

**NEWS FROM THE CLASSROOM, Mrs. Civiello:**

“I’m using *ClassDojo* to keep our parents in the loop this year! We share photos from class, important updates, and wonderful moments — like when students work hard and help each other. Towards the end of each day my students and I have a conversation about positive work habits and how they help us be successful in school. The students love being recognized for what they are doing and it sets an encouraging tone in our classroom community!”

***RESPONSIBILITY –***

The state or fact of having a duty to deal with something, or a moral obligation to do something.  
Trustworthiness, reliability.

We all share the responsibility to make Golden Hill a great place to live and learn. We are responsible when we know what we should do, are able to do it, and...DO IT!



Hello Golden Hill Parents:

Second graders at Golden Hill have been practicing mindfulness through weekly lessons from the MindUp Program. Mindfulness helps children notice their thoughts in the moment, how their body feels, what their ears are hearing, and anything that’s happening around them. Mindfulness helps children improve focus through relaxation. Lessons always start with a “centering” exercise; sitting quietly and comfortably while listening to a brief sound. It is soothing and relaxing. Children learn about their brains. They are taught that through practice they have the power to better control their brains.

Here are a few simple ways to help your child practice mindfulness at home:

1. Try mindfulness yourself. Sit quietly for a minute while closing your eyes and focusing on your steady breathing.
2. Ask them to tell you about the mindfulness lesson that week, especially what they experienced and learned.
3. At supper time ask your child to eat mindfully by eating slowly and describing in words what they are tasting. Is the food salty, sweet or creamy?
4. At bedtime have them breathe in silence for one minute with a stuffed toy on their belly and notice how the toy moves up and down. Tell them to imagine that the thoughts that come into their minds turn into bubbles and float away.

**All About Math –**

Making sense of problems can be hard, so try these strategies to help you...

- Think about a plan before jumping in.
- Try to remember a similar problem you have done before.
- Draw a picture/model to make sense of the problem.
- Try a different approach if you get stuck, but don't give up.
- Always check to make sure you answer makes sense.



**From Mrs. Rodriguez:**

*My eagle eye is spying students who are working hard to follow the **SOAR** motto! Just this week Mrs. Doyle's*

*classroom earned an extra recess for demonstrating*

**SOAR**



*behaviors in the cafeteria.*

*I saw .....*

**Stay Safe=** a safe and orderly line coming into the cafeteria and exiting the cafeteria

**Outstanding Attitude =** giving each other encouragement for following the rules

Have fun,  
Mr. Rosso

**Home and Reading Connection:**

Reading and creating a love for reading begins at home. Here are some useful tips to support your child in reading that you can use at home.

- Give your child lots of opportunity to read. Read every day! Listen to your child read or read a book to your child.
- Re-read a favorite book. This is great for practice in accuracy and fluency.
- Ask questions about the story. Make the questions open-ended. Questions like, “Why do think the character did that?” or “What is the character feeling and how do you know?”
- Give your child time to figure out unfamiliar words. Be patient. Have them “chunk” the word.
- Make sure your child is reading at book that is “just right” for them. Reading should be fun and enjoyable, not frustrating. Ask you child to read a page to you. If there are more than 5 words they stumble over or do not know, then the book is too hard. Remind them to look at the picture to see if it can help them.
- Play with words! Use magnetic letters to make words, and then change letters to make new words. Sing rhymes and 'jump rope' songs. Talk about what words mean and how they might be like other words you know.
- Be a model reader yourself! Let your children see you read!



Mrs.  
Frieswick's



Floating Museum  
At Golden Hill



Mrs. Frieswick was working with students who noticed the qualities of the “owls” in the museum, and then students used random objects to create 3-D owls (far right picture is an example). Our Golden Hill Eagles were very creative with making their Owls! This type of work taps into the creativity that is so important in problem solving, and synthesizing knowledge.



**The first thing to do to be ready for the test...BE HERE ☺**



Being on time and focused on your lesson is a simple way to make sure you are ready to learn, and prepared to show your stuff!

This year most grade 4 students will taking the test as a computer based test, these students have been practicing using the computers and will be ready to do there best. Stay tuned for the testing calendar!

**From the Golden Hill PTO:** Next meeting is March 15<sup>th</sup>, at 4pm. We would love to see you!!

The Yankee Candle Fundraiser is due the 20<sup>th</sup> of March.

Welcome new staff, Mr. Paul Loan our new custodian! Mr. Loan is a veteran, and also has extensive experience in maintenance and industrial work. We are glad to have him as part of the Golden Hill team!!

To all our community who have a special place for St. Patrick's Day – Enjoy the 17<sup>th</sup>!

Some St. Patrick's Day Wisdom - “Be true to your work, your word, and your friends.”

