



# THE CHEETAH CHATTER

## W.C. GIESE SCHOOL



March, 2015

Volume 49

Number 7

Dear Giese Families,

Welcome to the March Edition of the 2014 – 2015 *Cheetah Chatter*. I'd like to begin this edition by reminding you that your child will be off from school beginning Thursday, March 5<sup>th</sup> at 2:45pm and not returning until Monday, March 9<sup>th</sup>. Parent-Teacher Conferences will be held after the conclusion of school on Thursday, March 5<sup>th</sup> and during the morning hours of Friday, March 6<sup>th</sup>. You should have received a confirmation from your child's teacher if they would like to see you for a conference. Should you need to reschedule the time, please contact the teacher as soon as you are able. We have a very limited window with which to complete these conferences and appreciate your assistance.

The next PTA meeting will take place on Tuesday, March 3<sup>th</sup> 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! ☺

You should have received a NWEA MAP Profile Page if your child is in 1<sup>st</sup> – 5<sup>th</sup> grade last week. This report explained how well your child performed on the reading and math assessments that they took at the beginning of the month. These are two very important pieces of information that will help us guide your child's instruction for the remainder of the year. As a school, I was very pleased with the progress shown and look forward to seeing the same kind of growth in the spring.

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 Year Old Kindergarten

We continue to dive into the wonderful world of Dr. Seuss this month. We will share books and do a variety of activities in the classroom, beginning with our Dr. Seuss birthday party on Friday, February 28th. I am looking for Wings approved volunteers to share your favorite Dr. Seuss with the class Monday through Thursday during the month of March. Please see me if you are interested. This is a great time for all families to share these colorful and fun books at home to help reinforce the concept of rhyme.

I have a special request for our Giese community. I am working on a donorschoose.org project the get help promote alphabet awareness and writing in my classroom. I know these materials will help my students learn the alphabet independently and help them be better prepared for kindergarten. My project can be found at donorschoose.org under the title of Letter Learners. Please help spread the word to get my project funded.

## Kindergarten

Talk about these topics with your child this month:

**Good Attitude** – a positive attitude can help your child deal with the challenges of the day. If you haven't heard this before, "Attitude is everything!" Children with good attitudes about their learning and school are very successful and happy. Talk up school and how important it is for your child.

**Being Friendly** – don't be a bully instead, be a friend. Remind your child to be kind or be quiet. It is difficult in the classroom, lunchroom, playground, etc. when children are choosing unkind ways to treat and talk to each other. Talk up ways to be friendly and how to respond kindly if someone else is not being very nice. It is never OK to fight or fight back at school.

**Doing Our Best** – Some of the work can be difficult in kindergarten but giving it our best will help us learn. Try to help your child understand that we can't learn and know everything and that practice is necessary to learn new skills. So keep trying and trying and if you did your best, then that is what really counts. Practice at home, working together to complete the homework assigned by your child's teacher.

**Being Prepared** – start your day off in a good way, bring necessary items to school: book bags, folders, and other notes. Dress appropriately for both inside and outside the classroom. Think about the changing temperatures and

the wet ground on the playground. Consider having a change of clothes in your child's backpack, even an extra pair of socks can be helpful.

**Hungry and Sleepyheads** – we have many children that are hungry in the morning. Please make sure your child eats before school or comes to school before 7:45 am for our free school breakfast. If your child rides the bus, they should be encouraged to eat breakfast at school if they did not eat at home. Our lunch is not until 11:20 am and it is very hard to concentrate and learn with an empty stomach. A good night of sleep does wonders for a good day in school, too. Thanks for your help in this area.

**Thanks to all Giese Families!** - We held our kindergarten Field Trip Fundraiser last month, selling Krispy Kreme doughnuts. Yum! We have earned funds to help offset the cost of spring field trips and other activities we are planning for the students.

**Talk to your Teacher** – if you are having any difficulties and need our assistance, please contact us. Spring conferences are coming, please return requested sign up forms ASAP.

Spring is a great time to really see our Kindergartners blossom in reading and enjoy a little warmer weather. Spring time is coming!

