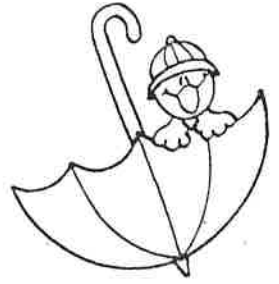




THE CHEETAH CHATTER

W.C. GIESE SCHOOL



April 2017

Volume 51

Number 8

Dear Giese Families,

Welcome to the April Edition of the 2016-2017 *Cheetah Chatter*. This is probably our busiest month of the year. There are a lot of different activities and events taking place that I want to make you aware of. Your continued support is so important to what we do around here!

April brings another round of testing. We will take the Forward Exam. We are encouraging our students to do their best.

We just completed the third quarter, which officially ended on Friday, March 24th. If you were unable to make it to conferences, your child's report card will be sent home to you. We still encourage you to meet with your child's teacher so you know what to expect for the fourth quarter

Spring Recess will begin on April 13th at 2:45. The students will return to school on Monday, April 24th. Enjoy your time off!!! When we return, it is back to work as usual. We will be preparing for the Spring MAP tests

The next Early Release is scheduled for Friday, May 19th. This will be a two-hour early release and lunch will not be served. Your child will be dismissed at 12:45 p.m.

We have selected tentative dates for the Spring MAP testing window. Spring MAP will begin in early May and last for approximately 2 weeks.

Finally, several parents have asked me about Summer School. Summer School will not be held at Giese this year. SC Johnson and Knapp are the 2 closest sites for your children. I strongly encourage you to consider Summer School. Many students will show an academic regression due to not being academically challenged for the summer. By attending Summer School, your child will be engaged in fun activities in Reading, Math, and Science

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

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Thomas Hyland".

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

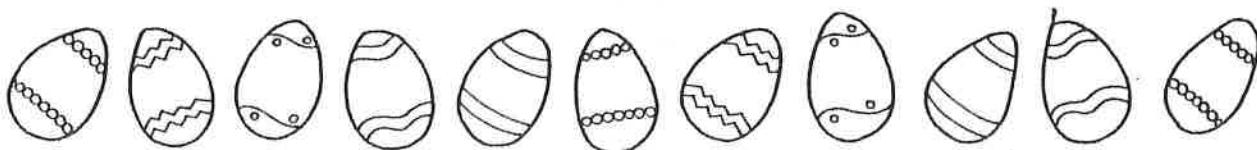


4 Yr. Old Kindergarten

We are studying reduce, reuse and recycle this month. I would like to make paper with the students and am in need of a deckle. It is basically a window screen in between two wooden frames. I will provide all the materials if someone can construct it. There are examples and directions on You Tube. Please see me if you can help. I am excited to see the first signs of spring! I look forward to outdoor recess after this long winter of being inside. Please dress your child appropriately for the weather, as we will go outside as often as possible. I appreciate a change of shoes to help keep our classroom free of mud. Pals literacy screening begins on April 24th. Please reinforce early literacy skills at home, reading to your child is one of the most important things you can do. I appreciate all of the hard work going on at home, and it is exciting to watch all of the children bloom socially and academically.

Kindergarten

We are done with the third quarter. Report cards will be sent home, let us know if you have any comments or concerns. The students are truly blossoming in their abilities, confidence, and friendships. We are very proud of the extra work they are doing at home to refine the skills taught at school. Continue to practice counting by 1's, 2's, 5's, & 10's. The children should also be working on learning all high frequency words and practicing blending letters to build, read, and spell words. We have several fun events planned for the spring. We will have a special concert at our annual Mother's Day Tea on Friday 5/12. There will be a field trip to Riverbend on Wednesday 5/3 and to Green Meadows on Tuesday 5/30. Please note the permission slip, lunch order, and fees are due Friday 5/5 for Green Meadows Farm. Thanks so much for your continued support of our efforts to provide the best education for your child. Enjoy the ever-changing spring weather.



First Grade

We have wrapped up three quarters of the school year with one more to go. Let's do our best to make it great! There is still a lot of learning to be done, so please encourage your child to stay focused. Spring MAP testing for 1st grade will begin soon. This is the last time your child will take the MAP test this school year. This is a very important test. Please make sure your child is well rested and fed before he or she takes the test.

We are working on double-digit addition and subtraction in math. Please remember to keep practicing addition and subtraction facts. Encourage reading and writing at home also. The Racine Public Library is always an excellent resource for finding books your child will enjoy reading.

Please remember to sign and return the lower part of the report card. Look for information to come home about summer school. Thank you to all of those who attended the Spring Parent-Teacher Conferences!

