

Green Isle Community School News

January Highlights



Volume 2 Issue 4

Golden Hearts Visit

Mrs. Grams homeroom went to Golden Hearts Assisted Living in Arlington. The students decorated cookies and played games with the residents. Each homeroom will be going throughout the year.

Government. The K-4 graders went to the Mill City Museum. They had fun learning about the old flour mill.



Straub. The artists are currently working on writing plays, songs, and lyrics about the lives of our elders. Our Elder's Celebration will be in May.

Twins Caravan

Students and staff of GICS attended the MN Twins Caravan in Arlington. Bert Blyleven, Drew Butera and Danny Valencia were the representatives from the MN Twins.

2-1-12

GICS Wants YOU!!!

*Please bring your Box Tops, Milk Lids, etc in to help our school!

*GICS is collecting old cards for Good Sam's in Arlington

*We are looking for judges for our Science Fair on March, 6th.

Please call Serenity in the office if you are interested.

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Green Isle, MN 55338
Phone: 507-326-7144
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Field Trips

On Friday, January 27th the 5th & 6th graders went to the MN State Capitol. The students had a great time learning about the MN

Elder Interviews

On Tuesday, January 3rd the 3-6th graders interviewed Edwin Kaiser and Art & Barb

Upcoming Events

Matt Wilhelm

Matt Wilhelm, a professional BMX rider, will be at GICS at 9:00 am on Wednesday, February 15. This is the prize the students earned through

their fundraiser. Please join us if you want to see Matt!

Elder's Lunch

Mrs. Kroehler's homeroom will be hosting the next Elder's Lunch on Monday, 13th.

Please call Serenity if you plan on attending.

Chemistry Outreach

Students at GICS will get to participate in this Chemistry Program put on by the University of Minnesota on Thursday, February 23rd.

Kerry-(Preschool) Monthly Highlights-By: Mrs. Ann Czarnecki

It's been a busy month in preschool. The students came back from winter break with LOTS of energy, so we've spend some time reviewing school rules and appropriate behavior. During the month of January we focused on the concept of last names. We played games to help with visual recognition of last names, and some students have learned how to write their last name. All of the preschoolers learned how to introduce themselves using both first and last name.

Our first featured book this month was Bears by Ruth Krauss. We learned about what real bears do, what they eat, how big they are, and where they live. The preschoolers had a fantastic time pretending to be bears who hibernate, fish, eat berries, and of course GGROWL!!!! Our second featured book was Olivia by Ian Falconer. After reading the story our class painted, danced like ballerinas and made sand castles.

This month we also read Four in All by Nina Payne, focusing on the number four. We folded paper into quarters and practiced writing the numbers 1-4. Students also practiced writing 4s in sandboxes and shaving cream. Our last featured book this month was Goodnight Moon by Margaret Wise Brown. The preschoolers had fun trying to find the mice hiding in the illustrations of the book. We painted pictures and made a yarn rug craft. We talked about bedtime routines and the importance of sleep.

Monaghan-(Kindergarten) Monthly Highlights: By: Mrs. Terry Kroehler

Happy New Year! The Kindergarten class is in a busy time of learning. We continue to focus on learning a letter a week and learning new sight words. We have learned 12 sight words so far this year. Some highlights for our Letter a Week include making hats for H week, making and eating inchworms for I week, making a fancy Name Picture for N week, and making a pancake

book for P week. In Math we are working on recognizing numbers, adding, balancing in a pan balance, and temperature. For P.E. we had a lot of fun playing with the parachute. We loved doing activities where we had to run under the parachute. We have begun a new unit on scooters. We are learning various ways to ride on the scooters both by ourselves and

with a friend. Be sure to ask a kindergartener how they made a "class train!" A definite highlight during January was our field trip to the Mill City Museum. Students learned a lot and really enjoyed the Flour Tower and water tables. Students became archaeologists and scientists as they explored buried dinosaur bones and magnets in our sensory table. We look forward to more fun in February!

