

Green Isle Community School News

MAY Highlights



We had a very busy and exciting month of May at GICS!

Thank you to everyone that came to our Elders' Celebration on May 19th. It was another fabulous show! Thank you to Mrs. Kroehler and Mrs. Reetz for all of their hard work to make

this show happen. The kids really enjoyed learning about and honoring Mr. Dick Ames and Mr. Gene Herd.

We also had a bike safety and school bike ride. This was made possible by the Safe Route to School group. The kids had a great time riding around town.

GICS students and staff were invited to St. Paul's Lutheran School in Arlington to see Viktor the

Come in and Check us out!

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THANK YOU!!

The staff of GICS would like to thank the parents and the community for all of their help and support this past year!

Viking. We felt lucky to be invited for this event.

Track and field day was another fabulous day-we were happy that the rain held out for us!

Congratulations to our graduates-Corbin, Ashley, Bethany, & Alyssa!! We will miss you all next year-but wish you luck in 7th grade!



Track & Field Day



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

The preschoolers had very busy end to their school year. During May we finished up our letter study with the letters Y and Z. The students practiced making Ys out of different sized paper strips. They also had yarn available for crafts. Some students decorated Ys with yarn. Other students even learned how to braid with yarn. This is a tricky concept for 4 and 5 year olds! During Z week we talked about words that start with Z and practiced cutting out zig-zag

shapes with scissors. We ended the year with a fairy tale unit. During this unit we read Rapunzel, The Three Little Pigs, and The Little Red Hen. The highlight of this unit was acting out the stories. The preschoolers LOVED huffing and puffing when they pretended to be the Big Bad Wolf from The Three Little Pigs.

Our class finished the year with our spring program on May 26th. The preschoolers played Twinkle Twinkle

Little Star with hand bells. They also sang several of their favorite songs from the school year. Four students graduated from preschool and will be attending kindergarten next year. All of the graduates worked and played hard this year, and I'm confident that they'll love kindergarten next year. The remainder of our class will be coming back for another year of preschool, and I'm very excited for the fun times that are in store for us together next school year.

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

The month of May flew by in the Kindergarten room. We spent a lot of time practicing for our Elders' Celebration program. The students learned a lot about the honored elders and had fun being part of this important program. We also spent some time getting ready for our Kindergarten Graduation program. The students sang 4 songs, recited 2 poems, and wrote and sang a song for their 6th grade buddies. Another

special activity this month was making footstools. John Siewart and other gentlemen from the community came into the school and showed students and their special helper how to make the footstools. Besides getting ready for our special programs, the Kindergarteners finished up their Letter of the Week unit. We learned about Z and U and learned 6 new high-frequency words. We made "zippy zebras" and

"umbrella birds" for our letters of the week. In Math students learned to tell time to the nearest hour and ½ hour and worked on learning to recognize double digit numbers. We turned our Dramatic Play center into a grocery store. Students had fun buying groceries and being the "checkout" clerk. It was a great way for them to work on recognizing their coins.

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

What a fabulous year! The month of May just flew by. It is hard to believe that summer is here already. This last month we have been very busy. We did have a lot of fun field trips/ events. The students were amazed that we were able to learn things while we were out and about. Some of them were convinced that we had to be in the classroom to learn :) We finished our Poetry unit. Each stu-

dent took home a poem book that is filled with poems by the students in our class. There will also be a copy in my library and the school library for anyone else you might like to check them out.

Mrs. Konopacki, her husband Markus and daughter Hannah welcomed a new little bundle of joy to

their family on May 23rd. Breanne Konopacki!



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

The end of the year was a great celebration! The students in the 3rd and 4th grade room worked right up to the last day to finish projects. We had many projects to finish including; our Face of a Leader project, our Colonial/Revolutionary War Newspaper, Colonial Brochures, and Gigantic Character Independent Reading Project.

