

# Galileo Math & Science Magnet School

“Galileo Falcons Exploring the Great Unknown”

Suanne McCullough, Principal

Attendance: 350-4106 Office: 350-4105

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## Message From the Principal:

### Thank You

I cannot believe your generosity! We filled our extra large coat collection box **three times** with the coats our students donated to the Boise Rescue mission. The challenge leadership program is very grateful for your donations. The Boise Rescue mission will put these coats to good use this cold winter.



## Galileo Calendar

**Jan 30:** Upper Class Pizza Lunch

**Feb 2:** Student letters of intent to return to Galileo next school year go home with students. Math Night registration forms go home

**Feb 2-6:** Counselor Appreciation Week

**Feb 3:** Hal Hazenek Assembly

**Feb 6:** Special Education Winter Olympics celebration at Eagle High

**Feb 13:** No school. Building In-Service

**Feb 16:** No school or work. President's Day. Letters of intent to return must be returned to Galileo by this date at 4:00 p.m.

**Feb 18:** Progress reports go home for students getting a D or F in a subject. PTA meeting in the library at 7:00 p.m.

**Feb 19:** Galileo Science Fair Night from 4:00-7:00 p.m.

**Feb 24:** Tears of Joy Assembly

**Feb 27:** Class pictures all day. Lottery applications for new students to Galileo are due by this date at 4:00 p.m.

## Math Investigations Parent Guide

Many parents have been looking for a resource to help them work with their child(ren) on their math homework from the Investigations Math series grades 1-5. You can get this parent resource from Caxton's Printers in Caldwell, or you can call Pearson Publisher at 1-800-552-2259 to order Investigations Student Math Handbook.

1st grade ISBN 0328240885	4th grade ISBN 0328240915
2nd grade ISBN 0328240893	5th grade ISBN 0328240923
3rd grade ISBN 0328240907	

## News Parents Can Use

The U.S. Department of Education's next Education News Parents Can Use broadcast is scheduled for Tuesday, **February 17, 2009, at 8 p.m. ET**. The broadcast will take a look back at some of the most engaging topics explored on shows from the recent past, including such topics as early childhood education, highly qualified teachers, supporting English language learners, and the value of service learning. The broadcast will also feature video success stories from innovative schools and school districts to illustrate the topical discussions. For more information, please visit [www.ed.gov/edtv](http://www.ed.gov/edtv). Idaho Public Television rebroadcasts this program statewide each month on the following morning at 3 a.m. MT for librarians, parents and teachers to record.



## District Art Collection Project

The District Art Collection Project is now underway. Each student is encouraged to submit one piece of art created at home or at school. Galileo will then choose one piece of art from those submitted to be displayed at the District Service Center as the "School's Choice" for one year.

The winner of the "District's Choice" will become a part of the district's permanent art collection. There will be one "District's Choice" winner from each level; elementary, middle, and high school. Seven other art pieces will be selected to receive awards including area Mayor's awards, Superintendent's Award, and cash prize for Best of Show. **All art pieces must be submitted by March 1** or sooner to the Galileo main office. Winners will be honored at the Art Show on April 24.

### Criteria:

**Size:** 2-dimensional work (painting, collage, prints, drawings, etc): no larger than 18"x24," must be flat and not exceed more than a 3/8" thickness. Entries may be submitted on paper, canvas board, or cardboard. Do not frame artwork!

3-dimensional work: no size limitation.

**Subject Matter:** Should be appropriate for display in a public office. Controversial subject matter should not be submitted.

For more information please contact Chris Lawrence at the Curriculum Office 855-4500 or email [lawrence.christine@meridianschools.org](mailto:lawrence.christine@meridianschools.org)



## Attendance Line: 350-4106

Please call this number between 8:00 a.m. and 9:15 a.m. if your child will be absent for any reason. Please state your child's name, teacher and reason for absence.

## Internet Safety

Parents, if you are looking for information on internet safety for your children here is a good resource for you. Disney now has an expanded Internet safety section.

