



# THE CHEETAH CHATTER

## W.C. GIESE SCHOOL



December, 2017

Volume 52

Number 4

Dear Giese Families,

Welcome to the Holiday Edition of the 2017 – 2018 *Cheetah Chatter*. We are entering December and our winter break will be December 22-January 2. **All children will return to school on Wednesday, January 3.**

In order to plan ahead, I wanted to make you aware that there is a 2-hour Early Release scheduled for Friday, January 19. Your child will be released at 12:45am on this day.

We are excited to begin our PTA again. Please contact me if you are interested in joining. We are looking forward to many activities to help our school grow

The month of January will find all of our Giese Cheetahs (K-5) taking the NWEA MAP assessment during this period. Your child takes this assessment 3x a year. This is the Winter testing cycle. 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.

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: better people I could NEVER hope 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  
2014-2015 Title I School of Recognition  
2013-2014 Title I School of Recognition



## 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. 16th from 1:30-2:30. I look forward to seeing many families there. We will walk to The Villa on Wednesday, Dec. 21<sup>st</sup> at 10:00 to sing Christmas carols to the residents and spread some holiday joy. We appreciate any wings approved volunteers who would like to accompany us. 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 details: the setting, characters, telling the beginning, middle, and ending 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 15<sup>th</sup> we will have a Polar Express Day. So mark you 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 wondrous 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.

MAP testing will begin the week of December 11<sup>th</sup>. Please make sure your child gets a good night sleep and also has a good breakfast. 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.

Also, as the flu season approaches us please make sure that if your child has a fever to make sure you keep them home. We don't want to spread the flu virus to others. Thank you so much!

## SECOND GRADE

We hope everyone enjoyed a great Thanksgiving break with family and friends. Our swimming sessions are going well. The students are learning a lot about water safety. We have 3 sessions left.

We have been working hard here at school and lots of learning is taking place. Please continue to support this learning by having your child read at home daily. To continue to be successful in our upcoming math modules the students will need to be fluent with the addition and subtraction facts. Please continue to have them practice these at home as well. We will be taking our winter MAP tests in a few weeks.

We are also working on our Second Step lessons, which teach skills for learning such as respect, focusing and listening, and self-talk. We have been experiencing some behaviors and language that are not acceptable at school. These Second Step lessons are designed to help with this, but we need your continued support in reinforcing school expectations.



### THIRD GRADE

In November we had a great visit to the Racine Zoo learning about animals and their habits. MAP testing will be happening the week of December 11<sup>th</sup>. Please make sure your child gets enough rest and a good breakfast.

In reading we are learning about reading mysteries and paying attention to the clues to try to solve the mystery before the crime solver does.

In math we will be working on fractions. Please continue to practice basic math facts each night.

Be on the look-out for your child's spelling/Words Their Way sheet coming home. Part of homework is to complete the contract on the back and practice spelling words each night.

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. Pizza Hut Book It coupons come home each month through March for students who read.

The cold weather will arrive, please make sure your child has a warm coat, hat, and mittens. It's a good idea to have a sweatshirt in the classroom as well.

### FOURTH GRADE

Welcome back Mrs. Lewno!

4th Grade is wrapping up their nonfiction reading unit and will be starting a character studies unit. We are focusing on building stamina for independent reading time during school. This looks like each student is reading intently and silently. Continue to encourage your child is reading at home.

Friday Fun Facts builds mental math facts. Each Friday, students "race" themselves to beat the facts. Should your child master the math operation, he/she moves to the next operation. By January, all students should be able to master the basic operations of math. Flash cards can help!

Please reinforce the Giese Way: Respectful, Responsible and Safe. We need our students to follow these 3 at school.

The Holidays have arrived! Please take the time with your families to celebrate.

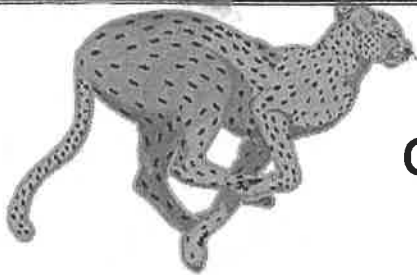


## FIFTH GRADE

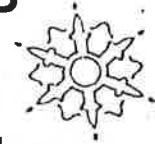
On behalf of the fifth grade team we would like to wish your family a very Happy Holiday season. With excitement in the air we are still focused on teaching and learning. We will begin MAP testing on December 11<sup>th</sup>. Please talk with your child about the importance of taking their time and doing their BEST!

