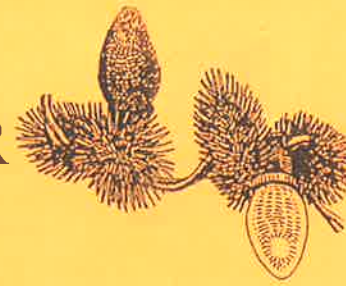


THE CHEETAH CHATTER

W.C. GIESE SCHOOL



December 2015

Volume 50

Number 4

Giese Cheetah Families,

I want to begin this issue of the Cheetah Chatter by thanking you, our parents, for attending our Parent-Teacher conferences. Ensuring that your children are successful is a team effort. Our conferences were well attended and it was truly wonderful to see so many parents in our building. Thank you.

Mark your calendars for Tuesday, December 8th (Grades K-2) and Thursday, December 10th (Grades 3-5). These are the dates of our *Winter Holiday Concerts*. Mrs. Baker and your child have been working extremely hard over the last month in preparation for these concerts. Each concert will take place in our West Learning Center. Performing students should arrive no later than 5:45pm on the day of their performance.

The month of January will find all of our Giese Cheetahs (K-5) taking the NWEA/MAP assessments in reading and math. Our Kindergarten, Grade 1 and Grade 2 Cheetahs will also take a 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

The next 2-hour Early Release is scheduled for Friday, December 11th. Your child will be dismissed at 12:45pm. Lunch will be provided on this day.

Finally, just a reminder that your child's last day of school before the Holiday Break begins will be Tuesday, December 22nd. Your child will then be off of school until Monday, January 4th. I know that this is a very exciting time of the year, but until 2:45pm on December 22nd, there is a lot of learning to be done! ☺

Thank you,

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



The weather's getting colder,
 Students have been working hard in music class,
 It must be time for Giese's...



WINTER HOLIDAY CONCERT!!

What you should know:

Kindergarten, 1st Grade, & 2nd Grade Concert:
December 8th, 2015 @ 6:00 pm
 In the West Learning Center

3rd Grade, 4th Grade, & 5th Grade Concert:
December 10th, 2015 @ 6:00 pm
 In the West Learning Center

*The students will also be performing an afternoon
 "practice" concert for the school at
2:00pm the **SAME** day of their concert,
 in the West Learning Center.

Concert Attire/Dress: Nice dress/holiday clothes
 (Sweaters, dress/polo shirts, holiday dresses, knee-
 length skirts, dress pants or leggings)
NO SWEATSHIRTS, TANK TOPS, OR JEANS

Please have your child arrive to school and report to West Learning Center, no later than **5:45 pm!!**

There will also be a bake sale held after the evening concert to support the music program,
 So please consider buying something sweet for your "Star Performer" after the concert!!

Looking forward to sharing your child's **AWESOME** musical talents with you this holiday season!!

Ms. Monica Baker
monica.baker@rusd.org

Winter with Wearing Tennis Shoes to Gym

With having snow and it's getting colder outside, please remind your students on gym days that they need to still wear tennis shoes to gym! It's a SAFETY ISSUE that they need to wear the proper shoes. If they wear boots to school, they can put their tennis shoes in their backpacks. I've been reminding my classes as well, but hoping you guys can help our students to bring tennis shoes for gym days!!

Thank you and Happy Thanksgiving Everyone!!

Jackie Reichhart
 Physical Education Teacher
 Giese Elementary School



SOCKS for SENIORS

It's not too late to bring in "Socks for Seniors". We are collecting mens and womens new socks to be brought to the Villas at Lincoln Park residents up the street. Last year was the 1st year of this wonderful project and the residents were delighted to have a special present to unwrap on Christmas morning. A collection box is located in the main office. Please donate!

