



# THE CHEETAH CHATTER

W.C. GIESE SCHOOL



February, 2015

Volume 49

Number 6

Dear Giese Families,

Welcome to the January Edition of the 2014 – 2015 *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. Major League Baseball Spring Training is, after all, getting ready to start!

Your child is currently taking their Winter NWEA MAP assessments in the subjects of reading and mathematics. (Kindergarten = Reading only) We will be sending home results of how your child performed in March. 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.

The next PTA meeting will take place on Tuesday, February 10<sup>th</sup> 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! ☺

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 Giese Cheetah kindergarteners are doing a fundraiser. Please consider supporting the fundraiser by purchasing a dozen Krispy Kreme doughnuts. All proceeds will help support spring fieldtrips..

The next scheduled 2-hour Early Release is Friday, February 13<sup>th</sup>. All Giese Cheetahs will be released at 12:45pm that day. Lunch will be served.

Friday, February 13<sup>th</sup> will also be the day that classrooms hold Valentine's Day parties. Feel free to send valentines and snacks with your child on this day. Teachers will be sending home more information regarding their plans for that day as the time approaches.

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 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

Thomas Hyland

Principal – Giese Elementary

"The BEST kept secret in RUSD!"

2013 Title I School of Recognition

2014 Title I School of Recognition

Congratulations to the following Giese Cheetahs who were the December PBIS Students of the Month winners:

Room 7AM	Delaney Hansen
Room 7PM	Easton Bedard
Room 8	Ranizjah McMorris
Room 15	Leilani Sutton
Room 16	Sonja Kjell
Room 17	Tezerian Brumby
Room 18	Alena Martinez
Room 19	Trevohn Knight
Room 20	Aaron Payne
Room 21	Christopher Avis
Room 22	Landon Cruz
Room 23	Na'Kyijah Harden
Room 24	William Wellington
Room 32	None this month
Room 33	Rumond Holloway
Room 34	Joseph Price
Room 35	Marco Gil
Room 36	Ethan Nurmi
Room 37	Makayla Scheit
Room 38	D'Angelo Dixon

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## *4K & 5K KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION*

*Wednesday, March 4th*

*9:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.*

Enrollment begins for your child for 4K or 5K next year.

Be sure to bring your child's birth certificate, and immunization records as well as proof of address. If your child is currently in 4K at Giese and will be returning for 5K in the fall you DO NOT need to re-register.

Children must turn 4 on or before September 1, 2015. Any questions, please call 664-8250.

## 4 year old Kindergarten

There are many events happening this month. We will have a vision screening on the second during school hours. Pals literacy screening will continue through the 5<sup>th</sup>. We will have a Valentine's Day exchange on Thursday, Feb. 12<sup>th</sup>. Helpers are welcome as long as they are approved through Wings. Our February Family Involvement activity will be a Dr. Seuss read-in in room 7 from 1:45-2:45 on Friday the 27<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 on Tuesdays when the weather cooperates. 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 are being sent home soon. Please review your child's progress and sign and return the bottom of the report card slip to your child's teacher. 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 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 classroom. 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 important. These things are important as we are completing MAP and PALS testing.

Valentine's Day will soon be here and we will have celebrations in the classroom. More information will be coming home from your child's teacher.

Don't forget to practice your 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

We are half way to third grade! MAP testing has begun and we are completing PALS testing. We are busy working toward meeting our goals. Please continue to work with your child at home reinforcing their math, reading, and writing skills. Ask them to share with you what they learned at school for the day. They will amaze you with what they know!

The weather is cold and unpredictable. Please send boots, snow pants, scarves, hats, and mittens/gloves. Children without snow pants and boots are not allowed in the snow at recess. We appreciate your support. An extra change of pants or clothes left in their backpack is a good idea too.

We appreciate ALL of your support. Thank you!

## Third Grade

Report cards were sent home today. Please take some time to look it over and discuss it with your child. The bottom portion should be signed and returned as soon as possible. As always, if you have any concerns please don't hesitate to 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 15 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 13<sup>th</sup>. Keep up the reading!

All third grade students will be going to the district's planetarium on Monday, February 23<sup>rd</sup>. This field trip is covered under the blanket permission slip filled out at the beginning of the school year. We will return in time for lunch at school.

On a final note, look for a note from your child's teacher with details on Valentine's Day parties.

## 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 13<sup>th</sup> on our Early

Release day. 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 decimals and fractions. Please remember that there is always a weekly homework assignment on Wednesdays 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.

Thank you for all of your support this school year. Please continue to remind your children that their job at school is to learn, be respectful, and do their best. If they remember to follow those three things, they should be successful. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact us.

One more reminder to always sign your child's assignment book nightly. Not only sign it, but please read and discuss the assignments with your child. We list upcoming tests and different things to study ahead of time so that you can help your child prepare. Thank you in advance for doing that.

