

OCTOBER  
2024



GLADEWATER  
ISD

# BEAR NATION DISTRICT NEWSLETTER



WELCOME TO  
THE 4 DAY  
SCHOOL WEEK

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### *Gladewater Primary*

ESL Family Night

Date October 8, 2024

Time 6 - 7 pm

### **GHS Homecoming**

Date: October 11, 2024

Jack V. Murphy Stadium



Gladewater Primary School



**Homecoming Week**

**October 8 - 11**

# **GHS HOMECOMING**

**DRESS-UP DAYS**

**Tuesday- DUO day!**

Pick a pal and dress as a **DYNAMIC DUO!**

**Wednesday-PINK out!**

Wear pink to support breast cancer awareness!

**Thursday-DECADES day!**

dress in your favorite decade, try to guess which decade every one is

**Friday-BEARS!**

**BRING ALL THE BEAR PRIDE**



# Gladewater Primary Wee Bears



## GPS CELEBRATIONS!

PTO helped GPS staff  
celebrate a successful 9  
weeks with coffee delivery!

Thank you, PTO!

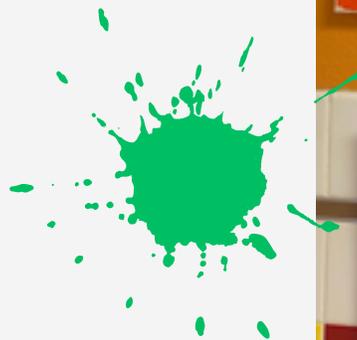
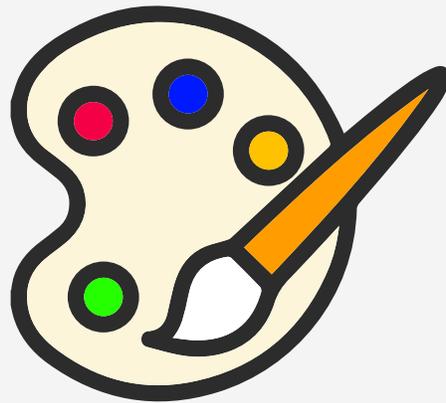
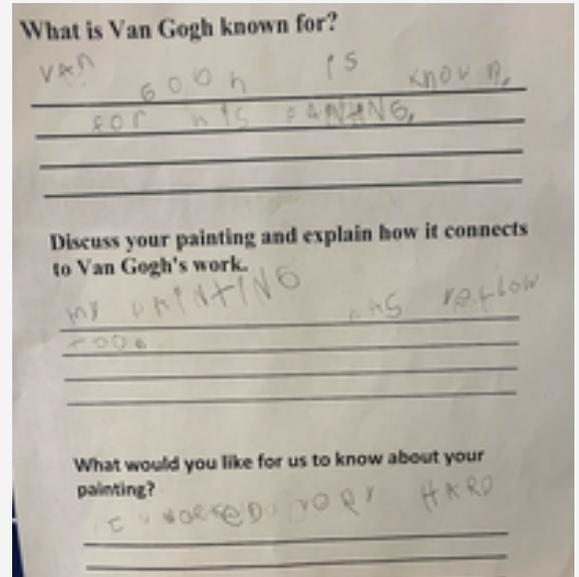


GPS celebrates students who exhibit positive character traits.  
We are proud of the contributions our wee bears are making!



# WEE BEAR ARTISTS

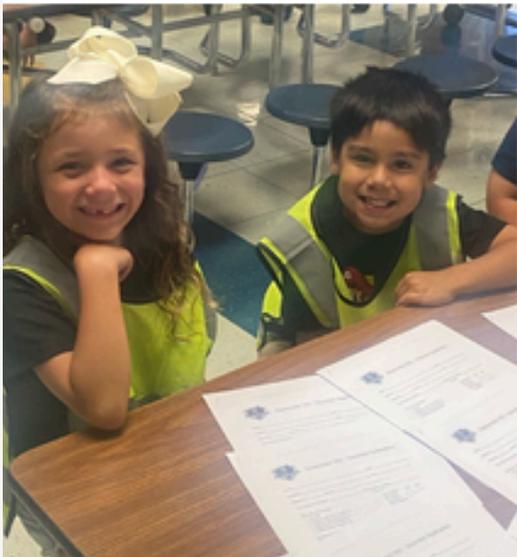
Students at GPS are working hard to understand the decisions that artists make in order to create their own works of art.



