



THE CHEETAH CHATTER

W.C. GIESE SCHOOL

January, 2015

Volume 49

Number 5

Dear Giese Families,

Welcome to the Holiday Edition of the 2014 – 2015 *Cheetah Chatter*. This was the last day of school for your child. ***All children will return to school on Monday, January 5th.***

In order to plan ahead, I wanted to make you aware that there is a 3-hour Early Release scheduled for Friday, January 16. Your child will be released at 11:45am on this day. Also, your child will be off of school on Monday, January 19 for Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day.

Speaking of the PTA, the next meeting will take place on Tuesday, January 13 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!

The month of January and February 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 year.

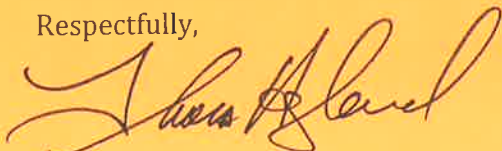
Regardless of your beliefs during this time of the year, I would like to take a moment and wish each and every Giese Family the best! Enjoy this time of the year with your family. As I am learning all too well, our children grow up way too fast! ☺ Also, take a moment and let those who are important to you know how you feel.

In the interest of practicing what I preach, I would like to take a moment and let the following groups of people know how important they are to me:

- My Family: for putting up with me through the ups and downs of this job
- The Giese Staff: The best group of people any principal could ask for
- The Giese PTA: it is truly amazing what 3 people are able to do for a school
- The Giese Families: With your support, anything is possible
- The Giese Cheetahs: for putting a smile on my face every morning that bell rings

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

Respectfully,



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

4 year old Kindergarten

I hope that everyone enjoyed the holiday break. It's time to welcome a new year, and I look forward to all it will bring. January is going to be a busy month in Room 7. Winter Pre-K Pals testing will take place beginning on the 12th. I am eager to see the growth that comes from all the hard work we have been putting in. Please help develop early literacy skills at home. Reading to your child and having them read to you are two of the best activities you can do to help your child be prepared for Kindergarten. We are also working on rhyme and name writing, which can be practiced at home. Our Family Involvement Activity for this month is a sledding trip to Lockwood (Graceland) Park on the 23rd. If the weather doesn't cooperate, we will have a play date with snack in Room 7. Speaking of winter activities, please make sure your child is dressed for the weather. Please see me if you are in need of winter gear, as I received a generous donation.

Kindergarten

Hope you have a restful and joyous holiday vacation.

LEARNING: The children in kindergarten have worked hard learning many new skills in reading, math, and writing. We enjoy seeing them have proud moments when they learn something new and try something difficult. Your efforts to make school important to you and your child shows in their positive attitude toward their learning and behavior. Continue to turn in your homework and reading logs.

THANK YOU: A big thanks to all the families who helped us with the Polar Express Family Day. We appreciated and enjoyed having the extra adult help to make the afternoon a success. We enjoyed seeing the movie and comparing it to the book. Please take time to read books to your child and talk about the characters, the setting, and the parts of the story (beginning, middle, and end.) Also don't forget anytime you read to your child or your child reads to you can be added to the reading log sheets (including Great America.)

WEATHER: Just a reminder to label your child's belongings, especially since we get lots of clothing that is similar (i.e. black gloves, black hats, black snow pants, etc.) In the classroom, the temperature fluctuates, so multiple layers to put on or take off help make the day comfortable. Also, during the winter months we have recess daily as long as the temperature and/ or wind chill is higher than 10 degrees. Recess is about 15 minutes, so please make sure your child is prepared with boots and snow pants, especially when snow is on the ground. Also a change of clothes including socks in your child's backpack can be helpful if your child gets wet from the snow.

FUNDRAISER: We are working on a fundraiser to help offset the cost of our field trips this spring. More information will be coming home soon. Think, Krispy Kreme, yum!

Hope you and your family have a Happy New Year!