<http://home.disney.go.com/guestservices/safety>



## Attention Galileo Parents:

The annual **Galileo Italian Dinner and on-line auction** is just around the corner. The auction will begin on February 20 and end on

March 9. **The on-line auction is our biggest fundraiser of the year.** It was a huge success last year, thanks to all your efforts and contributions. We are hoping to make this year's auction even better. As a Galileo parent, you are aware of how important it is to raise funds for our wonderful school. Those funds go to programs and supplies that are not funded by the school district. The

funds raised last year went towards the purchase of such items as playground equipment, math manipulatives, music supplies and provided funds for extracurricular clubs like Engineering, Chess and Writing.

Please consider donating an item or service to this year's auction. If you do not have an item or service to donate but you own a business, there are business sponsorships available.

Please contact K.C. Warner @ 208-695-7523 or [kristinawarner@msn.com](mailto:kristinawarner@msn.com)

The deadline to receive auction donations is **Feb. 10.**

**Thank you for your support.**

## Attendance



With budget cuts taking place in all state agencies at this time it is very

important to schools to have all students in attendance. **Public schools are funded on average daily attendance, not on student enrollment.** If a student is absent the district does not receive funding for that student for that day. Research shows that students that attend school regularly do better in school academically and socially than those that do not attend on a regular basis. At Galileo we do so many projects that making up missed learning opportunities are difficult for students when they are absent. Much of what we do cannot be replicated at home. We appreciate the commitment our Galileo community has towards education. We appreciate the excellent attendance records of our students and want to thank all of you for supporting your child's educational process.

## Homework

Our procedure for homework at Galileo is to have students do **no more than 10 minutes of homework per year in school** a school night. For instance; a first grade students would be expected to do 10 minutes of homework on each school night and to read for pleasure 20 minutes every night, a sixth grade student would be expected to do 60 minutes of homework on each school night and to read for pleasure 30 minutes every night. Homework should be to practice and reinforce skills that the student already knows. Parents are not expected to teach new concepts through homework. We would like students grades K-5 to read for at least 20 minutes a night and in grades 6-8 for at least 30 minutes a night. **Research has shown that students reading out loud to others and/or silently to themselves help to increase their academic success in school.** We appreciate the assistance of our parents in helping our Galileo students find the joy of reading for pleasure.

## Sports



All 7th and 8th grade students from the K-8 schools will have the opportunity to

participate in **one team sport** at their neighborhood middle school. Parents will be responsible for transporting their student to and from the sporting events and for registering their student for the team sport. Students will be required to buy an activity card from their neighborhood middle school if they participate in a team sport at that middle school. Students will miss an elective class the last period of the day at the K-8 schools to allow for the participation in the team sport during the period of time the sport is in session. Be sure to let your school know if your child plans to participate in a sport so their schedule can be developed to allow for their elective at the end of the day during the semester the sport is in session.

## Musical Instruments Needed



Do you need a **tax deductible donation** and do you have unused musical instruments lying around your home? Galileo is in need of instruments for our band and orchestra programs and for our elementary general music program. If you have any instruments you would like to donate to Galileo we would love to have them. Just bring them to the main office and we will write a receipt for you to use in the preparation of your taxes.

## HP Employee Donations

You can donate HP equipment for 75% off the list price and get a tax deduction through the HP Charitable Giving Campaign. New HP matching funds available **Feb 1, 2009.** To participate, contact HP-Galileo Product Champ: **Renee Jessome 396-2424.** She sits 5U E10. Matching funds go fast so please make the check out to "Gifts in Kind" and give to Renee before February 1.

## Family Math Night!

Proving math is a fun and challenging family activity! Math Puzzles, Games, Brain Teasers Age- and grade-level appropriate

**What is it?** An evening for parents to have a good time experiencing **Math Fun d' Mentals** with their elementary age children.

Galileo Math and Science Magnet School will host **Math Fun d' Mentals!** April 7 from 6:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

Open to all students and their parents. (Or uncles, aunts, grandparents, guardians)

**Registration forms are coming home February 2. Watch for them.**

Return the registration form to your child's teacher by **February 27, 2009.**

(500 Elementary Student Spots Available and 200 Middle School Student Spots Available)



## Get Involved

The PTA **needs you** to fill positions for the 2009/10 school year! Did you know that PTA executive officers are not allowed to serve more than two years in any position? This built-in turnover policy allows for new ideas, fresh perspectives, and greater parental involvement. Each and every one of you has something to offer.

