



# GIDNEY AVENUE MEMORIAL SCHOOL NEWS LETTER

October 2025



## PRINCIPAL'S UPDATE

We're off to a fantastic start at GAMS! We're so proud of how all our students have returned eager to learn and have fun. It's important that students attend school every day. Please be sure to read with your child for at least 30 minutes each night to help foster a love of reading!

### Vocabulary:

Gidney Avenue Memorial School is dedicated to expanding students' vocabulary knowledge and usage across all grade levels. Families can support this growth by reading together and discussing new words, playing word games like "I Spy" and Mad Libs, labeling objects around the house to build automatic word recognition, and practicing writing sentences and stories using new vocabulary.

Here are some words your scholar will encounter this month:

**Grades K & 1:** curve, discover, disappointed, embarrassed, celebrate, consequences, decide, divide

**Grades 2 & 3:** conclusion, connection, continue, cooperation, data, describe, detail, diagram, compare, construct, continent, contract, credit, culture, dangle, defend

**Grades 4 & 5:** brief, burrow, calculate, circular, clever, confirm, convince, critical, decrease, delicate, demonstrate, descend, banquet, beverage, bland, briskly, budge, cease, century, claim, companion, comply, conclude, conduct

### Writing:

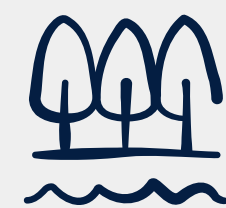
We are dedicated to improving writing skills across all grade levels. One great way to support your child at home is by encouraging them to keep a daily journal or diary. They can write about their day, share their thoughts, or create fun stories! Regular writing helps build confidence, expand vocabulary, and boost creativity. To make it even more enjoyable, try writing alongside your child or asking questions about their entries to encourage deeper thinking.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

10/2 - NO SCHOOL

10/13 - NO SCHOOL

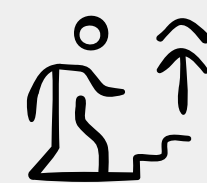
10/31 - ½ DAY FOR STUDENTS



### HISPANIC HERITAGE SHOWCASE

OCTOBER 17, TBD

Parents of performing students will be contacted by teachers with additional information.



### KINDERGARTEN HALLOWEEN PARADE

OCTOBER 24 AT 9AM

Kindergarten Families - Join us for our annual Kindergarten Parade.



### LOOKING FOR PARENT VOLUNTEERS - CAFETERIA AND RECESS

[PLEASE COMPLETE THIS  
FORM IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO  
HELP OUR STUDENTS](#)





# PRINCIPAL'S UPDATE CONTINUED

## Math:

At Gidney Avenue Memorial School, we are committed to developing a community of confident problem solvers who can analyze, interpret and solve math word problems across all mathematical domains. Strengthening these critical thinking skills not only supports success in math but also builds a strong foundation for real-world problem solving.

### Try This at home: “Think Aloud” Together

One simple yet powerful strategy to support your child’s problem-solving skills is to use a “*think aloud*” approach when working through word problems. Read a problem together and pause to model your thinking process out loud. Ask questions like:

- “What is the problem asking me to find?”
- “What information do I already know?”
- “What strategy could I use to solve this?”

Then, invite your child to try thinking aloud too. This encourages them to slow down, analyze the problem step by step, and become more confident in explaining their reasoning. When math becomes a conversation, students begin to understand it more deeply - and that’s when the learning really sticks!

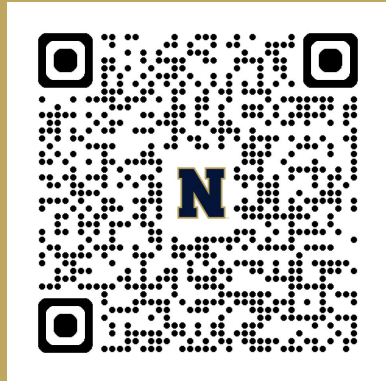
## Our Bike Path!

This summer, GAMS proudly partnered with the United Brain Association and the Orange County Department of Health to bring an exciting new addition to our school—a bike path! Now, our students will have the chance to learn and enjoy bike riding as part of their Physical Education experience. A huge shout-out to Jay Matey and Ava Marish for teaming up with the GAMS PTO to turn this amazing project into a reality.

## DISTRICT NEWS

### SUPERINTENDENT’S CONVERSATIONS SERIES

Dr. Jackie Manning Campbell, Superintendent of Schools, would like to hear from you! Please complete this brief survey, so her upcoming [Community Conversations Series](#) is tailored for our families! We look forward to collaborating with our families as educational partners.



### TEXTING BEGINS!

The district will begin sending texting messages this fall. To receive the messages, make sure your cell phone number is correct in the cell phone field. The number can be listed twice if that is your primary number. All parents/guardians who wish to receive a text should make sure their number is listed in the correct spot in their personal Parent Portal Account.

### WALL CALENDARS

Wall calendars will be distributed to the youngest and only child of each family soon. You will find it in your child’s backpack. Families can always add letter days and school/district events to their Google calendar for the most up to date information.