



FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK—Mr. Lekkas

There are some important days to note at GKMS in May. Fifth grade orientation is May 2nd at 6:00 PM. On May 13th we have our 8th grade dance at 7:00 PM. 8th grade promotion is Monday, May 23rd and will begin promptly at 7:00 PM.

There are COGS days established at each grade level for students to enjoy. Parents interested in chaperoning are encouraged to respond on the permission slips.

As we enter the final month of the school year, I urge all students to continue their efforts in the classroom. With students, parents, and the school working together, we can insure an enjoyable and educational final month of the year.

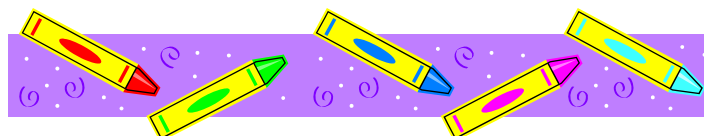
Final days of school:

8th Grade Students - May 23rd is final day of 8th grade attendance with promotion activities beginning at 7:00 PM.

6th and 7th Grade Students – May 31st is the final day of attendance from 10:00 AM – 10:50 AM. All buses will run regular morning routes **TWO HOURS** later than normal school days.

NEWS FROM THE ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL—Mr. McPherson

With good weather right around the corner, taking time to reflect on the school year seems appropriate. The students at GKMS have had a tremendous year, both academically and behaviorally! Our students deserve a large amount of credit for meeting expectations and being good kids. Parents and teachers also deserve a lot of credit; our kids are reflections of what is modeled for them by adults. We would like to thank the parents of our students for setting a good example for kids. We feel very fortunate to work with such great kids and such great families in this community. As we approach the end of the school year, we hope to see a continued effort to sustain all that our kids have accomplished this year. Please help us encourage our kids to end the year on a positive note and make the 2010-2011 school year one of the best ever!



STUDENTS OF THE MONTH—APRIL

Congratulations to our APRIL Students of the Month:

6th grade—SAUL OSORIO

7th grade—THOMAS HANSEN

8th grade—CHYANNE BEACH



2011-2012 REGISTRATION INFORMATION

All registration information forms are available on the Genoa-Kingston district website www.gkschools.org. No registration packets will be sent to your home. The personal information sheet for your student will be sent home with their report card. Please review, make corrections and answer the information. Please print and complete the following forms from the web-site and return with the correct registration fees, payable by cash or check: 1) Student Information Sheet—sent home with report cards, 2) Transportation form, 3) Emergency Medical Information form and 4) Authorization to Use and Disclose Protected Health information. If you do not have access to a computer, please call your student's building or district office and a packet can be made available. Registration information is due by August 2, 2011.

FROM THE NURSE'S OFFICE—9th grade physical reminder

All students entering ninth grade are required by the state of Illinois to have a physical exam and provide proof of a tetanus booster within the last 10 years. State of Illinois physical forms can be obtained through your family physician or by downloading the form from the GK website. [http://gkschools.org/pages/uploaded_files/physicalform.pdf] Scheduling school physicals early is recommended as appointments fill up during the summer months leading up to the first day of school. If you have questions or need assistance, please contact the district nurse at 815-784-5222.

KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION FOR 2011-2012

If you have not registered your child for kindergarten next school year, please do so at your earliest convenience. School hours are 7:30 to 4:00 Monday thru Friday. If this time is not convenient for you, please contact Davenport School at 815-784-2448. Our district needs this enrollment information so that we can plan for classes and staff. **Fees are not due at this time.** If you know of someone with a future kindergarten student please encourage them to register.



COGS UMBRELLAS FOR SALE \$15.00

IN THE OFFICE

FROM THE 6TH GRADE TEAM

Language Arts

All classes have or are immersed in creating research reports. This expository writing involves processes such as: limiting a topic, taking notes, outlining, drafting, editing, making a bibliography and a title page. Students work with materials including computer searches as well as library texts and reference books such as nonfiction books and encyclopedias. They learn how to make source cards and turn these into a bibliography to finish their product. These skills should serve them well in the school years ahead.