Behaviors have been challenging and we are continuing to teach the students to treat others the way they want to be treated. Kindness is the BEST gift one can give. As the leaders of the school it is important we spread kindness and model these behaviors for all. We are wrapping up the nutrition lessons this month. Ask your child what they have learned and we encourage you to try some of the new recipes they've shared.

As always, If you have any questions please contact one of us. Communication is key.



## GIESE WINTER CONCERT SERIES Sleigh Bells Ring!



Come join us for a night of song to ring in the holiday season. Check below for the time your child will be performing.

### **TUESDAY, DECEMBER 12<sup>th</sup> HOLIDAY CONCERTS:**

- Prek, Kinder, and 1<sup>st</sup> grade combined  
@ 5:30-6:00pm
- 2<sup>nd</sup> – 5<sup>th</sup> grade combined @ 7:00 -7:30pm

**WHERE:** Giese West Learning Center

### **CALL TIME and ATTIRE:**

Students should arrive dressed in their Winter best and report to the West Learning Center 15 minutes before the start of the performance and sit quietly.

If you are unable to attend in the evening, you are free to attend a shortened all school assembly at 1:45 on Monday, December 11<sup>th</sup> in the West Learning Center.



**my school.  
my choice.**  
their journey starts with you



## What is my New Boundary Middle School?

To determine your new boundary middle school, locate your boundary elementary school from the list below.

### Jerstad-Agerholm

Olympia Brown  
North Park  
Jerstad-Agerholm  
Roosevelt  
Wadewitz  
Janes  
Julian Thomas  
Fratt

### Mitchell

Goodland  
West Ridge  
SC Johnson  
Knapp  
Giese  
Schulte  
Dr. Jones  
Mitchell

### Gifford

Gifford

Please call 262-631-7194 with any questions you may have.



**AMC Sensory  
Friendly Films**



**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. This program provides an environment that is sensitive to special sensory needs. The lights are turned up and the sound is turned down! Viewers are invited to get up out of their seats and dance, shout, walk or sing-a-long with the film!

The closest participating theater to the Racine area:

**AMC Theater - Mayfair Mall**

**2500 N. Mayfair**

**(Hwy 100 & North Ave.)**

**Wauwatosa, WI 53226**

**Guest Services: (414) 777-0467**

*This Month's Showings: (date, film & admission prices are subject to change. Please contact theater for show times)*