### First Grade

It's exciting to watch the first graders use their newly acquired reading skills. Book browsing is a favorite all time activity. The Racine Public Library is a good source of reading materials and a great place for family interaction. Continue reading together every night! If you have access to the internet, working on RAZ Kids is something the kids enjoy. Compass Learning is also great practice for Language Arts and Math!

Memorizing basic addition (+) and subtraction (-) facts are important skills that should be reinforced at home. Practice counting by 5's, and 10's. Our next topic in Math is counting money. Then we will be learning about measurement and then time. All first graders would benefit from some extra practice in these areas.

Parent Teacher Conferences will be March 5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup>. Look for more information to come soon.



## Second Grade

February has been a busy month for the second graders. In Science, we have all been studying the solar system. Room 24 has constellations on its bulletin board and Room 23's bulletin board features the planets.

On Room 21's bulletin board, you can see how the students have used adjectives to describe their drawings.

The students in Room 22 have been learning about the Underground Railroad. Secret codes were often stitched as patterns on quilts to help the slaves travel north. On their bulletin board is a sampler quilt consisting of coded quilt squares. Come inside their room to read what the students have written about their squares.

The Master Gardeners have taken all of the second graders on a journey of a seed. Seeds were planted in a viewfinder and the students are watching them grow. The plants will then be taken home.

Another visitor to the second grade classrooms has been Bailey Bennett, Miss Wisconsin High School. She talked to the students about her Anti-Bullying platform.

Encourage your child to tell you what they have learned in school that day, check on their homework, and listen to them read.

## Third Grade

Spring Parent/Teacher Conferences will be held Thursday, March 5<sup>th</sup>(after school) and Friday, March 6<sup>th</sup>(during the day-NO SCHOOL). If your child's teacher is requesting a conference, it is important that you contact his/her teacher.

In February, your child took the NWEA MAP test. Overall, the students showed growth in both reading and math scores from the fall. With your continued support, we hope to see this trend continue as we prepare for the spring tests.

Keep practicing basic addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division facts at home. We continue to take the Fast Fact Friday Timed Tests every Friday. The best way for students to be successful with these is to memorize their facts. Continue to encourage your child to read daily.

## Fourth Grade

-Parent/Teacher conferences are coming up the first week of March. Look for more information coming home with your child.

-Reading-Please review the weekly spelling and vocabulary words with your child. These words will be getting more difficult and the year continues.

-Science/Social Studies-We are just finishing up chapter 3 (animals) in science. Next, we will be moving back to social studies. We will be learning about the southern United States (chapter 5).

-Math-We will be working on fractions for a few weeks (drawing, reducing, equivalent, adding and subtracting, comparing, ordering)

\*\*Look for progress reports to come home the week of March 2.

As always, let us know if you have any questions or concerns.

## Fifth Grade

The 5<sup>th</sup> grade team would like to thank you for your continued support in your child's learning. Most of our Giese 5<sup>th</sup> graders are attending daily and keeping a positive attitude towards learning!

Please be on the lookout for information regarding Parent/Teacher conferences. We always look forward to meeting with you to discuss your child's success.

## Bridge Room

We are doing great things in the Bridge Room! We went to the planetarium with the 3rd grade and we learned about the planets! Keep looking for those reading logs and additional homework. We earned a grant for our food labs so we will be having one each week! Thank you for all you do!-Miss Nelson



# Dr. Seuss Spirit Week!!



March 2nd - 6th



Monday:

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY DR. SEUSS**

Fox in Socks - wear your crazy or mixmatched socks

Tuesday:

"You're in pretty good shape for the shape you are in."

Dr. Seuss - wear your sweats or favorite team wear

Wednesday:

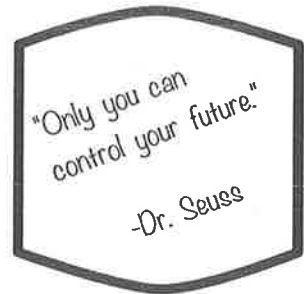
Wacky Wednesday-Inside out or backwards clothes day

Thursday:

One Fish, Two Fish, Red Fish, Blue Fish - wear red, white and blue

Friday:

Conferences: No School



Please join us and support our school, students and families.