Reading

Students in reading continue to reach for fourth-quarter goals in Accelerated Reading. A minimum of three books need to be tested by May 13. Only two books are required as a minimum for students enrolled in band and AMP classes. Reading classes explored analyzing text structure in expository nonfiction in April and will lead up to synthesizing fiction and expository nonfiction in May. The end of the year signals "Revisiting the Reading Life" in Making Meaning. This unit also encourages all readers to make reading goals for recreational reading during the summer. Included in this might be setting a time during the day or evening for quiet time with a book, a weekly trip to the library, signing up for library programs, or just finding the perfect tree to sit under while reading.

Math

We are working our way to the catapult competitions. Starting on May 2nd students can begin bringing in their materials for their catapults. Groups will be created during that week. Designing and construction will begin at the end of the week. Students should have had a list of possible supplies sent home during the week of April 18th. The catapults will be put through four different competitions that measure strength, accuracy, distance and height of the launches. Competitions will take place the week of the 9th and last a few days.

Social Studies

All sixth grade students will experience a return to the Middle Ages this month. As a culmination to a Social Studies unit on Medieval times provides a full day celebration. The whole team of teachers participate in providing an in-depth look at life and culture during this medieval period. During the morning of May 12th, the students will rotate through classroom kingdoms hosted by their teachers featuring games and projects. In one kingdom, the students will make medieval pop-up castles. In another, they will play checkers, a popular game of the era. In a Language Arts classroom students learn about illuminated manuscripts and design their own using personal initials. For an experience to mimic Renaissance painting, students lie on their back beneath their desk and paint on paper fixed to the bottoms of the desk. The students learn how Michelangelo spent four years painting the ceiling of the Sistine Chapel on his back, atop scaffolding. A fox hunt will unfold and a plague representation will visually provide the percent of people killed by the "Black Death." In the afternoon, each kingdom will parade through the gymnasium with flags emblazoned with their name and symbol. The students will wear coordinated colored t-shirts to proclaim their kingdom's loyalty and proceed to take their places on the bleachers while sixth grade trumpeters provide the fanfare. The tournament will proceed with mock medieval games such as scooter races to represent jousting and a tug-of-war. The log throwing competition will be simulated with a large blocking dummy instead of an actual log. There will be a three-legged relay in burlap bags and a twining jester race again on scooter platforms. The finale is a feast provided by parent volunteers. The students will feast on sausage, cheese, breads, fruits and juice. The month long, interdisciplinary study provides teachers in sixth grade a chance to provide a significant contribution in their interest and skill area.

The last unit of study for the school year will be the Early Americas. This includes: the developing Maya, the amazing Aztecs and the genius of Inca.

FROM THE 7TH GRADE TEAM

Language Arts

Students will continue working on their narrative writing skills. They will be writing and performing skits in small groups. They will also explore different elements of genre writing. We would like to thank all of the 7th grade students for a wonderful year. We have truly enjoyed working with all of them and watching them progress throughout the year. Enjoy your summer!

Reading

Students will be wrapping up Making Meaning. The students will be continuing to review and apply reading strategies they have been working on all year.

Math

To finish out the year, students will be working on a long unit involving circles and cylinders. They will be expected to determine the area, volume, and surface area of all these figures. If there is time before the end of the year, we will also explore probability and some applications of it.

Science

What do reptiles, amphibians, and fish have in common? What are the major differences between birds and mammals? How does the introduction of an invasive species impact a local ecosystem? We are studying the characteristics of the different classes of animals and their environment. As part of this unit, students have a choice of what kind of assessment they complete. If you want more specifics you can find them at my website: <https://sites.google.com/site/gkms7science/>.

FROM THE 8TH GRADE TEAM

Language Arts

“Elements” of the research paper is the continued theme for May in language arts. The students will continue to recognize requirements and various elements to write a successful research paper. The students will continue their research of world leaders, famous inventors, or Revolutionary War heroes. The students will finalize their outlines, learn the importance and method to document sources within the paper, write an introduction and conclusion plus one body paragraph to display what they have learned this year in terms of sentence fluency and voice, and generate a bibliography page to document the sources they used in their research. By the end of the school year the students will have produced elements of a successful research paper. It has been a wonderful year of growth with each student’s writing.

