



THE CHEETAH CHATTER

W.C. GIESE SCHOOL

January 2016

Volume 50

Number 4

Dear Giese Families,

Welcome to the Holiday Edition of the 2015 - 2016 *Cheetah Chatter*. This was the last day of school for your child. ***All children will return to school on Monday, January 4.***

In order to plan ahead, I wanted to make you aware that there is a 3-hour Early Release scheduled for Friday, January 15. Your child will be released at 11:45am on this day. Also, your child will be off of school on Monday, January 18 for Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day.

Speaking of the PTA, the next meeting will take place on Tuesday, January 12th at 6:00pm in the Giese Library. Please consider stopping by to hear of the exciting things planned for the remainder of the year! Volunteers are always welcome!

The month of January will find all of our Giese Cheetahs (K-5) taking the PALS assessment during this period. It is extremely important that all of our students give their best effort. The data from these assessments will help drive our instruction for the remainder of the school year. Also, in the beginning of the month, will find all of our Giese Cheetahs taking their NWEA Winter MAP assessments.

Regardless of your beliefs during this time of the year, I would like to take a moment and wish each and every Giese Family the best! Enjoy this time of the year with your family. As I am learning all too well, our children grow up way too fast! ☺ Also, take a moment and let those who are important to you know how you feel.

In the interest of practicing what I preach, I would like to take a moment and let the following groups of people know how important they are to me:

- My Family: for putting up with me through the ups and downs of this job
- The Giese Staff: better people I could NEVER hope for
- The Giese PTA: it is truly amazing what 3 people are able to do for a school
- The Giese Families: With your support, anything is possible
- The Giese Cheetahs: for putting a smile on my face every morning that bell rings

Thank you for your time and continued commitment to Giese Elementary...the best kept secret in RUSD!

Respectfully,

Thomas Hyland
Directing Principal - Giese Elementary
"The BEST kept secret in RUSD!"
2014-2015 Title I School of Recognition
2013-2014 Title I School of Recognition

4 year old Kindergarten

I hope that everyone enjoyed the holiday break. It's time to welcome a new year, and I look forward to all it will bring. January is going to be a busy month in Room 7. Winter Pre-K Pals testing will take place beginning on the 11th. I am eager to see the growth that comes from all the hard work we have been putting in. Please help develop early literacy skills at home. Reading to your child and having them read to you are two of the best activities you can do to help your child be prepared for Kindergarten. We are also working on rhyme and name writing, which can be practiced at home. Our Family Involvement Activity for this month is a sledding trip to Lockwood (Graceland) Park on the 22nd. If the weather doesn't cooperate, we will have a play date with snack in Room 7. Speaking of winter activities, please make sure your child is dressed for the weather. Please see me if you are in need of winter gear.

Kindergarten

Hope you have a restful and joyous holiday vacation.

LEARNING: The children in kindergarten have worked hard learning many new skills in reading, math, and writing. We enjoy seeing them have proud moments when they learn something new and try something difficult. Your efforts to make school important to you and your child shows in their positive attitude toward their learning and behavior. Continue to turn in your homework and reading logs.

THANK YOU: A big thanks to all the families who helped us with the Polar Express Family Day. We appreciated and enjoyed having the extra adult help to make the afternoon a success. We enjoyed seeing the movie and comparing it to the book. Please take time to read books to your child and talk about the characters, the setting, and the parts of the story (beginning, middle, and end.) Also don't forget anytime you read to your child or your child reads to you can be added to the reading log sheets (including Great America.)

WEATHER: Just a reminder to label your child's belongings, especially since we get lots of clothing that is similar (i.e. black gloves, black hats, black snow pants, etc.) In the classroom, the temperature fluctuates, so multiple layers to put on or take off help make the day comfortable. Also, during the winter months we have recess daily as long as the temperature and/ or wind chill is higher than 10 degrees. Recess is about 15 minutes, so please make sure your child is prepared with boots and snow pants, especially when snow is on the ground. Also a change of clothes including socks in your child's backpack can be helpful if your child gets wet from the snow or other accidents.

