



Panther Press

A publication of the Georgia Academy for the Blind

Friday, December 4th, 2020

This institution is an equal opportunity provider

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Georgia Academy for
the Blind - GAB



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Mission Statement: The Georgia Academy for the Blind provides quality education services to Georgia's students with visual impairments and/or visual impairments in conjunction with other disabilities to prepare them to achieve their highest level of independence in transition to college and career readiness. *Check out this student produced video featuring this Mission Statement:* <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IRrbhkGSe98>



Give it your best
Achieve your goals
Be respectful

Mark your Calendar

Holiday Spirit Week:
December 14th through 17th: -
Please see page 4 in this newsletter
to be ready for Holiday Cheer Attire.

**Holiday Break— Starts December
18th through January 1st. School
starts back January 4th.**

December 4th, 2020 is National Cookie Day!

The History of National Cookie Day. In 1987 Matt Nader of the San Francisco-based Blue Chip Cookie Company created Cookie Day, saying: *"It's just like having National Secretaries Day... It will just be a fun thing to do."* This fun and sweet holiday was also championed by The Cookie Monster from Sesame Street.



This newsletter is published by our Parent Mentor/Family Engagement Specialist, Jennifer Minter. Please send your ideas, news and resources in your community to her: JMinter@doe.k12.ga.us or call **478-262-3303**. **Please remember to contact her if you've had a change in address, phone number and/or email!**

A message from our Superintendent



Dear GAB Family,

I hope this letter finds you fat and sassy from Thanksgiving break. Now we are in December and 2020 is flying by in the rearview mirror! (Goodbye 2020!) Consider the thoughts below which were recently shared with our GAB staff.

Challenges in life come in three categories: **EASY, DIFFICULT, AND IMPPPOSSIBLE!**

Those who take the **“easy”** way have a safe and boring life.

Those who take the **“difficult”** way have a tough but satisfying life.

And those taking the **“impossible”** way are remembered forever.

Which way are you taking?

Truly the holiday season is a time to band together to say Whatever! (Please do not roll your eyes!) We'll create joy one way or another the GAB Way! Students and staff have a week of festivity to look forward to later this month, and we assure you pictures of revelry. Every student will receive a specially selected gift from the GAB family.

Be reminded that 1st semester continues thru January 15, 2021, so there will be no changes in your online/onsite choice requirements before then. We are awaiting requested approval to continue your chosen virtual or in-person instructional selections thru Friday, March 19, 2021. Updates will be provided as available.

At this time we ask that appointments/call ahead be made before visiting the campus. Under our COVID-19 protocol, we ask that you buzz the office upon arrival at the door and wait for office personnel to assist you. Wellness check and masks are required. Staff have been instructed to remind you to follow this protocol for the safety of all.

Thank you all for your overcoming spirit throughout the 2020 Experience. That's a euphemism, for sure! The joy of working with you is indescribable, and we wish your families a strong finish for the season!

Always,

Cindy

Congratulations to Chris O'Neill!

Chris, who is enrolled at Hutchings College & Career Academy, was selected as the TAAP (Teaching As A Profession) student of the month for October. Ms. Shivon Pearson, his instructor, made these remarks about Chris' selection, " The characteristic being honored is Integrity. You've demonstrated this characteristic by being honest and engaging during class, taking responsibility for your actions, completing your own assignments, logging in on time and staying the duration of the class period."





Holiday Spirit Week December 14-17, 2020

Monday: Merry Morning Monday! – Wear your favorite holiday themed pajamas.

Tuesday: Jingle Bells and Candy Canes – Wear red and white and/or your favorite holiday accessories (vests, ties, earrings, head accessories, etc.). Make it fun and festive!

Wednesday: Holiday Sweater Day – Ugly or cute, wear your favorite holiday sweater to represent the season.

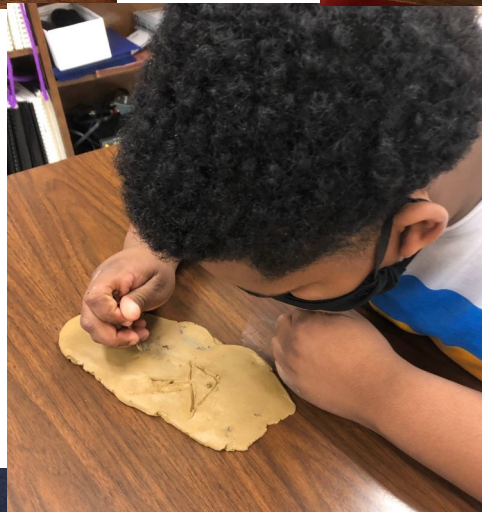
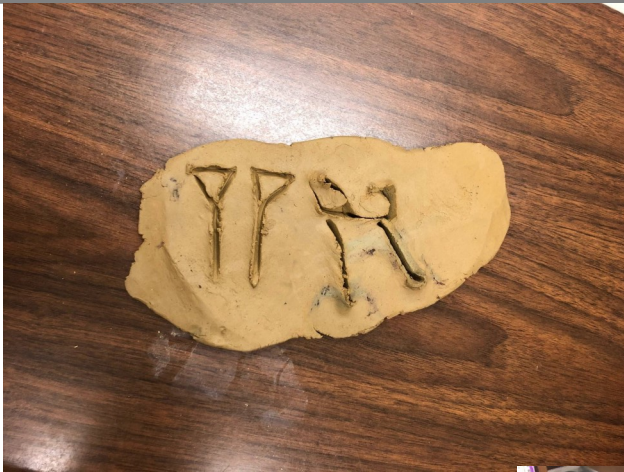
Thursday: Holiday Character Day & The Twelve Days of Christmas – Either dress up as your favorite holiday character from your favorite holiday movie OR let your dress represent your favorite line from the "Twelve Days of Christmas."

