WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

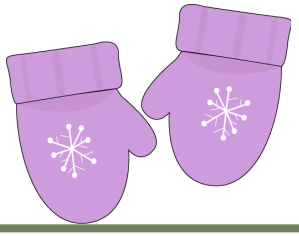
NEFF KINDERGARTEN

950 Jenne St, Grand Ledge MI 48837
Phone 517-925-5740 Fax 517-925-5772 Attendance Line 517-925-5333
Mrs. Kelly Smith, Principal

December 1, 2017

Dates to Remember

Thu Dec 7	**PTO Meeting 6:30**
Fri Dec 8	**1/2 Day - No Afternoon Classes**
Wed Dec 13	Domino's Night
Fri Dec 15	Popcorn Sale
Wed Dec 20	Box Top Pick Up
Dec 25 - Jan 5	Holiday Recess No School
Mon Jan 8	School Starts
Wed Jan 10	Domino's Night
Mon Jan 15	MLK Day - No School
Thu Jan 18	PTO Meeting
Fri Feb 2	1/2 Day - No afternoon classes
Wed Feb 14	Count Day Valentine's Day Domino's Night
Mon Feb 19	President's Day
Fri Feb 23	PTO Family Dance & Auction
Tue Mar 6	Conferences 5:00 - 8:00 pm
	Book Fair Open
Thu Mar 8	Conferences 5:00 - 8:00 pm
	Book Fair Open
Fri Mar 9	Conferences 12:30 - 3:30
Sat May 19	Relay for Life - Eaton County



PRINCIPAL'S PRIDE

We had several special events this week. All of the students were treated to a presentation by the Grand Ledge Fire Department. They learned about fire safety and then went outside to see a fire truck. The firemen stressed the importance of having a fire escape plan that you practice with your family.

In addition, we had two high school basketball players who came over and read to some of our classes. The boys stressed the importance of reading and doing your best in school.

We had a PBIS assembly on Wednesday to discuss the rules about snow! We have had a very sunny week, but we know the snow will be here soon. The students will need to wear snow gear (boots, snow pants, coats hat, and mittens) to be able to play in the snow. They also learned the Snow Shoe Shuffle to help get all of the snow off of their mittens, boots and other attire. Ask your child to show you the "shuffle." We chose 12 students from all of our "ABCs of Good Behavior" slips to do a craft today! Congratulations!

For those of you who bring your child to school, we thank you for doing your best to arrive on time. If you are running late, we need you to bring your child into the building. We will then make sure your child gets to class while you sign in your child. We appreciate your help in keeping everyone safe and accounted for each day.

I hope to see you at our PTO meeting on Thursday, December 7 at 6:30 p.m. in the library.

Enjoy the weekend! The weather is going to be so nice for the first weekend in December!

PTO MEETING

This month our PTO meeting will be held on Thursday, December 7th. Please join us for this meeting in the library at Neff. Free childcare is available for each meeting.

Please use Door #6 in the staff parking lot that evening to get to the library. Thank you and see you at the meeting!

GRAND LEDGE SHOPPING TOUR

We are still collecting NEW, UN-WRAPPED toys here at Neff and you can place them in the collection bin in the office. They also may be dropped off at any GLPS elementary school or put p boxes in various businesses around town. Toys will be collected through December 8. They will be used for the Grand Ledge Shopping Tour for students in our district.

PRE PARADE PARTY

Come join us Fri. Dec. 1st from 4-6:30pm at the GL Library for stories in the Children's Department or enjoy cocoa and make a graham cracker "gingerbread" house in the 1931 Room. GLADL'S a great place to get ready for the parade downtown.

GLHS POM PON CLINIC

Grand Ledge High School Pom Pon is holding its annual pom clinic for grades K-5 on Saturday, December 9, 2017, from 9a -12p, in the auxiliary gym at the High School. Flyers went home in Friday Folders on November 3, 2017. Additional information is available from Kristin Shriner at 517-927-4925. Walk in registrations will be accepted at the door for $30 each.

PTO FAMILY DANCE AND AUCTION

Hello fellow parents, I am in need of some help procuring items for our silent auction. If you would be willing to contact a list of 10 businesses before December 15, 2017 please sign up below and I will e-mail you the list of businesses. The list will have the name of the businesses as well as contact information for each one. Thank you in advance, Pauline Q

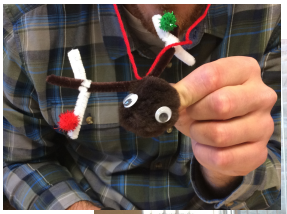
www.SignUpGenius.com/go/4090B44A4A728AAFE3-silent

MICHIGAN WEATHER A'CHANGIN!

