



# THE CHEETAH CHATTER

## W.C. GIESE SCHOOL

February, 2017

Volume 51

Number 6

Dear Giese Families,

Welcome to the February Edition of the 2016 – 2017 *Cheetah Chatter*. I think we are all glad to see January come to an end, as it has certainly been one crazy month of weather. Let's hope that it will finally begin to warm up so that we can begin to see the light at the end of the tunnel.

We just finished the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter of the school year. Teachers will be completing your child's report card and they will be sent home to you. Talk to your child about their grades and discuss ways to make any improvements.

Your child is currently taking their Winter NWEA MAP assessments in the subjects of reading and mathematics. We will be sending home results of how your child performed by the end of February. Your child will then take these same assessments in the spring where we hope to see a lot of growth shown by ALL Giese Cheetahs.

Speaking of volunteers, it has been really nice walking around the building over the last several months and witnessing the number of volunteers giving their time to help our students. ANY help/time that you can provide is appreciated and welcomed. If you haven't been approved as a WINGS volunteer, please contact your child's teacher and we will get a form sent out to you immediately.

The next scheduled 2-hour Early Release is Friday, February 17<sup>th</sup>. All Giese Cheetahs will be released at 12:45pm that day. Lunch will be served.

On a more serious note, the dropping off and picking up of students has once again become a concern. Please remember that the front roundabout is to be utilized only by school buses and day care providers. Also, the staff parking lot is just for that, staff. Please refrain from pulling into the parking lot to drop your child off or pick them up. I make these requests solely in the interest of safety for all of our Giese Cheetahs. I thank you, in advance, for your cooperation in this matter.

Respectfully,

Tom Hyland  
Principal – Giese Elementary  
"The BEST kept secret in RUSD!"  
2014 Title I School of Recognition  
2013 Title I School of Recognition



## 4 year old Kindergarten

Happy February ☺ We will have a Valentine's Day art stations on Tuesday February 14<sup>th</sup>. Helpers are welcome as long as they are approved through Wings. We will use the city bus to travel around Racine and observe some of the buildings along the route to celebrate our learning during our building study. I am also looking for Wings approved volunteers to share their building expertise and tools with students in room 7. Please see me if you are interested. Our February Family Involvement activity will be a Dr. Seuss read-in and birthday party in room 7 from 12:30-1:40 on Friday the 24<sup>th</sup>. As winter continues, I have noticed there are some friends that are not dressed warmly. We are outside from 7:50-8:00 unless the temperature or wind chill is 10 degrees or more, as well as when the weather cooperates for outdoor recess. Please see me if you are in need of winter gear.

## Kindergarten

*"If February gives much snow, a fine summer it doth foreshow" (English proverb).*

REPORT CARDS: We have just finished the first half of the school year with a lot of hard work and learning in our kindergarten classrooms. Second quarter report cards will be sent home. Please review your child's progress. If you have any questions, please send a note to your child's teacher.

PRACTICE AT HOME: The skills learned in kindergarten are the foundation to further learning in the coming years. So it is very important that these new skills are repeatedly practiced at home to help the children build confidence and mastery in each of the area learned. All kindergartners should be reading small three letter words, with the C-V-C format. That is Consonant-Vowel-Consonant, such as cap, mat, fit, dip, etc. Also please continue to memorize sight words and read lots of books at home.

FUN DAYS AHEAD: Some fun things for the children are being planned. February is a short month but it is packed with lots of milestones and holidays. Some include: A day to celebrate our classroom friendships for Valentine's Day, 100th day of school, Groundhog's day, and Presidents Day. Check with your child's teacher for further details about these upcoming events in the classrooms. Mark your calendars and see how you can participate.

FUNDRAISER: We are planning on having a Krispy Kreme fundraiser this month. Your child will receive an order form to take orders and collect payment. The fundraiser will help offset the cost of our spring field trips. More info will be coming soon.