FUNDRAISER: We are working on a fundraiser to help offset the cost of our field trips this spring. More information will be coming home soon. Think, Krispy Kreme, yum!

Hope you and your family have a Happy New Year!

First Grade

We encourage you to make sure your child is well prepared for winter recess. Hats, mittens, snow pants, warm coats and boots are a must. An extra pair of socks is always good to have. (**Please label everything!**) The children love to play in the snow and without proper clothing they end up wet and unhappy for the remainder of the day! The children may not go in the snow if they don't have **BOTH** snow pants and boots. As the days get colder you may also want to have an extra sweater or sweatshirt for your child to put on if they get cold in the classroom.

Please check with your child to see if they are in need of school supplies, especially crayons, pencils, erasers and dry erase markers. A classroom supply that we are always in need of is tissue! With the cold weather our noses are always running!

Keep practicing addition and subtraction facts. Our next topic in math will be Counting and Number Patterns to 100. **Read** with your child every night also! Remember to practice reading their sight word flashcards.

Beginning in January through February we will have testing for PALS and MAP. Please make sure your child gets adequate sleep and eats breakfast.

Second Grade

Happy New Year! We are excited to get back to work and learn everything we can this year. We will be MAP testing and PALS testing right away the first week we are back. Please help prepare your child for this testing by encouraging them to continue to read over break and get good rest the night before school. We appreciate all that you do. Hopefully we will have some snow by then. Please send your children with snow pants and boots as well as mittens and hats for outside play.

We hope this break gives you time to enjoy one another and spend time with family. We will miss your kiddos and look forward to seeing them in 2016!!

Third Grade

Students should be reading for at least 10-15 minutes every night. Encourage them to think about what they have read, ask questions. Please continue to encourage your child to study his/her spelling and vocabulary words. Students should also continue to practice ALL math facts. We have taught all the multiplication facts and will be working on division facts. Practice, practice, practice.....flash cards work great!!!

Fourth Grade

While everyone is at home, enjoying time with friends and family at this time of year, please keep a few things in mind:

1. Continue helping your child practice multiplication and division facts.
2. Practice the states and capitals of the United States.
3. Read for at least 15 minutes per day.
4. There are many websites your child uses at school that he or she can use to practice math and reading skills over the break.

-[www. Raz-kids.com](http://www.Raz-kids.com)

-www.thelearningodyssey.com

-www.sheppardsoftware.com

-reading plus

As always, please let us know if you have any questions/concerns.

HAVE A HAPPY HOLIDAY

Fifth Grade

As we welcome in a New Year, let's continue to remind the students to be doing their best at all times. Of course we expect good behavior but also academically. The first week back from the holiday break will be the reading and math MAPS test on the computer. This is an important piece of information used to evaluate the growth that the students have made since the beginning of the school year. Please have your child get plenty of rest and a good breakfast both mornings that the test is administered. When we return from break, both fifth grade teachers will let the students know the testing days. Also, please keep dressing your child warm for the weather. Unless the temperature or wind chill is below 10 degrees, we will be going outside for recess. If the teachers are bundling up, then the students should be prepared too :) Have a healthy and wonderful New Year! Happy 2016!



A Note from the School Counselor



As we approach the warm the hearts of everyone during the holiday season, our topic was generosity this month. I started out each class with a list of free gifts that we can give daily. Friendship, respect, empathy, hugs, high fives, listening, helping, sharing, greeting, inviting/including, smiles, spending time together, compliments, manners, appreciation etc...We kindly ask the teacher to leave the classroom as another gift for them and we talk about how hard they work each day creating fun learning activities, so they deserve a break too. We make them cards and hang them on the door and surprise them when they return. We even got to fill up the doors of other teachers too. Our 5th graders also did an additional lesson on communication. We talked about what our face, gestures and actions communicate to others. We are preparing them for middle school and beyond! I hope you get some wonderful free gifts! Enjoy the holiday season and Happy 2016!

Check out www.loveandlogic.com for some great parenting resources.

As always feel free to contact us anytime with any questions or concerns.