The Colonial/Revolutionary War newspaper was probably the most interesting to read. Students wrote articles about certain important events. More importantly still, they wrote editorials and letters to the editor. I think that these show a greater understanding of what the Colonists were

actually feeling during that time. The students did fine on the research part, but they were able to take it a step further and really increase their learning by placing themselves as a writer during that time period. Our Gigantic Character was also fun to see.....students read a story of their choosing. They proceeded to trace themselves on a large sheet of white paper and turn the outline into a character from the story. They wrote a summary, made connections, completed a book recommendation and pasted these to their character. We hung these up in the gymnasium and did a walking tour of the books.

Our last week of school was filled with many fun activities. Track and Field day was a big hit! Also, on the last day of school, we had some of our own "physical challenges". We held a sit-up contest, a pull-up contest, a push-up contest and a wall-sit competition. The students worked very hard and enjoyed the challenge.

I am so thankful for all of the wonderful students I had in my class this year. It was such a memorable year as the kids worked well together. I am glad that our families are willing to share their children with us throughout the year. I thank you so much for your continued support! -Kristen Strauss

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

Where do I begin?! The last month of school was a whirlwind for the Donegal clan. First, we spent three days in Sandstone, MN, at the Audubon Center of the Northwoods, and did things like: learning about Creepy Critters (snakes, turtles), taking an Ojibwe hike (real maple syrup=tasty), listening to a talk about falcons and raptors, seeing our outdoor survival skills put to the test, and let's not forget the High Ropes course! Even Mr. Chies was a little freaked out, but you only live once right? I'm VERY proud of my students' dependability on the trip,

and a HUGE thank you to my two parent chaperones, Dawn Latzke and Kyle Roepke! Back in school, our class finished our last two Book Clubs, the first was with the books *Wringer*, *My Side of the Mountain*, and *Stargirl*. Then, we managed to fit in a very short, self-guided book club and speech with historical figures such as Thomas Edison, Amelia Earhart, The Wright Brothers, Lewis and Clark, Davy Crockett, and Rosa Parks. Our bike rodeo and track and field day were a hit, and everyone tried their hardest – it doesn't matter if

you won ribbons or what color they were! Lastly, our sixth grade graduation was a fun, but slightly sad celebration. I will definitely miss the maturity, leadership, and personalities of: Ashley Rechtzigel, Bethany Schlueter, Alyssa Stoeckman, and Corbin Ramirez! Super -lastly, thank you to the entire GICS community – parents, teachers, staff, and students – you have made my first year of teaching an incredibly great experience! Have a great summer!!!

Summer Events

Summer Fun Camp-GICS will be partnering with the Ney Nature Center in Henderson for our annual Summer Fun Camp. The camp will be July 12-14 from 9:00-12:00 each day. The cost is \$25 and this will include a T-shirt. Students will need to bring their own lunch daily.

Please call the office for more information.

Parades-GICS will have a float in the Arlington Parade on June 19 and in the Henderson Parade on June 26th. We would love you to join us as we walk and hand out information about our wonderful school!

Sibley County Fair-GICS will have a booth at the Sibley County Fair in August. We will be looking for some help from families to run our booth. We will be calling in July for your help! We thank you in advance for helping with the fair!

June-July 2011

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
12	13	14	15 8-3 Serenity in the office	16 5:30 Board Meeting	17	18
19 Arlington Parade 1:00	20	21	22 8-3 Serenity in the office	23	24	25
26 Henderson Parade Noon	27	28	29 8-3 Serenity in the office	30	1	2
3	4	5	6 8-3 Serenity in the office	7	8	9
10	11	12 GICS Summer Fun Camp 9-12 at the Ney Nature Center	13 GICS Summer Fun Camp 9-12 at the Ney Nature Center	14 GICS Summer Fun Camp 9-12 at the Ney Nature Center	15	16



Preschool Class-say "Cheese"



The 5th and 6th graders at Audubon

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



Mrs. Strauss' Class being silly



Students in Mrs. Grams class enjoying the End of the Year Party!



Maggie and her dad building a stool.

