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 October 5, 2018

Dates to Remember

Oct 10	Band Expo - GLHS No Adventure Club
Oct 11	PTO Meeting 6:30 pm Free Childcare
Oct 12	**Picture Day**
Oct 18	Popcorn Sale - Borgman & Gregory's classes
Oct 19	Half Day - No School Dismiss at 11:40 am
Oct 22	No School for students
Oct 31	Halloween Parade 9:30 am
Oct 31	Class parties - see class newsletters for times/details
Nov 2	End of First Trimester (K-6)
Nov 5	Book Fair in Library Conferences 5 - 8:00 pm
Nov 8	Book Fair in Library Conferences 5 - 8:00 pm
Nov 9	No afternoon school Conferences 12:30 - 3:00
Nov 19	Fall Break All Week!!!
Nov 26	Classes Resume

PRINCIPAL'S PRIDE

The staff and students participated in a practice lockdown drill on Tuesday. The students followed directions and remained quiet during this time. It is wonderful to know they understand the importance of safety.

Picture Day is Friday, October 12. Please remind your child to smile for the camera! Picture packets were already sent home with your child. You may either order using the form and returning it to school or online using the School Web Code provided on the form.

We are starting to plan for Halloween! We will be having a school-wide parade the morning of Wednesday, October 31 at 9:30 am. The parade will be held outside (weather permitting). You are welcome to line up along the sidewalk and grass all the way around the building and playground. Mr. Austin will lead the parade around the school with his trombone. We will have a mini parade inside if the weather does not allow for it to be outside. Your child is encouraged to wear a costume. Please do not send any violent costumes, weapons or masks that block your child's vision. In addition, each class will be having a party for about one hour following the parade. Please read your child's classroom newsletter for more information regarding the party.

Please continue to read with your child each evening! That is such a special time for you and your child! We also hope you are enjoying the weekly math activities that we are providing for you in the newsletter each week. This teamwork between home and school is so important to your child's education!

Have a fun weekend!

GL HOLIDAY WISHES AND CREW

The Grand Ledge Holiday Wishes chorus is excited to begin rehearsals very soon. The cast is happy to welcome any and all chorus or tech members with any level of experience and hope to see many new cast & crew members this year. The Children's Chorus accepts ages Kindergarten - 8th grade and rehearsals begin Sunday, October 14, 2018, at 4:00 pm. The Holiday Wishes Children's Chorus is directed by Christine Douglas, (517)643-0993. All rehearsals take place at the GL First Congregational UCC, 210 Saginaw Highway in Grand Ledge.

The Holiday Wishes show runs December 8 at 7:00 pm and December 9 at 2:00 pm at the GL High School. All proceeds from the show go to benefit the Grand Ledge Food Bank. The Food Bank provides services to families and individuals within the Grand Ledge School District.

Please bring a friend, join the cast or crew and be a part of this amazing program.

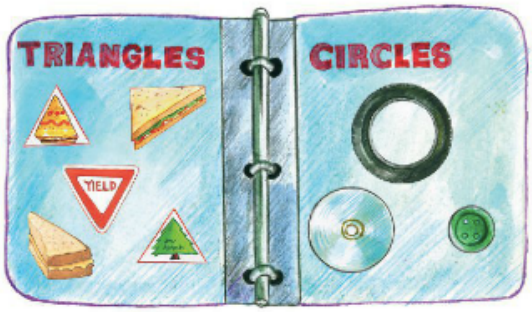
Holiday WISHES

Neff Families - Here is the activity for this week.

Cutout Shapes

Help your child cut out construction paper shapes, such as circles, triangles, and rectangles (including squares). Have your child describe their paper shapes. Then work together to match the cutout shapes to real objects around your home and neighborhood.

Look together through newspapers and magazines for pictures of objects with 2-dimensional geometric shapes in them. (Be aware of figures that are not exact geometric shapes — a pizza slice, for example, looks like a triangle but is not because one of its sides is curved.) Cut out the pictures and sort them by shape. Then glue them onto construction paper to make a shape book. Ask: *How many circles did you find? How many squares? How many triangles?* Help your child put the shape book pages in order from the fewest shapes found to the most found.