4 Y.O. KINDERGARTEN

December is going to be a busy month in Room 7. We will have our annual cookie decorating extravaganza on Friday, Dec. 18th from 1:30-2:30. I look forward to seeing many families there. This is the season to consider donating gently used books and toys to our classroom as they are outgrown or replaced during the holiday season. Any donations that can't be used will be donated to charity. Our current theme is clothing. I am looking for people with expertise in this area to share their skills with the friends in Room 7. Please see me if you would like to volunteer. You must be Wings approved to come into the classroom. As the weather turns colder, please make sure your child is dressed appropriately. We are outside in the morning unless the wind chill/temperature is 10 degrees or lower. In closing, I would like to wish everyone a happy and safe holiday season.

KINDERGARTEN

WE ARE GETTING SMARTER - The school year is going fast, we have been in school for more than 50 days. Kindergarteners are working on learning to write names, numbers, letters, and words. We also have started to read small words with the vowel "a", like ram, map, sat, ran, etc. by blending the sounds we hear for each letter. In math, we are working on learning to read, write, count, and compare numbers 0 to 10.

WE NEED EXTRA PRACTICE - Things you can do at home to help your child succeed in his or her learning include writing first and last names, writing letters, and numbers. Please remember to use the proper formation; all writing begins at the top, watch how your child is forming letters. It is difficult to break the habit of writing from the bottom, so reinforcement at home is very helpful. The students have learned names for the lines: Sky line, Plane line, Grass line, and Worm line.

WE CAN READ - Also when reading stories with your child, talk about the story afterwards. Focus on one or more of these areas: the setting, characters, telling what the beginning, middle, and end of the story. Then talk about the author and illustrator of the book. You can log any books read by or to your child on the various reading logs your homeroom teacher may provide.

WE ARE KEEPING WARM - Just a reminder with the change in seasons, the classrooms at school vary in temperature, so it is a good idea to have multiple layers to take off or put on. Also, please have your child wear hats and mittens for recess. If you need any clothing, please send us a note or call us. *Don't forget to label all your child's belongings.* Thanks!

WE NEED YOUR SUPPORT - We will be having a special family involvement planned this month. On Friday, December 19th we will have a Polar Express Day. So mark your calendars. Information will be coming from your homeroom teachers on how you can participate.

WE WANT TO THANK YOU - Thank you for attending our fall Parent-Teacher conferences. We appreciated meeting with your family to share the successes your child has made so far and the opportunity to discuss goals for the coming quarter. We wish all our families a very happy holiday season. Take time to see the wonders of the season through your child's eyes.

FIRST GRADE

The first grade teachers would like to send a special thanks to the parents and guardians who took time out of their busy day to discuss their child's progress at parent/teacher conferences. Don't hesitate to contact us if you have additional concerns.

Reading several minutes every day is important for reading comprehension and developing fluency. Keep reading every night with your child.

Keep practicing addition and subtraction facts for memorization.
These skills will help your child in math.

As the cold weather approaches, remember that all students in the first grade are outside for fifteen minutes every day. Please dress your child according to the daily forecast. LABEL EVERYTHING! Sometimes our classrooms can be chilly. It might be helpful to have a sweater or sweatshirt that could be kept at school. When the snow comes an extra pair of socks might also be needed.

SECOND GRADE

December is going to be a busy month in second grade. On Monday, December 7th we will be going to the Golden Rondelle for a free field trip. The children will be seeing the program called Close Encounters of the Chemical Kind. Watch your child's backpack for a permission slip coming soon.

Your child will be attending their final three swimming lessons at the YMCA. The last three dates are the 3rd, 10th and 17th. Please make sure that your child has their swimsuit and towel for each of these Thursday swimming lessons. Feel free to send it earlier in the week and we will store it at school.

It is holiday concert time for your child. The second graders will be performing on Tuesday, December 8th at 2:00 and again in the evening at 6:00. Please make sure your child is at school by 5:45 for the evening performance. A note will be coming home from Mrs. Baker with more details.

The weather is getting colder and we still go out for recess. Please make sure that child is dressed for the weather each day. Snow pants and boots are needed to play in the snow. We have lots of learning to do before the holiday break and on task behavior is very important. We would like to wish everyone a safe and happy holiday season.

THIRD GRADE

In Math, we are working on multiplication. Please help your child learn the multiplication facts.

Continue to have your child read each night. They can earn a FREE ticket to Six Flags Great America if they read 6 hours between now and the beginning of February.