**Coco – December 9<sup>th</sup>**

**Wonder – December 12<sup>th</sup>**

**Star Wars: The Last Jedi – December 23<sup>rd</sup> & 26<sup>th</sup>**

**Special admission price: Adults \$9 and Children \$7**

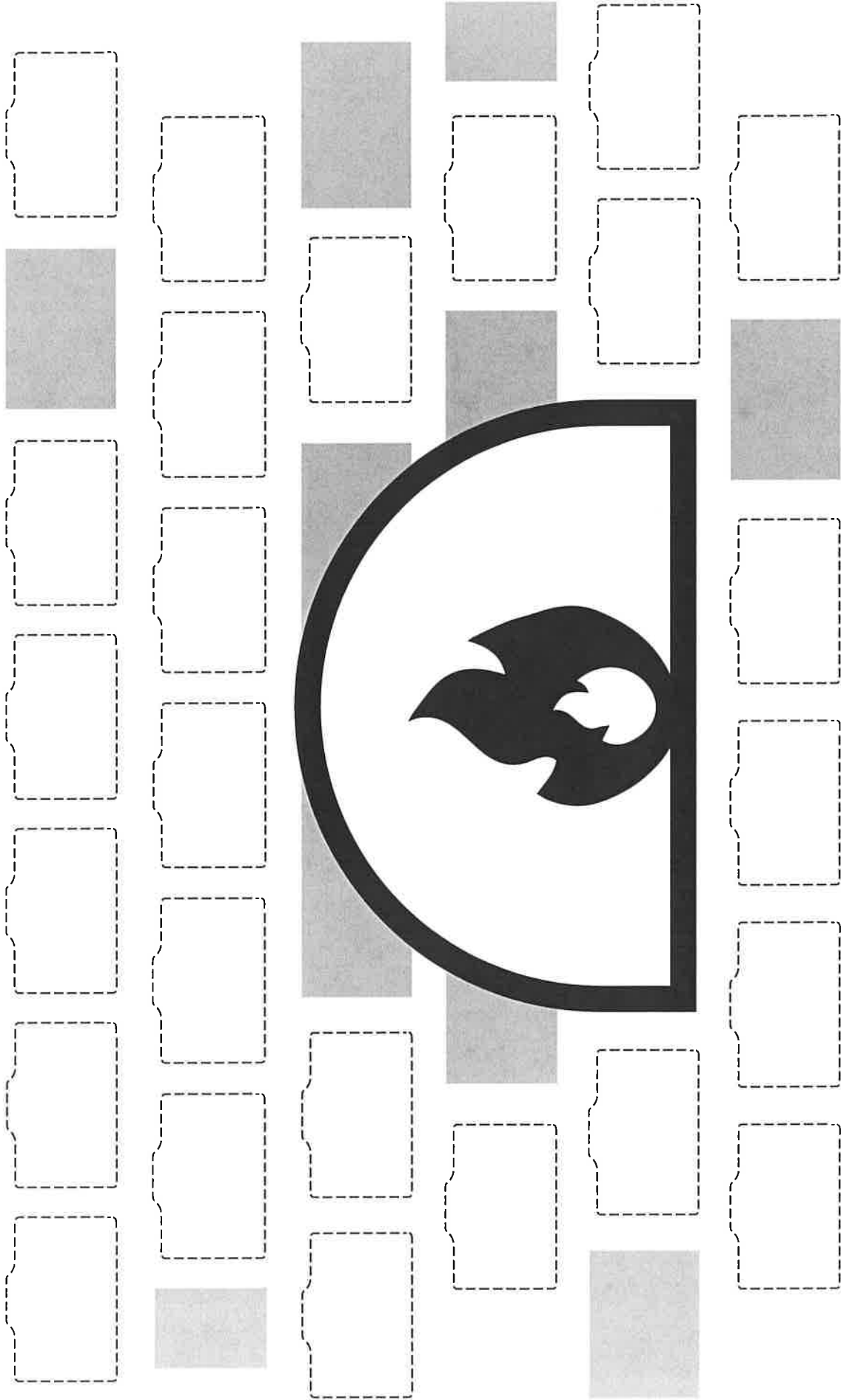
**\*\* Share your photos and posts of your experiences with #AMCSensoryFriendly**

For more information, contact Mayfair Mall's AMC Theater or Giese's Speech Language Pathologist, Mrs. Cronin at 664-8265. Or visit the following web sites for more information:

Autism Society: <http://www.autism-society.org/get-involved/other-ways-to-get-involved/sensory-friendly-films/>  
AMC Theater-Mayfair Mall: <https://www.amctheatres.com/programs/sensory-friendly-films>



# GET COZY WITH BOX TOPS



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](http://BTFE.com). See more collection sheets at [BTFE.com/collectionsheets](http://BTFE.com/collectionsheets).



# December 2017



Racine Unified

Elementary Lunch Menu



Lunch \$2.65  
(Milk included with meal)  
Milk 45¢

Offered Daily: Skim White, Skim Chocolate

Farm Fresh Produce  
Squash

Squash contains healthy fats Omega-3 and Omega-6 that your brain and nerves need to talk to your body.



**Arbor At Nutrition Standards:**

- \* 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
- \* Baked instead of Deep Fried
- \* Minimal Saturated Fat, Added Sugars, Artificial Ingredients, and Sodium whenever possible.

*-Fiber Management-*

**Make Choices for a Healthy Lifestyle!**

Questions about the menu?

Arbor Management, Inc.

262-664-8700

dieitian@rusd.org

Comprehensive nutrition & allergy guides are available under "Food Service" on the RUSD website.

This menu follows USDA National School Lunch Program guidelines.