Just a reminder that the weather can change here in a matter of minutes. Please make sure your child is prepared for the weather. We go outside everyday unless it is raining or the temperature/windchill is below zero. Students need to have boots and snow pants to be able to play out in the snow. If they don't have those clothes they will still go outside but they need to stay on the sidewalk.

WINNER! WINNER! CRAFT DAY

Here are some photos of the winners of the PBIS drawing for November. Each of the students spent part of the afternoon in the Student Support room working on some crafts with the staff. Congratulations to those students! Oh what fun!



DOMINO'S PIZZA NIGHTS

Domino's Pizza is helping us host Neff Night at their new downtown Grand Ledge location. One evening a month our GL Domino's is donating a portion of the sales for that day to our school. Our PTO will be using the money that we earn to put toward activities and supplies for our school.

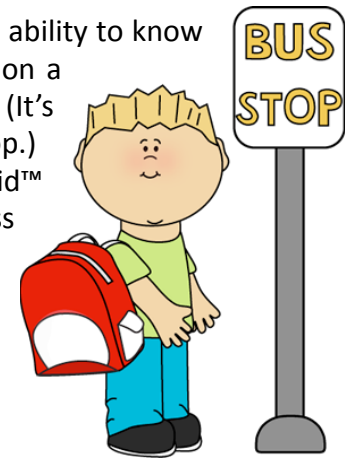
You can order your pizzas and more online, in person (at 327 S Bridge,GL) or by telephone (517-731-6501) on the following nights: All dates are Wednesdays! December 13th, January 10th, February 14th, March 14th, April 11th and May 9th.

TECHNOLOGY UPGRADES TO TRANSPORTATION SERVICES

Like many other aspects of our daily lives, technology is improving the efficiency with transportation as well. The GLPS transportation department is excited to launch a new electronic system to communicate bus stop information beginning in January 2018. The two applications, Versatrans E-Link and MyStop, use planned route information and actual GPS data. E-Link is used by parents, students and school administration to see current route assignment information. MyStop is used by parents and students on a daily basis to see when the bus will arrive. No longer will riders have to wait outside during winter months and rainy days. MyStop allows the students to wait inside longer without fear of missing the bus.

There are many advantages available with E-Link. It will improve student transportation communication. For example, a message can be sent to bus riders when the bus is delayed. E-Link will show multiple stops if the student has different riding arrangements for different days of the week. It allows a parent to access their child's bus route, as well as pick-up and drop-off times.

MyStop is a simple, yet informative tool that gives parents, guardians and students the ability to know exactly where the school bus is. MyStop graphically displays the school bus location on a map as well as the estimated time of arrival (ETA) to a specific student's bus stop. (It's important to note that users must be enrolled with E-Link before they can access MyStop.) It will be available as either a web application or as a native app for iPhone® and Android™ smartphones. The web application allows users of other devices including PCs to access the information via a Web browser. Please watch for more information on how to access these applications in the near future.



VOLUNTEER SIGN UP INFORMATION

If you or a family member would like to volunteer in any way at the school or go on field trips throughout the year you must fill out the Volunteer Application online and complete the background check process. Below you will see the steps to complete this easy process. Thank you for volunteering here at Neff!

1. Go to www.glcomets.net
2. Select the Parent/Student Resources TabSelect, Volunteer Registration
3. Fill in ALL prompts, if it doesn't apply to you please you must add Not Applicable - N/A
4. Check that all information is correct and that you agree to the conditions.
5. Press Submit
6. Bring your Driver's License or State Issued ID to your school office at least one week BEFORE the event. At this point your registration will be sent to the State for verification.

Grand Ledge Community Recreation Presents

Breakfast With

SANTA

Saturday, December 9th

9:00 – 10:30 AM

High School Cafeteria

820 Spring Street

$10/Person

Register Online @ glathletics.com

Click on the Community Rec Tab

Events:

Picture with Santa
Christmas Craft
Letter to Santa
Make Your Own Reindeer Food
Sugar Cookie Decorating
Coloring Station
Christmas Stories (GL Library)

Breakfast Buffet Includes:

Scrambled Eggs,
Sausage, Potatoes, French Toast Sticks
Fruit Tray
Sweet Breads/Danish
Coffee & Juice

Jen Daly – Community Rec Coordinator
(517) 925-5440 – dalyj@glcomets.net

THIRD GRADE READING LAW

A Parent Guide to Public Act 306

EATON REGIONAL EDUCATION SERVICE AGENCY

1 What Is The Law All About?

- In an effort to boost reading achievement, Michigan lawmakers passed Public Act 306 in October 2016.
- To help more students be proficient by the end of third grade, the law requires extra support for K-3 students who are not reading at grade level.
- The law also states that a child may be retained in third grade if they are one or more grade levels behind in reading at the end of third grade.

