

# Green Isle Community School

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## Weekly Newsletter - Friday, November 6, 2009

### H1N1 UPDATE - VACCINE

Plans are being made by Sibley County Public Health and your school health team to provide the H1N1 vaccine to all school age children, including pre-school students. It is anticipated that student immunization clinics will be held before the Christmas break, but exact dates will be determined by vaccine availability. H1N1 vaccinations will be offered free of charge. Information and consent forms will be sent home with your child prior to the clinic. Questions? Please call the school.

### VETERAN'S DAY PROGRAM

On **Wednesday, November 11<sup>th</sup> at 1:15pm** we will honor our veterans at a Veteran's Day Program in the GICS gym. There will be a program and our students will sing a couple of selections. The public is invited. Please join us in honoring our veterans!



### HELP WANTED!

We are looking for volunteers to assist with our hot lunch program. Duties include serving food and kitchen clean up. Time commitment is from 12-1:30pm. If you can assist on any week day, or know of someone who may be able to help, please contact the office. Thank you for your consideration.

### DRESS FOR THE COLD WEATHER

The weather is a-changin'! Please remember to send your child in warm clothing - coats, hats, gloves. Our goal is to go outside for recess everyday unless the weather is too **cold** or **wet** so please help your child(ren) dress accordingly. Better to dress in layers and have to take some of them off, than be cold! Thanks for your help!



### Guided Discovery Benefits Learning

Guided Discovery is a teaching strategy used to introduce materials in the classroom. The primary goal of Guided Discovery is to generate interest and excitement about classroom resources and help children explore their possible uses. Guided Discovery also provides opportunities to introduce vocabulary, assess children's prior knowledge, and teach responsible use and care of materials.

A Guided Discovery can take as little as fifteen or twenty minutes. But the interest and excitement that are generated and the skills that children practice support academic learning throughout the day.

### Goals of Guided Discovery

1. To excite children about classroom materials
2. To help children explore materials with confidence and imagination and build a repertoire of constructive ways to use the materials in their academic learning
3. To enable children to make independent and purposeful choices
4. To establish and teach norms and routines for the use, care, and storage of materials

There are many situations during a typical day when a teacher needs to show students the correct way to do something (for example, the safe way to carry scissors). However, during Guided Discovery teachers turn to the students to model their own ideas. This sends the message that the teacher values the children's ideas for using the material creatively and appropriately and trusts their ability to do so. As several children step forward to shape clay or draw a design with markers or look up a word in the dictionary, everyone in the class observes and learns.

Guided Discovery has a deep impact on children's learning. Children get interested in classroom materials and learn how to use them creatively in their academic work. They have opportunities to stretch their thinking and work independently. Perhaps most importantly, children are at the center of the process. Every aspect of Guided Discovery encourages children to offer ideas, act on them, and share the results of their work with others, which stimulates everyone's thinking about future uses of the material.

Article by Lynn Bechtel and Paula Denton [www.responsiveclassroom.org](http://www.responsiveclassroom.org)

## GICS CALENDAR OF EVENTS

NOVEMBER 2009	
Wednesday, November 11	Veteran's Day Program – GICS gym – 1:15pm
Friday, November 13	End of Trimester 1
Thursday, November 19	Cookie Dough Pick-up
Thursday, November 19	GICS Board Meeting – 5:30-6:30pm
Thursday, November 19	Family Fun Night – Rollerblading/Dancing – 6:30-8pm
<b>Friday, November 20</b>	<b>NO SCHOOL/Teacher Work Day</b>
Monday, November 23	Report Cards Sent Home
Monday, November 23	Evening Conferences 3:30-8:00pm
Tuesday, November 24	Evening Conferences 3:30-8:00pm
<b>Wednesday, November 25-Friday, November 27</b>	<b>NO SCHOOL/Thanksgiving Break</b>
Monday, November 30	<b>Happy Birthday, Ms. Jennifer Faber!</b>
DECEMBER 2009	
<b>Wednesday, December 2</b>	<b>Early Release – 1pm</b>
Thursday, December 10	Winter Program – 7pm
Friday, December 11	<b>Happy Birthday, Mr. James Alcorn!</b>
Thursday, December 17	VOA Sponsor Visit to GICS
Thursday, December 17	GICS Board Meeting – 5:30pm
Monday, December 21	Field Trip – Old Log Theatre
<b>Wednesday, December 23- Thursday, December 31</b>	<b>NO SCHOOL – Winter Break</b>
JANUARY 2010	
<b>Friday, January 1</b>	<b>NO SCHOOL – Winter Break</b>
Monday, January 4	School Resumes

* GREEN ISLE COMMUNITY SCHOOL STAFF *	
Administrative Assistant	Jo Liebhard
Director	Kirsten Kinzler
Kindergarten	Terry Kroehler
Grades 1-3 - Meath	Julie Grams
Grades 1-3 - Meath	Kristy Konopacki
Grades 4-6 - County Cork	James Alcorn
Grades 4-6 - County Cork	Jennifer Faber
Reading/Math/Phy-ed Teacher	Kristen Strauss
Special Education	Kristine Schwartz
Library/School Volunteer	Mary Kay Donnay
Library	Holly Harjes
Extended Day	Ida Dissette
Preschool	Ann Czarnecki
Paraprofessional	Ashley Reetz
Business Manager	Keith Johnson

**Extended Day  
Hours**  
**Grades K-6**  
**6:30am - 8:15am.**  
**3:00pm - 6:00pm**  
**Come Join Us!**

### PLEASE SAVE:

Campbell's Labels  
 Boxtops for  
 Education  
 Kemps Milk Lids  
 Our Family UPC's  
 Ink Cartridges  
 Drop off at the  
 school office!

**Mission:** Green Isle Community School will foster a positive and respectful multiage environment that promotes educational excellence, service learning, community connections, and responsible citizenship.