First Grade

Happy New Year! We hope everyone has had joyful holidays!

We encourage you to make sure your child is well prepared for winter recess. Hats, mittens, snow pants, warm coats and boots are a must. An extra pair of socks is always good to have. **(Please label everything!)** The children love to play in the snow and without proper clothing they end up wet and unhappy for the remainder of the day! The children may not go in the snow if they don't have **BOTH** snow pants and boots. As the days get colder you may also want to have an extra sweater or sweatshirt for your child to put on if they get cold in the classroom.

Please check with your child to see if they are in need of school supplies, especially crayons, pencils, erasers and dry erase markers. A classroom supply that we are always in need of is tissue! With the cold weather our noses are always running!

Keep practicing addition and subtraction facts. **Read** with your child every night also! Remember to practice reading their sight word flashcards.

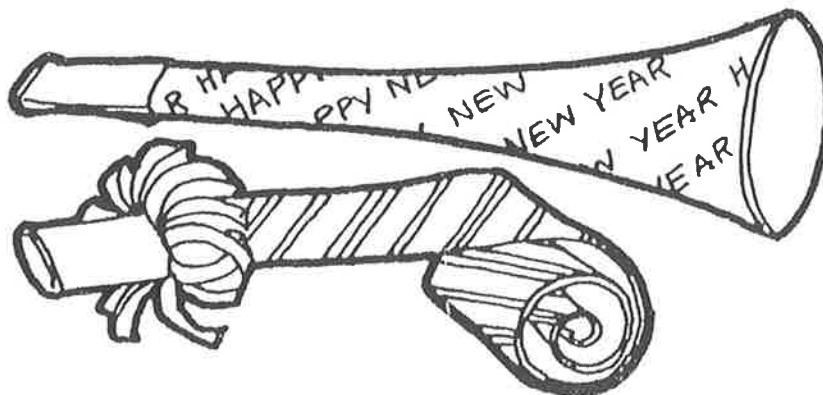
Beginning in January through February we will have testing for PALS and MAP. Please make sure your child gets adequate sleep and eats breakfast.

Second Grade

The second grade team would like to wish you Happy Holidays. We were very proud of our students at the concert, they did great! With winter weather arriving we would like to stress the importance of boots and snow pants for recess. Mittens, hats, and scarves too! It's cold out there! Indoors a spare sweatshirt to keep on their hook is recommended for when the temperatures fluctuate.

Some students are still in need of headphones. With our programs required by the district, headphones are required. Please check with your child to see if they are in need of them. PALS and MAP testing will be coming later this month. The quarter is also coming to a quick end.

We will begin a new schedule as on January 5th. Second grade will have recess from 11:30 -11:45. Lunch will follow from 11:55 – 12:25. NO snacks can be brought to lunch if your child is having a school lunch. Thank you for your support.



Third Grade

Students should be reading for at least 10-15 minutes every night. Encourage them to think about what they have read, ask questions. Please continue to encourage your child to study his/her spelling and vocabulary words. Students should also continue to practice ALL math facts. We have taught all the multiplication facts and division facts. Practice, practice, practice.....flash cards work great!!!

Fourth Grade

Happy New Year! We hope everyone has had joyful holidays!

We encourage you to make sure your child is well prepared for winter recess. Hats, mittens, snow pants, warm coats and boots are a must. An extra pair of socks is always good to have. (**Please label everything!**) The children love to play in the snow and without proper clothing they end up wet and unhappy for the remainder of the day! The children may not go in the snow if they don't have **BOTH** snow pants and boots. As the days get colder you may also want to have an extra sweater or sweatshirt for your child to put on if they get cold in the classroom.

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Fifth Grade

The fifth graders just completed their algebra unit in math. Most students did very well on the topic test. We are now working on multiplying and dividing with decimals. Life skills with Mr. James will be wrapping up after the holiday break. He has met with the students each Wednesday teaching them how to handle different situations that will come up through their adolescent years. He has given them a lot of knowledge about the effects that drugs and alcohol can have on the body too. Please have your child keep up with reading for pleasure over the holiday break. We had library class this past week, so they should all have new books for the break. Have a safe and joyous holiday break. See you next year on January 5, 2015!

