Dolphin News Network Issue 1 | 2019 | Gulf Shores Middle School

MAKE WAVES! Emerson Watson, Our School Mascot

AUGUST - OCTOBER

FEATURED

icture taken by Roger Reetz, Lovely Lizards Photography

Progress Since the School Split By Carleigh Jurkiewicz

As everyone is aware, Gulf Shores has recently become a city school and branched away from Baldwin County Board of Education. With that exciting new change came a lot of renovations.

The elementary school had the most drastic changes-- constructing a completely new car line, putting in a new playground, a new blacktop, and building walls that enclose the school for safety precautions. The front portables are gone as well as the courtyard, and all active classrooms were moved into buildings.

The middle and high school also had similar renovations done regarding the school system's logo and appearance. Also, for the first year ever, our sixth graders are part of Gulf Shores Middle School.

Countless hours were put towards renovating our schools. Kevin Corcoran, president of the Gulf Shores City Board of Education stated, "We'll certainly be hustling to have the schools operational by Friday." Some thought that they wouldn't be ready in time for the first day of school, August 9th, but they were definitely proven wrong. All of this in mind, it is certain that we have a lot to look forward to in the near future.

High School Homecoming Week By Cailey Maddox

The week of homecoming was definitely one to remember. All of the Gulf Shores City Schools participated in dress up days and pep rallies to support our high school dolphins. Their homecoming game came to a conclusion September 6th on Friday night at the high school football game.

Each day of the week had a fun theme to dress up for. There was no school on Monday for Labor Day, but Tuesday's theme was tacky day, Wednesday was tourist day, Thursday was decade day, and Friday was school spirit day. On the last day of the week, GSMS had a pep rally to get students and teachers pumped up for the big game.

Mr. Mixon, the high school band director, brought over his marching band to play some electrifying music for everyone to hear. A couple of mini games were played and everyone was screaming with excitement as the cheerleaders showed off some of their skills. "...it was thrilling to be part of the pep rally!" Marching band student Phoebe Naugle exclaimed.

Later that night, our high school football players worked at extremely hard at the game. Sadly, we ended the game with one less point, but the dolphins played great!

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Turbo Dolphins Tryouts By Cailey Maddox

On Friday, September 19th, Mr Prince began taking the students who are interested in Turbo Dolphins outside to try out for the driver position. These tryouts continued up until Monday, September 23rd. Mr. Prince stated, "This year my Turbo Dolphins will win our second championship."

He lead the students outside to the front of the school, set up the cones and barriers, and prepared the drivers. The first student took a seat in the spiderman car, put on the helmet, and began his laps. Each student trying out drove a few laps around the carline while some of the other students helped calculate the time and the speed. At the end of the tryouts, Mr. Prince compared all of the speeds and decided his winners which were announced that Friday. The official drivers this year are Nate Hunt, Austyn Manasco, Lilly Dillard, Hayden Cook, and Dalton Folds. Congrats Drivers

Lunchroom Fight By Ava Wycoff

On September 27th, Ms. Weaver's 8th grade classes worked on a project called, The Lunchroom Fight. This activity helped students learn more about how to combine information from multiple sources and see which sources were reliable. Furthermore, the students were given a scenario where a fight took place between two boys in the lunchroom.

The students played the role as the principal and read through a sheet of paper that gave evidence from witnesses of the fight. Once they had processed the information, they had to decide who should be suspended for the fight. They then had to fill out a worksheet proving their side of the story and explaining if their sources were reliable or not. "It was a really fun assignment that allowed us to experiment with sources." said Lauren Calvert.



What Makes a Good Teacher? By Ava Wycoff

Students may complain about how they don't like a certain teachers because they give too much homework or pick favorites in their classes. Of course there is always a chance that you have a teacher who simply doesn't work to their best ability, but what necessarily makes a good teacher?

One website states that a good teacher makes an effort to create strong relationships with their students, but also makes sure that they get their work completed. They should be enthusiastic for their students as well as accessible and inviting. They should also be there for their students and make sure that they understand the material that they are given.

Another website states that a teacher should respect a student's home life and extra curricular activities. Not only that, but even teachers who go to sports events and have school spirit are highly looked upon.

Overall, students appreciate teachers who are understanding, warming, and make learning fun. As well as teachers who have high expectations for their students but also understand that sometimes life gets in the way of things.

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GSMS Robo Dolphins By Ava Wycoff

During the first quarter, Coach Ostrowski and his Robo Dolphins were working diligently to get ready for this years Best Robotics Robotics Competition. The theme for the competition was "Off The Grid," or in other words, blackouts. They devised a plan to create the best robot, notebook, and marketing booth out of all the competitors.

