



# GES Newsletter

February 2009 News

Volume 11, No. 2

## Principal's Corner

*Mr. John Fast, Principal*



Goessel Elementary will be hosting a free workshop on Conscious Discipline, Saturday, March 28, from 9:00-1:00. Conscious Discipline is a nationally recognized program developed by Dr. Becky Bailey. The use of Conscious Discipline methods can be life-changing for parents, teachers, childcare providers and anyone who spends any length of time with children. This workshop will be taught by Cheri Ochs Wheeler, LSCSW. Cheri is a certified trainer of the Conscious Discipline method, a play therapist and specializes in early childhood mental health. Both moms and dads are encouraged to attend. Free childcare will be provided at the school. You are encouraged to register early by calling (620) 947-3200 and asking for Linda Ogden, Director of Communities in Schools of Marion County.

## Kindergarten

*Mrs. Sheri Janzen, Teacher*



Last week was an exciting week in our Kindergarten class.

On Monday, Jan. 19<sup>th</sup>, we talked about Martin Luther King Jr. and shared a little about why he was a special man. We discussed what we would like to change about the world if we could and some of our thoughts are listed below.

*Raechel* dreams that all people will get along.  
*Jake, Christian, Luke, and Bethany* dream there will be no more guns.  
*Jessica* dreams that trees will not be wasted.  
*Jordan* dreams everyone would have cars.

*Elizabeth* dreams that everyone would have a home and toys to share.  
*Dawson* dreams that people can get all the things they need, like light bulbs, shoes, pets, and food.  
*Neviah* dreams that everyone would be friends with each other.  
*Roy, MaKayla, and Aaliyah* dream that everyone could have books to read.  
*Berlin* hopes everyone will share with others  
*Kale* dreams that there would be no more wars and everyone could get along.  
*Katherine* dreams that everyone could have clean water.  
*Cassandra* dreams that everyone would have a family to love and could grow up to be what they want to be.  
*Garrett* dreams that there would be good roads so everyone could get to school.  
*Olivia* dreams that everyone could go to good schools.

We celebrated the 100<sup>th</sup> day of Kindergarten on Tuesday, Jan. 20<sup>th</sup>. We wrote poems about 100, made a book about 100, counted to 100 in different ways, ate a snack of 100 items, made placemats with 100 stickers, hunted for 100 chocolate kisses, read several books about the 100<sup>th</sup> day of school, and brought in a collection of 100 things. Some of our collections included pennies, sunflower seeds, Q-tips, spools, make-up, bubble gum, candy hearts, hair ties, magnets, sea shells, paper clips, buttons, rocks, pom-poms, confetti, and beans. Mrs. Janzen's collection was 100 kids from our school!

This was also the week that we talked about the letter Uu so we put together a huge map of the United States of America and discussed different kinds of symbols, such as the U.S.A. flag, the Statue of Liberty, the Liberty Bell and

Uncle Sam. We also talked about our new President and watched the inauguration. And we even had time to play UNO!

This was a busy week just like every week in Kindergarten but we learned a lot and had fun doing all types of activities.



Making Shapes out of Valetines

## 1st Grade

*Mrs. Barb Goering,  
Teacher*



The first grade students are full of enthusiasm, and we fill our school days with a wide variety of activities; from Spelling pages to geoboards, Weekly Readers to Bal-avis-x; small group guided reading to Science experiments. It's exciting to be a part of their educational growth!

One of our recent assignments was related to our Reading stories about food. Below you'll find what the students wrote about some foods they like to eat.

I like grapes because grapes are healthy. I like cake because it is sweet. *Porclein*

I like grapes because they taste good and they are juicy. *Alexandria*

I like pizza because I like pepperoni.

*Brody*

I like cookies because there is chocolate on it. *Bailey*

I love pizza with cheese and pepperoni. *Jacob*

I like grapes because they're juicy.

*Thelma*

I like pepperoni pizza and cheese pizza too. *Dylan*

I like rice cakes because they are sweet. Laffy Taffy is sweet.

*Brooke*

I love my kind of grapes because purple is good. *Zachary*

I eat grapes at my house.

