



THE CHEETAH CHATTER

W.C. GIESE SCHOOL



April 2016

Volume 50

Number 8

Dear Giese Families,

Welcome to the April Edition of the 2015-2016 *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 bring our final round of testing. We will take our Spring NWEA MAP assessment as well as preparing for the Forward Exam. We are encouraging our students to do their best.

We are quickly approaching the end of third quarter, which officially ends on Friday, April 8th. Your child's report card will be sent home on April 14th so that you will receive it after the Spring Recess

The next PTA meeting will take place on Tuesday, April 12th at 6:00 pm 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 next Early Release is scheduled for Friday, April 22nd. This will be a two-hour early release and lunch will not be served. Your child will be dismissed at 12:45 p.m.

Spring Conferences will be held on March 23rd and 24th. Please contact your child's teacher to arrange a time to discuss your child's progress. March 23rd is a 2 hr. dismissal (students will leave school at 12:45 and there is no school for the students on March 24th.) Spring Recess begins on March 25th. Students will return to school on April 4th.

Finally, several parents have asked me about Summer School. I am looking into having Giese as a summer school site. Please keep an eye out, as more information will be coming home with your child over the coming weeks.

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

Respectfully,

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

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. We will work on many spring themed activities throughout the season. We will have prevent blindness vision screening on April 4th. Pals literacy screening begins on April 25th. 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 almost done with the third quarter. Report cards will be sent home in the next few weeks, 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 5/6. There will be a field trip to the Racine Zoo on Tuesday 5/31. Please note the permission slip, lunch order, and fees are due Monday 5/2. 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

It's hard to believe third quarter is almost over and the end of the year is rapidly approaching. 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. We will also take the PALS test before the

end of May. These are very important tests. Please make sure your child is well rested and fed before he or she takes each test.

We are working on the topic of telling time in math. In first grade we work on telling time to the hour and half hour. Our next topic will be addition facts to 18. 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.

Second Grade

Happy Spring! It seems as if spring has finally arrived! Please remind your child to dress for the weather. Often sweatshirts are needed in and outdoors. We will be taking a fieldtrip to the hospital this month. Watch for permission slips. This trip is paid for by the West Racine Kiwanis. Our grade will be going two separate days. Our final MAP testing will soon be here as well. We'll keep you posted on dates so you can prepare your child for proper rest and a good breakfast. As always, thank you for your continued support.

Third Grade

Although it may be hard to believe, we have come to the final quarter of the school year. Report cards will be sent home sometime in the next few weeks. 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 will be taking the Forward Exam next month. This is a new 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 and First In Math.

Master Gardner program will visit third grade at the end of April. Your child will be bringing home their terrarium along with instructions for their care.

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

As we look forward to spring break, we hope to find everyone excited. We hope that everyone returns refreshed and ready to get back to school. We will be having a fundraiser towards the end of April for Mother's Day. 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 at the end of April.

In math we will be working more with geometry. We will area and perimeter. Please continue working on multiplication and division facts even though we have finished these chapters.

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

The week after we return from spring break we will begin the Spring MAP assessment. This is the final MAP assessment for the spring of this school year. It is very important that you child will get enough rest, have breakfast, and be prepared to work their hardest on this test. Please pump your kids up with support and let's watch those scores soar.

Report cards will be coming out very soon. Please look them over carefully and stay in touch if you have any concerns.

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!



McTeacher Night @ McDonalds



Green Bay Road location across from Regency Mall

5:00 – 7:00 p.m.

Join us for our Giese School McTeacher Night at McDonalds on S. Green Bay Road on Wednesday, April 20th from 5:00-7:00 p.m. Giese School receives a portion of the night's sales, so come and see your teachers flipping burgers, frying French fries, making shakes, or working the drive-thru window. Reminder notes will be sent home after Spring Break.

Fifth Grade

All fifth graders are being offered the opportunity to participate in a program called Transitions. This is a free program that takes place here at school every other Thursday from 2:45-4:00. It will begin the first Thursday we are back from Spring break. The students learn to transition from elementary school to middle school. They do a lot of fun activities that prepare them for next year. In addition, the program will continue at Starbuck during the summer. They will be practicing locker combinations and other important skills to familiarize themselves before the big change. Even if your child will not be attending that school, it will still be exciting to participate. The students do field trips as well. Last year they went to Jump America in Illinois. A flyer went home with your child to be filled out. If you still have questions, please call school and we can try to answer them. When we get back from Spring break, there will be two months left of school. It is important to remind your child of the expectations, so that they can finish out there Giese years on a high note. There are a few field trips still to come, along with field day. We want ALL students to be able to participate, so thank you in advance for continuing to remind your child to have good behavior at all times.