*"Tell me and I'll forget; show me and I may remember; involve me and I'll understand."*

*(Chinese proverb) Here's to a great second half of the school year!*

## First Grade

Our first graders are starting the new semester with a lot of enthusiasm! Many new skills continue to be introduced, so being on time, good attendance, adequate rest, and proper nutrition are all important. These things are especially important as we are completing MAP testing.

Valentine's Day will soon be here and we will have celebrations in the classroom. Our parties will be on Tuesday, February 14<sup>th</sup>. More information will be coming home from your child's teacher.

In Math we are finishing Module 7 – Combination of tens in addition. Module 8 will cover addition, subtraction and time. Don't forget to keep practicing addition and subtraction facts. Knowing these will help your child greatly as we continue to explore addition and subtraction. Also, practice skip counting by 2, 5, 10's.

## Second Grade

The second grade is taking the winter MAP tests in reading and math the first week of the month. Please make sure your child gets plenty of rest and eats breakfast at school or home. We want every child to do their best on the test.

Please check your child's backpack for a note coming home about classroom Valentine's Day parties. Each classroom will send a note and if you have any questions please call your child's teacher.

The second grade will be taking another field trip to the Golden Rondelle on Wednesday, February 15<sup>th</sup>. They will see an operatic version of The Three Billy Goats Gruff. Field trip slips have been sent home. Please make sure your child returns the signed form to their teacher.

Make sure your child comes to school dressed for the weather and check to see if they are in need of any school supplies. Thank you for all of your support and please feel free to contact us with any concerns you may have.

## Third Grade

You should have received your child's report card, if you have any concerns, please contact your child's teacher.

It is a good idea to continue to practice multiplication and division facts so these are not lost. Flashcards are an easy way to help your child practice these math facts. Rather than buying flashcards, have your child make some.

**PLEASE** make sure your child is **READING** daily for at least 20 minutes for fluency and comprehension practice. Remember to keep track of reading minutes to earn a FREE ticket to Six Flags Great America. These forms were given out at parent teacher conferences. If your child needs a new form we have them available. It's always nice to receive incentives for things that we are already doing. These reading sheets are due Friday, February 10<sup>th</sup>. Keep up the reading!

Look for a note from your child's teacher with details on Valentine's Day parties. They will be held on Tuesday, February 14<sup>th</sup>.

There have been a lot of students who have been displaying disrespectful behaviors towards their adults and peers. Please have a discussion with your child about respect.

### Fourth Grade

The fourth graders have many things planned for the month of February. One thing that will be starting is MAP testing for the winter. Please discuss the results with your children and compare their results with the growth score that we shared with you at conferences. Students should show an increase in math and reading.

Another fun activity that we have planned is our Valentine's Day party. We will be planning to have the party on February 14<sup>th</sup>. Please be watching for party details and a list of students that is soon to come. If you can send treats, please let us know, also.

A final thing to work on is multiplication, place value and fractions. Please remember that there is that needs to be completed by your child and returned the following day. This homework is always a reinforcement of math skills learned in the chapter. Please check your child's assignment book to see if there is a math sheet that day.

### Fifth Grade

Happy New Year!! As the New Year has rolled in, we are continuing to be diligent in our work! We are pushing forward for the upcoming MAP TESTING, which will be this upcoming week! Please be sure to eat a good breakfast, get plenty of rest and speak positive words of encouragement as they head to school!

In an effort to help prepare your child for middle school, we have had Starbuck Middle School's principal and counselor come to Giese to assist with scheduling and to answer questions about the transition to middle school. Please look for a schedule that you will need to sign. If your child will not be attending Starbuck they will still fill out the schedule and it will later be transferred to the middle school that they will attend.

Lastly, some students are beginning to misbehave in library, gym, music etc. Please remind your child of appropriate school behaviors no matter where they are in the building. ☺

## IMPORTANT NOTICE FROM THE ATTENDANCE OFFICE

**ATTENDANCE & TARDINESS.....**It is very important to notify the office on our attendance phone number at **664-8255** if your child is going to be absent from school. If you do not notify us of your child's absence, we are obligated to call your home.