*Isaiah*

I like ice cream because it is cold. *Anton*

I like pizza because it tastes good and it looks good.

*Elizabeth*

I like pepperoni pizza because it is good. *Jerah*

*I like pizza. Richard*



I like ice cream because it is good. I

like grapes and crackers. *Alyssa*

I like grapes because they are yummy.

*Luke*

I love my cake and I like ice cream.

*Taylor*

I like cake. After I eat it I run so I don't get fat. *Vincent*

I like pineapple. *Cody*



## 2nd Grade

*Mrs. Ann Hiebert,  
Teacher*



We started the new year by creating a "top 10 list" of best things to do in 2009:

Try harder on work

Don't talk when someone else is talking

Be a friend to everyone

Help when you can

Be nice

Cooperate in a group

Be kind on the bus

Use good table manners

Follow the rules and play fair

Have a good attitude

We thought if each person would try to do at least some of these things each day, everyone would

have a great day at school and be ready for third grade by the end of the Year.

Since we are studying adjectives, we took advantage of the white, frosty weather to write poems about snow. The poems turned out wonderfully! Enjoy this collection of **Winter** words.

Snow smells like water. Snow feels like whipped cream Snow looks like snow cones.

Snow tastes like ice. Snow sounds crunchy. *Drew*

Snow feels cold and looks like sparkles. I love snow because you can make snow angels. It tastes like ice cream and it smells like pudding. *Savanna*

Snow feels like fuzz. It sounds crunchy. It looks like crystals. It tastes sweet.

It smells like clean cold water.

*Christopher*

Snow smells like ice cream. It tasted like pie. It feels like powder.

It looks like

chowder. It sounds quiet. Shhh...

shhh...shhh.

*Stephany*

Snow feels soft and fluffy. Snow sound quiet and silent. Snow looks like crystals.

Snow tasted like nothing. Snow smells fresh. *Layci*





Snow feels soft and cold, watery, fuzzy and powdery. Snow sounds quiet, very quiet!

Snow looks like diamonds, tastes like snow cones and smells fresh.  
*Julianna*

The snow tastes like whipped cream. It feels cold. It looks like diamonds.  
It smells clean. *Nathaniel*

Snow feels soft. Snow sounds crunchy. Snow looks like gold. Snow smells fresh. Snow tastes sweet.  
*Kendall*



Snow! Soft and fuzzy, it feels real funny. It looks real nutty. It sounds so hungry. Sweet, sweet snow cones. Sweep in the cold breeze of the beat of the tree.  
*Audessi*

Red, green, black and gold, snow is cold. Snow is powdery, fuzzy and watery. It sounds crunchy and whooshy. It looks shiny and powdery. *Faith*

Snow feels like whipped cream. Snow sounds crunchy. Snow looks like crystals. Snow tastes like snow cones. Snow smells like nothing. *Hailey Shipp*

Snow feels soft, snow feels cold. Snow sounds whooshy, quiet, silent. Snow looks like crystals, diamonds, sequins. It tastes like nothing and smells fresh and clean.  
*Winter is here. It is for sure. Edel*

My dogs run real soft like snow. My dogs make crunchy noises when walking through the snow. The snow looks like cottage cheese. *Sam*

Snow feels like fuzz. It sounds like silence. The snow looks like crystals. It tastes like ice cream and smells like water.  
*Megan Guerrero*

Snow tastes like nothing. Snow smells fresh. Snow looks like a snow cone. Snow sounds crunch. Snow feels soft. *Nathan*

It was fun writing about snow, but we are looking forward to spring!!!

### 3rd Grade

*Mr. Dale Wiens,  
Teacher*



The third grade students have just memorized their multiplication facts and are learning how to apply multiplication to everyday situations. In social studies, we learned about the ways Martin Luther King helped make people's lives so much better. We even simulated a protest march with great enthusiasm. Also, we have been preparing for the state tests in reading and math by taking practice tests on the computers.

The symbols and history of Kansas came to life through projects. Family and friends were invited to view the dioramas and displays showing what the students learned about Kansas. The students were asked to name a place they would most like to visit someday in Kansas. Here's what they said.

