

Green Isle Community School News

September Highlights

What a wonderful first month of school at Green Isle Community School! On our first day of school we continued with our Bell Ringing tradition. The students gathered in the gym for an all school meeting and then walked around Green Isle, ringing our bells to let everyone know that we are back. Also during this first week of school students had an opportunity to sign up for different groups that they want to be a part of. The groups they could choose from are; Work Crew, School Spirit Task Force, Ambassadors, Safety Patrol, and Service Learning Task Force.



These groups meet at various times throughout the year to plan different events and activities that take place in our school. On Sept. 13th we had Read With a Hero day at our school. Officer Stolt and Trooper Mathews came in to read to the classes and talk about their jobs. On September 17th we had our first all school field trip of the year. We went to the Como Zoo, and the students had a great time! Thank you to all of the chaperones who went with us! It was so nice to be able to have small groups while walking around the zoo. Thank you again!! We also had



Electrical Safety and Bike Safety this past month. Thank you to everyone who came to teach our students to stay safe. The students participated in our first community clean up on Monday, Sept. 20th. We cleaned up after the Oktoberfest events in Green Isle. Parents: Thank you so much for coming to goal setting conferences. This is a great way to start out the year for everyone. Remember the teachers and staff of GICS are always here to help your child. Please tell another family about the wonderful experiences that you have at GICS.

Volume 1, Issue 1

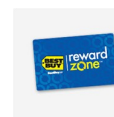
10-01-10

Ways you can help GICS!

- Come in and volunteer!
- Tell other families about GICS
- Order Cookie Dough from a GICS student or stop in the office to place your order
- Save the following items and bring them in to school:



When you purchase something at Best Buy give them the name or phone number of the school (507)326-7144 and have them put the points from your purchase in the school's Reward Zone account. Help us purchase new technology items.



Upcoming Events

Family Fun Night -We will be hosting our first Family Fun Night on Thursday, Oct. 7th from 6:30-8:00. Remember this is for students of GICS and their families. This is a family event so students need to be accompanied by a parent. Bring your rollerblades and dancing

shoes for a fun night!
Elder's Coffee- Kristen Strauss' homeroom will be hosting the first Elder's Coffee/Lunch on Monday, Oct. 11.
NWEA-MAP Testing-We will begin testing on Monday Oct. 11. Please make sure that your child

eats breakfast and gets enough rest before these tests.

Cookie Dough Fund-raiser- Help support GICS by selling and/or purchasing some cookie dough. Orders are due on Oct. 12th



Green Isle Community School
190 McGrann St.
P.O. Box 277
Green Isle, MN 55338

Phone: 507-326-7144
Fax: 507-326-5434
E-mail: info@greenisecommunityschool.org

Kerry-(Preschool) Monthly Highlights

We've had a fantastic start to our school year. This year the preschool has moved to a different classroom upstairs and the new room is great! The kids have plenty of room to play, build, and explore. It took the new students a few weeks to get used to school. For the first few weeks we focused on learning how to line up, how to raise hands, practiced taking turns, and we also found time to learn a few new silly songs. Now that the preschoolers have settled into the school routine, we've started our letter of the

week curriculum. During A week we learned about apples, made apple crafts, and even painted with apples. For B week we learned the song *My Bonny Lies over the Ocean* and focused on balance during our gym and playground time. We've also started our music and movement activities; thus far we have listened and danced to Brahms' *Hungarian Dance No. 5* and Leroy Anderson's *The Syncopated Clock*. It has been so much fun to dance and move with the preschoolers; their enthusiasm is infectious. We've

had a lot of fun so far, I'm excited to watch as my students continue to learn and explore throughout the school year.

GICS Preschool serves children ages 3-5 in one multi-age classroom. Preschool meets three days a week, Tuesday-Thursday, from 8:30-11:45am. There are a few openings available in our preschool class. Please ask in the school office or contact teacher Ann Czarnecki if you'd like more information about our preschool program.

Monaghan-(Kindergarten) Monthly Highlights

September was an exciting month for the Kindergarten class. We read many versions of the Gingerbread Man story, had a visit from the Gingerbread Man and tried to catch him, made many class books, and learned a lot about how school works at GICS. Students are making new friends and are learning how to be a good friend to others. We have painted several types of pictures and are learning how to play in all the different play centers. This month's play centers included puzzles,

blocks, rice table, home, and table toys. We have begun a "Letter A Day" unit which includes an introduction to each letter, nursery rhymes, colors and shapes. Students will bring home 4 different books that they have made by themselves at the end of this unit.

Our field trip to the Como Zoo was definitely a highlight for the Kindergarteners. Many of them took their first bus ride on this field trip. We saw many animals, ate a picnic lunch, and

many were exhausted enough to take a nap on the trip back to school. It has been a fun month with many new experiences and we look forward to what October will bring.



