

Wilson Word

November/December, 2020

Etta J. Wilson Elementary School

(302) 454-2180

Dear Wilson Parents and Guardians,

We are very excited that our K/4/5 Cohort B Hybrid students returned face-to-face on 11/5. And today, we welcome our K/4/5 Cohort A students. We look forward to our 1/2/3 Hybrid students returning the week of 11/16.



We continue to appreciate your patience as the District along with Wilson staff work together to prepare for all of our students, whether they'll be attending the Virtual Academy or Wilson's Hybrid Model. Please note that both the Virtual Academy and the Hybrid Model's start date of 11/5 was also the start of Marking Period 2. If you missed the Information Night Presentation on October 29, you can view the information <u>here</u>.

Our outstanding team of teachers, paraprofessionals, special/ related services personnel, custodians, child nutrition personnel, school nurse, and administrative office staff have been working tirelessly in order to prepare and meet the needs of our student population and their families. We are grateful to have such a knowledgeable and dedicated team to support our students and mission to learn in an academically challenging, safe, equitable, and nurturing environment. We continue our pledge (whether remote or face-to face) to value parents, caregivers, and families as partners in educating our students to learn, live, and lead as they become responsible and productive citizens!

Sincerely,

DeeJay Kingery, dolores.kingery@christina.k12.de.us

Important Dates

11/2 - Choice Application Period Begins for 21/22 School Year 11/2 & 3 - School Closed 11/11 - School Closed 11/12 & 13 - School Closed Parent Conferences 11/19 - PTA Meeting 6 PM 11/24 - Wacky Hair Day 11/25-27 - School Closed

12/10 - PTA Meeting 6 PM 12/23 – Pajama Day 12/24-31 - School Closed

1/1 - School Closed 1/13 - Choice Application Period Closes for 21/22 School Year

1/18 - School Closes

1/21 - End of Mrk Pd 2

1/22 - School Closed

See more online

Stay Connected

Wilson Elementary School Office.....(302) 454-2180 School Nurse....x.15642 Educational Diagnostician....x.15644

www.christinak12.org/WilsonES

Facebook @WilsonElementaryPTA





Wilson Recognized as 2020 National Blue Ribbon School

On September 23, 2020, U.S. Secretary of Education Betsy DeVos recognized Etta J. Wilson Elementary School as a **National Blue Ribbon School**

- Exemplary High Performing School for 2020. The recognition is based on a school's overall academic performance or progress in closing achievement gaps among student subgroups. "Congratulations to this year's National Blue Ribbon School awardees," said Secretary DeVos. "It's a privilege to recognize the extraordinary work you do to meet students' needs and prepare them for successful careers and meaningful lives."

The 2020 National Blue Ribbon Schools Awards Ceremony recognizing Wilson will be held 11/13 at 10 AM. Photographs and brief descriptions of the 2020 National Blue Ribbon Schools are available <u>online</u>.

Congratulations to the Wilson family for this amazing accomplishment!

School Choice Enrollment Period Now Open

School Choice is designed to increase access to educational opportunities for all children in the state, regardless of where they live. Learn more about why Wilson Elementary School may be right for your student on our webpage:

www.christinak12.org/ChooseWilson

To learn more about School Choice, check out <u>Christina School</u> <u>District's website</u>.



The Choice Application Period for the 2021/2022 School Year CLOSES Wednesday, January 13, 2021.

Hybrid Cohorts / Start Dates

Thursday, November 5 - Hybrid Cohort B (Thursdays & Fridays) K/4/5 Begin

Monday, November 9 - Hybrid Cohort A (Mondays & Tuesdays) K/4/5 Begin

Monday, November 16 - Hybrid Cohort A (Mondays & Tuesdays) K/4/5 Continue

- Hybrid Cohort A (Mondays & Tuesdays) 1/2/3 Begin

Thursday, November 19 - Hybrid Cohort B (Thursdays & Fridays) K/4/5 Continue

- Hybrid Cohort B (Thursdays & Fridays) 1/2/3 Begin

Visit Christina School District's Website to learn more.



Meal Options	In-Person Learners	Virtual Learners
Lunch (Elementary) Delivery of meal to classrooms	 Prepared bag lunches will be delivered to each classroom. To allow faster service, choices will be limited. Lunch times will be identified by your school's master schedule. 	Curbside meal pick up o Monday – Friday o 10am-11am o Each meal will contain a lunch for the day and the next day's breakfast.

Learn more about school meals: www.christinak12.org/schoolmeals.

