



PREP SCHOOL WEEKLY REPORT

SCHOOL YEAR 2019-20

Week 14 ~ 1 November 2019

Students: 734

3 rd = 40	6 th = 93	9 th = 97
4 th = 53	7 th = 87	10 th = 70
5 th = 57	8 th = 98	11 th = 84
		12 th = 55

Faculty/Staff: 67

Full Time Faculty = 54
Part Time Faculty = 4
Staff = 9

State Champs – 4th Consecutive Mixed Raider State Title! – A GMC Mixed Raider Team has done it again!! Last Saturday, our Raiders competed against 27 other teams in the Raider State Competition at Spalding County High School and the Mixed Red Team brought home a State Title for the 4th year in a row! The day of competition consisted of five events and our Mixed Red Team made a clean sweep of all five (team run, rope bridge, cross country rescue, raider fitness test, and tire flip) on their way to the top award of the day -- a State Championship! Congratulations to our Raiders and their coaches! All three of our Raider Teams head to the National Raider Competition this weekend and we wish them the best!!

Elite 8 Outstanding Performance! – Varsity Softball finished the season with a trip to the prestigious Elite 8 softball tournament in Columbus this past weekend. This was the 7th trip to Columbus for our Lady Dogs over the past 8 years. The ladies won the first game of the tournament versus Marion County but then fell in the next two to Commerce and Trion. Although the season did not end with the ultimate goal of a state championship, we are extremely proud of these girls and their coaches. Congratulations to all on an outstanding 28-9 season and for representing GMC with such positive attitudes and sportsmanship!

Best Performance of the Year – Our GMC Marching Bulldog Brigade had a stellar performance at their last contest of the season, the 22nd Annual Heart of Georgia Invitational held last Saturday in Warner Robins. The Brigade had such a fun and entertaining show this year and their ratings improved with every contest. Out of 10 Bands in the Class A Division, our Band brought home these awards and titles:

- ❖ Individual Band Ratings - Superior Color Guard, Superior Drum Major, Superior Music, Excellent Visual and Excellent Overall Effect
- ❖ 2nd Best in Class - Band
- ❖ 3rd Best in Class - Color Guard

Our Bulldog Brigade placed 11th overall out of 22 bands in the contest from Class A through Class AAAA. We are so proud of these band members and the adults who work with them – they are always supporting other teams and groups at GMC so we are thrilled that they had their turn to shine in the spotlight!

Spooktacular Affair – Our faculty, staff, and students really went all-out as they dressed in Halloween attire for the day! A good time was had by all, especially the faculty and staff, who dressed up as toy soldiers from *Toy Story*, M&M's, the characters in *Charlotte's Web*, the *Three Little Kittens that Lost Their Mittens*, *Three Blind Mice*, *Three Little Pigs*, and Pac Man!! We

loved it so much and wanted to share it with you so check out just some of our pictures on our smugmug site -- <https://gmcrep.smugmug.com/SY-2019-20/Halloween-2019/>
In addition to dressing up in their costumes, our 3rd/4th/5th/6th graders were invited to Trick-or-Treat by several departments on campus and the fun was enjoyed by both students and adults. The day was a huge hit with the students – we owe a huge thank you to all who sponsored this opportunity and sent our students went home with bags of candy, big smiles, and fun memories! The Prep School was excited to host our own special group of Trick-or-Treaters as we welcomed the St. Stephens Episcopal Day School students to Usery Hall for candy and treats.

3rd Battalion Board – Congratulations to the students who recently earned 3rd Battalion honors! Officer of the Quarter – C/2LT Nikki Cumba (8th), NCO of the Quarter – C/SFC Kareena Kukreja (7th), and Cadet of the Quarter – C/PVT James Holton (6th). The Third Battalion chooses its Cadet, NCO, and Officer of the Quarter through a process that begins with recommendations at the squad level for Cadets, the platoon level for NCOs, and the company level for Officers. All recommended students take a written test covering GMC history, general cadet knowledge, and the chain of command. Those scoring highest on the written test appear before Boards comprised of member of the battalion leadership. During the Board, cadets are asked questions related to GMC and the cadet corps as well as general knowledge about the United States. Scores are tabulated and the highest point recipient is named as the Cadet, NCO, and Officer of the Quarter.

Bulldog Buddies – Our Bulldog Buddies (Seniors and 3rd graders) celebrated Halloween together this week. They spent some time decorating Halloween treat bags with markers, stickers, and spooky designs while also talking about their choice of Halloween costume for this year. As always, there were lots of smiles and the laughter was contagious!

Cheers, Chants, Stunts, and More – The Middle School Competition Cheerleaders captured their first trophy of the season in last weekend’s Falcon Frenzy held at East Laurens in Dublin. During each and every week of the season, these girls have worked together to add new skills and upgrades to their routines. Their performance showmanship has improved and this dedicated group of girls will only continue to develop their talents in the coming years.

Day of the Dead – Spanish 1 classes (MAJ Michael Lerzo) have been learning about the traditions of Day of the Dead this week. They have examined unique traditions, discussed cultural differences between Halloween and Day of the Dead, and watched the movie *Coco* in Spanish to further understand the holiday.

Cultural Collaborations – Spanish 2 students (MAJ Isabel Valencia) and 4th grade Art students (MAJ Andrea Sammons) joined together this week to learn more about “día del los muertos” – the Hispanic-Mexican tradition originated hundreds of years ago in the Aztec culture. Our High School Spanish students taught the 4th graders about this cultural tradition, compared it with Halloween, and concluded that the two traditions have nothing in common. Next, it was the 4th graders turn to teach the High School students! The 4th grade artists showed our HS students how to make Alebrijes, colorful decorations which are considered as spiritual guides and used during the festivity.

Spooky Science – 8th grade Science (MAJ Nikki Grimes) celebrated this week with spooky science experiments in the lab. Students participated in several physical and chemical change activities in order to demonstrate their understanding of the changes. The students began by making edible fake blood and the blood splatter zone then transitioned to other projects such as elephant toothpaste, glow stick central, microwaveable slime, and candy corn towers. All the fun culminated in the Pumpkin Chunkin Catapults – a fun STEM activity that required students to choose from several materials and design a catapult that would launch their pumpkins to the designated target. A great time of learning was had by all!

Amazing Artists –

- ❖ 8th grade artists studied the Renaissance art period and created a drawing of the Mona Lisa. Next, their drawing will transform into a "Mona Mesa" as they add symbolism and color to reflect a modern day Mona Lisa that describes someone in current time.
- ❖ 6th and 7th grade artists learned about Dia Los Muertos and drew a Day of the Dead mask. They added amazing colorful designs with oil pastels as a way of honoring their bonds with loved ones who have passed away. Dia Los Muertos will be celebrated from October 31 through November 2.
- ❖ Senior artists, inspired by George Bush's *Portraits of Courage*, have committed to creating truly special works of art to honor our heroes during GMC Prep's 3rd Annual Veterans Day Art Exhibit. Students interviewed a veteran and collected meaningful images of his/her life or images of a time period from his/her military service and are combining these images into unique and touching works of art. Please make plans to drop in and view the exhibit in the Bulldog Room from Friday, November 8, through Wednesday, November 13.
- ❖ High School Art Club artists continue to work on a group collaboration that will honor a special GMC Veteran. The finished product will be a 4x5 foot painting. The students are really looking forward to unveiling their masterpiece soon!
- ❖ Middle School Art Club artists were so excited to work with clay over the past weeks to create some really cute clay owls for the 2019 Deep Roots Festival.