## GPS Parent Night

GPS students helped facilitate parent night by greeting guests, serving popcorn and drinks, and inviting parents to sign up to sub and volunteer.

Many prizes were won! It was awesome to see students lead such a fun night.



# GPS Events



**GLADEWATER PRIMARY SCHOOL**

## BILITERACY FAMILY NIGHT

Are you ready to unleash your literacy superpowers? Discover your hidden talents, learn cool new skills, and team up with other awesome families like you!

**TUESDAY, OCTOBER 8, 2024 AT 5:30-6:30 PM**

**PIZZA PRIZES**

Wear your favorite superhero T-shirt or costume

For more information contact  
Mrs. Mitchell  
903-845-2245  
villarrealmitchell@gladewaterisd.com



**GLADEWATER PRIMARY SCHOOL**

## NOCHE FAMILIAR DE ALFABETIZACIÓN BILINGÜE

¿Estás listo para desatar tus superpoderes de alfabetización? ¡Descubre tus talentos ocultos, aprende nuevas habilidades interesantes y forma equipo con otras familias increíbles como tú!

**MARTES, 8 DE OCTUBRE DE 2024  
5:30-6:30 P.M.**

**COMIDA PREMIOS**

Usa tu favorito camiseta de superhéroe o disfraz

Para mas información contacte  
Mrs. Mitchell 903-845-2245  
villarrealmitchell@gladewaterisd.com



**SAVE THE DATE**  
**OCT 25<sup>th</sup>**

**Gladewater Primary**  
**FAMILY FALL FEST**





# Gladewater Middle School

## GO CUBS!

Can you believe the sweltering days of our famous Texas summers are ever so slowly starting to fade into the background, and give space for autumn to slip right into its parking space? Here at Gladewater Middle School, the walls have been bursting at the seams with students actively engaged in learning across all content areas.

Whether it is learning about rational numbers from Ms. Dean and Ms. Robertson during the Math Olympics or students moving from station to station during Ms. Smith's Science class exploring which objects would and would not conduct electricity, the students are diving head first into learning through hands-on experiences that encourage curiosity, and some good ole' fashioned healthy struggle, as they work their way through a myriad of difficult academic tasks.

We are seeing rapid growth in our ELA and Social Studies classes where students are able to rock their writing assessments using the R.A.C.E or re-state, answer the question, cite, and explain strategy (if you are more of the wordy type.)

As all of you know, this shift to the four day school week has had so many positive impacts on our school, one is a hyper focused commitment to intentional planning to ensure that learning is happening from bell to bell in each and every classroom, every single day, as we are all keenly aware that we have absolutely zero time to take our eyes off the ball.

On top of all of the academics, this Bear Nation has shown up and came here to PLAY on the football field, the volleyball courts, cheering at the games, and flying right by all of us while running for our cross country team. We just simply don't have enough space on this newsletter to fit all of the bragging we would like to do about our students and this GMS community.

As always... Be in the right place, doing the right thing, and doing it all the time.

**BE KIND & GO BEARS**

# Homecoming 2024



**G M S**



# WELDON ELEMENTARY



## Reading Skills We Often Overlook: The Importance of Experience and Background Knowledge

Students need to have some language experience and background knowledge in order to become strong readers. Background knowledge is crucial so that your student can read, then have some context to understand what he or she is reading.

1. **Contextual Understanding:** Background knowledge helps readers make sense of the text.
2. **Vocabulary:** Readers with prior knowledge are likely to understand and infer meanings of new words and phrases within the text.
3. **Schema:** When readers encounter familiar concepts, their mental frameworks (or schemas) activate. Schema is a fancy way of saying "experience" or "background knowledge."
4. **Engagement and Motivation:** When readers are engaged with the content, they are more likely to invest effort into understanding the material. They'll be motivated to read and learn more.
5. **Critical Thinking:** Background knowledge provides the foundation for basic understanding of texts, making it easier for readers to engage in critical thinking and discussions about the material. At Weldon, students are growing into students who read to learn. They spend some years learning to read, but eventually the intent shifts to **READING to LEARN**.

