PTO President: Laurie Coggins, SIC Chairperson: Tim Willis. In partnership with the community and Lexington School District One, the mission of GES, to develop a caring community where ALL learners communicate, collaborate, create, and think critically, is accomplished by providing challenging instructional programs characterized by innovative teaching and active learning. Lexington County School District One: Superintendent, Dr. Greg Little; Board of Trustees: Chair - Cynthia S. Smith, Vice Chair - Anne Marie Green, Secretary - Dr. Brent M. Powers, and Members - Michael E. Anderson, Jada Boatwright Garris, Dr. R. Kyle Guyton, and Timothy F. Oswald. On the World Wide Web: <http://ges.lexington1.net/> and SC Department of Education at [www.ed.sc.gov](http://www.ed.sc.gov).

Lexington County School District One is committed to a policy of nondiscrimination and equal opportunity for all students, parents/legal guardians, staff, visitors, personnel and community members who participate or seek to participate in its programs or activities. Therefore, the district does not discriminate against any individual on the basis of race, religion, sex (including pregnancy, childbirth, or any related medical conditions), color, disability, age, genetic information, national origin, or any other applicable status protected by local, state, or federal law. The district will use the grievance procedures set forth in policy to process complaints based on alleged violations of Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964; Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964; Title IX of the Education Amendments Act of 1972; Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973; the Age Discrimination Act of 1975; the Age Discrimination in Employment Act of 1967; the Equal Pay Act of 1963; the Genetic Information Nondiscrimination Act of 2008; and Titles I and II of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990. The district designates specific individuals to handle inquiries or complaints. To find out who to contact and how to contact them, please go to our website at <http://www.lexington1.net/contact-us>.