Happy Holidays and Have Fun!

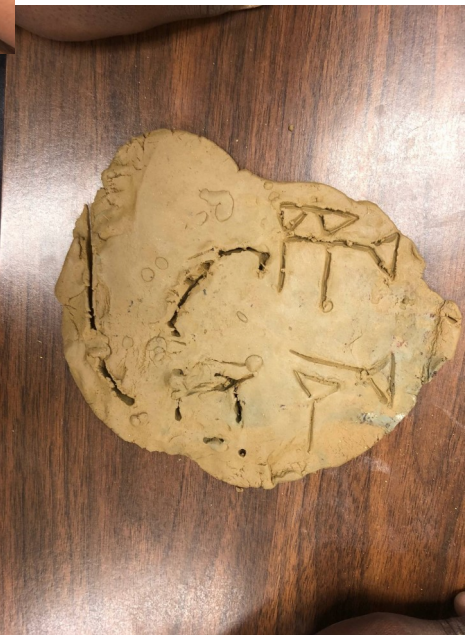
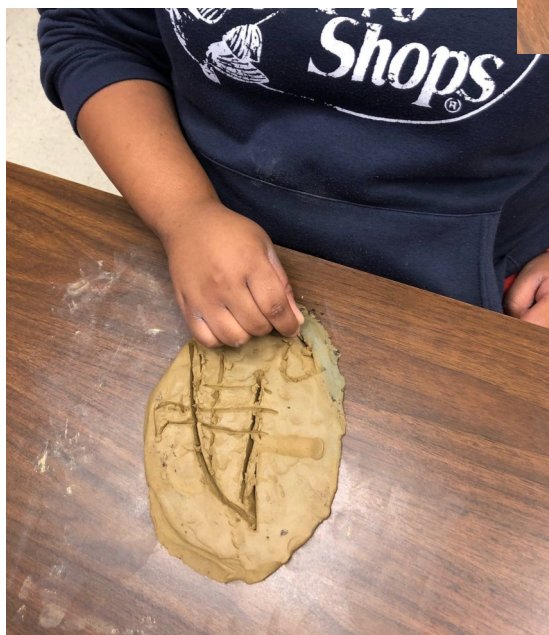
"The Holiday Cheer Committee"

Mr. Lyon's class is studying writing from throughout the years and they did ancient Mesopotamian cuneiform this week with help from their art teacher, Mrs. Applebee.

Below are the students' works of art!



𐎀 'a	𐎁 b	𐎂 g	𐎃 h	𐎄 d	𐎅 h
𐎆 w	𐎇 z	𐎈 h	𐎉 t	𐎊 y	𐎋 k
𐎌 s	𐎍 l	𐎎 m	𐎏 d	𐎐 n	𐎑 z
𐎒 s	𐎓 ,	𐎔 p	𐎕 s	𐎖 q	𐎗 r
𐎘 t	𐎙 g	𐎚 t	𐎛 'i	𐎜 'u	𐎝 s ₂



Hello GAB Panthers,

November 17, 2020

I am still collecting BOX TOPS for the school. There are still two ways to collect as of now. Below is an example of the old BOX TOPS. You can choose to still cut out and send to me at school, or you can choose to upload the BOX TOP app and scan your receipt if you bought items that have BOX TOPS. If you chose not to load the app, I will be glad to scan your receipt so just send it in with your student and I will get it done. Thank you, Ms. Layson

THE OLD: BOX TOPS CLIPS



Traditional Box Tops clips are being phased out of production but may continue to be found on many products throughout the store. You can still clip them and send them to school. **Every valid Box Tops clip is worth 10¢ for your school.** Make sure each one has a clearly visible product acronym and expiration date.

THE NEW BOX TOPS LABELS



Eventually the Box Tops program will become digital-only. Participating brands are starting to change their packaging from a traditional Box Tops clip to the new Box Tops label.(SEE ABOVE)

If you see this label, use the new Box Tops app to scan your receipt. **Box Tops are still worth 10¢ for your school.** The app will find participating products purchased at any store and instantly add cash to your school's earnings online.

December **Birthdays**

12/5	Joshua	12/25	Zariyah
12/16	Connor	12/26	Dalton
12/17	Stephen	12/29	Blake
12/19	Demorion	12/29	Jermaine
12/25	Shyann	12/31	James C.

