



THE CHEETAH CHATTER

W.C. GIESE SCHOOL



March 2016

Volume 50

Number 7

Dear Giese Families,

Welcome to the March Edition of the 2015 – 2016 *Cheetah Chatter*. I'd like to begin this edition by reminding you that your child will be off from school beginning Wednesday, March 23rd at 12:45pm and not returning until Monday, April 4th. Parent-Teacher Conferences will be held after the conclusion of school on Wednesday, March 23rd and in the morning of Thursday, March 24th. The week of March 28-April 1st will find all RUSD students off for Spring Break. You will receive 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 15th 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! ☺

We are nearing our 3rd and final NWEA MAP testing window as well as the Forward Exam. This particular testing cycle is the most important. It will show how much growth your child did this year in both Reading and Math. Please help us with your child's success by ensuring they are doing their homework and 20 minutes of reading at home.

Please enjoy the upcoming time off with your child; read some books with them, practice some flashcards, plan a game night, and spend some quality time together. As I have come to learn with my two daughters, they grow up all too quickly!

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. 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 look forward to meeting families for Spring Conferences beginning Wednesday, March 23rd. There is no school for 4K students that day and Thursday, March 24th. I am excited to share the amazing progress all students are making this year! Please watch folders for more information and the sign-up sheet.

Kindergarten

During the first week of March, we will celebrate Dr. Seuss' birthday with fun spirit days. We will end the week with a reading celebration. Family members and siblings 5 and under are welcome to join us at 2pm on Friday, March 4th at 2pm. Please send back your RSVP if you plan to attend. Thanks.

Please talk about these topics with your child during 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 that will be sent home. Enjoy spring break this month and hopefully some spring weather, too. Spring is a great time to really see our Kindergartners blossom in reading and enjoy a little warmer weather. Spring time is coming, it is worth repeating!

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 measurement and telling time. All first graders would benefit from some extra practice in counting money also.

Parent Teacher Conferences will be March 23rd & 24th. Look for more information to come soon.

The Master Gardeners, with Bert, will work with us on March 20th to help us start milk jug gardens for spring. It will be fun!

Second Grade

March is a month with several things happening in second grade. The Master Gardeners will be coming back for their second visit to see how tall our plants have gotten in two weeks. We thank them for coming and donating their time. Also we will be holding Spring Conferences on Wednesday, March 23 after the 2 hr. Early Release at 12:45 p.m. and Thursday, March 24. Please check your child's backpack for information about signing up for a conference.

Please ask your child if they are running out of supplies and we are in need of Kleenex. Make sure that you are dressing your child for the weather. Layers are always recommended and a sweatshirt can be left in the room for colder days. If you are able to send an extra pair of shoes to school for your child to wear at recess due to the mud we would appreciate this. We will be taking our last round of the MAP testing the second week after returning from Spring Break. We hope that you enjoy Spring Break!!!

Third Grade

Spring Parent/Teacher Conferences will be held Wednesday, March 23rd after a 2 hour early release at 12:45 p.m. and Thursday, March 24th (during the day-NO SCHOOL). It is important that you respond to your child's teacher.

In January, 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 at the end of March, right before spring break. 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-We are just beginning science chapter 3 (animals). Next, we will be moving back to social studies.

-Social studies- The last chapter will be the eastern United States. Keep studying states and capitals.

-Math-We will be finishing fractions and decimals. Next will be geometry.

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

Fifth Grade

Giese's 5th graders will attend a free Racine Symphony fieldtrip on March 15th from 10:20 to 11:45. We will return before lunch.

Please mark your calendars for the Spring Parent/Teacher Conference dates of March 23 & 24. We look forward to seeing you again.

Giese's Room 38 (Mrs. Martinez) has been working very hard on a short bully prevention musical during Dr. Seuss week. The title is "Sneetches". Come join us on March 3rd. The performance times are 9:15, 10:00 & 10:45 in the West Learning Center.



A Note from the School Counselor and Social Worker

February's focus was on conflict resolution. We did all sorts of activities in the classroom. We also revisited peer mediation and bully prevention as well. Kindergarten and 1st grade heard a Winnie the Pooh Story about apologizing. We also talked about how to apologize and listed many things we can do daily to be kind and careful. Grades 2-4 performed a play in which 2 students had a misunderstanding and other students chimed in to help. They all did a great job! 5th grade worked on identifying their learning styles and proper ways to prepare and study well.

The majority of our students were able to enjoy our second annual "Yoga Day" as well. We participated in 20-30 minute yoga sessions throughout the day in the West Learning Center. It makes for a nice exercise brain break. Everyone did a fabulous job, earned tickets and PAWS too.

We are running our Pennies for Patients drive to help children with Leukemia. If you haven't you'll be receiving information about this soon. 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.

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.

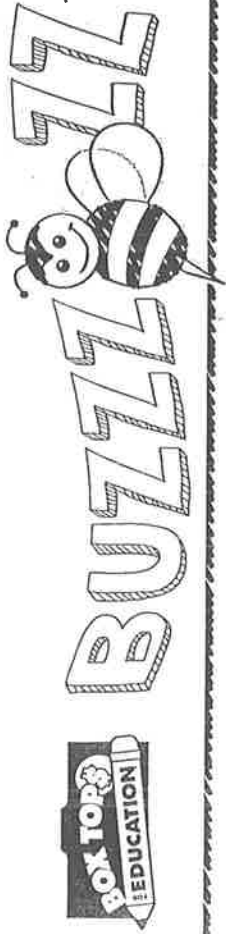
Thank you for all you do at home to keep your child successful at school.