2 What Do I Need To Know As Parent?

- Your child's reading progress will be closely monitored beginning in kindergarten.
- If your child is not reading where expected, a plan to improve reading will be created. This means your child's teacher and school will work with your child to find where your child needs support in his/her reading development and create a plan to support him or her. This plan includes:
  - Extra instruction or support in areas of need.
  - Ongoing checks on reading progress
  - A Read-at-Home plan that encourages you and your child to read and write outside of the school day.
  - Your child may be encouraged to participate in summer reading programs.
- The extra supports in your child's reading improvement plan will occur in small groups during the school day. Your child will not miss regular reading instruction.
- Starting in 2019-2020 school year, in order to be promoted from third to forth grade, your child must score less than one year behind on the state reading assessment, or demonstrate a third grade reading level through an alternate test or portfolio of student work.
- If you are notified your child may be retained, you have the right to meet with school officials and to request, within 30 days, an exemption if in the best interest of your child. The district superintendent will make the final decision.

3 What Can I Do To Support My Child?

Read at home with your child daily with books they enjoy, even in the summer. Some ways to do this:

- Read out loud to your child.
- Listen to your child read.
- Echo read (You read a line, then they repeat) .
- Read together at the same time.
- Reread or retell favorite stories.
- Talk to your child about the reading.

As you read:

- Ask your child to share what they remember.
- Ask questions about the reading.
- Talk about your favorite parts, what you've learned, or who is in the book and what they do.
- Talk about the pictures in the book how they connect to the words on the page.

- Talk to and with your kids a lot: Knowing more words helps kids to understand the words they read better.
- Encourage writing: Let children write the sounds they hear, spelling is developmental and a work in progress.
- Be involved in your child's education and support the reading plan if your child has one.

Eaton RESA Contacts:
Jennifer Eaglin, Early Literacy Specialist, jeaglin@eatonresa.org
Kaytie Palmiter, Early Literacy Specialist, kpalmiter@eatonresa.org

Neff PTO Volunteer Sign Up

We are looking for parents to help with events this year!

*Please circle any and all events you would like to help with. Please star events you are willing to chair or help chair.

- ✓ Fun Run – Sept. 22
- ✓ Staff Appreciation Dinners – during conference weeks
- ✓ Box Tops for Education – every 2-3 months
- ✓ Little Caesars Pizza Kits – March
- ✓ Original Artwork – April
- ✓ Teacher Appreciation Week – May
- ✓ Family Dance – TBD

The PTO meetings are the third Thursday of each month.
We hope to see you at the first meeting on **Sept. 21**.

Child's Name _____

Child's Teacher _____

Parent 1

Name _____

Phone _____

Email _____

Parent 2

Name _____

Phone _____

Email _____

WONDERING ABOUT PRESCHOOL OPTIONS?

GSRP Preschool Offers:

- Low student/adult ratios (Max 8:1)
- Highly qualified & certified staff
- School-day programming (Monday-Thursday)
- Creative Curriculum focusing on:

  Language development, Literacy, Math, Social Emotional Development, Physical development, Science, Social Studies, Creative Arts

- Licensed by the State of Michigan

Classrooms are located in:

SPACES AVAILABLE IN YOUR DISTRICT!

Charlotte

Eaton Rapids

Grand Ledge

Maple Valley

Potterville

HOW DO I ENROLL?

GSRP is a state funded preschool program for 4 year olds. It specifically serves children from middle income households. It is administered by the State of Michigan.

To enroll, a child must be
4 years old on September 1st.

Decisions for enrollment into GSRP are based on individual family experiences.

- Family income
- Concerns about your child's development
- Challenging behavior
- English as a second language
- Family school difficulties
- Environmental risk
- Single parent home due to divorce, deployment, incarceration, illness.
- Change in guardianship

Learn more and apply at
www.eatonpreschool.org
517.541.8724

EDUStaff

OUR DISTRICT NEEDS YOU!

EDUStaff is an educational staffing company who specializes in providing guest teachers and other employment classes to our partnering school districts. Founded in 2010, EDUStaff has quickly become known in the educational community as providing outstanding customer service to both our partnering districts and our external employees; the guest teacher.

BENEFITS OF BEING A GUEST TEACHER

Becoming a guest teacher provides a number of benefits for those who are interested including:

- ✓ Flexible schedule to accept assignments when you want.
- ✓ Work in your child or grandchild's school.
- ✓ Make a positive difference in your community.

GUEST TEACHER REQUIREMENTS

Per State of Michigan law, the below requirements outline how to become a guest teacher:

- ✓ Current Michigan Teaching Certificate
- ✓ Expired Michigan Teaching Certificate
- ✓ 90-credit hours from a college, university or accredited community college

HOW TO APPLY

Log on to www.EDUStaff.org

For more information contact our customer service department.

www.EDUStaff.org | 877.974.6338