You can help build up your child's experience and background knowledge in a few simple ways. To start with, have a real conversation about anything that is interesting to you: space, plants, animals, cars, clothing, foods you love, movies you like watching, places you have visited, or even what it used to be like when you were a child. Put the phones and tablets away and talk to each other to build vocabulary. Secondly, you can visit places around our town and learn many interesting things. Our town has old buildings; banks, mansions, theaters, and hospitals. Our town has railroad tracks that lead to many places and carry important goods and materials. Our town has a museum. Our town has a unique history in the oil and gas industry. Our town has a lake with lots of interesting things to see and do.



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# Upcoming Holidays



**November 25 -29, 2024**

**December 23 - January 3**





# Child Nutrition

by: Keisha Ferguson



Here at Gladewater ISD, we strive to better ourselves and our staff members in Child Nutrition. We believe that a full and happy belly makes a happy and ready to learn child.

We are always looking for healthier meal choices and better quality of food suppliers to use for our district. Our Cafeteria Managers and Child Nurtrition Director attended the Region 8 Food Show, and will attend the Food Show at Region 7 in October, so we have a better understanding of all the newest products. We all learned about the new choices, new suppliers, and new menu items that are available. It's a fun and educational way to bring our kids the best Breakfast and Lunch menus that we can.



# TX IMPACT SUMMIT

by Kim Dolese



## Sustainability & Success: Texas Educator Panel

Dozens of education leaders and educators gathered in San Antonio, Texas, to attend the TX IMPACT Summit Regional training hosted by NIET.

Highlights included an insightful speaker panel with leaders in their state, hosted by NIET's Senior Specialist Carrie Pullins and Somerset ISD's Deputy Superintendent Sheila Collazo:

- Deborah Revels, Principal, Crockett High School
- Derrick Floyd, Principal, Gladewater High School
- Christy Carter, Mentor Teacher, Gladewater Primary School
- William Mock, Executive Master Teacher and NIET Fellow, Somerset High School
- Mary Rodriguez, Principal, Barrera Veterans Elementary School

The panelists answered and discussed tools to ensure sustainability and success of instructional leadership teams, the powerful impact of cluster meetings on teacher effectiveness and student outcomes, and the connection between different layers of support in a school system.



GO  
bears





## **New Transportation Director**

Hunter Hopkins

WE ARE EXCITED TO WELCOME HUNTER HOPKINS TO GLADEWATER ISD AS OUR NEW TRANSPORTATION DIRECTOR. MR. HOPKINS HAS PREVIOUSLY WORKED IN PINE TREE AND GRAND PRAIRIE ISD IN THEIR TRANSPORTATION DEPARTMENTS.

MR. HOPKINS STATED “AS THE DIRECTOR OF TRANSPORTATION FOR GLADEWATER ISD, MY TOP PRIORITY IS THE SAFETY OF THE STUDENTS, AND MY TEAM. I LOOK FORWARD TO BUILDING A WELCOMING CULTURE HERE AT GISD TRANSPORTATION, AND PROVIDING THE STUDENTS OF GISD WITH THE SAFEST AND MOST EFFICIENT TRANSPORTATION. GO BEARS!”





by Avon Bateman

**We hope everyone is happy the first 9 weeks are behind us. The technology department has fully transitioned to the 2FA (Two Factor Authentication) we had been talking about last year. Due to changes outside of Gladewater ISD we have had one of the hardest starts in a long while. These issues caused Clever our SSO (Single Sign-On) to have issues with data integration. Another issue we had was changes Google made which caused chromeOS (chromebooks) to hiccup and not work properly. Thankfully you all have been very patient with us as we steadily worked to address these issues during the start of a school year. I'm glad to say we have made it out of those troubles and things are starting to get back to normal. We are excited about things coming this school year and look forward to serving you all.**

# NEWS FROM Maintenance

by Samuel Walker

**We are pleased to announce the successful completion of the Weldon Auditorium repairs. After extensive work to enhance its structure and aesthetics, the auditorium is now ready to host events once again. These improvements not only ensure the safety and comfort of our guests but also elevate the overall experience for our community. In addition to the auditorium updates, we are excited to share progress on our energy management initiative at both GPS and GMS, with WES and GHS to follow. These efforts are to reduce energy consumption and promote sustainability and comfort across our facilities. We appreciate your support throughout these projects and look forward to welcoming you back to Weldon Auditorium for upcoming events. Together we are making strides toward a more sustainable future.**



**Weldon  
Auditorium**