Nurse's News

Please remember to complete your student's emergency form online and send it to the school secretary at joyce.justison@christina.k12.de.us.

If your child will need medication during the school day, or will need any type of emergency medication such as an inhaler or epi-pen, please call the school nurse at 302-454-2180 to schedule an appointment. I can also be reached by email (patricia.durbano@christina.k12.de.us).

It is very important to complete the CSD daily health assessment questionnaire prior to sending your child to school each day. Please see the next page for the **Home Health**

Screening Tool. We all must work together to keep our students healthy and ready to learn.

Healthy Regards, Mrs. Durbano, School Nurse "You are braver than you believe, stronger than you seem, and smarter than you think."

- Christopher Robin, Winnie the Pooh





Dear Parent/Guardian,

The Delaware Department of Education and Delaware Department of Health and Social Services' Division of Public Health have requested that we provide you information regarding practices related to COVID-19. Students must stay home if they are exhibiting any symptoms of COVID-19 or have been confirmed to have COVID-19 or if required by DPH to isolate or quarantine. We request that students and/or their families complete a health assessment screening tool below every morning before leaving for school.

If you have questions, please contact your school nurse or child's primary healthcare provider. You can also call your school at (302) 454-2180.

For information or general questions on COVID-19 and prevention, visit the Delaware Health and Social Services', Division of Public Health's website at https://coronavirus.delaware.gov/ or you can call 2-1-1 or text your ZIP code to 898-211 for deaf and hard of hearing.

Home Health Screening Tool

1.	Have you been in direct contact with a person who is Positive for COVID-19 in the past 2 weeks? NoYes - If yes, date of contact
2. In the last 48 hours, have you had any of the following NEW symptoms? Fever of 100.4 (38C) or above Trouble Breathing Muscle Aches Shortness of breath or wheezing (not asthma related) Chills or repeated shaking with chills Loss of taste or smell, or change in taste Nausea, vomiting, or diarrhea Sore throat Headache Cough None of the above	

If you answer "YES" to any of the above questions, please keep your student home and call your primary care physician.

Additional Considerations:

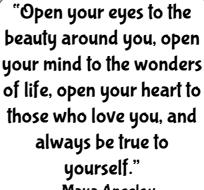
- Teach your children to wash their hands frequently with soap and running water for 20 seconds.
- Students in grades Pre K -12 must wear cloth face coverings in the school building, except when doing so would inhibit the individual's health. Face coverings should be worn by children in grades pre-k through 3rd grade, except when doing so would inhibit the individual's health.
- Teach your children to cover coughs and sneezes with tissues or by coughing into the inside of the elbow.
- Teach your children to practice physical and social distancing by staying at least six feet away from people other than your family.

Meet Wilson's PTA Officers



"Spread love everywhere you go" - Mother Teresa

Ashley Gallaher PTA President



- Maya Angelou



Katharine Woodhouse-Beyer **PTA Secretary**



"Remember you're the one who can fill the world with sunshine" - Snow White

Dominika Catanzariti PTA VP 1

"Fight for the things that you care about, but do it in a way that will lead others to join you."

- Ruth Bader Ginsburg



Monika Goff **PTA Treasurer**



Laura Rohrbaugh PTA VP 2

"Try to be the rainbow in someone's cloud."

- Maya Angelou

Please turn in ZINGO receipts!

We are able to collect 1% of your total.

Box Tops for Education

Use the **Boxtops App** to scan receipts (no more clipping!) or continue to collect paper

boxtops and Zingos receipts until we are able to collect them in person.

Pictures Needed: 20/21 Year Book

We need your help! Please take pictures of your child's experience with remote learning and share them with us so that we can put together a fantastic yearbook:

ettajwilsonyearbook@gmail.com

Wilson PTA Mews

Membership

In an effort to grow our PTA membership roster and family support, we are hoping you will consider joining Wilson PTA for the 20/21 school year. Your membership fee of *just \$5.00* allows the PTA to better serve the Wilson students and community, by providing students more activities, support, supplies, as well as the ability to host various fun

Save the Date

November 19, 6:00 PM December 10, 6:00 PM

See all PTA meeting dates.

family events. **Join now** and connect with our great community! (*Past members, please renew your memberships!*)

The Wilson PTA is always supportive of students, teachers, and families, but in this historic year it's a great way to actively show our support to those who are on the front lines of teaching and taking care of the students' needs.

Membership Drive - Giveaway!!!

The Wilson PTA Membership Chair will pick 3 random winners of a Wilson Spirit Basket.