He began by dividing his students into two groups. One built the robot while the other group created the marketing presentation. The students did research on robot designs and began constructing the robot while the marketing group researched blackouts from the past and designed shirts.

"This is our fourth year in Best and I hope to be able to go to Auburn. I hope for everyone to be able to do everything right, not perfect, but right." Coach O. stated when asked what his goals were for Best.





The Dangers of Rip Currents By Emma Lloyd

It ia crucial to know your facts when it comes to rip currents considering that they are extremely dangerous and without proper knowledge, difficult to escape. About forty people per year drown due to rip currents. Most people are unaware of how to notice and safely escape rip currents.

To spot a rip current, look for a break in the waves and a strong current pulling away from the shore. In the event that there is a rip current, avoid swimming anywhere near it. If you end up caught in a rip current, swim out away from the shore and then parallel to the shore. One you are out of the rip current, swim diagonally to get back to shore. It is also very important that you did not panic and remain calm. Furthermore, you should call for help if you are not a strong swimmer. Stay safe and just keep swimming!

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Cross Country's First Meet! By Kruiz Bates

On Tuesday, September 9, our Cross Country runners had their first meet of the year! It was held at Central Baldwin. Cross Country runner, Emma Steffek explained, "I was really nervous, but it ended up being so much fun and we got to run in the shade for the most part." The girls started running at 4:30 pm and the boys ran at 5:00 pm. Moreover, they ran a total distance of two miles. Congratulations to the top boy and girl runners, Beck Montreal, who finished with a time of fourteen minutes and sixteen seconds, and Amara Morales, at seventeen minutes and eleven seconds! Great job dolphins!



GSMS Homecoming Week! By Carleigh Jurkiewicz

Our homecoming week was full of dress ups based off of the theme, "The Greatest Showman." The football homecoming game was against the Elberta Warriors. Monday was "Light It Up Warriors Day" and students wore bright neon colors. Tuesday's theme was "Walking Yearbook" which was also picture day. The other dress up days included: "Watch It Warriors Day," "Homecoming Shirts," and "The Greatest Show Day" which was circus themed.

Thursday we had a pep rally with exciting games and performances to get everyone ready for the big game against the Warriors. Elberta won 14-0, but we played well. Friday was scheduled to be the homecoming dance, but was postponed until the following Friday.



Mrs. Butler's Myths Project By Claire Colvin

Earlier in the first quarter, Mrs. Butler's 5th period class wrote myths. They began by brainstorming ideas. Each person's was unique and different compared to the next. They then charted out their ideas on a plot chart which many students found to be a great way to organize their thoughts. Next, they added details. It was most efficient to start with the larger, bolder details, and work your way to the smallest finest details.

The students designed characters and put all of their ideas and previous information together. The class learned to proofread each others' papers and take constructive criticism. They transferred the information onto a google slides presentation and at the end of their project they presented their completed, finalized.

Seventh Graders Study Cells By Emma Steffek

Coach J. Adams and his seventh grade advanced science class studied cells. They experimented and practiced using microscopes. Advanced science student, Emma Lloyd, "I enjoy looking past the surface and going deeper into science." In addition, the class also learned about Robert Hooke who was scientist who named cells. Robert Hooke named cells after dormitory rooms that used to be called cells because when he examined a corkscrew through a microscope, there were tiny cells that were shaped like dormitory rooms.



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Your Monthly Horoscope

By Cailey Maddox

Disclaimer: This is strictly for peoples' personal interests. It is by no means meant to offend anyone or their beliefs.

The Month of the Goddess: Virgo August 23 - September 22

In astrology, each person belongs to a zodiac sign or a constellation based on the month they were born. This month, the main focus is on the sign Virgo. Your predictions for August state that any social difficulty you have had in the past with a friend or foe will more than likely be resolved. This won't happen on its own- this is something you must work towards and could take time. It may seem incoherent that Virgo's tend to be perfectionists and slightly impatient, but during this month, you will be assured that those characteristics could be of use when bringing communication issues to a state of normalcy. Good luck Virgos!

The Month of Balance: Libra September 23 - October 23

The majority of Libras are extremely cooperative and overall, very balanced with life and emotions. Now is the time for you to strengthen your bonds with the people you have close relations with. Especially your best friends, or even siblings. Furthermore, remember to be responsible. Completing your homework school work and keeping your grades up will make you feel much more accomplished during September. Stay productive Libras!

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