Second Grade

It is hard to believe that it is April. Thank you to all the parents who attended parent teacher conferences. Spring break starts on Friday, April 14 and the students return to school on Monday, April 24. Please check your child's backpack for their report card and discuss it with them. We have a lot of learning left to do this year. Our last round of MAP testing will be in early May. Please continue to work with your child at home on their reading and math skills as we continue to push forward here at school.

Third Grade

Although it may be hard to believe, we have come to the final quarter of the school year. Report cards were sent home today. Please take some time to look them over with your child. The bottom portion should be signed and returned as soon as possible.

Our students have been taking the Forward Exam. This is a state test that all Wisconsin third graders take.

Your child should be continuing to practice memorizing their basic facts at home, as well as spending time reading nightly. If you have Internet access, please encourage your child to work on Compass Learning, First In Math and they can also read books at their level on Raz Kids.

We have been experiencing some behaviors that don't line up with our school/classroom expectations. Please help us by reinforcing the importance of following all school/classroom rules.

Fourth Grade

Wow! Where has this school year gone? We are entering the last quarter of the school year, and we still have much learning to be done. PLEASE continue practicing flash cards at home for multiplication and division.

We will be having a fundraiser in April to help us earn extra money for our fourth grade. The fundraiser will involve students taking orders from other students at school for Mother's Day. We will be selling carnations for Mother's Day, and we will be charging \$1.00 for each flower. The students will be making signs and order forms to send home in April.

Many students are running low on pencils. Could you please ask your child if they are in need of anymore? If so, please send them.

In social studies we will begin to learn about the east. Please be on the lookout for vocabulary to study and states and capitals to practice.

At the end of the month we will jump into our plants unit for Science as spring is in full spring. This is always a fun unit for us to begin planting things to grow and learn about the life cycle of a plant.

We appreciate all that you do as parents. Please feel free to contact us if you have any questions or concerns. Let's make this last quarter the best quarter ever!

Fifth Grade

It was so great to see so many of you at Spring Conferences!

We are now on our 4th and final quarter. In an effort to have continued grade level success, please be sure that your child continues to attend school daily. We know that students who attend daily have less gaps within their learning. Also, spring is a time when the weather "breaks" and some kiddos lose focus. Encourage your child to finish the year strong and remain focused!

With that bring said, mark your calendars for Tuesday, June 6th! We will have our 5th Grade Awards Celebration promptly at 1:10 p.m. See you there!!

IMPORTANT:

Have you filled out your emergency contact information online?

RUSD's emergency contact information is now online! This means that all the information that was once on the paper emergency cards is now stored in the Infinite Campus Parent Portal. If you haven't done so already, please come to the school with a Photo ID and get your login for your Infinite Campus Parent Portal account and make sure your emergency contact information is up to date and accurate.

If you need help logging in please visit www.rusd.org for step-by-step directions or contact the main office.

ATTENDANCE MATTERS:

Excellent attendance is essential to school success. Students are expected, when healthy, to attend all scheduled classes and activities on time except as excused by the school. When students are ill, parents/guardians need to report their child's absence by calling our 24 hour Attendance line ~~262-664-8255~~ even if you have notified the teacher.

If your child has been absent 10+ days this semester/year due to illness or other reasons, these absences are considered excessive and we will need a medical statement from your child's physician to excuse her/him for the remainder of this school term. All remaining absences, which are not accompanied by a doctor's excuse, will be treated as trancies as per our District Policy.

SPRING CLEANING?

As you are Spring Cleaning? If anyone has any children's clothes, especially boys pants sizes 5-8, we would really appreciate you donating them to the office. When children have accidents at school we are getting very low and often do not have any change of clothes to offer. Thank you in advance.

GIESE McTEACHER NIGHT

Tuesday, April 11th is our annual Giese McTeacher Night at McDonalds Restaurant on S. Green Bay Road from 5:00-7:00 p.m. Join us for dinner and support Giese School, as a portion of all proceeds help Giese School. Come see your teachers serve up French fries & Happy Meals.

SUMMER SCHOOL 2017 INFORMATION

Summer School brochures are available now. Unfortunately Giese Elementary will NOT be having Summer School this year, so the closest schools to us will be Fratt, S.C. Johnson, or Knapp. Transportation is not provided for Summer School. You may sign-up online at <http://newsrusd.org/summerschool1617>. Summer School runs Monday-Thursday from 8:00-1:30. If you do not have access to a computer, just stop by the Giese office to use our kiosk in the office or visit the RUSD Welcome Center at 3109 Mt. Pleasant Street Monday-Friday from 7:30-4:30 to register. If you have any questions regarding Summer School please call 631-7108.