Who is eligible: Anyone who becomes a new member or renews their membership

Deadline to be included in the drawing: Thanksgiving, November 26, 2020

How to register: <u>Click here:</u> ettawilsonpta.memberhub.store

Reflections Program

Each school year, the PTA hosts the Reflections Program to give each student a chance to show off their artistic side. This year's Theme is "I Matter Because..." More information will be sent through your class teacher in the upcoming days.

Coffee & Zoom

Want to connect with other parents?? Send us an email and we will host a "Coffee and Zoom" for those interested (etajwilsonpta@gmail.com).

Stay Connected

Please visit Wilson PTA's pages online for the latest news and links to our facebook page and our bimonthly Newsletter: www.christinak12.org/WilsonPTA

Science Fun at Home

Calling all scientists - it is time to experiment! Thanks to Mrs. Sharp, one of Wilson's kindergarten teachers, who shared this fun and easy activity from Preschoolsteam.com.

The Easiest Fluffiest Slime Recipe

This easy slime recipe puts a fluffy twist on our classic slime recipe. With just a few simple ingredients you can have lots of exploration and fun with sensory play. Allowing time for sensory play and exploration is an important part to help start thinking like a scientist! Children use their senses (touching, tasting, smelling, seeing and even moving) to explore and understand the world around them.

Materials

1/4 cup white school glue
1/4 cup water
1/2 - 1 cup shaving cream
1/4 cup liquid starch
Food coloring or liquid watercolors
Glass or plastic mixing bowl
Plastic spoon or craft stick

Instructions

Step 1: Pour 1/4 cup glue into a large bowl. Add 1/4 cup of water and stir with spoon or craft stick until combined. Add 5 drops of food coloring and mix well.

Step 2: Stir in 1/2 to 1 cup of shaving cream depending on how thick you want your slime to be. Stir the mixture.

Step 3: Add 1/4 cup liquid starch and mix until thick and slimy. Knead the slime. The slime will be sticky at first but keep kneading it until all the ingredients form one ball of slime and the bowl is clean. If the slime is still sticky, add a little bit more liquid starch. Different brands of ingredients react differently. Experiment to get the right consistency. Play with slime immediately, the fluffiness will deflate over time.

Share pictures of the fluffy slime you create on the Wilson Elementary PTA Facebook page.









Wilson Teachers Want to Inspire You!

Great minds think alike! Can you find the most popular quote and most frequently quoted person?

"Let the wild rumpus start." - Maurice Sendak "Believe you can, then you will." - Mulan "The secret is to learn to dance in the rain!"



Ms. Brennan 2/3 Teacher



Mrs. Fraczkowski K/1/4/5 Teacher



Mrs. Roarty 3/4/5 Teacher

"You can't use up creativity. The more you use, the more you have." - Maya Angelou



Mrs. Cruise Art



Ms. Kane Music



Ms. Miller Physical Education

DAP Classrooms



Mrs. Jeandell Room B

Enjoy the sunny days!

"You're braver than you believe, stronger than you seem, and smarter than you think." — Winnie the Pooh

Happy fall!



Ms. Stevenson Room B



Mrs. Stephanie

"Take chances, make mistakes, get messy!" — Miss Frizzle



Miss Grace

News

We are all excited for our students that are joining us in the classroom. Our students are looking forward to seeing their friends again at school. They will be able to play games together and engage in activities with their peers. They will continue to strengthen their letter and number skills. Some of our students have been learning to skip count by 2s and finding ways to make 10. We are all excited to see students in the classroom!

Kindergarten



"Mistakes are proof that you are trying."

Mr. Fullerton - Room 6



"Do, or do not. There is no 'try.'"

- Yoda. Star Wars

Mrs. Sharp - Room 8

Kindergarten News

We are so very thankful to our students, families and friends of kindergarteners for logging in to each day of school! We are so very proud of our students and want to commend them for working hard in school to learn! Thank you to our K families for helping your students!



You're all doing GREAT work!

Way to go!

YAY Kindergarten! We are so proud of you each!

Kindergarten Continued



We have been learning letter names and sounds and beginning to try to put some letters together to sound out words that we want to read and write. We have been practicing some of our

phonological skills as well, such as: rhyming, isolating beginning sounds, and blending sounds together (e.g., "s---o---a---p" = soap). It's such an amazing process working with the students to figure out what a bunch of letters are trying to tell us!