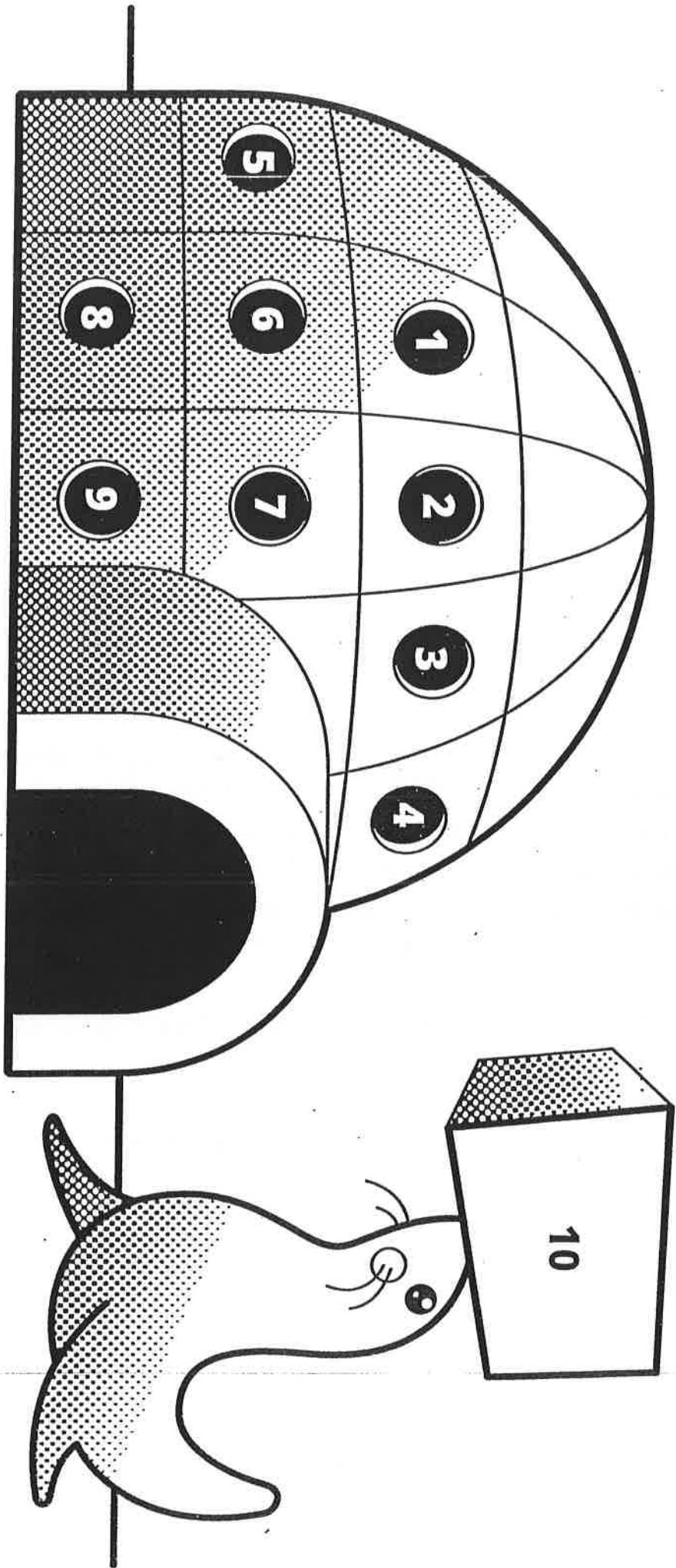
Mrs. Howard 664-8282 (Counselor)

Mrs. Podskarbi 664-8262 (Social Worker)

Attendance Line : 664-8255



HELP FRANK "SEAL UP" HIS HOME FOR THE WINTER WITH BOX TOPS!



Thank you for helping! Every Box Top you collect is worth 10¢ for your school.
To see more ways to earn cash for your school, go to bte.com!