The cold weather has arrived, please make sure your child has a warm coat, hat, and mittens.

FOURTH GRADE

D-Division- We will be working towards long division.

E-Everyone- Everyone will be a part of our Christmas Concert for Music.

C-Conferences- Thank you for taking the time to come and meet with us!

E-Extra supplies- Please ask your child if they need to bring more pencils to school.

M-Make good choices- We need to make good choices at school to be responsible, respectful and safe.

B-Bundle up!- Don't forget to bundle up for recess. It is cold outside.

E-Enjoy- We enjoy working with you and your children each day.

R-Read- Make sure you are reading with your child at least 20 minutes a night.

FIFTH GRADE

Happy holidays everyone! We are continuing to work hard on our long division in math. Our next topic is algebra. We will keep pushing through up until the holiday break. The Winter Maps test take place the week we get back from Christmas vacation. It will be here before we know it. The biography projects were outstanding this year. It's always a joy to listen to the students talk about their person of choice. The biography boards are currently displayed in the West Learning Center. It's that time of year again when it's getting cold. The students need to be dressed appropriately to be outside. Unless it is 10 degrees or below with the wind chill, we will be outside from 7:50-8:00 and 11:30-11:45 daily. So please pack hats and gloves. Enjoy the holiday season and take time to enjoy your family and friends.



A Note from the School Counselor/Social Worker

This month we spent a lot of time talking about Empathy, Listening and Kindness. PK-1st grade listened to a Winnie The Pooh story about listening, paying attention and following directions. After the story, we talked about the problems Tigger had throughout the story. We also had a chance for each child to share what they can do that is kind for someone else (smile, inviting someone to play, sharing and helping others). Grades 2nd-4th listened to a story about Empathy. We discussed what empathy means and how we can show it. The homework I gave them was to come home and ask someone at home these questions: "How are you?" "How was your day?" and "Is there anything I can help you with?" 😊

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. 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.

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





Donate
 unneeded, unused-
 or repairable toys



Tex Reynolds' Toys for Tots is a nonprofit organization with the sole purpose to ensure every needy kid in the Racine County area has a wonderful holiday season. It is a challenging goal that takes not only the hundreds of volunteers working at the Toys for Tots workshop and from home, but also the thousands of families that donate unneeded, unused or repairable toys to the program each year.

Ours is a story of helping hands trying to improve the quality of life in our community. We hope that you will read our story and join in our quest. There are many aspects of the Toys for Tots program where your skills and talents (regardless of what they might be) can be utilized. Our volunteers work hard throughout the year, but it is a fun journey.

Tex Reynolds' Toys for Tots Registration Information

Register on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Thursdays or Saturdays from October 6th through December 8th (Final day for Registration). Closed the week of Thanksgiving, November 21st-28th. The last pick-up date is December 12th, 2015.

To Register:

1. Apply in person at the City Hall Annex located at 800 Center St. between 8 am and 11:00 am.
2. Register on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Thursdays or Saturdays from October 6th through December 8th (Final day for Registration).
3. Closed the week of Thanksgiving, November 22-30, 2015.
4. *The last pick-up date is December 8, 2014*
5. Recipients can apply only once per year.
6. Availability of gifts dependent upon registration numbers.

Poverty Guidelines 2015

Size of family / Per week gross unit	Size of family / Per week gross unit
1 \$339.52	5 \$819.52
2 \$459.52	6 \$939.52
3 \$579.52	7 \$1,059.52
4 \$699.52	8 \$1,179.52

Nelly Martinez

Racine County Family Resource Network Coordinator

Children's Hospital of Wisconsin - Community Services

8800 Washington Avenue, Suite 100, Mount Pleasant, WI 53406

nelly.martinez@cssw.org

Office (262) 633-3591

Cell (262) 676-2744

Fax (262) 633-2619

www.chw.org



Be kind, whenever possible. It is always possible. (Dalai Lama)

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Re: Briones
 Racine Unified School District
 Title I Family & Community Engagement Specialist
 alejandra.briones@rusd.org
 Office (262) 531-7031
 Cell (262) 221-5396