We have been practicing stretching words apart, too, for writing. We are using inventive spelling and by pulling or stretching the word out, we hear the sounds and then begin to write what we hear. We are

labeling pictures and our illustrations with letters. It's wonderful to see such effort! Keep up the super work, K team! We have begun to learn about personal narratives and what they need to be a narrative---ask us and we can tell you: it's about an event in the life of a real person and it tells something that really happened (not make believe); it starts at the beginning, has a middle and an ending ...).

In math, we have begun to work with numbers, the value of numbers, and number racks and we are beginning to understand the concepts of more, less than, and equal to. We have even begun to write some number sentences to show how we can add numbers. Soon we will begin working with larger numbers and shapes (including 3 dimensional shapes! WOW!).

In Science, we have explored trees---tree parts, where they grow, why they are important, etc. It's a beautiful time of year to be exploring trees outside and enjoying them, too. Maybe you could take a fall walk and see some trees up close and personal.

In Social Studies, we learned about becoming citizens and what citizens do/why

they are important. We are citizens in our school and have learned the 4 PBS rules. We can name them for you if you ask us (be respectful, be responsible, follow directions the 1st time, and manage yourself----maybe you'd like to try to use these same rules at home, too).



We are enjoying our time in special classes with Mrs. Cruise for art, Mrs. Miller for P.E., and Ms. Kane for music and look forward to seeing them each week. We are learning so many wonderful

things and are excited to continue that learning with them. Thanks specialist team!







First Grade



Nobody is perfect, that's why pencils have erasers!"

Mrs. Hernandez - Room 2



"The road to success is always under construction."

Miss Roberts - Room 3

First Grade News



In reading we are focusing on sequence of events, text and graphic features, and story structure. Grown-ups can help support students with these skills by having their child read or listen to a book and retell important events in order. They can also describe the characters and setting of the story, as well as discuss problems/solutions from the story. Continue to work on CVC words like cat, bat, fit, kit, cot, rot, cut, mud, etc. Play rhyming games, create spelling chains, and practice writing rainbow words from our story each week.

First Grade Continued





In writing, we have finished up Personal Narratives and have moved on to writing Responses. Students are expected to listen to a story and respond with their likes, dislikes, connections, and wonderings. First graders are practicing writing complete sentences with correct punctuation. We are learning about verbs, nouns, synonyms, and antonyms.



In math, we have been counting by fives, recognizing, describing and extending patterns and creating composite shapes. We are heading into the third unit of Bridges. This unit encourages mastery of key number facts and strategies. We will practice number combinations and comparing numbers as well as begin developing place value understanding and problem solving within 10. Please encourage your students to use academic vocabulary when explaining their math thinking. For example, when comparing two quantities remind students to use words like greater than, less than, or equal to.

social studies

In Social Studies, first graders learned about what an authority is and what the role of a leader entails. We discussed qualities of a great leader and noticed leaders in our class, school and community.



In science, students are learning about the sun, moon and hours of daylight. They are noticing patterns in the day and nighttime sky as well as seasonal patterns. Please take the time to observe the moon each night.





As the school year progresses continue to check class DOJO for important messages and updates. Thank you for your continued support with your child's education.

Second Grade





"If you can dream it, you can do it."

- Walt Disney





"Just remember, you are BRAVER that you believe, STRONGER than you seem, SMARTER than you think and LOVED more than you'll ever know."

- Winnie the Pooh

Mrs. Monroe - Room 11



Second Grade News

Second grade is off to a fantastic start to the year. We have built a strong community by spending the first part of each day connecting before we begin our academic activities. Each member of

take time to share with one another.

our community is greeted by name and we

A popular greeting has been The Backward Greeting and we love to share our favorites. A few minutes are saved for exchanging funny stories and jokes at the end of the week. We call it Fun Friday!



Second Grade Continued

Our RTI and small reading groups are off and running. Second grade students are already able to

focus on lessons based on individual needs determined by beginning of the year assessments. We are doing a great deal of phonics instruction and reading practice to build fluency. Any additional practice the students get at home will enhance their growth. Please ensure your child finds a quiet time to read daily. Students can read out loud to others or practice quietly reading to themselves. In whole group lessons, we have learned about using sequence of events, author's purpose, compare and contrast, cause and effect, story structure, and text and graphic features to help us better understand what we read. We will focus on drawing conclusions and main ideas next.

In math we have started to look at bigger numbers and develop an understanding of place value. Students are learning to estimate, count, and compare quantities up to 1,000. As they examine hundreds, tens, and ones, they are developing an understanding of the value of each place. This will help them model and solve addition and subtraction problems using large numbers. Learning to add and subtract using an open number line and models will be explored next.

