

**Germantown Elementary School
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**Learning Comes from
Everything and Everyone
Around Us**

germantownbulldogs.org

November 3, 2011

Dear Parents, Guardians, and Community Members,

With the passing of October, we brought the first quarter to a close. The students transitioned nicely into the school routine during the first quarter. At Germantown, we truly are lucky to have hard working students who strive for academic success, families who take a vested interest in their child's education, and a dedicated faculty and staff committed to continuous improvement. Once again this fall, Germantown Elementary was awarded a Bright Star Award. Out of 868 total districts in Illinois, only 79 were honored with the award. The award recognizes school districts with high student performance at low cost. It is through the hard work of the entire school community that we were able to once again earn this award.

Throughout the month of October, the building was undergoing a renovation project. An energy efficiency grant was secured to help fund the replacement of all doors and windows in the old portion of the building. Marion Glass and Window was awarded the bid and completed the work as scheduled. We are very pleased with the results and look to save a significant amount of money over time in energy costs.

Now that we have entered the second quarter, we are busy preparing for several important annual events held at Germantown Elementary School. On Wednesday, November 9, we will honor our Veterans with a Veteran's Day Ceremony. The ceremony will be held in the gymnasium and begin at 8:30. All Germantown community members are welcome and encouraged to attend this ceremony. Once again this year, the Marching Bulldogs will perform in the annual Veteran's Day parade. The parade will be held in New Baden and begin at 2:00 p.m. on November 11.

With the holiday season quickly approaching, preparations have begun for the annual holiday concerts. The band and chorus will perform a series of holiday tunes including an audience sing-a-long on Tuesday, December 13, at 7:00 p.m. in the gymnasium. The PreK through fourth grade students will perform *A Pirate Christmas* on Thursday, December 15. The matinee performance will begin at 2:00. The evening performance is slated to begin at 7:00. All three performances are guaranteed to spread the holiday spirit.

With everything that is planned over the course of the next two months, our schedules will be very busy and time will pass by quickly. Remember to embrace every moment for what it brings because the memories that are created will last for a lifetime.

Best wishes for a safe November and a Happy Thanksgiving!

Robin Becker, Superintendent GES #60