December 2015

Racine Unified Elementary Lunch Menu



** Note Menu Change!*

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
7 Crispy Chicken Sandwich Golden Sweet Corn Fresh Broccoli Buds w/ Ranch Dressing Red Delicious Apple	1 Mini Maple Pancakes Turkey Sausage Patty Baked Hash Brown 100% Mango Wango-Vegetable Juice Orange Smiles	2 Fiesta Beef Nachos* Golden Sweet Corn Zesty Salsa Red Delicious Apple	3 Cheese Pizza Slice Crunchy Baby Carrots Fresh Broccoli Buds w/ Ranch Dressing Petite Banana	4 Spaghetti w/ Meat Sauce* & Garlic Toast Romaine Salad w/ Ranch Dressing Golden Peaches
14 Pizza Dippers w/ Marinara Sauce Fresh Broccoli Buds Fruit Medley	8 Hot Diggity Dog Steamed Broccoli Cherry Tomatoes w/ Ranch Dressing 100% Apple Juice	9 Turkey Day Day NEW: Cheesy Breakfast Scrambler Hot Cinnamon Apples Crunchy Baby Carrots Iced Cinnamon Square	10 Mini Corn Dogs Baked Beans Crisp Celery Sticks w/ Ranch Dressing Fresh Sliced Orange	11 Early Release Turkey & Cheese Sub Crunchy Baby Carrots Cucumber Slices w/ Ranch Dressing Diced Peas
21 Chicken Nuggets w/ Baked Beans Romaine Salad w/ Ranch Dressing Cherry Tomatoes Red Delicious Apple	15 Fiesta Beef Tacos* Golden Sweet Corn Zesty Salsa Red Delicious Apple	16 Cheese Pizza Slice Crisp Celery Sticks Crunchy Baby Carrots w/ Ranch Dressing Petite Banana	17 Grilled Chicken Sandwich Baked Beans Fresh Cauliflower w/ Ranch Dressing 100% Apple Juice	18 Popcorn Chicken Seasoned Green Beans Crunchy Baby Carrots Applesauce
28 No School!	22 Cheesy Baked Penne w/ Garlic Toast Fresh Broccoli Buds w/ Ranch Dressing Golden Peaches Special Treat Day!	23 No School!	24 No School!	25 No School!
29 No School!	30 No School!	31 No School!	31 No School!	1 No School!

Arthur wishes happy and healthy holidays to you and your family!

December is National Pear Month

Pears are delicious on their own, a great addition to any salad, tasty roasted, baked or grilled.

Try enjoying pears in a different way this month to celebrate National Pear Month!

Lunch \$2.45
(Milk included with meal)

Milk 4oz
Crispy Lettuce
Swiss Cheese
Sauce On Side

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

Menu changes may be necessary. Notice will be given when possible.

Arthur Management, Inc.
& Arthur's Children's Medication Center
The Children's Medication Center
1000 North Lincoln Street
Racine, WI 53405
www.arthurmanagement.com

This menu follows USDA National School Lunch Program guidelines. SDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer. * Contains beef ingredients. Elementary menus are pork- and nut-free.

December 2015

	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 Choir 2:45 – 3:30 "A-DAY"	2 "B-DAY"	3 Grade 2 Swimming End of Kringle "C-DAY"	4 "A-DAY"	5
6 LIBRARY WEEK	7 "B-DAY"	8 Gr. K,1,2 Holiday Concert 2:00 & 6:00 "C-Day"	9 Yearbook Candid & group Pictures taken 8:30 a.m. "A-DAY"	10 Grade 2 Swimming "B-DAY"	11 2 Hr. Early Release "C-DAY"	12	
13	14	15	16	17 Grade 2 Swimming "A-DAY"	18	19	
20 LIBRARY WEEK	21 O&H Kringle pick-up "C-DAY"	22 "A-DAY"	23 Holiday Recess Begins	24	25 MERRY CHRISTMAS!!	26	
27	28	29 "A-DAY"	30	31	School Resumes January 4th		