Limerick-(Grades 1-2) Monthly Highlights By: Mrs. Julie Grams & Mrs. Kristy Konopacki

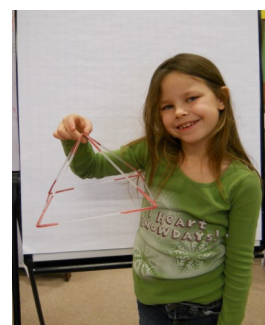
We have had another great month in the Limerick classroom! We finished our Letter Writing Unit during our Writing time. We have been getting letters back in the mail-that is the best part about writing a letter. We have also been busy writing an essay about our dads.

During Math we learned about Geometry. This was a GREAT time. The students did fabulous and really enjoyed this unit.

We continue to move forward with our Reading. It is so fun to see the growth in first and second grade with each student! Thank you to all the parents for their support at home.

This has been a fun month in Social Studies. The kids have been learning about maps. Who needs GPS when you have their skills. The students are working on creating their own maps! These larger than life maps will be hung

around school to showcase their knowledge about maps. Stop in and check them out!



Abby K with the pyramid she made during our Geometry Unit.

Galway-(Grades 3-4) Monthly Highlights-By: Mrs. Kristen Strauss

We came back from Winter Break ready to get back into the swing of things. The



3rd and 4th graders completed a MAP project. First we learned some background information about maps and map keys,

then students were paired up with a partner and created their own town.

There were a few requirements as to what is commonly found in towns, but I allowed for artistic talent to shine. Audrey and Nathan are pictured at the left with their town map. Our book club books for the month of January were; Sarah, Plain and Tall, Skylark, Caleb's Story, and 6 Days in October: The Stock Market Crash. Students read these books and then created a newspaper advertisement for their book. Our comprehension focus for the majority of the month during reading was synthesizing information to create new

ideas. We had our big Science Fair kickoff and students began working on their Science Fair projects. Our science fair coordinator, Cathy Malinowski, came in and did a science challenge with the students. She had students create the tallest structure possible using only mini-marshmallows and toothpicks. Pictured below are Adam, Greg and Grace working on their building.



Donegal-(Grades 5-6) Monthly Highlights-By: Mr. Dan Chies

Mr. Chies' class had a busy January. We've continued our Social Studies look into Pioneer Life by journaling about what supplies we'd need, how we'd invite a friend over (hey, no video games back then), created 3-D wagons—or prairie schooners—done two webquests on Pioneer Websites, and made pioneer toys from sticks and string. I was especially impressed with Jagger's guitar, and Madison's puppet!
In Reading, my class had the fortune of having a pioneer-themed unit. We read

several stories about mountain men and women, land claims, and the pony express. In math, 5th graders have wrapped up Volume 1 *ahead of schedule*, and finished with stem-and-leaf plots. 6th graders have been working on graphs, data, and fractions. In Book Club, our current them is *Little House on the Prairie* series. [Do you see an entire pioneer them with this month?!], and the students have enjoyed reading about life back in the early 1900's. Gym lately has consisted of basketball, and we have a

few rising stars. Tommy has played particularly well. Most recently, we had a half-day field trip to the Twins Caravan in Arlington, and a full-day field trip to the State Capitol Building in St. Paul, where we got access to places most visitors don't go! My group acting governor-y in Mark Dayton's press



room
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Homeroom Country studies



During the months of January & February students are learning about 4 different countries



February 2012

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			1 3:30 Technology Committee Mtg.	2	3 Golden Heart's Visit Mrs. Strauss' homeroom	4
5	6	7	8 5-6 Audubon Trip	9 5-6 Audubon Trip 4:00 Marketing Mtg.	10 5-6 Audubon Trip	11
12	13 Elder's Lunch hosted by Mrs. Kroeh- ler's homeroom	14 Valentine's Day parties	15 9:00 Matt Wilhelm MNCS Helpers	16 5:30 Board Mtg. 7:15 CVN Mtg.	17	18
19	20 No School President's Day	21 Winterfest	22 Winterfest	23 Winterfest Chemistry Outreach	24 Winterfest	25
26	27	28 MNCS Helpers	29 Art with Nicole Roepke			



Lily practicing writing 3s in

Savi
working
on his
book re-
port dur-
ing Read-
ing class



**Thank you
for choosing
GICS!!!**



Cadence shows the hat she
made for H week



Bryton
and Sam
reading
to our
class
pets
during
DEAR
time!



Tate, in our District Rep.
Glenn Gruenhagen's seat on
the House Floor