Feel free to contact us at anytime or visit us at conference time! Helpful websites: www.loveandlogic.com, 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



THE LATEST NEWS & INFORMATION FROM BOX TOPS FOR EDUCATION | MARCH 2016

THANKS FOR SENDING IN YOUR BOX TOPS!

Our school will be getting a check in April for all of the Box Tops we've turned in—and our school can use that money to purchase whatever it needs most. **What do you think we should use the money to fund?**

BIG SPRING CLEANING NEWS!

Box Tops are now available on select household cleaning products.

See the full product list at BTFE.com/products

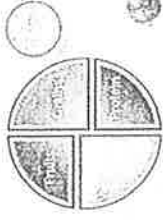
BOX TOPS SHAM-ROCKS!

Thank you for helping! Clipped Box Tops are each worth 10¢ for your child's school. Bonus certificates should not be attached to this sheet – please submit them separately. To see more ways to earn cash for your child's school, go to BTFE.com.

March 2016



Racine Unified Elementary Lunch Menu



Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
29 Popcorn Chicken Baked Beans Dinner Roll Cucumber Slices w/ Ranch Dressing Applesauce	1 French Toast Sticks w/ Turkey Sausage Baked Hashbrown 100% Mango Wango Vegetable Juice Orange Smiles	2 Fiesta Beef Nachos* Golden Sweet Corn Zesty Salsa Red Delicious Apple	3 Cheesy Pizza Slice Crunchy Baby Carrots Fresh Broccoli Buds Pefite Banana	4 Spaghetti w/ Meat Sauce* Garlic Toast Romaine Salad w/ Ranch Dressing Juicy Pineapple
7 Crispy Chicken Sandwich Golden Sweet Corn Broccoli Buds w/ Ranch Dressing Red Delicious Apple	8 Hot Diggity Dog Steamed Broccoli Cherry Tomatoes Orange Craisins	9 Lucky Tray Day! Chicken and Gravy Whipped Potatoes Dinner Roll Crunchy Baby Carrots Golden Peaches	10 Mini Corn Dogs Baked Beans Celery Sticks w/ Ranch Dressing Orange Smiles	11 Cheese Quesadilla Seasoned Green Beans Tortilla Chips w/ Zesty Salsa Red Delicious Apple
14 Pizza Dippers w/ Marinara Sauce Broccoli Buds w/ Ranch Dressing Fruit Medley	15 Pepperoni Bites w/ Marinara Sauce Fresh Cauliflower w/ Ranch Dressing Orange Smiles	16 Hot Diggity Dog Baked Beans Crunchy Baby Carrots 100% Apple Juice	17 Cheesy Pizza Slice Crunchy Baby Carrots Celery Sticks Pefite Banana	18 Popcorn Chicken Golden Sweet Corn Cucumber Slices w/ Ranch Dressing Applesauce
21 Chicken Nuggets Baked Beans Cucumber Slices w/ Ranch Dressing Diced Pears	22 Cheesy Breakfast Scrambler Baked Hashbrown 100% Dragon Punch Vegetable Juice Orange Smiles	23 Early Release Turkey & Cheese Sub Crunchy Baby Carrots w/ Ranch Dressing Fresh Broccoli Buds Fruit Medley	24 NO SCHOOL	25 NO SCHOOL
28	29	30 Spring Break!	31	1

March is National Nutrition Month!

Try a new fruit or vegetable each week to celebrate! Visit kidsatright.org for more nutrition tips and tricks.



Lunch \$2.45
(Milk included with meal)
Milk 45c
Offered Daily:
Skim White, Skim Chocolate

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

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

A comprehensive Nutrition & Allergy Guide is available on the Unified website.



March 2016

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 4k Bus Field Trip 9:30 & 12:30 Gr. 3 to Planetarium F.A.S.T. (5:30-8:00) "B-DAY"	2 Wacky Wed. Inside out or backwards clothes day "C-DAY"	3 Sneeches Musical Performed by Room 38 "A-DAY"	4 Wear you- Red, white & blue Giase vs. Wadswitz Basketball at 5:30 "B-DAY"	5 Orchestra Concert 4:00 @ Gilmore
6	7 Just Say No Club 8:40-9:10 a.m. "C-DAY"	8 Master Gardeners For Gr. 1 Pennies for Patients Assembly "A-DAY"	9 SPRING PICTURES TAKEN "B-DAY"	10 Cheer Practice 2:45-4:15 "C-DAY"	11 Giase vs. Knapp Basketball 6:30 p.m. "A-DAY"	12
13	14 Master Gardeners For Gr. 1 Pennies for Pasta Assembly "B-DAY"	15 F.A.S.T. (5:30-8:00) "C-DAY"	16 "A-DAY"	17 End of season Cheer Party 2:45-4:15 "B-DAY"	18 "C-DAY"	19
20	21 "A-DAY"	22 Room 40 to Racine Zoo 9:30-12:00 F.A.S.T. (5:30-8:00) "B-DAY"	23 NO 4K Classes 2 Hr. Early Release Parent/Teacher Conferences in p.m. "C-DAY"	24 NO SCHOOL!!! Parent/Teacher Conferences	25 Good Friday SPRING BREAK BEGINS	26
27 HAPPY EASTER!	28	29	30	31		SCHOOLS RESUMES APRIL 4th