Bridge Room

We have been working very hard in the Bridge Room, and I would like to thank you for all you do for the kids! Make sure to utilize the online resource guides at home. Practice work will continue to go in backpacks along with the daily communication logs. Reading at home is vital to students' learning. Remember to keep filling out the Six Flags Great America reading log to get a free ticket! We have started food labs and many life skills are being acquired from these labs. If there are any questions, concerns or comments, please feel free to contact me at kaitlyn.nelson@rusd.org. I wish you a Happy Holiday and a Happy New Year! – Miss Nelson

“Positive Behaviors, Interventions & Supports”

PBIS STUDENTS of the MONTH
Congratulations to the following students
who were named our November PBIS
students of the month:

Zachariah Keszler	Room 7 a.m.
Muzique Moore	Room 7 p.m.
Alana Knight	Room 8
DeAmare Petty	Room 16
Megan Green	Room 18
Camarion Williams	Room 19
Alannah Gordon	Room 20
Lilly Goebel	Room 21
Cole Cacciotti	Room 22
Mason Hermes	Room 23
Daniel Lerette	Room 24
Quentin Billups	Room 33
Karsten Calderon	Room 34
Nathan Saravia	Room 36
Jamier Pratt	Room 37
Savannah Robinson	Room 38

A Note from the School Counselor



As we approach the holiday season, our topic was generosity this month. I started out each class with a list of free gifts that we can give daily. Friendship, hugs, high fives, listening, helping, sharing, greeting, inviting/including, smiles, spending time together, respect, empathy, compliments, manners, appreciation etc...We kindly ask the teacher to leave the classroom as another gift for them and we talk about how hard they work each day creating fun learning activities, so they deserve a break too. We make them cards and hang them on the door and surprise them when they return. We even got to fill up the doors of other teachers too. I hope you get some wonderful free gifts! Enjoy the holiday season and Happy 2015!

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)