Your skills and talents are needed to serve on the PTA executive board and as committee chairs. It's easy.



Pick up a nomination form in the school lobby by the PTA bulletin board and submit it for yourself (or a friend)! It's your turn to make a difference. (See last page for position details.)

## Science ISAT graduation requirement extended to Class of 2013

The Idaho State Board of Education unanimously voted to make proficiency on the science portion of the ISAT a graduation requirement for the Class of 2013 (freshman entering in fall 2009). Previously, the Class of 2012 would have been required to pass this portion of the ISAT to graduate. Superintendent of Public Instruction Tom Luna supported this change to the graduation requirement.

Now, the science portion of the ISAT will become a graduation requirement the same year as other increased high school graduation requirements go into effect. Please visit [www.sde.idaho.gov/site/hs\\_grad\\_requirements.htm](http://www.sde.idaho.gov/site/hs_grad_requirements.htm) to learn more about the new high school graduation requirements.

## Congratulations

The Techno Hogs won a 3rd place trophy for Robot Design at the state of Idaho First Lego League Tournament January 17 in Moscow, Idaho. **Justin Nesbit, Alexander Regner** and **Nathan Regner** from Galileo are members of the team coached by Richard Regner. For the robot design phase of the competition, the judges quiz the teams extensively about their robot designs. The judges said they had a sturdy design (of their robot) and that they were all "future engineers". They placed 6th in robot performance. There were 42 teams competing at the state tournament from Idaho and Utah.

The champion will compete at the international tournament in Europe, May, 2009. We are very proud our team, they had a great showing for their first year.



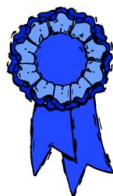
3rd place Lego League trophy

## Grant Requests

Calling all you working parents (or parents that have small children and don't get out much)! How would you like to contribute greatly to Galileo on your own time frame and schedule? We need a couple of people who enjoy writing and would be willing to periodically fill out grant requests so that our school can tap into the abundance of funds that are available to our school if we just ask nicely. Our wonderful second grade teacher, Mr. Harrison is gifted in grant writing and has offered to guide a couple of people in this very important position. Please contact Daphne Pulver, [kdzlr@yahoo.com](mailto:kdzlr@yahoo.com) if you are interested.

## Region 8 Winners

Four of our student's PTA Reflections contest entries won at Region 8 and will be competing at State level. Congratulations to **Sarah Hedley** (Literature), **Oliver Dahl** (Music), **Anna Black** (Music), and **Katelyn Gliedge** (Visual Arts).



## Web Help Wanted

Are you knowledgeable in all things technical and have interests in helping to set up or maintain a website? The PTA needs you! We would love any assistance you may be able to offer towards our goal of better communication with parents and teachers. Please contact KC Warner [kristinawarner@msn.com](mailto:kristinawarner@msn.com) if you are willing to help in this development.



## Galileo Calendar

(continued)

**Mar 1:** Art due to Galileo main office that is to be judged for the district art competition

**Mar 3:** 8th grade High School Orientation Night

**Mar 12:** 8th grade PACE. Last day to place students in classrooms from the 2008-2009 lotteries wait list

**Mar 13:** Our Galileo lottery draw. Upper Class Pizza Lunch

**Mar 17:** Mrs. Derow PACE

**Mar 18:** Mrs. Sarty PACE. PTA meeting in the library at 3:45 p.m.

**Mar 19:** 9:30 Eagle Performing Arts assembly in the Gym, Mrs. Batten PACE & Spring Dance at Galileo

**Mar 20:** All art due to the District Office for their art competition, End of Third Quarter. Early Release K-8

**Mar 23-27:** Spring Break No School or Work

## Activities

**French Group:** Every Monday from 3:30 to 4:15 p.m. in the elementary engineering room

**Engineering Group:** The first Wednesday of each month in the cafeteria from 3:40 to 4:30 p.m.

**Chess Group:** Every Wednesday in the cafeteria from 8:20 to 9:00 a.m.

**Jump Rope Group:** Every Monday in the gym from 3:30 to 4:30 p.m.

**Bank Day:** Every Monday at noon.

## Galileo Information

If you need information about Galileo, want to view an old newsletter, or find out more about the new standards based grading and reporting system please visit our school web site. [www.meridianschools.org](http://www.meridianschools.org), schools, elementary schools, Galileo.