January 2016



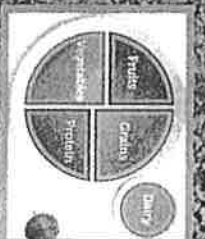
Racine Unified Elementary Lunch Menu



Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
4 Welcome Back! Mini Corn Dogs Baked Beans Fresh Cauliflower Diced Pears	5 Fiesta Beef Nachos* Golden Sweet Corn Zesty Salsa Red Delicious Apple	6 Chicken & Gravy Whipped Potatoes Dinner Roll Crunchy Baby Carrots Golden Peaches	7 Cheese Quesadilla Seasoned Green Beans Tortilla Chips w/ Zesty Salsa Red Delicious Apple	8 Juicy Cheeseburger Steamed Carrots Fresh Broccoli Buds w/ Ranch Dressing Applesauce
11 Chicken Nuggets Seasoned Brown Rice* Cucumber Slices Crunchy Baby Carrots w/ Ranch Dressing Fruit Medley	12 Pizza Dippers w/ Marinara Dipping Sauce Romaine Salad Golden Peaches	13 Lucky Tray Day Meatball Hoogie* Sweet Garden Peas Crunchy Baby Carrots 100% Pure Apple Juice	14 Crispy Chicken Sandwich Baked Beans Cucumber Slices w/ Ranch Dressing Raisins	15 Early Release Turkey & Cheese Sub Crisp Celery Sticks Cucumber Slices w/ Ranch Dressing Diced Pears
18 No School!	19 French Toast Sticks w/ Turkey Sausage Patty 100% Mango Mango Vegetable Juice Cucumber Slices Diced Pears	20 Fiesta Beef Nachos* Golden Sweet Corn Tortilla Chips w/ Zesty Salsa Red Delicious Apple	21 Cheesy Pizza Slice Crunchy Baby Carrots Fresh Broccoli Buds w/ Ranch Dressing Applesauce	22 Spaghetti w/ Meat Sauce* & Garlic Toast Romaine Salad w/ Ranch Dressing Golden Peaches
25 Crispy Chicken Sandwich Golden Sweet Corn Fresh Broccoli Buds w/ Ranch Dressing Red Delicious Apple	26 Hot Diggity Dog Steamed Broccoli Cherry Tomatoes w/ Ranch Dressing 100% Pure Apple Juice	27 Salisbury Steak w/ Gravy Whipped Potatoes Dinner Roll Crunchy Baby Carrots Fruit Medley	28 Mini Corn Dogs Baked Beans Crisp Celery Sticks w/ Ranch Applesauce	29 Cheese Quesadilla Seasoned Green Beans Tortilla Chips w/ Zesty Salsa Red Delicious Apple

This menu follows USDA National School Lunch Program guidelines. This institution is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

* Contains beef



It's a New Year!
Take advantage of this new year and start fresh!
* Begin the New Year by trying new fruits and vegetables offered during lunch.
* You may also start a new healthy habit by eating a wholesome breakfast every day!

2016

Lunch \$2.45
(Milk included with meal)

Milk 45¢
Offered Daily:
Skim White, Skim Chocolate

Questions
Call Arbor Management, Inc.
262-664-8700

Menu changes may be necessary. Notice will be given when possible.
A comprehensive Nutrition & Allergy Guide is available on the Unified website.
For more information or to "Ask the Dietitian" check out our website!

Elementary menus are pork- and nut-free.

January 2016

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
3	4 "B-DAY"	5 "C-DAY"	6 Scan Man Puppet Show Grade K "A-DAY"	7 "B-DAY"	8 "C-DAY"	9
10	11 "A-DAY"	12 "B-DAY"	13 "C-DAY"	14 "A-DAY"	15 3 Hr. Early Release 11:45 dismissal "B-DAY"	16
17	18 NO SCHOOL M L King Day	19 Start of 2 nd Semester "C-DAY"	20 "A-DAY"	21 "B-DAY"	22 Report Cards Go home 4K Family Involvement	23
24	25 Just Say No 8:40-9:10 "A-DAY"	26 "B-DAY"	27 "C-DAY"	28 Jump Rope for Heart Assembly 8:30-9:00	29 "B-DAY"	30
31						