



Gehmans Mennonite School

Newsletter – September 2026

School Theme

For the 2026-27 School year our theme word is Gratitude. 1 Thessalonians 5:18 says, “Give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you. We ask you as parents to help keep this in front of your children. May we truly be a thankful people especially as we think of the blessing it is to have a School such as Gehmans Mennonite School.

School Auction Fundraiser

On Saturday, October 10th, a fundraiser is planned and will take place in the gym. The event begins at 3:00 PM and the auction will start at 4:00 PM. There will be plenty of great food and games for the children. The auction proceeds will go toward the operating expenses of the School

School Website

Check out the school website, www.gehmansmennoniteschool.com for more information on the school auction, school calendar information, and Bible memory helps.

Bus Routes

Please remember to contact your bus driver the night before if your student will not be on the bus for the morning route. **We ask that you please contact the school office if there's any change to your student's scheduled bus drop off in the afternoon. We will take care of letting the bus driver and the teacher know there is a change. This also applies to trips that are planned ahead–We can let the bus drivers know about morning and afternoon if it is planned in advance.** This will help ensure an orderly dismissal in the afternoon. We appreciate your help!

New Pick-up Procedures

AM Drop-off

When you drop off students in the morning please use the parking lot entrance off of Gehman School Rd (the small side-road) and park in front of the concrete play area to let your students out of the vehicle. The 897 entrance is reserved only for buses in the morning.

PM Pick-up

When picking up students in the afternoon, use the 897 entrance and proceed to the back gym parking area to form a line beginning at the cone. As the buses leave the school parking lot cars can pull around to the bus entrance and then students will be loaded as each vehicle comes to the bus entrance door. All vehicles will need to exit from Gehman School road.

Dress Code

As a reminder, we ask that all parents, students, and teachers be in school dress code while here at school and when chaperoning field trips. If you are not sure what the dress code is at GMS please refer to your Student Handbook under personal appearance. I appreciate your thoughtfulness in this matter.

Recess

Students are required to wear jackets outside anytime the temperature is below 60 F. If your child comes without a jacket they'll have to borrow one from the lost and found box to wear for recess.

Also, all students are required to participate in recess and Phys. Ed. unless school receives a written note from you as parents. Because of all the different people who help with recess, please send all written excuse notes to the office so that we can let all the people know who will be monitoring recess that day. If we do not receive written permission from you for your child to skip recess they will be required to play. You may choose to also let your child's teacher know yourself, but the office will pass everything on to them as well!

Health Concerns

Here at GMS we have a variety of staff and children of different ages and health needs. We ask that you continue to use caution when your child is ill. In the Student Handbook page 6 under Personal Illness. "A student should stay home if he is too sick to attend or is contagious to other students, like with chickenpox, impetigo, or pink eye. For extended illness a doctor's excuse is appreciated.

Finances

We were blessed to be able to finish out the 2025-26 school year "in the black". We are thankful for the many churches, businesses, and families that support GMS financially

every year. I would also like to give a special thank you to the many patrons who support GMS in other ways as well. There is a lot of time, energy, and money that goes into making GMS a successful place where students can learn and grow. We appreciate the great support from our patron body.

Pizza

On Wednesdays, pizza is available by the slice, to purchase for lunch. It is \$1.50 per slice. You may send the money for the pizza along with your student and they will then place the order with their teacher in the morning. This year we are also offering a pay-ahead option. Your child can bring money for pizza in advance and will be given pizza tickets that they can hand in on Wednesdays for pizza.

Hot Lunch

Included with the newsletter are the hot lunch assignments for this year. Hot lunches happen once a month. A menu and sign up sheet will be sent out prior to each hot lunch.

All moms are required to help with their assigned hot lunch by bringing food and helping to serve. If you cannot do it on your assigned day, you are responsible to find a replacement and let the kitchen committee know. Any questions, contact Miss Shianne or the kitchen committee.

Bibles

Each student in 3rd-8th grade is required to have a KJV or NIV Bible at school. We have Bibles available for purchase at the office for \$7 each.

Ink Cartridges/Old Cell Phones

If you have empty ink cartridges from your printer or old cell phones, don't throw them away. Send them to school with your children and we will send them off to be recycled and the school will receive funds for them. With these funds we will be able to buy supplies for the school.



Moms Prayer

On the second Wednesday of each month, a group of patron moms gather to pray specifically for the school and teachers. Meetings are held the 2nd Wednesday of each month at different homes from 9:30-11:00. We welcome any moms who would like to join us! If you have any questions you may contact Malinda Martin at 717-808-9273.

The first meeting will be September 9.

Picture Day–September 15

Mr. Weber from Mountaintop Photography will once again be coming to take pictures of the students, which will be used for the yearbook and will also be available for you to purchase. This year our photographer is going to be offering online ordering again for your child's pictures. You should be getting an email a day or two before picture day explaining how it will work, and then another one sometime after the pictures are taken with a link to purchase pictures.

Yearbook Ads

We are currently collecting designs from those who are interested in placing an ad in our upcoming yearbook.

There are 2 sizes available

1/4 page = \$100.00

1/8 page (business card size) \$60.00

Designs may be dropped off at our office or emailed to

valerie@gehmanmennoniteschool.org Checks may be written out to Gehmans Mennonite School with Yearbook Ad written on the memo line.

Any questions feel free to call.

(717) 615-1359

Miss Valerie

Automated Calling System

We use a web-based automated calling system to 'blast' a message to all of our patrons.

This system is used mainly to inform parents of delayed starts or closings due to inclement weather.

Each family can have 2 different numbers that the system calls. This should be a cellphone number since I will most often be sending out text message alerts. It is recommended that you choose a number(s) that are most likely to be answered so that the message gets through. Both numbers will be called when a message is 'blasted' for a group that you are in.

If you're an existing patron and your phone numbers have not changed you do not need to respond.

Please fill out the next section and return it to the office by Sept. 12.

Thank-you!



Name: _____

Phone # 1: _____

Phone # 2: _____

Upcoming Calendar Events

September

Mon	7	No School: Labor Day
Wed	9	Mom's Prayer Group
Tues	15	Picture Day
Thurs	17	Hot Lunch

October

Wed	7	Hearing Screening
Sat	10	School Auction
Tues	13	Jr. High Soccer Game vs SMS @ SMS; Girls 12:15, Boys 1:15
Thurs	15	No School: Teacher In-Service
Fri	16	No School: Staff Retreat
Tues	20	Hot Lunch
Wed	21	Jr. High Soccer Game vs. FCS @ GMS; Girls 12:00, Boys 12:55
Fri	30	End of 1st Quarter

Dates to Remember

November

9-10	Parent/Teacher Conferences: 11:30 Dismissal
25	Thanksgiving Feast–2:00 Dismissal

December

7	PTF at 7:00
11	Christmas Program @12:30 & 7:00
<i><u>All Students are required to attend both programs</u></i>	