## Giese

### Jimmy John's Fundraising Night

Monday, March 9th  
5-8PM

5502 Washington Ave  
632-1800



**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 and Social Worker

February's focus was on citizenship. We did all sorts of activities in the classroom. We also revisited bucket filling and bully prevention as well. The students named all the ideas we can do as children and adults to be good citizens from picking up litter, listening, helping and saving water as well as paying attention to our actions and choices.

We are running our Pennies for Patients drive to help children with Leukemia and that will continue through Tuesday, March 3rd. The classroom with the largest donation will win an Olive Garden pasta lunch. This has been a phenomenal fundraiser the last few years, thank you for your help!! We met some wonderful students (Ally and Nick) who shared their incredible story with us. We are making a difference for them and so many others.

Stay tuned for some Spring events here at Giese school!!

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.

Thank you for all you do at home to keep your child successful at school.

Feel free to contact us at anytime or visit us at conference time! 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





## **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)*

**March 28, 2015  
Home**

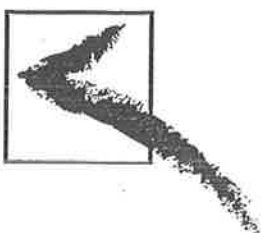
**Show begins at 10:00 AM  
Special admission price: \$7**

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>

# We WANT Your FEEDBACK!



Take the RUSD Parent/Community  
Survey at [www.rusd.org](http://www.rusd.org).



The survey is available now through April 24 in English and Spanish. The results of this survey will be reviewed by District administrators, school principals and other school staff as part of the School Improvement Planning process. Do you have questions or need Internet/computer access to take the survey? Call 262-631-7069.



# Elementary Lunch Menu

## MARCH 2015

- Arbor A+ Nutrition Standards:
- Encourage nutritious & delicious Fruits & Vegetables
- Whole Grain Rich products daily

**NEW Fruit Bars!**  
 offered at breakfast for  
 National School Breakfast Week  
 March 2nd-6th



Just natural, non-GMO fruits! No sugar or other ingredients added!

March is **National Nutrition Month!**

Keep your favorite fruits, veggies, and healthy snacks around the house so you choose those instead of "junk" foods!

Questions about the menu?  
 Call Arbor Management, Inc.  
 262-664-8700  
 www.arbormgt.com



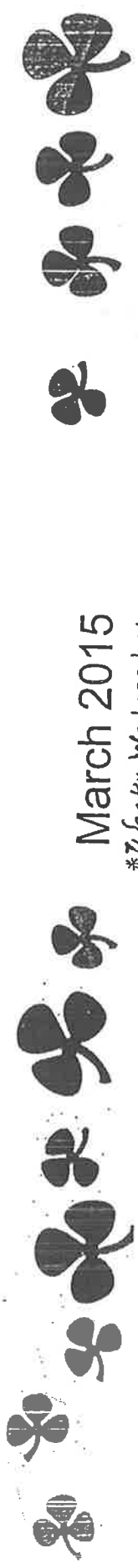
Lunch \$2.45  
 Milk .45¢  
 Comprehensive Nutrition & Allergy Guides are available on the RUSD website. Elementary menus are pork- and nut-free.