We are finishing up our study of communities in social studies. The students have demonstrated that they know how to be

productive citizens of our second grade community. They also discovered that they are citizens of other communities as well with rights and responsibilities. Our focus will soon turn to the study of life cycles. We will explore the life cycles



Third Grade



"If you do your best each and every day, good things are sure to come your way."

- Princess Tiana, Princess and the Frog

Mrs. Forman - Room 29



You are braver than you believe, stronger than you seem, and smarter than you think."

- A. A. Milne, Winnie the Pooh

Mrs. Wilson - Room 31

Third Grade News

Third graders are continuing to work hard and persevere through remote learning. We have been able to make some great connections and create a classroom community even from all our different places. We are so proud of the attention and focus that we have seen from our students!



Thank you to all the families for your patience and understanding with this unusual start to the year.

We would not have been able to make this much progress without your support!

Third Grade Continued



In Reading, we will continue to work hard on comprehension strategies, grammar skills, and vocabulary. We will be reading many more fiction

and non-fiction stories. We will start to compare and contrast different texts as well as look at how different text features help us understand what we are reading.

We are finishing up personal narratives in writing, and getting ready to start responding to a text. The will spend a good part of the second marking

period writing book reviews. They will tell what they like and what they think could be improved in a non-fiction book of their choice. The focus will be on using specific details from the book they are reading.

We have begun Unit 2 in math. This unit is an introduction L to multiplication. This would be a great time to start working on multiplication facts at home. Flash cards are a good way to begin practicing. By the end of the year, we would like all students to know their multiplication facts fluently. After multiplication, we will continue with addition and subtraction by using the strategies we reviewed in Unit 1 to help add and subtract larger numbers.

Our social studies unit on Citizenship is coming to an end. We will be switching to science. Our first science unit is Water. The students will look at the different properties of water and discover all the amazing things that water can do.



Fourth Grade



"You are always one choice away from changing your life."

- Mac Anderson

Mrs. Grillo - Room 25



"A true hero isn't measured by the size of his strength, but by the strength of his heart."

- From the Disney movie Hercules

Mrs. Van Aulen - Virtual Academy

Fourth Grade News

The school year is off to a great start in fourth grade! It is hard to believe the first marking period is already over. We appreciate all of your support throughout this first marking period. We are proud to say that we had outstanding attendance at our Zooms daily.

Parent conferences are November 12 and 13.

Mrs. Grillo and Mrs. Van Aulen will be sending out sign up invitations soon, so keep an eye out.

Fourth Grade Continued

What are we learning?



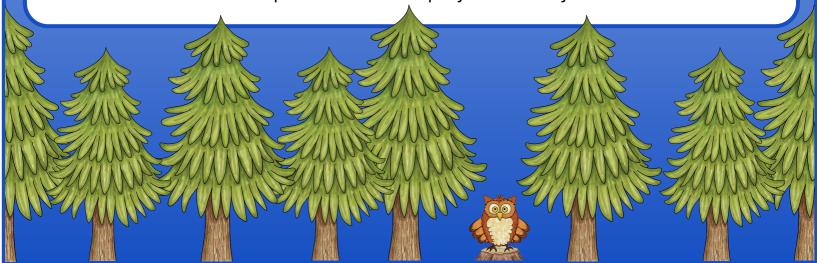
Students continue to work towards their goal of reading 40 books this year, as we explore character development, plot, and point of view. In writing, we have finished our narrative unit and are beginning our writing to respond unit. This unit will involve writing an author's response about Chris Van Allsburg books. We have read quite a few of his books in class, and the students are really enjoying them.



We will continue to work with different strategies for multiplication and division in math. Students are also learning some workplace "games" to reinforce the skills we are learning in class. It is a fun and interactive way to keep practicing their math skills.



We just started our Structures of Life unit in Science. Students will explore the structures of plants and animals and determine how those structures function to help them survive. We'll be getting crayfish and bess beetles in our classroom to aid in our exploration and inquiry. It is always a lot of fun.



Fifth Grade





"To get respect, one must give respect."

"No one is perfect... that's why pencils have erasers."



Mr. Nielsen Virtual Academy





Fifth Grade News

At Wilson Elementary School in the virtual world of the fifth grade,

We've recently spent time finding out what part of an hour or dollar a fraction made.

We've also spent time turning up the volume by placing cubic units in a box for Brad.

Such good helpers in his store, he's never had.