Physical Education

During the month of February, all physical education classes participated in Jump/Hoops For Heart. Students had fun learning how to jump rope and learning different basketball skills. As a school, we had set out for a goal to fundraise \$1,500. Through everyone's great efforts, we as a school met our goal! We fundraised \$1,509.30!! Way to go Giese Cheetahs!!!! I personally want to thank everyone that participated and helped fundraise for this event.

Top 3 Fundraisers:

- 1. Natalie Schroeder**
\$450
- 2. Ricky Rodriguez**
\$122.30
- 3. Amires Williams**
\$66

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. 5th graders worked preparing for middle school and are getting ready for 5th grade conferences in May. We'll be contacting you soon to set that up if we haven't already.

We are actively collecting for our Leukemia and Lymphoma Society fundraiser. Many other rooms are raising quite a bit. 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: May11th, Family Bingo Night. Stay tuned for more details.

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





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.

**** Saturday, 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**



**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! You can also bring in your own gluten-free, casein-free snacks, and viewers are even 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, and family-friendly films will continue to show on Saturday mornings.

The closest participating theater near 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)*

**Batman V Superman: Dawn of Justice – April 9 – 10 AM
Batman V Superman: Dawn of Justice – April 12 – 7 PM
The Jungle Book – January 23 – 10 AM
Huntsman Winter's War – January 26 – 7 PM**

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.
Visit the following web sites for more listings:

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

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

APRIL 2016



Racine Unified Elementary Lunch Menu



Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
4 Pizza Dippers ^v w/ Marinara Sauce Applesauce Cup 100% Mango Wango Vegetable Juice	5 Hot Ham & Cheese Sandwich Fresh Cauliflower Celery Sticks w/ Ranch Dressing Fruit Medley	6 Popcorn Chicken Baked Hashbrown Crunchy Baby Carrots w/ Ranch Dressing Juicy Pineapple	7 Mini Corn Dogs Baked Beans Cucumber Slices w/ Ranch Dressing Orange Smiles	8 Cheese Pizza ^v Romaine Salad w/ Ranch Dressing Cherry Tomatoes Golden Peaches
11 Chicken Nuggets Golden Sweet Corn Cucumber Slices w/ Ranch Dressing Fruit Medley Strawberry	12 Pizza Dippers ^v w/ Marinara Sauce Fresh Broccoli Golden Peaches Milk	13 Meatball Hoagie* w/ Sweet Garden Peas Baby Carrots 🍎 Red Delicious Apple	14 Crispy Chicken Sandwich Baked Beans Cucumber Slices w/ Ranch Dressing Applesauce	15 Hot Diggity Dog Steamed Broccoli Celery Sticks w/ Ranch Dressing 100% Apple Juice Week!
18 Popcorn Chicken Dinner Roll Baked Beans Cucumber Slices w/ Ranch Dressing Applesauce	19 Mini Corn Dogs Baked Beans Celery Sticks w/ Ranch Dressing Orange Smiles	20 Juicy Cheeseburger Golden Sweet Corn Broccoli Buds 🍎 Red Delicious Apple	21 Cheese Pizza ^v Crunchy Baby Carrots Broccoli Buds w/ Ranch Dressing Pefite Banana	22 Early Release Turkey & Cheese Sub Celery Sticks w/ Ranch Dressing Crunchy Baby Carrots Orange Craisins
25 Crispy Chicken Sandwich Golden Sweet Corn Broccoli Buds w/ Ranch Dressing Fruit Medley	26 Hot Diggity Dog Baked Beans Cherry Tomatoes 100% Apple Juice <i>Lucky Tray Day!</i>	27 Chicken Nuggets Baked Hashbrown Crunchy Baby Carrots Juicy Pineapple	28 French Toast Sticks Turkey Sausage Patty Baked Hashbrown 100% Mango Wango Vegetable Juice Orange Smiles	29 Cheese Quesadilla ^v Seasoned Green Beans Tortilla Chips w/ Zesty Salsa 🍎 Red Delicious Apple

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's Management-

Make Choices for a Healthy Lifestyle
 Questions about the menu?
 Call Arbor Management
 262-664-8700, mary.dumont@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 and employer.

Lunch \$2.45
 (Milk included with Meal)
 Milk 45¢
 Skim White, Skim Chocolate
 V=vegetarian option available
 *Contains beef ingredients.

Elementary menus are pork and nut-free.