Wisconsin law allows for **up to 10 days** in a school year to be excused. Beyond this number of absences, medical excuses and/or written requests for absences must be provided and approved.

If your child has a medical reason for an extended absence, written documentation from a doctor is required for the absence to be excused. Any visit to a doctor, dentist, ER, or other health provider may be excused if written documentation is provided to the attendance office. These absences will not be counted toward the 10 days allowed in a school year.

The school day begins promptly at **8:00**. Students who arrive after 8:00 are considered tardy. Please help us begin our school days on time and without disruption from students who arrive late.

If your child is going to be later and needs a hot lunch, please call the main office line at 664-8250 before ~~8:50~~ 8:50 a.m. to order one. Any address and/or phone number changes need to be reported to the main office.

Thank you for your help and cooperation with these matters. If you have any questions, please contact Susan Podskarbi, School Social Worker, at 664-8262.



**AMC Sensory  
Friendly Films**



### **AMC Theaters – Sensory Friendly Films In Partnership with the Autism Society**

AMC theaters have partnered with the Autism Society to bring sensory friendly films to families affected by Autism and other disabilities. This program has expanded to showcase up to four movies every month and provide an environment that is sensitive to special sensory needs. The lights are turned up and the sound is turned down! Viewers are invited to get up out of their seats and dance, shout, walk or sing-a-long with the film! Tuesday evening showings have been added that may appeal to older audiences, and family-friendly films will continue to show on Saturday mornings.

The closest participating theater to the Racine area:

**AMC Theater - Mayfair Mall  
2500 N. Mayfair  
(Hwy 100 & North Ave.)  
Wauwatosa, WI 53226  
Guest Services: (414) 777-0467**

January Showings: *(date, film & admission prices are subject to change at any time)*

**The Lego Batman Movie – February 11  
Rings – February 14  
Rock Dog – February 25  
Fist Fight – February 28**

**Special admission price: Adults \$9 and Children \$7**

**\*\* Share your photos and posts of your experiences with #AMCSensoryFriendly**

For more information, contact Mayfair Mall's AMC Theater or Giese's Speech Language Pathologist, Mrs. Cronin at 664-8265.  
Or visit the following web sites for more information:

Autism Society: <http://www.autism-society.org/get-involved/other-ways-to-get-involved/sensory-friendly-films/>

AMC Theater–Mayfair Mall: <https://www.amctheatres.com/programs/sensory-friendly-films>

### **Krispy Kreme Fundraiser**

Starting on Thursday, February 2nd  
We will be selling Krispy Kreme Doughnuts to help us raise field trip funds.  
This fundraiser is sponsored by kindergarten.

#### Important Dates

Order forms: Send home - Thursday, February 2

**Forms DUE: Tuesday, February 14**

**Doughnut Pick up - Thursday, February 23**



**Cash Payment** must be received with Order form. Each box (1 dozen) cost \$10.  
You have the option to pick up your doughnuts or have them sent home with your child.