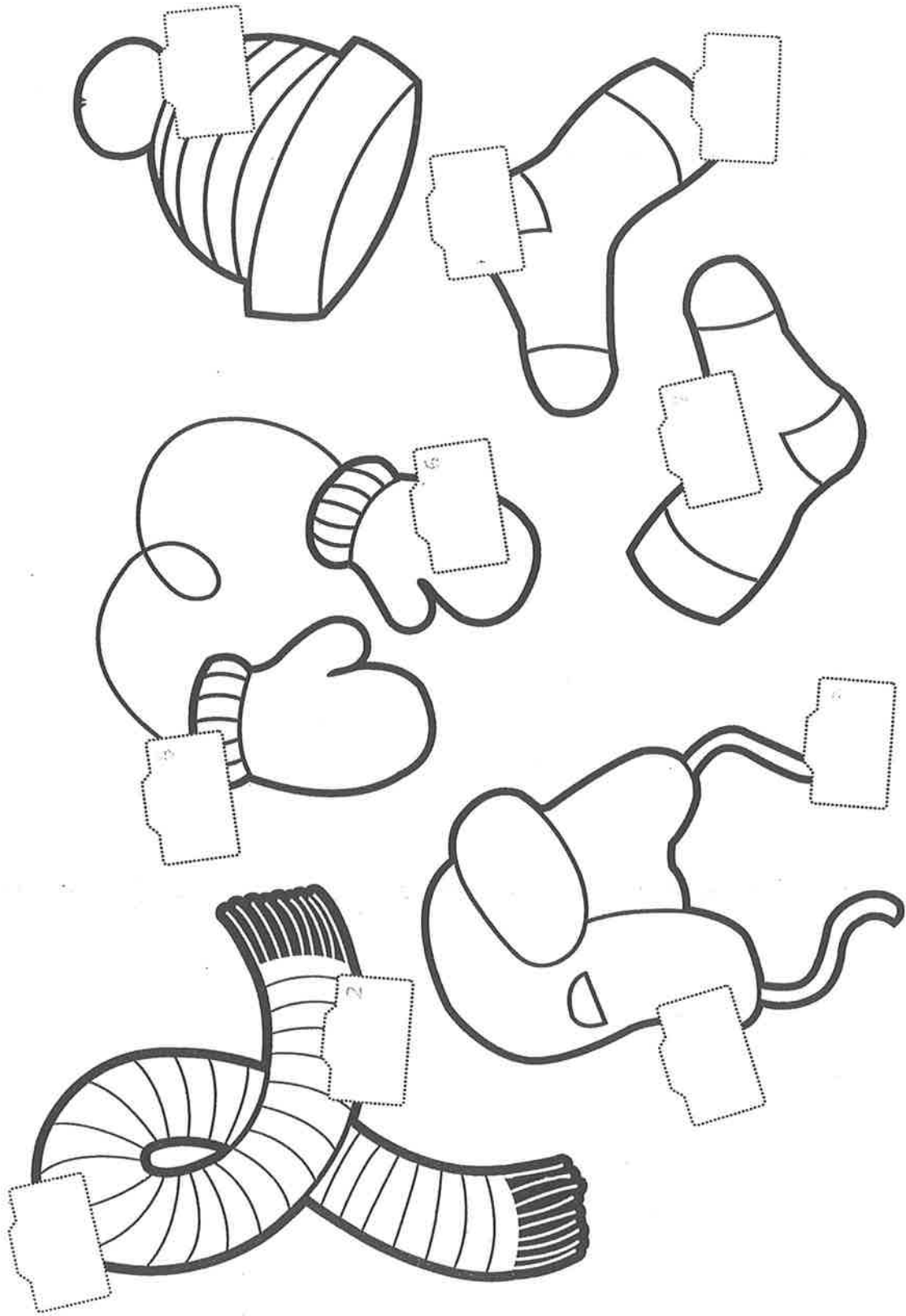
Mrs. Podskarbi 664-8262 (Social Worker)

Attendance Line : 664-8255



BUNDLE UP WITH BOX TOPS

THIS MONTH, GIVE YOUR SCHOOL A HELPING HAND!



Every Box Top you collect is worth 10¢ for your school; just fill in the collection sheet and send it to school. Please do not staple Box Tops or attach Bonus Box Tops Certificates to any collection sheets. To see more ways to earn cash for your school, go to BTFE.com.

Did you know that there is an organization that works on getting discounted materials into classroom with the help of generous donors, like you? Check out the website:

www.Donorschoose.org

The screenshot shows the DonorsChoose.org website interface. At the top left is the logo with the tagline "Teachers ask. You choose." and a navigation menu with links for "Projects", "Gifts", "About", "Help", "Account", and a shopping cart icon. A "I'm a teacher" button is also present. Below the navigation, there are search filters for "Most urgent" (dropdown), "racine" (location), and "17 projects" (count). A "Choose a project for me" button is on the right. On the left side, there are several filter categories: Location, Favorites, Keyword (with a search bar containing "racine" and a "Search" button), Subject, Donations, Resource, Age, Teacher type, and School type. The main content area displays two project listings. The first project is titled "Respect the Brain, Build the Mind with Science!" by Ms. Bendickson, with 35 days left. It includes a photo of a classroom, a description of science materials needed, a total cost of \$558, and a progress bar showing \$478 to go from 5 donors. The second project is titled "Being Better Readers" with 39 days left, including a photo of students reading, a description of reading materials needed, and a progress bar showing \$398 to go from 7 donors. Both projects have "Give", "Save", and "Share" buttons.