Reading

In our 8th grade reading classes during May, the students will read the short story “The Monkey’s Paw.” We will use this story to discuss story elements and foreshadowing. The students will create an advertisement using vivid descriptive language. Finally this month the students will finalize the year with a reflective time capsule activity to reflect on their 8th grade year. The assignment engages their writing and reflective skills while allowing the kids to look back upon their final year in middle school.

FROM THE 8TH GRADE TEAM . . . continued**Social Studies**

THE CONSTITUTION TEST HAS BEEN MOVED FROM APRIL 27TH TO MAY 3RD.

Science

We have just begun the final lap of our school year and Middle School is coming to an end for our 8th grade students. I am proud to say that the students of the 8th grade class have grown in many ways and improved greatly in their academic abilities. Before we send them on their way, we will begin the exciting study of one of my favorite units, The Periodic Table!

During this unit we will identify and discuss the structure and parts of atoms. The class will research and discuss names, symbols and the meaning of the placement and numbering of each element. Using the internet, each student will investigate the history, physical properties, and design of one element. The information will then be used to create a poster displaying their new found knowledge. Because all classes are involved, we will be able to combine our posters to create our very own representation of the periodic table!

In the following weeks, we will begin a new unit on Chemical Bonds. In this unit we will strengthen our understanding of the previous chapters by describing what occurs when we combine different elements. For example, what do you get when you combine one part of the silicon element and two parts of the oxygen element? Sand!

Let's Finish Strong!

HEALTH FAIR at GKMS

Once more the GKMS Health Teachers will be hosting our annual HEALTH FAIR. For the past several years, community health care providers have volunteered their time to participate in our HEALTH FAIR, providing our students an opportunity to learn about wellness and what is available in DeKalb County.

This year's participants include the following health care providers:

Kishwaukee Community Hospital,

Ben Gordon,

YMCA,

DeKalb County Health Department,

Family Service Agency,

Genoa Police Department,

GK Rescue Squad and

Midwest Orthopaedic Institute.

CAREER CRUISING—Miss Chronopoulos

Encourage your GKMS student to work with the Career Cruising program. This is an excellent program which has all sorts of information about careers, schools, and a variety of activities that will enhance the knowledge of young people as well as adults. All our GKMS students have a personal log in which allows them to access the program from any computer. To access, one uses the general log in...USER NAME:"gkms" and PASSWORD:"cogs", then they enter their personal log in...USER NAME:individual student ID number preceded by either "gk" or "gkms" and PASSWORD: student's individual, private password. Should you need further information, please contact Miss Chronopoulos.

Happy Cruising!

VISUAL ARTS—Mrs. Sorensen

Visual Arts classes here at GKMS are in our final six weeks session and going for a strong finish in all three grade levels.

In sixth grade, students are finishing up their specific Art Elements study with lessons in TEXTURE, VISUAL MASS (FORM), PERSPECTIVE and VALUE. Additional lessons in SYMMETRY and MOTIF PATTERNING are examined to round-out our tour of art study at this stage. ARTIST OF THE WEEK facts and quizzes enrich our sixth grade art curriculum even more.

Make sure to ask your sixth grader to show you their portfolio full of their efforts for this half of the school year.

Seventh graders are very busy this semester working units in PORTRIATURE, MASK-MAKING, STAMP PRINT PATTERNING, TOOLING OIL REPOUSEE, PRINT RUBBING COMPOSTION and SEVEN HANDS DESCRIPTIVE COMPOSITIONS. The varied media background and historical bases extend the possibilities for the students to make images in and out of formal art study. These lessons are a strong foundation from which to build ideas into their eighth grade art experience. Let your seventh graders know that you want to see the exciting images they have created throughout this semester and school year.

The Eighth graders are anxious to take all they have learned here at GKMS and apply it to their High School studies. In Visual Arts class, eighth grade means learning and developing from complex ideas. They are encouraged to take each lesson further than the base requirements of TESSELLATION PATTERNING, "PIPE AND RIBBON" DRAWING, PLATFORM SCULPTURE and MAZE DESIGN. The last 5 Art Journal assignments are fun and thought-provoking. It is hoped that students will keep their journals as a document of their creative thinking from this fantastic age. Ask your soon-to-be high schooler to share what they have been creating in eighth grade art...Many have strong pieces to show off their endeavors.