A Note from the School Counselor and Social Worker

March's focus was on college and career planning. We did all sorts of activities in the classroom. Every student had the chance to share their thoughts of what they want to be when they grow up. PK-K heard the story LMNO Peas and we explored careers and jobs. The 1st-4th graders got to play career jeopardy (5th will get a chance soon). We also talked about the amount of school and college needed for the variety of careers. Our 5th graders talked about taking care of their whole self (mind, body, brain...). We discussed self-care, balancing life, school, goals etc....Stay tuned for more details on upcoming 5th grade events.

We are actively collecting for our Leukemia and Lymphoma Society fundraiser. Many other rooms are raising quite a bit. The competition is on out there among the classrooms. Thanks for all of your donations to help those that are sick. We'll announce our winners soon. Thank you to everyone for their donations to help fund this necessary organization helping local children who are suffering. GIESE ROCKS!!

Upcoming Spring Events: May 3rd, Family Bingo Night. Stay tuned for more details and mark your calendar.

We are still noticing a few concerns lately as well. Some of the children are not making it for breakfast and have a hard time at school when they are hungry. We have breakfast here from 7:30-7:45 am and we know it is cold, but if they don't eat at home please send them so they can eat here. Otherwise some students (if their dinner was at 5pm) are waiting up to 16 hours to eat again as they wait for lunch at school. Meals with plenty of protein are necessary! Please make sure they are getting enough sleep too. Our students should be sleeping approximately 10-12 hours a night.

Feel free to contact us at anytime or visit us at conference time! Helpful websites:
www.loveandlogic.com, www.kidshealth.org and <http://www.racinecountyfoodbank.org/>

Racine County Food Bank: (262) 632-2307
Mrs. Howard (counselor) 664-8282
Mrs. Podskarbi (social worker) 664-8262
Attendance line - 664-8255



School Success Starts Early

Getting Kids to Relate to Their Teacher Is the Best Strategy

In my work with kids and teachers over the years, I've witnessed the many benefits of healthy student-teacher relationships. Establishing a connection between your child and his or her teachers is key to success in school and throughout life.

Regardless of a child's scholastic abilities, parents can show him or her how to get along with teachers. Before your kids start school, give them a powerful advantage over other children by teaching them the following practical, easy-to-learn skills:

Tip 1: Smile and say "hello" to your teacher everyday.

Kids who greet their teachers with a smile and a warm "hello" every morning usually have fewer problems with their teachers throughout the day. It is important, however, for parents to help their kids understand it is necessary to not overdo it. Try practicing with your child.

Tip 2: Pay attention to your teacher. While your teacher is talking, look him or her in the eyes, smile, and nod.

Love and Logic parents know that helping their child relate to teachers will increase the child's interest in what is being taught. One parent I know had a daughter who experienced difficulty paying attention in class.

After the parent suggested looking at the teacher, smiling, and nodding, she became more engaged in her learning and was better prepared to ask questions about the lessons.

Teachers enjoy working with children who are interested in learning. Students who are attentive and "encourage" their teachers during the lesson have an advantage

over those who do not. In addition, these children will be more comfortable approaching a teacher with any concerns they may have.

Tip 3: Raise your hand periodically to ask a question about the lesson.

A child who asks questions shows the teacher he or she is paying attention to the lesson being taught.

Tip 4: Say "please" and "thank you."

It is important for parents to model good manners. At the Love and Logic Institute, we've found that children learn much more from our actions than from our words. What we say in front of our kids is more important than what we say to them. For example, when your child is nearby, you might say to your spouse, "I sure do appreciate all of your help today around the house. Thank you so much."

Kids who use these skills in school will have an advantage over kids who do not. These skills also will carry over to the workforce, which will give children an advantage over others throughout their professional lives.

One student I know suffered from significant learning problems. Many people thought he would not be successful in his professional life. Much to their surprise, however, he went on to have a wonderful career and did better than kids who were much "brighter," because his parents taught and reinforced good relationship skills over and over again.

Don't wait! Start using these Love and Logic techniques and join the thousands of parents who are raising successful, responsible kids.

People who are really successful implementing this skill purchased [*Raising The Odds for Responsible Behavior*](#)





**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**

April Showings: (date, film & admission prices are subject to change at any time. Please contact theater for show times)

**Boss Baby – April 8
Ghost in the Shell – April 11
Smurfs – April 22
The Fate of the Furious – April 25**

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>



April is National Autism Awareness Month

By: Kyami Cronin, M.S., CCC-SLP, Speech-Language Pathologist,
Giese Elementary School

The Autism Society has chosen the month of April to celebrate National Autism Awareness. Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) is a complex developmental disability, which consists of certain behaviors that affect each individual differently and to varying degrees. It typically appears in individuals within the first three years of life and affects the person's ability to communicate and interact with others. There is no known single cause of autism. Statistic reports of 2014 revealed the prevalence of autism is found in 1 of every 68 children born in the United States and almost 1 of 54 boys. Autism is treatable, but never "outgrown." Early identification and interventions can lead to significantly improved outcomes.