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
2 Popcorn Chicken Whipped Potatoes Crunchy Baby Carrots Applesauce Ranch Dressing	3 French Toast Sticks Turkey Sausage Patty Hash Brown Triangle 100% Dragon Punch- Vegetable Juice Orange Smiles	4 Spaghetti w/ Meat Sauce* & Garlic Toast Romaine Salad w/ Ranch Dressing Fruit Medley	5 Fiesta Beef Tacos* w/ Romaine Lettuce & Shredded Cheese Bean Dip Red Delicious Apple	6 NO SCHOOL
9 Chicken Nuggets Steamed Green Beans Romaine Salad w/ Ranch Dressing Mandarin Oranges	10 Mini Corn Dogs Baked Beans Crisp Celery Sticks Orange Smiles Ranch Dressing	11 Creamy Mac 'N Cheese Steamed Broccoli Crunchy Baby Carrots Pette Banana Ranch Dressing	12 Cheese Pizza Slice Fresh Cucumber Coins Crunchy Baby Carrots 100% Pure Apple Juice Ranch Dressing Spikerz Ranch Crackers!	13 Juicy Hamburger* Golden Sweet Corn Fresh Cauliflower Buds Red Delicious Apple Ranch Dressing
16 Chicken Nuggets w/ Seasoned Brown Rice* Fresh Cucumber Coins Crunchy Baby Carrots Plump Raisins Ranch Dressing	17 Hot Diggity Dog Baked Beans Fresh Broccoli Buds Red Delicious Apple Ranch Dressing Leprechaun's Lucky Tray Day!	18 Saucy Meatball Hoagie* w/ Mozzarella Cheese Sweet Garden Peas 100% Pure Apple Juice	19 Pizza Dippers w/ Marinara Dipping Sauce Romaine Salad w/ Ranch Dressing Fruit Medley	20 Cheese Stuffed Quesadillas Steamed Green Beans Tortilla Chips w/ Zesty Salsa 100% Pure Apple Juice
23 Popcorn Chicken w/ Hash Brown Triangle Dinner Roll Fresh Cucumber Coins Applesauce Ranch Dressing	24 French Toast Sticks Turkey Sausage Patty Hash Brown Triangle 100% Mango Wango- Vegetable Juice Orange Smiles	25 Fiesta Beef Nachos* Bean Dip Zesty Salsa Red Delicious Apple	26 Cheese Pizza Slice Crunchy Baby Carrots Fresh Broccoli Buds Pette Banana Ranch Dressing	27 Spaghetti w/ Meat Sauce* & Garlic Toast Romaine Salad w/ Ranch Dressing Golden Peaches
30 Crispy Chicken Sandwich Baked Beans Fresh Broccoli Buds Red Delicious Apple Ranch Dressing	31 Pizza Dippers w/ Marinara Dipping Sauce Romaine Salad w/ Ranch Dressing Juicy Diced Pears	Parents — Find helpful recipes at <a href="http://kidseatright.org">kidseatright.org</a> ! Kids — Find games at <a href="http://www.eatright.org/nmm/games/#">www.eatright.org/nmm/games/#</a>		

\*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.

Choice of Milk Daily

Arbor Management



# March 2015

*\*Wacky Wednesday  
Wear inside out or backwards Day!*

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 <i>Dr. Seuss Spirit Week</i>	2 <i>"Crazy Sock Day" B-DAY</i>	3 Gr. 2 Master Gardeners 8:15-11:15 "C-DAY"	4 SPRING PICTURES Kindergarten Registration 9-6 "A-DAY"	5 <i>Wear red, white &amp; blue</i> Parent/Teacher Conferences begin At 3:00 p.m. "B" Cheerleading 3-4	6 NO SCHOOL Parent/Teacher Conferences <i>Giese vs. Wadewitz</i>	7
8 <i>Jimmy Johns Nite 5:00-8:00 Family Life Begins "C-DAY"</i>	9 <i>Wear Sweats or Favorite Team Wear</i> 10 <i>Giese's Got Talent Practice 3:00-4:00 "A-DAY"</i>	11 "B-DAY"	12 Cheerleading Practice 3-4 "C-DAY"	13 <i>Giese vs. Jefferson "A-DAY"</i>	14	
15	16 "B-DAY"	17 <i>Giese's Got Talent Practice 3-4</i> Dental Visits "C-DAY"	18 Dental Visits "A-DAY"	19 Cheerleading Practice Gr. 4 Positive 3-4 Impact "B-DAY"	20 <i>Giese vs. Jefferson 2</i> Spring Begins "C-DAY"	
22	23 "A-DAY"	24 <i>Giese's Got Talent Practice 3-4 "B-DAY"</i>	25 Scan Man Puppet Show for Kndg. "C-DAY"	26 Cheerleading Practice 3-4 K to Golden Rendell "A-DAY" 9:05-10:25	27 <i>Giese bye</i> "B-DAY"	28
29	30 "C-DAY"	31 <i>Giese's Got Talent Practice 3-4 "A-DAY"</i>				