Have a wonderfully creative summer!

GKMS Music Notes

F.A.B. Community Jazz Dance 2011

This years Jazz Dance which was held on Saturday, April 16, 2011 turned out to be a huge success this year. The High School Jazz Band and the Middle School Jazz Band performed the music for the dance.

FREE dance lessons were given for an hour, gourmet desserts were served, raffle prizes were given, we had a best-dressed jazz-era contest, a silent cake auction and we also had a special guest musician – Professional Saxophone player: Donnie Norton.

A special “Thank you” to the following:

- All of the businesses who donated prizes for the prize raffle.
- Parents who donated \$ towards the event, baked goods, asked for raffle donations, help set up for the dance, helped clean up and served at the dance. Without your help and dedication to the music program we could not run a successful jazz dance.
- Mr. Siksna for helping with the sound system and bringing in equipment we could borrow to enhance the sound.
- Resource Bank who donated \$250 for the Jazz Dance.

Fine Arts Boosters (F.A.B.) for working endless hours to make the dance successful.

Money brought in for the Jazz Dance goes into the F.A.B. account in which they use for scholarships, purchasing instruments and enhancing the arts every way possible.



Upcoming Music Dates:

Mon., May 2 – 5th Grade Orientation – M.S. Jazz Band performs

Mon., May 9 – M.S. Band &

5th Grade Band Concert

Mon., May 16 – M.S. & H.S. Chorus Concert

Sat., May 21 – Great America Contest!

ENVIRONMENTAL CONCERNS

Enlist your family and friends to keep your environment clean

Nature thanks you with its freshness and beauty when you show you care

Just imagine the legacy you will leave with your environmental help

Only humans can care directly for this great planet and that means YOU!

Years from now, you will breathe easier with care given TODAY

Share your green-grown flowers and vegetables

Under umbrella or sunscreen (or both) be

Make a point to compost your kitchen vegetable scraps

Music makes the summer season bright, but NOT TOO LOUDLY, please

Environmental awareness is the key to our planet's survival

Replace plastic water bottles with a good quality reusable bottle

Earth needs your good green efforts

Art can improve our out of doors surroundings – Make something outside

Reduce, reuse and recycle!

Think of the planet as a place for all living things and take care

Happy warm, sunny summertime!

GK PTO NEWS

Staff Appreciation Week Luncheon

Great teachers make Great Schools. Let's give a BIG GK Cogs thank you to all of our hard working teachers and staff members the week of May 2nd through May 5th. There is no school on May 6th. Please bring a special dish to donate for the luncheon on the specified dates below:

A-G on Monday, May 2nd

H-M on Tuesday, May 3rd

N-T on Wednesday, May 4th

U-Z on Thursday, May 5th.

Suggested items include lunch entrée, fruit, veggies, dessert, cheese, crackers, salad, appetizers, sandwiches, chips, dip/salsa, bagels or any food item that you would like to donate. Please bring all food donations to the school office. We would like to thank everyone for your participation and continued support throughout the year.

HONOR ROLL -3rd Quarter, 2010-2011

8TH GRADE

HIGH HONORS – Erin Boester, Khloe Butz, Gina Calendo, Kimberly Capes, Matthew Cieslica, Jessica Drendel, Uriel Espinoza, Rachel Gathman, Ashley Grimm, Kayla Gurnitz, Bridget Halat, Keagan Hanson, Hannah Harland, Nicole Hebel, Kevin Hughes, Jacqueline Jacober, Emma Jones, Leah Judd, Benjamin Kruse, Jacob Kryca, Robert Nay, Kaley Oplt, Paige Oucheriah, Kristen Pacey, Caitlynn Pryor, Chase Rogers, Hunter Rogers, Tyler Schambach, Alexander Sikсна, Trevor Simmons, Maribel Tinajero, Baylie Ullmark, Jillian VanDerHeyden, Emma Villella, Alanna Wilcox