A few signs to look for in the children in your life: lack of or delay in spoken language, repetitive use of language and/or motor mannerisms (e.g., hand-flapping, twirling objects), little or no eye contact, lack of interest in peer relationships, lack of spontaneous or make-believe play, and/or persistent fixation on parts of objects. *The National Institute of Child Health and Human Development (NICHD) lists five specific behaviors that indicate further evaluation may be necessary:* **by 12 months:** does not babble or coo, gesture, point, wave or grasp; **by 16 months:** does not say single words; **by 24 months:** does not say 2-word phrases on his/her own; and **at any age** has a loss of any language or social skill.

Having these behaviors does not mean your child has autism, but individuals demonstrating these behaviors should be evaluated by a multi-disciplinary team. This team may include a neurologist, psychologist, developmental pediatrician, speech/language therapist, learning consultant, or other professionals knowledgeable about autism. For more information, contact your primary care physician, school psychologist or speech-language pathologist, or visit the Autism Society web page at: www.autism-society.org.

**** Sunday, April 2nd is World Autism Awareness Day ****

Show your support by wearing BLUE and performing Autism Kindness Acts (AKAs)!

Check out how the world will "Light It Up Blue for Autism" by visiting

www.autismspeaks.org

April

2027



Racine Unified Elementary Lunch Menu



Farm Fresh Produce

Zucchini

The largest zucchini weighed 65lb and was 7'10.3" - about the length of a Mako Shark!

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.
262-564-4700
dietitian@rusd.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.

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
3 Pizza Dippers Steamed Broccoli Spaghetti Sauce Apple Half	4 Chicken Nuggets Peas Celery Sticks Fruit Medley	5 French Toast Stixx Turkey Sausage Pathy Hash Brown Square Dragon Punch Juice Orange Slices	6 Cheesy Lasagna Roll Spaghetti Sauce Garlic Toast Fresh Cauliflower Diced Peas	7 Juicy Cheeseburger* Baked Beans Baby Carrots Applesauce
10 Cheese Pizza Steamed Broccoli Baby Carrots Pefite Banana	11 Popcorn Chicken Baked Beans Dinner Roll Cucumber Coins Juicy Pineapple	12 Turkey Sausage, Egg, Cheese Burrito Hash Brown Square 100% Mango Wango Vegetable Juice Orange Slices	13 Turkey Hot Dog Tator Tots Cherry Tomatoes 100% Apple Juice	14 NO SCHOOL
17	18	19	20	21
24 Jumbo Cheese Ravioli Spaghetti Sauce Garlic Toast Cucumber Coins Juicy Pineapple	25 Chicken & Gravy Mashed Potatoes Dinner Roll Baby Carrots Fruit Medley	26 French Toast Stixx Turkey Sausage Pathy Hash Brown Square Dragon Punch Juice Orange Slices	27 Hot Turkey & Cheese Pretzel Bun Baked Beans Baby Carrots Apple Half	28 Popcorn Chicken Hot Corn Romaine Salad Goldfish crackers Diced Peaches



Elementary menus are pork- and nut-free.

*Contains Beef

April 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2 LIBRARY WEEK	3 Forward Testing Gr. 4 C-Day	4 Forward Testing Gr. 4 Choir 2:45-3:30 A-DAY	5 Forward Testing Gr. 4 Gr. 5 Nutrition Program B-DAY	6 Forward Testing Gr. 4 Cheer Practice 2:45-4:15 C-DAY	7 4K in Session Gr. 4 Positive Impact 11:30 A-DAY	8
9	10 B-DAY	11 GIESE McTeacher Night 5:00-7:00 Choir 2:45-3:30 C-DAY	12 Gr. 5 Nutrition Program A-DAY	13 Dental Cleaning Program here Cheer Practice 2:45-4:15 B-DAY	14 SPRING BREAK BEGINS Good Friday	15
16 Easter Sunday	17	18	19	20	21	22
<i>Spring Break</i>						
23 LIBRARY WEEK	24 Classes Resume "C-DAY"	25 Choir 2:45-3:30 A-DAY	26 Nutrition Program here for Gr. 5 B-DAY	27 Cheer Practice 2:45-4:15 C-DAY	28	29
30						