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

| Monday   | Tuesday   | Wednesday  | Thursday   | Friday  |
|--|---|--|--|---|
| November 27<br>Cheeseburger<br>Baked Beans<br>Cucumber Slices<br>Apple Half                            | November 28<br>Chicken Drumstick<br>Mashed Potatoes<br>Dinner Roll<br>Baby Carrots<br>Diced Peaches | 29 BRUNCH FOR LUNCH<br>Pancakes<br>Turkey Sausage<br>Hash Brown<br>Wango Mango Juice<br>Diced Pears              | November 30<br>Hot (Turkey) Ham & Cheese on Pretzel Bun<br>Cherry Tomatoes<br>Celery Sticks<br>Applesauce              | December 1<br>Cheese Pizza<br>Fresh Broccoli & Cauliflower<br>Petite Banana |
| <b>Strawberry Milk</b>   |   |  |  |   |
| 4<br>Meatball Hoagie<br>Green Beans<br>Spaghetti Sauce<br>100% Fruit Juice<br><br>National Cookie Day! | 5<br>Crispy Chicken Sandwich<br>Baked Beans<br>Cucumber Slices<br>Apple Half                        | 6<br>Mac N' Cheese<br>Steamed Broccoli<br>Baby Carrots<br>Fruit Medley   | 7<br>Chicken & Gravy<br>Mashed Potatoes<br>Cherry Tomatoes<br>Dinner Roll<br>Diced Pears<br><br><b>LUCKY TRAY DAY!</b> | 8<br>Pepperoni Pizza<br>Celery Sticks<br>Fresh Cauliflower<br>Petite Banana |
| 11<br>Cheesy Pizza Bagel<br>Fresh Broccoli & Cauliflower<br>Apple Half<br>National "Eat a Bagel" Day   | 12<br>Chicken Nuggets<br>Baked Beans<br>Baby Carrots<br>Diced Pears                                 | 13 BRUNCH FOR LUNCH<br>French Toast Sticks<br>Turkey Sausage<br>Hash Browns<br>Dragon Punch Juice<br>Apple sauce | 14<br>Cheese Ravioli with Spaghetti Sauce<br>Garlic Toast<br>Cauliflower<br>Mixed Fruit                                | 15<br>Beef Burrito<br>Corn<br>Cucumber Slices<br>100% Fruit Juice           |
| 18<br>Salisbury Steak<br>Whipped Potatoes<br>Dinner Roll<br>Fresh Broccoli<br>Diced Peaches            | 19<br>Mini Corn Dogs<br>Baked Beans<br>Celery Sticks<br>Mixed Fruit                                 | 20<br>Toasted Cheese Sandwich<br>Baby Carrots<br>Fresh Cauliflower<br>Pineapple<br>Giant Goldfish Graham         | 21<br>Beef Tacos<br>Corn<br>Romaine Lettuce<br>Apple Half  | 22 HOLIDAY RECESS<br><br>   |

Elementary Menus are Pork and Nut Free.

\* Indicates Beef Ingredients.

# December 2017

| Sunday | Monday  | Tuesday   | Wednesday                                    | Thursday                                    | Friday  | Saturday                      |
|--------|---|---|--|---|---|-------------------------------|
|        |   |   |  |   | 1 Choir sing National Anthem at Wave game Depart Giese 5:00 p.m.<br>"C-DAY" | 2 * School Choice Window Open |
| 3      | 4<br>"A-DAY"  | 5<br>Nutrition Program Gr. 1 & 5<br>"B-DAY"                         | 6 Yearbook Group Photos 8:30 a.m.<br>"C-DAY" | 7<br>Gr. 2 Swimming<br>"A-DAY"              | 8<br>"B-DAY"  | 9                             |
| 10     | 11 Map Testing begins<br>Holiday Music Assembly 1:45<br>"C-DAY" | 12 Holiday Music Concerts K & 1 (5:30)<br>Gr. 2-5 (7:00)<br>"A-DAY" | 13<br>Map Testing<br>"B-DAY"                 | 14 Gr. 2 Swimming<br>MAP Testing<br>"C-DAY" | 15<br>"A-DAY"   | 16                            |
| 17     | 18<br>Map Testing<br>"B-DAY"                                    | 19<br>Nutrition Program<br>Gr. 1 & 5<br>"C-DAY"                     | 20<br>Map Testing<br>"A-DAY"                 | 21<br>Gr. 2 Swimming<br>"B-DAY"             | 22<br>NO SCHOOL<br>Holiday Recess begins thru Jan.2                         | 23                            |
| 24     | 25<br>Christmas   | 26  | 27   | 28  | 29  | 30                            |
| 31     |   |   |  |   |   | School Resumes<br>January 3   |