### **Fifth Grade**

The students are working hard on geometry right now in math. We are measuring and identifying angles along with learning other geometry terms. Next week we will be taking our Winter MAPS test for reading and math. Please be sure to have your child go to bed at a reasonable time and also send them to breakfast in the morning if you are not able to do so from home. We want to ensure that the students do their very best on the test. We have a free field trip coming up next month where we will be going to Grace church to listen to the Racine Symphony Orchestra. This is a wonderful opportunity that all fifth graders in the city are able to take part in. Please remember to dress your child appropriately for school. It is still very cold out. If the wind chill is 10 degrees or above, we do go outside. So please send hats, scarves and gloves along each morning. Until next month....**THINK SPRING!!!!**

## Bridge Room

We have adjusted back to school after our winter break. Thank you again for all you do for the kids, it does not go unnoticed! Make sure to utilize the online resource guides at home for extra practice. Also, practice work will continue to go in backpacks along with the daily communication logs. Please fill out the reading logs that are sent out with book bags. If there are any questions, concerns or comments, please feel free to contact me at [kaitlyn.nelson@rusd.org](mailto:kaitlyn.nelson@rusd.org). -Miss Nelson



## HELP WANTED

Arbor Management, the food service provider for Racine Unified, is looking for very special associates. We are looking for the kind of people who are interested in part time hours on the days that schools are in session and who like to be around children. Shifts vary from 3 to 6 hours per day between 5am and 3pm, Monday through Friday. If interested, please complete an application between 9am and 3pm at the Arbor office located at 3109 Mt Pleasant St., Bldg. 2 Door B. We look forward to meeting you.

EOE M/F/D/V



## **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. These films showcase almost 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!

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**

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

**February 14, 2015**  
**Spongebob Squarepants: Sponge Out of Water**

**Show begins at 10:00 AM**  
**Special admission price: \$7**

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>





**4K & 5K  
Registration  
for 2015-2016  
Begins  
March 4!**

## Register now for 4- and 5-Year-Old Kindergarten

### By Enrolling Now...

- Your child's schedule and room assignments will be completed.
- Your child's transportation arrangements will be ready.
- You'll avoid long lines on the first day of school.
- You'll ensure that your child gets off to a great start on the first day of school.

### How to Enroll

Beginning on **Wednesday, March 4, 2015**, you may enroll your child at your attendance area school. Be sure to bring proof of address as well as your child's birth certificate and immunization records when enrolling. During the summer months, you may register at the Racine Unified School District Enrollment Center, 3109 Mt. Pleasant St.

Students must be 4 years old on or before Sept. 1 for 4-year-old kindergarten (4K), and students must be 5 years old on or before Sept. 1 for 5-year-old kindergarten (5K).



**RACINE UNIFIED  
SCHOOL DISTRICT**

### Magnet Schools

To be eligible for the lottery/waiting list at one of RUSD's elementary magnet schools, you **must** attend the orientation at the school(s) to which you would like to apply:

**Bull Fine Arts** (arts magnet school)  
815 DeKoven Ave., 262-664-6800  
Feb. 19, 2015 at 2 p.m. or 6 p.m.

**Jefferson Lighthouse** (International Baccalaureate Gifted and Talented Magnet School)  
1722 W. Sixth St., 262-664-6900  
Feb. 18, 2015 at 2 p.m. or 6 p.m.

**Red Apple** (science magnet school)  
914 St. Patrick St., 262-619-4500  
Feb. 17, 2015 at 8 a.m. or 6 p.m.

An application will need to be completed and turned in the night of the orientation for admission consideration (applications may not be mailed in at a later date). To learn more about magnet schools, visit the RUSD website at [www.rusd.org](http://www.rusd.org).

For more information, call 262-631-7194 or visit [www.rusd.org](http://www.rusd.org).

# A Note from the School Counselor



Happy New Year! We started the year off with the topic of Teamwork and Cooperation. We usually chat a bit about football, but we relate sports and teamwork to our school family and how we can work together to be successful. Kindergarten-2<sup>nd</sup> grade heard a story about Winnie the Pooh and how they worked together to solve a problem. 3<sup>rd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> grade did acrostic poems with the words Teamwork and Cooperation. We also did an activity where the kids had to line up in birthday order, but they could not talk (only using their hands to show their birthday). Each class did pretty well, but it was a true test of working together.

Last month we were super excited to welcome LeRoy Butler to our school. Racine Automotive Group was so generous to sponsor this for us. He gave us a great assembly discussing anti bully stories as well as the importance of sticking with the right crowd. He shared many life experiences with us. We were also given copies of his book. Stay tuned for more news from Racine Automotive.

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.

February will also be our Leukemia/Lymphoma fundraiser. Stay tuned...

Thank you for all you do!! Feel free to contact us anytime! Helpful websites: [www.loveandlogic.com](http://www.loveandlogic.com), [www.kidshealth.org](http://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



# Elementary Lunch Menu

## FEBRUARY 2015



- Arbor A+ Nutrition Standards:**  
**Make Choices for a Healthy Lifestyle!**
- ✓ 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
  - ✓ Minimal Saturated Fat, Added Sugars, Artificial Ingredients, and Sodium whenever possible!