HONORS – Cassidy Abraham, Kellie Armstrong, Jesse Bade, Chyanne Beach, Will Beach, Viviana Beltran, Jordan Bennett, Kira Bensinger, Trevor Bollech, Nicholas Brandeis, Kayla Bratcher, Cody Burgos, Jaclyn Butler, Nancy Cardenas, Kendra Deskins, Brett Devine, Alexis Downey, Nathan Dwyer, Kayleigh Engles, Tiffani Finley, Marisol Flores, Bryan Fowler, Anthony Giorno, Christopher Guzy, Luke Harmon, Kassandra Holden, Marcus Holley, Anthony Lacko, Karli Lancaste, Timothy Maynard, Megan McCausland, Katherine McCluskey, Griffin McNeal, Joshua Michael, Nathan Mousser, Joseph Murray, Rachel Olson, Christian Ordlock, Steve Orozco, Sylvanna Parra, Allison Perkins, Samantha Peters, Taylor Pry, Jenny Puckett, Cortney Rippberger, Breea Rogalla, Michael Schultz, Sterling Sharp, Urska Suligoj, Megan Theiner, Dorian Tijerina, Brandon Trupp, Katelyn Tuma, Haly Young, Hannah Zapatka

7TH GRADE

HIGH HONORS – Jacob Almquist, Grace Andersen, Kendall Bacon, Ethan Broderick, Briana Campbell, Justin Campbell, Thomas Corbett, Mikaela Ferrara, Carly Fischer, Brandon Foley, Taylor Fowler, Zachary Gschwind, Thomas Hansen, Terje Hensley, Ellee Holden, Sarah Howes, Riley Jenner, Danielle Johnson, Thomas Kathalynas, Katelynn Kinsman, Katey Kurpius, Jacob Linneman, Thomas Lucca, Carly Lundgren, Jessica Mauger, Kristin McKinney, Alison Pacey, Derrick Petruchuis, Daniel Russell, Jason Sester, Jackson Shortridge, Kendyl Strack, Collin Stratton, Nicholas Strauch, Mary Toczykowski, Andrew Voltz, Andrew Walker, Matthew Walsh, Alexander Widmayer, Christopher Wood, Jocelyn Zapatka

HONORS – Steven Baker, Jared Barton, Cody Beeman, Torri Bennett, Cole Blank, Andrew Caldwell, Jamie Campbell, Marck Cardoso, Nicole Centanni, Lauren Chester, Melissa Clemente, Joshua Cook, Kailey Cooper, Madelyn Demings, Arielle Emmens, Ian Fell, Gianna Focht, Chance Franckowiak, Odalys Galarza, Joshua Goff, Devin Guard, Erika Hansel, Elizabeth Hanson, Paul Harms, Brock Heiniger, Kelly Hensley, Brady Huffman, Mara Kettner, Kiana Knotts, Haley Kohout, Emilie Kottmeier, Jake Lauderdale, Bly Logan, Tabitha Long, Alexis Lucio, Caitlin Marinkovich, Ricardo Marquez, Dani Mathey, Claire McCurdy, Kevin McLean, Erika Mendoza, Ireland Milinac, Dominic Morocco, Matthew Musielski, Gloria Najera, Jose Ocelotl, Abigail Pahnke, Brandon Paradies, Morgan Picolotti, Tyler Pope, Kyle Quintell, Manuel Rangel, Abbey Rasmussen, Mitchell Rausch, Karah Reedy, Jack Richardson, Stephanie Routson, Bethany Runnion, Rosemary Sanders, Katlin Schambach, Joseph Schultz, Kegan Shannon, MaryKay Sharp, Emilee Sichz, Karli Smith, Brendyn Sonntag, Joseph Stanley, Haley Temes, Derek Tijerina, Dakota Tomisek, Claudio Viramontes, Jacob Wakeley, Jacob Walitzer, Caitlin Walker, Garrett Windau, Alyssa Yager, Breanna Young

