

# Green Isle Community School News

## OCTOBER Highlights



Volume 2 Issue 2

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**Fundraiser** Thank you to everyone that supported GICS through our fall fundraiser. It was a great success! THANK YOU!!



**Fire Prevention** All of the students at GICS took a walking field trip up to the Green Isle Fire Hall to talk

about Fire Prevention. They had a great time. The highlight for most of them was being able to go into the fire truck.

### Fall Costume Parties

. On Friday, October 28th we had our Fall Costume parties. All of the students had a fabulous time participating in the games and different activities that the teachers had set up for them. We finished our day with

a costume parade in the gym.



### Family Fun Night

We had a fabulous turnout for our first Family Fun Night on Friday, October 28th. Thank you to everyone that came! It was a great night.

## Ways to Help GICS

\*Bring in your Box Top for Education, Campbells Labels, and Milk lids.

\*We are looking for community members to be volunteer readers. If you know someone that would like to come into school and read, please let us know.

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Phone: 507-326-7144  
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## Upcoming Events

### CONFERENCES

We will be holding our fall conferences on Monday, Nov. 21 and Tuesday, Nov. 22. Please stop in and sign up or call Serenity and she will help you find a spot.

### Food-Hat-Mitten Drive

GICS' Service Learning Task Force will be collecting hats, mittens, and food for those in need this upcoming holiday season.

### It's Christmas, Carol!

Mark your calendars for FRIDAY, DECEMBER 16th. GICS will be performing It's Christmas, Carol! All of the students will be participating in the singing. The older students will be the main actors! JOIN US!

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

The school's youngest students are definitely getting into the swing of things. The month of October included a trip to the fire hall, several fire drills, a fall costume party, and many new songs and games.

We started October by reading If You Give a Mouse a Cookie by Laura Numeroff and focused on politeness, kindness, and how to be a good host or a good guest. Next we read A Hole is to Dig by Ruth Krauss.

After reading that book we talked about feelings and practiced interpreting the facial expressions and body language of others. Our third featured book this month was Hondo & Fabian by Peter McCarty. This book about a dog and a cat prompted much discussion about pets and how to be a good pet owner. The last book this month was Old Macdonald had a farm. We sang the song many times and talked about farm animals.



Collin Sohns and Jelena Strauss playing at the foam table

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

October was a fantastic month in Kindergarten. The students have gotten used to the routine of going to school every day and are settling in to Kindergarten. We finished our "Letter a Day" unit which incorporates the alphabet, colors, shapes, and nursery rhymes. Each child got to bring home 4 different books they created about each of these areas.

One of the highlights of the month was going to the Green Isle Fire Station to learn about fire safety. After learning

about fire safety, students got to climb on the fire truck and got to bring a hat and goodie bag home. Thank you Green Isle Fire Department for allowing us to visit!

Our Dramatic Play center was a Community Center where students acted out being a fireman, policeman, and construction worker. Students had lots of fun putting out fires, arresting their classmates, and building and fixing things. The Dramatic Play center was also turned into a costume center. We

had Superman, cowboys and cowgirls, a turtle, a wizard, a lion, and many other costumes for students to dress up in. The Sensory table was filled with corn and animals and recently was filled with wet sand for making molds and sand castles.

We had a great time at our Fall Festival party and costume parade. It was fun to see all the different costumes. We ate treats, played games, and had fun dancing in the gym after the parade. It was a busy month full of fun activities and learning.

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

Mrs. Kristy Konopacki

We have had a fabulous month in the Limerick class. We have had an addition to our classroom. Our class got a pet rat-Mr. Whiskers. He has been the highlight of our classroom during the end of October. Students got to vote on his name. Families that are willing will be taking turns taking Mr. Whiskers home for the weekends. He is very social and really likes being in our class!

We continued our unit on insects. The kids dove into books learning more about one insect! With this bug quest the students created a paper bug informing others about the habitat, diet, and other interesting facts about their insect. It was extremely fascinating to hear the kids present their research findings to the class!

We have been busy during writing becoming wonderful authors. Each day that we have writing students have an opportunity to share their stories with our class. They are so proud of their work.

We are starting to listen to the songs for our Winter Program so we will know them very well by December 16th!

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

Congratulations to our Class! We finished our first I.R.P. of the year. I.R.P. is Independent Reading Project. We completed a "fortune-teller" project. An I.R.P. is similar to a book report. It is a fun way to still comprehend and write about our book, but its something they create. Below is a photo of Audrey holding her first completed I.R.P.



The students read a book of their choice and wrote answers to questions like; Can you make 3 connections to this book? What did you learn? Where did your story take place? Who were the characters in your story? We are still

working on our "All About Me" books. The class has such wonderful stories to tell about themselves that it is taking a bit longer than expected. We have begun learning the 50 states. Students will complete a research project on two states and do a short presentation to our class. In Math, the 3rd graders worked on telling time and the 4th graders finished their Unit 2 test on Graphing and Data.

In writing this month, we created a poetry book. Once I get it all typed up, I will send a copy home with each student. I challenged the students at the end of the month to write with their opposite hand

and even try writing with their feet.

Another exciting part of our month was our MNCS (Minnesota New Country School) Helper. Kelsey will be in our room twice a month to help the students and me out. Yay! In Phy. Ed we finished our soccer unit and began a catching and throwing unit. Catching and throwing for accuracy is our main focus with this unit.

On Friday, October 28th our class had its first party of the year, our Fall Party. We dug in pumpkins for candy, ate marshmallows off of fishing line and wrapped each other in toilet paper. The picture at the left is of Nathan writing with his left hand!



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

Mr. Chies' class also finished their first IRP and book club projects this month! Our first IRP was a 'book cube' - students were given a 6x6x6 cube, and each panel had to have a different recap of their story, such as a summary, title and author, main characters, the setting, their rating of the book, and a personal choice panel.

In book club, we had an incredible time reading stories written by famed Minnesota author Gary Paulson. His most famous book is *Hatchet*, but the rest of his writings are just as thrilling.

We wrapped up our social studies project on Lewis and Clark, by making a large poster-timeline of key events on their journey. The most favorite activity of this unit was playing an online game where students had to make decisions for Lewis and Clark on their trip, to see if they could make it to the Columbia River! Students learned that there are many pitfalls on such a long and dangerous journey.

We have continued to write articles for our student-produced newspaper, in honor of our first read-aloud

book, *The Landry News*. The next edition will be published shortly. Andrew Clements is our featured author for read-aloud this year, and the next title is *A Week in the Woods*.

Students have already made the connection that this is very much like our upcoming trip to the Audubon Center!

My students on pajama day! >>>



## STUDENTS IN THE SPOTLIGHT

## Welcome David and Eileen!!



Tamara E, Madilyn L, Erin G, and Aaron L were our first students in the Spotlight for the year. Each week different students are in the spotlight in their home-rooms.



# November 2011

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
		1	2	3	4 1:00 Dismissal	5
6	7 Food-Hat-Mitten Drive	8 MNCS Helpers	9	10	11 Read with a Veteran Day	12
13	14 Good Samaritan Visit	15	16	17 End of Trimester 1	18 No School Teacher Workday	19
20	21 3:30-8:00 Conferences	22 3:30-8:00 Conferences	23 No School	24 Happy Thanksgiving	25 No School	26
27	28	28	29 MNCS Helpers	30		



Reading buddies Hailey and Grace

Pajama Day during Red Ribbon Week in Mrs. Grams' class



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



Kindergarten students Cadence, Grace, Adriana, and Natalie playing in the rice table

Teddie practicing throwing!



Ben with his first IRP project—the book cube!