**Give Strawberries** as a sweet to your sweetie **this Valentine's Day!**

*They have Vitamin C — makes their immune system strong so they don't get sick. Fiber — gives them a healthy digestive system and heart.*

**Add them to cereal, use them on fruit kabobs, or make homemade low-fat strawberry milk!**

**Questions about the menu?**  
 Call Arbor Management, Inc.  
 262-664-8700  
[www.arbormgt.com](http://www.arbormgt.com)



Comprehensive Nutrition & Allergy Guides are available on the RUSD website. Elementary menus are pork- and nut-free.

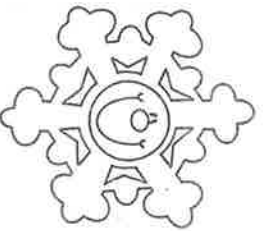
Lunch \$2.45  
 Milk 45¢

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
2 Chicken Nuggets Steamed Green Beans Romaine Salad w/ Ranch Dressing Mandarin Oranges	3 Mini Corn Dogs Baked Beans Crisp Celery Sticks Orange Smiles	4 Creamy Mac 'N Cheese Crunchy Baby Carrots Fresh Broccoli Buds Petite Banana	5 Cheese Pizza Slice Fresh Cucumber Coins Spiced Pumpkin Smash 100% Pure Apple Juice	6 Saucy Meatball Hoagie* w/ Mozzarella Cheese Sweet Garden Peas 100% Pure Apple Juice
9 Chicken Nuggets w/ Seasoned Brown Rice* Fresh Cucumber Coins Crunchy Baby Carrots Plump Raisins Lucky Tray Day!	10 Pizza Dippers w/ Marinara Dipping Sauce Romaine Salad w/ Italian Dressing Mandarin Oranges	11 Juicy Hamburger* Golden Sweet Corn Fresh Cauliflower Buds Red Delicious Apple	12 Hot Diggity Dog Baked Beans Fresh Broccoli Buds Red Delicious Apple	13 <b>EARLY RELEASE DAY</b> Deli Turkey & Cheese Sub Sandwich Crisp Celery Sticks Crunchy Baby Carrots Petite Banana
16 Popcorn Chicken Whipped Potatoes Fresh Cucumber Coins 100% Pure Apple Juice President's Day Cookies!	17 French Toast Sticks Turkey Sausage Patty Hash Brown Triangle 100% Mango Wango Vegetable Juice Orange Smiles	18 Cheese Pizza Slice Crunchy Baby Carrots Fresh Broccoli Buds Petite Banana	19 Fiesta Beef Nachos* Bean Dip Zesty Salsa Red Delicious Apple	20 Spaghetti w/ Meat Sauce* & Garlic Toast Romaine Salad w/ Italian Dressing Golden Peaches
23 Crispy Chicken Sandwich Baked Beans Fresh Broccoli Buds Red Delicious Apple	24 Pizza Dippers w/ Marinara Dipping Sauce Romaine Salad w/ Ranch Dressing Diced Pears	25 Salisbury Steak* w/ Homemade Gravy* Dinner Roll Whipped Potatoes Crunchy Baby Carrots Juicy Pineapple	26 Mini Corn Dogs Colorful Mixed Vegetables Fresh Cucumber Coins Orange Smiles Lucky Tray Day!	27 Pepperoni Lil' Bites Pizza Rolls* w/ Marinara Dipping Sauce Fresh Cauliflower Buds Mandarin Oranges

**Choice of Milk Daily**

\*Contains beef ingredients. Menu changes may be necessary. Notice will be given when possible. This menu follows USDA National School Lunch Program guidelines. USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

Arbor Management



# February 2015



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
	Kindergarten to Golden Rondelle 9:00-10:30 "C-DAY"	"A-DAY"	Jump Rope for Heart "B-DAY"	Jump Rope for Heart "C-DAY"	Jump Rope for Heart Giese basketball bye "A-DAY"	
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
	"B-DAY"	Krispy Kreme Donut Orders due "C-DAY"	"A-DAY"	"B-DAY"	13 2 Hr. early Release	Valentine's Day
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
	Presidents' Day "A-DAY"	"B-DAY"	"C-DAY"	Krispy Kreme Order Pick-Up 1:15-1:55/3:00-3:30 "A-DAY"	Giese vs. J.T. Basketball at J.T. 4:30 p.m. "B-DAY"	Orchestra Concert @ Gilmore 2:00 p.m.
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
	Gr. 3 to Planetarium 9:30-11:30 "C-DAY"	"A-DAY"	McTeacher Night @ McDonalds 4:00-7:00 "B-DAY"	"C-DAY"	Giese basketball bye "A-DAY"	