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GKMS GAZETTE

HONOR ROLL -3rd Quarter, 2010-2011 . . . continued

6TH GRADE

HIGH HONORS – Ethan Bode, Bailey Boehmer, Maggie Bouque, Cody Bradshaw, Hunter Busse, Zachary Butler, Jacqueline Contreras, Jackson Daurer, Todd Durham, Zachary Edwards, Morgana Gandsey, Heather Gathman, Austin Hanson, Rachel Hughes, Madison Hunt, Amber Johnson, Ryan Johnson, Jessica Jureczek, Jason Kuhn, Jessica Kurpius, Conner Makoben, Matthew McCluskey, Caleb McPherson, Cally McPherson, Spencer Mulso, Sydnie Neblock, Annabella Paradies, Micah Phillips, Anna Raimondi, Joseph Ruehl, Madeline Ruehl, Taylor Russell, Heidi Scaccianoce, Carli Schmidt, Aidan Simmons, Edward Small, Alex Zelaya, Lindsey Zuke

HONORS – Amanda Anderson, Andrew Arias, Alexis Atterberry, Kathryn Beauchamp, Scott Benzinger, Sarah Brown, Zachary Brown, Joseph Brynteson, Caitlin Buie, Alexander Campbell, Savannah Cave-Hansen, Dylan Connell, Danyelle Crozier, Taylor Curry, Joshua DeNoma, Joshua Dold, Catherine Drake, Anna Drendel, Colin Dvorak, Bryan Earley-Harrison, Kaleb Eskew, Julianne Galauner, Kyle Garrelts, Sonia Gaytan, Gregory Gomez, Janet Gomez, Brookelynn Grismer, Anthony Gutierrez, Jonathan Guzy, Connor Hansen, Tyler Hansler, Steven Hull, Kinsley Judd, Meghan Kohler, Michael Kral, Samantha Kratochvil, Jesus Lara, Jocelyn Lara, Carlee Lauderdale, Mya Lee, Jason Madey, Brandon Mangum, Gunther Marinkovich, Jose Martinez, Trey McCarty, Mary McCausland, Madelyn McConnell, Michael McIntyre, Justin McNeal, Hector Mercado, Luke Miller, Zachary Miller, Gabriele Munch, Olivia Napiorkowski, Jessica Nay, Cassandra Olson, Sandra Osorio, Saul Osorio, Joanne Partipilo, Morgan Paulsen, Morgan Phillips, Tessa Poffenberger, Connor Quinn, Maxwell Rausch, Kaitlyn Rease, Tyler Reisinger, Marco Rodriguez, Shane Sax, Kurt Schmicker, Cody Schuldt, Colin Seisser, Daisy Sota, Gysel Sota, Julia Springer, Stephanie Stensrud, Wyatt Sunderlage, Paige Tatroe, Martin Tinajero, Mia Tomes-Buckley, Irene Vasquez, Grace Villella, Brooke Wade, Samantha Walton, Klint Wewetzer, Kristin Wilcox, Cayla Winters, Megan Zimmerman

8TH GRADE DANCE—May 13, 2011

The GKMS Student Council is sponsoring a dance for all GKMS 8th grade students on Friday, May 13th from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. ONLY students that attend GKMS and are currently in 8th grade are allowed to attend. The cost will be \$5.00 and tickets must be purchased in advance. Doors will not open until 7:00 p.m. and students must be picked up promptly at 9:00 p.m. Any parent is welcome to attend with their student.

GKMS GAZETTE

CALENDAR FOR MAY

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|----|---|----|--|
| 2 | 5th Grade Orientation at 6:00 pm
Track @ Harvard | 19 | Market Day |
| 3 | Track @ Hampshire | 20 | Track—State
GK Ball |
| 4 | Cinco de Mayo celebration | | 8th Grade Cook-Out |
| 5 | Health Fair in PM
Track @ Harvard | 21 | Track –State |
| 6 | NO SCHOOL—Teacher Institute | 23 | 8th Grade Promotion at 7:00 pm |
| 9 | 5th Grade/MS Band Concert at 7:00 pm
Track Conference Meet | 24 | School Board Meeting |
| 10 | School Board Committee Meeting | 26 | 7th Grade COGS day—Sycamore Family Fun Cen-
ter |
| 12 | 8th Grade COGS day—CoCo Keys
6th Grade Medieval Faire | 27 | 6th Grade COGS day |
| 13 | 8th Grade Dance at 7:00 pm | 30 | NO SCHOOL—Memorial Day |
| 14 | Track Sectional | 31 | LAST DAY OF SCHOOL—2 hour late start |
| 16 | MS/HS Chorus Concert at 7:00 pm | | |