*Jayce:* I would like to go to the Kansas Motorcycle Museum in Marquette because I like to see motorcycles that have raced.



*Kolton:* I would like to visit the Great Wolf Lodge in Kansas City because it has a large bucket, big pool, and fast slides.

*Chloe:* Wichita is a great place to go shopping. Dick's Sporting Goods looks like fun. I would also like to see the Sedgwick County Zoo.

*Jenna:* I wish I could follow the Yellow Brick Road to Liberal to see Dorothy's House because I like the movie, "Wizard of Oz."

*Jordan:* The Garden of Eden in Lucas is a museum filled with concrete statues that show Bible scenes. I would like to know how they were made.

*Kara:* Cabella's near Kansas City has lots of stuffed animals and great shopping. My family could get fishing poles and hunting supplies.



*Julia:* Someday I hope I can go to the Topeka Zoological Park to see the animals up close. Maybe the zoo would have monkeys and elephants to enjoy.

*Rachel:* I would like to go see the Wizard of Oz museum in Wamego. Often they have performances for families to enjoy. I might buy some toys and books as well.

*Benjamin:* I would like to see prehistoric displays at the Sternberg Museum in Hays. The fossil of one fish inside another fish would be interesting to me.



*Brittney :* I want to watch the horses run at the Eureka Downs racetrack. I have

horses at home and wonder if mine could race there some day.

*Leah :* Someday I would like to go to the living history demonstration at the Mine Creek Battlefield. It would be fun to watch them fight.



*Carson:* I would like to visit Great Wolf Lodge in Kansas City because I love water resorts.

*Nathaniel :* I want to visit the capitol building in Topeka to see the great paintings, murals, and the Native American statue on top of the dome.

*Lauren:* I would like to go to the Great Plains Nature Center in Wichita and see the animals.

*Eden:* The Garden of Eden in Lucas is the place for me. With a name like mine, where else would I go? The Bible stories are displayed in concrete there.



## 4th Grade

*Mr. Tom Krehbiel, Teacher*



Believe it or not for this month's newsletter, the Fourth graders chose to share with you what they like about school:

"Pals"



- The cool news that we hear every day is awesome, like hearing about black holes and dark matter.

- Being with all my friends, because it makes school a much more fun place and it makes me happy being around my friends.

Show and tell with Shelbi's goat



-I like Math because we learn about measurement, multiplication, and division. I think I am good at multiplication. I also think I am good at place value.

- Music, because we occasionally get to dance and sing some really cool songs.

- Math, I like doing division because I think it is easy to do and it can maybe help me in the future when I'm at work.

- I like drawing pictures like cartoons and what cities could look like in the future. I think it is a lot of fun drawing really good pictures and making cards for people or using the pictures as covers.

- Science is awesome because it is educational and interesting. It teaches you different things about the earth and space.

- I like our laptops because they are fun, cool and I like to write stories on them.

- Animals in the classroom, because we learn about them. I think the porcupine has yellow teeth because it didn't brush her teeth.

- We are learning punctuation in English. I think it is okay even though we have

a lot of homework. I am not great at it but it still is fun.

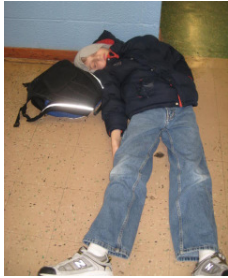
- Bus, because I get to see three of my friends (they are all girls). I am the last person on the bus and the first person off the bus. (My bus driver is Jim.)

- Running is my favorite thing to do! That is why I like P.E.! It is awesome because we run and run and run!!

- I like Science because I like learning about electricity and fossils. I just like science better out of all the subjects, and I would like to be a scientist. It is really hard to learn about something you have never learned before.

-Reading. Life would be a lot harder if we couldn't read. Reading is understanding.





## 5th Grade

Mrs. Abrahams,  
Teacher

When the 5<sup>th</sup> grade students returned from Christmas break they were asked to respond to this question: When the weather outside is frightful, what makes you feel delightful?