Limerick-(Grades 1-2) Monthly Highlights

We have had a wonderful start to our school year. We have been working really hard to build a community in our classroom to make sure that everyone feels safe. We have had a great time doing this. During reading and math instruction this group of kids have been split up into two smaller groups. During these class times we have been doing quite a bit of reviewing from last year. The kids are doing

a smashing job with this review! This month in writing we have been busy brainstorming ideas to use in our writing throughout the year. As we have been growing into our year we have been growing into our science with a seed and plant unit! The kids have examined insides of seeds, learned how they travel, and watched how they have grown. If you would take a closer look into our PE unit this month

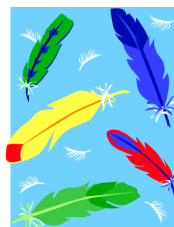
you would see the students challenging their bodies with stunts like a bridge, heel click, and the coffee grinder. It will be fun to watch this group of kids blossom throughout the year!



Galway-(Grades 3-4) Monthly Highlights

This month was a great kick-off to the school year! We started the year with a lot of modeling, games and community building activities. Some highlights included our crossword name art, starting book clubs, and writing! The students have done a great job during writing time. I enjoy reading all the descriptive stories. Book clubs are new to the students and will have a strong vocabulary component with them. The titles they are reading this month are Soft Rain, The Birchbark House, The Children of the Longhouse, and The Sign of the Beaver.

Our Native American Unit is really exciting. The students chose to be in pairs or work individually and then were able to pick a certain tribe. They are researching where in the Americas the tribe lived, what they ate, how their garden was important and what they wore. Each group or individual will be creating a model of their tribes dwelling.



Some other highlights for the class this month included; "Read with a Hero" day on September 13th. We also took a school wide field trip to the Como Zoo in St. Paul. I overheard some students saying it was so neat there and they wished they could spend the night with the animals. The 3rd graders also received dictionaries from the Green Isle Lions Club.



Donegal-(Grades 5-6) Monthly Highlights

The beginning of the year has been a whirlwind of getting different subjects rolling. In reading, book clubs have started; students are reading either *Old Yeller*, *Isabel of the Whales*, or *Because of Winn-Dixie*. Students also have started (some completed!) their first Individual Reading Project [I.R.P.] books – materials should start pouring in at any moment. The sixth grade math group has flown through **minimum, maximum, range, median, mode**, and

mean. Now we are onto the various types of graphs. So far we have done lots of free-writing, but usually incorporating our spelling lists, which makes for interesting stories! Our trip to the Como Zoo was fantastic, thank you chaperones! Our class has also had a great time exploring **LEVERS** and **PULLEYS**.

Those investigations are beginning to wrap up. Phy Ed has seen us start with informal fitness testing [we loved the mile run], and now soccer. All in all, I have a great group of hard workers – I can't imagine a better situation for my first year of teaching!

In the SPOTLIGHT

Each Tuesday during homeroom a different student will be in the "SPOTLIGHT". The student that is in the spotlight fills out a poster about themselves. They are also encouraged to bring in items that are special to them. During the month that they are in the spotlight they will get to have an ice cream social with the teachers. At the end of each school year a team of students meet to come up with questions for the next school year's Spotlight poster. In newsletters to come this area will list the students that have been in the spotlight that month.



The Green Isle American Legion sent Tamara Ehrich and Brendan Dabek to Legionville Camp last June. During this week long camp they were trained on how to be safety patrols.

Quotes about camp: Brendan "The camp people made Safety Patrol fun, but we learned the rules, too." Tamara "Trooper Andy and his puppet Trooper Cool was a really cool teacher! He knows his stuff."

Since they have been trained they are now responsible to train other students in grades 4-6 that want to help with safety patrol.

October 2010

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
					1	2
3 Fire Preven- tion Week	4	5	6 Fire Hall Field Trips	7 Family Fun Night 6:30-8	8	9
10	11 Elder's Coffee 11:50 NWEA-MAP Testing	12 Cookie Dough Orders Due NWEA-MAP Testing	13 NWEA-MAP Testing	14 NWEA-MAP Testing	15 No School Teacher workday	16
17	18 NWEA-MAP Testing	19 NWEA-MAP Testing	20 NWEA-MAP Testing	21 No School	22 No School	23
24 Red Ribbon Week (Anti- Drug Educa- tion Week)	25 Follow Your Dreams Don't Do Drugs (wear pajamas)	26 Black Out Drugs (wear black)	27 1:00 Early Dismissal I'm a "Jean"-ius I'm Drug Free (wear jeans)	28 5:30 Board Meeting Team Up Against Drugs (wear your favorite team apparel)	29 Fall Festival 1:10 Class Parties 2:30 Costume Parade Say BOO to Drugs (costume party)	30
31						



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