In ELA we've been drawing conclusions, making generalizations, and exploring the structure of texts.

This includes understanding theme and story elements so that we can figure out what comes next.

Social Studies has had us identifying why Delaware was founded in its fashion,

Following settlements along rivers and by open water has become one of our passions.

In the near future, we will begin to add and subtract fractions as we further explore parts of a whole.

We will use many tools for this endeavor such as ratio tables because we know that this can take a toll.

Our upcoming science unit will begin to sharpen our observation and deductions toolkit.

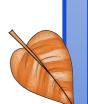
At least we know we'll be able to write compound and complex sentences while we describe it!

The fifth grade team is proud of all of our scholars and has nearly perfect attendance on zoom daily.

We have this despite occasional tech issues that make things less smooth and more scaly.

We thank our Wilson Family, especially parents and students, for making our time together spirited and bright!!

The fifth grade team is so proud and full of admiration that it's simply out of sight!



Reading Specialist's Message

What do successful readers do?

These readers take control of their reading. They use strategies to help them succeed. Yes, there are some children who learn to read almost automatically, but the majority of readers have to work at it.

What do good readers do? They practice. When good readers practice, they gain more exposure to strategies such as letter clues; looking for smaller words within words, beginnings and endings, common sounds like the letter c making the letter /k/ sound, uncommon sounds like the letter g making the letter /j/ sound; and read for meaning. These readers create mental pictures, use background knowledge, ask questions, make inferences, determine what is most important, synthesize information, and make connections. Even strong readers have difficulty when reading challenging texts, but they recognize the difficulty, reread, and even use a dictionary, a computer, or other sources when needed.

Encourage your reluctant and struggling reader to sit up when reading, follow along with a finger when reading, use letter clues, use picture clues, and read for meaning. Be on special alert for frustration. When reading becomes too frustrating, or too much work, you need to intervene, take some action, and do something to turn that situation around. Read more...

Happy Reading, Miss Gilbert "Kid, you will move mountains."

- Dr. Seuss

ESL Message

Our ESL students have been working very hard since the beginning of the year!

The 3rd grade group just completed a 2 week unit on conservation. We learned about clean energy and ways we can protect the environment while practicing our writing with academic vocab words like "renewable." Students brainstormed ways they could reuse, reduce, and recycle in their own homes and crafted an action plan to share with their parents.

I am excited to finally meet students in person! Mr. Morgan

"El amor todo lo puede."

(Love can do it all)



"Try to be the rainbow in someone else's cloud" - Maya Angelou "Sometimes you will never know the value of a moment until it becomes a memory." - Dr. Seuss

"The best preparation for tomorrow is doing your best today." - H. Jackson Brown Jr



Mrs. McKeon Academic Dean



Mrs. Rovner AAP Teacher



Mrs. Cooper Paraprofessional



"Pies para que los quiero si tengo alas para volar" - Frida Kahlo "It always seems impossible until it's done."

- Nelson Mandela

"Why fit in when you were born to stand out?"

- Dr. Seuss

"I never lose. I either win or I learn." - Nelson Mandela



Mrs. Romero Paraprofessional



Mrs. Demaris School Psychologist



Mrs. Peffley
Occupational
Therapist



Ms. Wendy Speech-Language Pathologist

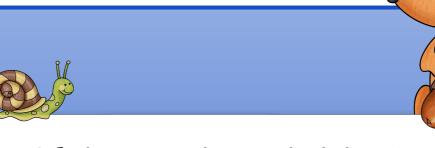
Pop Top Collection for the Ronald McDonald House

Miss Gilbert will be collecting pop tops (soda can tabs) during the school year. At the end of the school year, she will donate the pop tops to be recycled. The money earned from the recycling will go to the Ronald McDonald House. This money will help families stay together at the RMH – giving them a place to rest and refresh while supporting their sick child. Learn more about Ronald McDonald House.

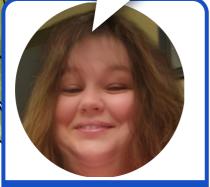


Collecting pop tabs is a great way to teach kids about philanthropy and the importance of recycling while raising funds to help children and their families at the same time. Your child can bring in their collections at any point during the week and school year. They can either bring the pop tops directly to Miss Gilbert or hand them to their homeroom teacher. The tops will then make their way to her room.

Thank you for contributing to the Ronald McDonald House collection!



Wishing you happy holidays!



Mrs. Dawson ED



Mrs. Gallagher
PT



Mrs. Gerdner