# February 2017



## Racine Unified Elementary Lunch Menu



Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
6 Cheeseburger Meatloaf Dinner Roll Glazed Carrots Cucumber Coins Apple Half	7 Crispy Chicken Sandwich Baked Beans Baby Carrots Pefite Banana	8 French Toast Stixs Turkey Sausage Patty Hash Brown Square Dragon Punch Juice Orange Slices	9 Pepperoni Lil' Bites Spaghetti Sauce Steamed Broccoli 100% Apple Juice	10 Beef Tacos Golden Sweet Corn Romaine Fresh Pear
13 Cheese Pizza Fresh Broccoli Baby Carrots Pefite Banana	14 <b>Lucky Tray Day</b> Chicken Pop Dogs Baked Beans Celery Sticks Applesauce	15 Pancakes Turkey Sausage Patty Hash Brown Square 100% Mango Wango Vegetable Juice Orange Slices	16 Hot Ham & Cheese on Pretzel Bun Fresh Broccoli Baby Carrots Diced Pears	17 Early Release Muffin Yogurt Power Pack WG Chocolate Chip Muffin Yogurt Cup Baby Carrots Celery Sticks Apple Half
<b>Strawberry MILK</b>				
20 NO SCHOOL	21 Chicken Nuggets Pears Baby Carrots Fruit Medley	22 French toast Stixs Turkey Sausage Patty Hash Brown Square Dragon Punch Juice Orange Slices	23 Cheesy Lasagna Roll Spaghetti Sauce Garlic Toast Fresh Cauliflower Applesauce	24 Juicy Cheeseburger Baked Beans Baby Carrots Apple Half
27 Cheese Pizza Steamed Broccoli Baby Carrots Pefite Banana	28 Popcorn Chicken Baked Beans Dinner Roll Cucumber Coins Juicy Pineapple	1 Sausage, Egg, Cheese Burrito Hash Brown Square 100% Mango Wango Vegetable Juice Orange Slices	2 Turkey Hot Dog Tator Tots Cherry Tomatoes 100% Apple Juice	3 Fiesta Beef Nachos Golden Sweet Corn Salsa Tortilla chips Apple Half



**Farm Fresh Produce**  
*Feeding...*  
**Cherry**

Nutrients in cherries can help heal muscles. Try a smoothie with tart cherries and chocolate milk for the ultimate post-workout recovery drink!

**Lunch \$2.55**  
(Milk included with meal)

**Milk 45¢**  
Offered Daily:  
Skim White, Skim Chocolate

### Arbor A+ Nutrition Standards:

- ✓ Encourage nutritious & delicious Fruits & Vegetables
- ✓ Chicken raised Cage-Free and Grain-Fed with NO added Hormones/Steroids
- ✓ Fat Free or 1% Milk with NO Artificial Growth Hormones
- ✓ Whole Grain Rich products every day
- ✓ Baked instead of Deep Fried
- ✓ Minimal Saturated Fat, Added Sugars, Artificial Ingredients, and Sodium whenever possible!

~Arbor Management~

**Make Choices for a Healthy Lifestyle!**  
Questions about the menu?

Arbor Management, Inc.  
262-864-8700  
dell@arbor@nmsd.org

Comprehensive nutrition & allergy guides are available under "Food Service" on the RUSD website.

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

Elementary menus are pork- and nut-free.

JANUARY 2017

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

MARCH 2017

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

# FEBRUARY 2017

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	29	30	31	1	2	3
				MAP Testing "C-DAY"	Kindg. Krispy Kreme Fundraiser begins Cheer Practice "A-DAY"	4K in Session Knapp vs. Giese Basketball 4:30
LIBRARY WEEK	5	6	7	8	9	10
		"C-DAY"	"A-DAY"	"B-DAY"	"C-DAY"	"A-DAY"
	12	13	14	15	16	17
			Krispy Kreme order forms & cash due Choir 2:45-3:30	Gr. 2 to Golden Rondelle 12:00-1:30 "A-DAY"	Kindergarten Gr. 1 to Golden Rondelle 10:15- 11:45 "B-DAY"	2 Hr. Early Release 12:45 Dismissal Giese vs. Mitchell 6:30 "C-DAY"
LIBRARY WEEK	19	20	21	22	23	24
		Presidents' Day NO SCHOOL!!	Choir 2:45-3:30 "A-DAY"	4K Field Trip "B-DAY"	Krispy Kreme Pick-Up 1:15 or 3:00 "C-DAY"	4K Family Engagement 10:00 Giese vs. West Ridge 6:30 "A-DAY"
	26	27	28	1	2	3
		Gr. 3 to Planetarium 9:30-11:45 "B-DAY"	Choir 2:45-3:30 "C-DAY"			