Sitting by the fire and reading a good book or watching a movie with my family makes me feel delightful. *Kylee*

When it's chilly outside I like to sit down and enjoy a cup of hot cocoa. The cocoa makes me feel all warm inside. *Anna*

Most of the time when it is snowy, I like to drink hot chocolate and read a good book. *Sierah*

What make me feel delightful is a good snowball fight with my brother, sister and mom. *Ethan*

When it's cold outside I like to drink hot chocolate and sit and relax by the fire. *Alyssa*

When it is freezing cold outside I stay in the house and watch a movie and have hot chocolate. *Ashley*

I like to relax and watch T.V. or watch a movie. I also enjoy playing with my sisters. *Page*

I like to build snowmen but I also like to watch a movie if it's cold outside. *Dylan*

When I'm inside on a snowy day I like to snuggle up by the fire and have some hot chocolate. Those things make me feel warm and safe. *Aleena*

I like to make snow angels in the snow and then come in for some hot chocolate. *Jade*

I stay inside because the weather is very frightful and then have some hot chocolate because it is very delightful. *Luke*

What makes me delightful when the weather is frightful is drinking hot chocolate. *Jordan*

I feel delightful when my dad and I

build a snow fort and have snow fights. *Chase*

Having snowball fights and building a snow kingdom with my sister and then coming in and having hot cocoa make me feel delightful. *Alicen*

I like getting on the computer and talking to my friends. *Mikayla*

When the weather outside is frightful I feel delightful by talking on the phone to my friends. *Rebekah*

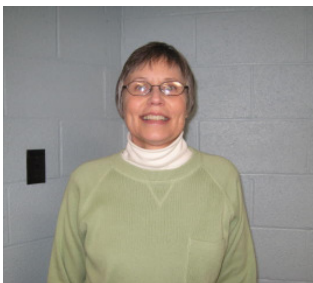
I like to go outside with other kids and make snowmen, have snowball fights, go sledding and then come in for hot chocolate. *Matthew*

When it's cold outside playing outside is fun but coming back inside for a cup of hot chocolate feels really good. *Zach*



Rockets project before Christmas





## Teacher Interview by

Kara Burkholder, Mrs. Jody Schmidt, Teacher



This quarter, our featured staff member is Megan Marmor. Miss Marmor is a speech and language pathologist and has been working at Goessel Elementary for about 2 months. She does not have any chil-

dren, but has one brother. Reading and paper folding are some of Miss Marmor's hobbies. Her favorite food is brussel sprouts. Her advice to the students in Goessel Elementary is read a lot of good books. Welcome, Miss Marmor.

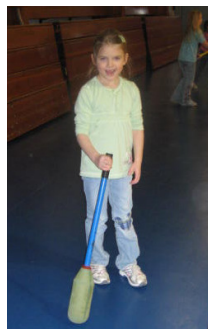
## P.E. /Health Computer

Mr. Joe Biggs, Teacher



Time has flown by in the PE world since you last heard from us. Since then we have done many exciting and fun units including soccer, scooters, pilo pollo/striking, juggling, and jump rope and of course we always take time to cover the fun holiday games such as Ghost in the Graveyard (a student favorite) or Beat the Grinch. Each class is also now participating in health twice a week. The upper classes are just getting done covering the body systems while the lower ones are learning about the social and mental

aspects of the body. I am looking forward to a great finish as the end of the year approaches. Some of the things that you might be hearing going on in the gym will be basketball, skating, baseball or t-ball, and all sorts of frisbee games. The kids can't wait to get into these units and neither can I. Have a great nine weeks.



1st grade practices their moves for the musical



## K-5 Music

Mrs. Marcia Brubaker  
Mr. Greg Bontrager  
Teachers



### DESTINATION: AMERICA!!

Rock-n-Roll, Motown, Country, Broadway, and Guitars! Styles of music that have shaped American music and America itself will be featured in the All-Goessel Elementary Music Program. That's right---this year's music program is one special occasion for Kindergarten through Grade 5. **Destination: America!** will be presented in the Elementary School Gym on Thursday, February 19 at 10:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m.