## February Drive

**Thank You** for your continued support of the Eagle Food Bank! The goal for February is to fill the food bank's need for paper products such as **toilet paper, paper towels, paper napkins and women's sanitary supplies**. As always these are just suggested items and all donations are welcome!



Contact: Tammy Kern 938-0199 or [pamperedtammy@msn.com](mailto:pamperedtammy@msn.com)

## Albertsons Shoppers

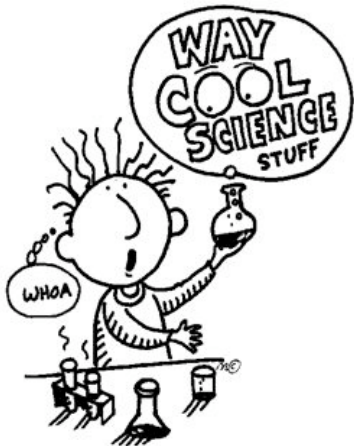
Very important! Even if you have linked your Preferred Savings Card to our organization in the past, **all Community Partner participants have been asked to re-link their cards in 2009** in order for us to continue earning funds. Cards **MUST** be re-linked no later than **February 28th** in order for our school to continue to receive the 4% rebate from the money you spend at Albertsons.

The process is simple and will take only a minute. Please go to: [www.albertsonscp.com](http://www.albertsonscp.com). Click on "Enter and Register Your Preferred Card". Enter your Preferred Card Number (found on the back of your card under the bar code) twice and then hit "Submit". Enter your contact information. Then enter our organization ID Number which is: **49001014816**. Hit "Find" and Galileo Math and Science Magnet School should show up. Be sure to then hit "Add".

**Please, do this for the school today!**

## Science Fair Night

Plan to visit Science Fair Night, **February 19th from 4:00-7:00 p.m.** There will be projects from most grades on display as well as a robotics display, Micron catapults, and the Mountain View Physics club with a hands-on display about magnets and electricity.



## Now Accepting Nominations

- **PTA President** - Motivates others. Has great organizational, communication and delegation skills. Exhibits commitment and dedication through leadership. Steers the ship.
- **PTA Vice President, Fundraising** - Confidently dedicates time to organizing and managing vitally necessary fundraising campaigns. Leads events with creativity and clear communication. Public speaking skills are helpful.
- **Vice President, Academic Programs** - Oversees the popular extracurricular programs at Galileo which include: Chess, Engineering, Jump Rope, Budding Artists and Reflections. Works with each group chairperson to oversee these programs. May establish new activity groups as needed.
- **Vice President, School Services** - Coordinates and oversees the Galileo Directory, Bulletin Board, School Savings program, Spirit Shop, Staff Appreciation program and Wishing Well. Works well with others and excels in communication.
- **Corresponding Secretary** - Writes thank you notes to parent volunteers to recognize and express appreciation for their efforts throughout the year. Helps volunteers realize their importance so they will keep coming back to do more!
- **Recording Secretary** - Takes detailed meeting minutes and transfers them into readable documents which are then shared and added to the permanent record.
- **Treasurer** - Manages PTA funds honestly and accurately with Quicken. Handles deposits/payments/receipts, balances accounts, publishes spreadsheets, oversees allotment of funds and provides a clear explanation of financial specifics to others as needed.
- **All:**

**Time Commitment:** All board members attend two meetings per month, one executive board meeting and the monthly PTA meeting. The time commitments vary from approximately 5 hours a month on up.

**Compensation:** Having a leading voice in shaping events and offerings at Galileo. Getting an inside view of the latest developments effecting students and staff. Interacting with other fun and dedicated parents and staff to shape the kind of overall educational experience that is offered at Galileo.

- **Nomination forms are located in the lobby.**

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*Preparing Today's Students for Tomorrow's Challenges*

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Deadline for the next newsletter is Monday, February 16, 2009. Send submissions to [jonigirl@gmail.com](mailto:jonigirl@gmail.com)

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