There are several classrooms in Racine with special projects to help students here in our community. I also have a special project on the website for my classroom. Any donation possible for our students - no matter the size - will help students directly in the classroom. If you know anyone who is passionate about education, please pass this along. Your tax-deductible donation will have a direct impact on students right here at Giese (and future students, too!)

To learn more or donate:

1. Visit my Teacher Page or another teacher's page
<http://www.donorschoose.org/project/warning-readers-on-board/1392438/>
2. Choose one of the projects, enter the amount of your donation, and click "Give"

Thanks so much,

Mrs. Wamboldt
Kindergarten Teacher
Giese Room 8



Elementary Lunch Menu

JANUARY 2015



HAPPY
NEW
YEAR

- Arbor A+ Nutrition Standards:**
- ✓ Make choices for a healthy lifestyle.
 - ✓ Encourage nutritious & delicious fruits & vegetables.
 - ✓ Choose 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!

Choose a healthy New Year's resolution:

- Eat less fast food!
- Eat breakfast every day!
- Try a new vegetable each month!
- Play a new sport!
- Drink less soda!

Questions about the menus?
Call Arbor Management, Inc.
262-684-9700
www.arbormgmt.com

**Lunch \$2.45
Milk .45¢**

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

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
5 Chicken Nuggets w/ Seasoned Brown Rice* Fresh Cucumber Slices Crunchy Baby Carrots Plump Raisins	6 Pizza Dippers w/ Marinara Dipping Sauce Romaine Salad w/ Italian Dressing Diced Peas	7 Saucy Meatball Hoagie* w/ Mozzarella Cheese Sweet Garden Peas 100% Apple Juice	8 Crispy Chicken Sandwich Baked Beans Fresh Broccoli Buds Red Delicious Apple	9 Chef Chicken Salad w/ Shredded Cheese & Cherry Tomatoes Goldfish Crackers Petite Banana
12 Popcorn Chicken Whipped Potatoes Dinner Roll Fresh Cucumber Coins Cinnamon Applesauce	13 French Toast Sticks Turkey Sausage Patty Hash Brown Triangle 100% Mango Wango Vegetable Juice Orange Smiles	14 Fiesta Beef Nachos* Bean Dip Zesty Salsa Red Delicious Apple	15 Cheese Pizza Slice Crunchy Baby Carrots Fresh Broccoli Buds Petite Banana	16 EARLY RELEASE DAY Cold Turkey & Cheese Sub Sandwich w/ Romaine Lettuce Fresh Cauliflower Buds Plump Raisins
19 Martin Luther King Day NO SCHOOL	20 Pizza Dippers w/ Marinara Dipping Sauce Romaine Salad w/ Ranch Dressing Diced Peas	21 Salisbury Steak* w/ Homemade Gravy* Dinner Roll Whipped Potatoes Crunchy Baby Carrots Juicy Pineapple	22 Mini Corn Dogs Colorful Mixed Vegetables Fresh Cucumber Coins Orange Smiles Lucky Tray Day!	23 Pepperoni Lil' Bites Pizza Rolls* w/ Marinara Dipping Sauce Fresh Cauliflower Buds Mandarin Oranges
26 Popcorn Chicken Whipped Potatoes Crunchy Baby Carrots Cinnamon Applesauce	27 Beef Tacos* w/ Romaine Lettuce & Shredded Cheese Refried Beans Red Delicious Apple	28 Spaghetti w/ Meat Sauce* & Garlic Toast Romaine Salad w/ Italian Dressing Golden Peaches	29 French Toast Sticks Turkey Sausage Patty Hash Brown Triangle 100% Dragon Punch Vegetable Juice Orange Smiles	30 Chicken Parmesan Sandwich Steamed Broccoli Fresh Cucumber Coins Fruit Medley

Although it is cold out, stay active!

- *Snowboarding*
- *Sledding*
- *Ice Skating*
- *Snow Fort Building*
- *Ice Hockey*
- *Skiing*

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-