Fourth and fifth grade students are singing and dancing to songs from **Destination: America!** These songs set up our five styles of music and tell about what makes each unique, as well as telling us of famous musicians who have been involved in each style. K-3 students will be presenting songs to match each style---songs their parents may have grown up with! *Rockin' Robin, The Locomotion, Grandma's Feather Bed, I'm a Believer, and Green Eggs and Ham.*



Join us for this special musical event on February 19!



# Counselor's Corner

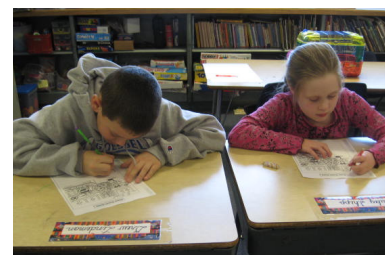
Mrs. Janna Duerksen



From Labor Day to Columbus Day, Election Day to Martin Luther King Day, our character education lessons this year have related to seasonal themes. Lessons have focused on everything from goal setting to conflict resolution to making responsible decisions. These lessons also give students the opportunity to practice good social skills, an ongoing necessity for young people as they continue to develop and change.

I cannot fail to mention that the Kansas State Assessments are coming soon. We will be testing all students in grades 3-5 in both math and reading. Also this year we will be testing 4<sup>th</sup> grade students in science and 5<sup>th</sup> grade students in writing. We look forward to the opportunity to use the computers for on-line testing as we have done in past years. Please remember that a good nights sleep and proper nutrition can assist with a positive testing environment. Also, encourage your child to do their best as these exams determine our school's annual yearly progress.

If you have any questions or concerns at any time, please contact me at the school.



# Library

Mr. Russell Pauls, Librarian



## FEBRUARY "MARDI GRAS" READING INCENTIVE!

For the month of February, Goessel Elementary School will be having a reading incentive program. The incentive will run from February 2 through February 27 with the program culminating on Family Reading Night on March 3.

Each classroom will decide on a weekly reading goal. When a class

# Title I

Teacher, Mrs. Mary Schmidt



## FAMILY READING NIGHT

Beads, beads, and more beads! The theme for this year's Family Reading Night is "Mardi Gras". Save the date of Tuesday, March 3 at 6:45 pm for a time of some Cajun fun! There will be time to read with your family, listen to a Cajun-inspired fairy tale, and test your knowledge of some favorite children's books. Everyone should have a great time!

reaches their goal, they will receive a strand of Mardi Gras beads to be displayed on their class section outside of the library. Each time a classroom reaches their goal, they will receive another strand of beads. Classes are also encouraged to meet their set goal more than four times during the month. Each classroom that meets their goal all four weeks will receive a prize with an extra reward for the classroom with the most beads.

Make sure to ask your children about their reading goals and encourage them to do their part to help out. I hope to see all of you at Mardi Gras on Family Reading Night!

**Goessel Elementary**

**We're on the  
web [usd411.org](http://usd411.org)**



*We have SPIRIT!*

# COMING EVENTS

**FEBRUARY 13—VALENTINES PARTIES**

**FEBRUARY 13—ELBIATA SINGERS— CALL THE H.S., 367-2242 TO RESERVE A SINGING VALENTINE!**

**FEBRUARY 16—PRESIDENT’S DAY—NO SCHOOL**

**FEBRUARY 18, 12:30 P.M.—CHARACTER ED ASSEMBLY BY THE GROUP “NED”, WITH A YOYO PRESENTATION**

**FEBRUARY 19, 10 A.M. AND 7 P.M.—K-5 MUSIC PROGRAM AT GES**

**FEBRUARY 25, 12:30—DISMISS FOR TEACHER INSERVICE**

**MARCH 3, 6:45 P.M.—CAJUN READING NIGHT**

**MARCH 13, 12:30—DISMISS FOR TEACHER WORKDAY**

**MARCH 16-20—SPRING BREAK**

**MARCH 28—CONSCIOUS DISCIPLINE WORKSHOP**

# more pictures...