Mathematics Note

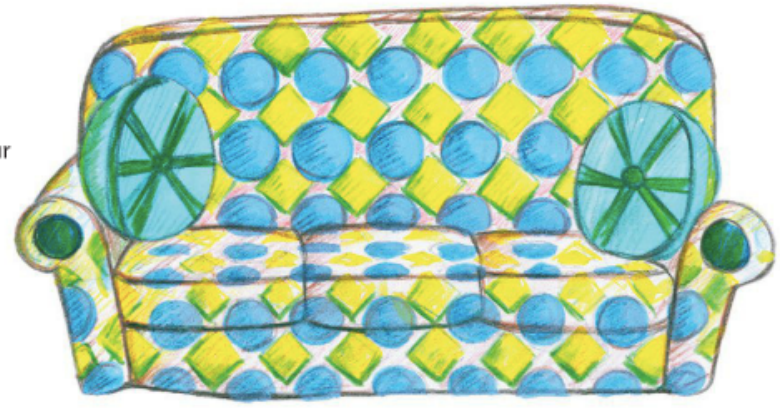
Not all shapes and objects will match exactly. Many objects look like a combination of different shapes. For instance, a picture of a house might look like a square with a triangle on top.

Two-Dimensional Shapes

Shape Search

Help your child find 2-dimensional shapes around your home and neighborhood. Look at fences, buildings, doors, windows, wallpaper, fabrics, and so on for different examples of the same shape. Find and talk about rectangles that are tall and narrow and others that are short and wide. Find triangles that are turned different ways and have different angles and sides. Have your child draw and label the shapes he or she finds. Or, take a camera along to document the shape discoveries.

Look closely at a spider web, flower, shell, pinecone, or other natural objects with your child. What shapes do you see?



Family Note

Help your child become aware of shapes all around. Two-dimensional geometric shapes such as rectangles, circles, and triangles can be found in everyday objects. Look outdoors and around your home for objects that have geometric shapes.

GRAND LEDGE YOUTH BASKETBALL

Girl's Rec Basketball
GL Community Rec is registering for the girls recreation basketball season.
Deadline: September 30th (late registration will be accepted if space permits)
K-2nd Grade Camp: 10/20-11/17 @ Beagle
3rd-6th Grade League: 11/3-12/15 (no games 11/24) @ GLHS
For more information and to register go to grandledgecomets.org click on the Community Rec Tab

GLYBA Basketball Evaluations Dates
Grand Ledge Youth Basketball Association
4th-6th Grade Girls - Sun., 10/21 @ GLHS
(4th: 11am-12:30pm, 5th: 12:30-2pm & 6th: 2-3:30pm)

5th/6th Grade Boys - Sun., 11/4 @ GLHS
(4th: 11am-12:30pm, 5th: 12:30-2pm & 6th: 2-3:30pm)

Visit the website for more information and to register. www.glyba.com

Parent-Child Basketball Camp
GL Community Rec is now taking registering for the Parent-Child Basketball Camp.
1st - 6th Grade
Saturday, October 27, 2018
10:00am - 1:00 pm
Grand Ledge H.S. Main Gym
$30 - 2 participants (Parent & Child) ~ $10 - each additional child
For more information and to register go to grandledgecomets.org click on the Community Rec Tab

The Delta Township District Library will be closed on **Monday, October 8, 2018**.

Michigan Libraries for Life

October 9-12, 2018

The Delta Township District Library will be participating in Michigan Libraries for Life for the second year. From October 9-12, when you stop by the library, you can also register to be a Michigan organ donor. There will be staff on-hand to answer questions, check your current status, and enroll new participants as an organ, tissue and eye donor.

Since 2010, libraries across Michigan have participated in this simple and effective campaign to sign up donors. One donor can provide eight lifesaving organs and improve the quality of life for 75 people through tissue and cornea donations. Over 115,000 men, women and children currently await lifesaving transplants. There is no cost associated to you or your family and anyone can sign up – regardless of age or medical history.

For more information on the event at DTDL, please call 517-321-4014. For more information about becoming a donor, visit giftoflifemichigan.org.

Game On!

Tuesdays **3 – 5 p.m.**

Ages 8-18. Visit us at the library after school for game time and more!

PJ Storytime

Thursday, October 11 **6 p.m.**

All ages. Bring the whole family for stories, music, a craft, and a snack. Kids are welcome to wear their pajamas!

Mario Kart Tournament*

Saturday, October 13 **10 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.**

Ages 8-18. Compete for prizes in our Nintendo Wii U tournament. All skill levels are welcome!

Family Movie Matinee

Saturday, October 27 **1 p.m.**

All ages. Join us each month for a new-to-DVD family-friendly movie, shown on our big screen. It is free to attend and popcorn will be provided.

Paws for Reading*

Thursday, October 18 **6 – 7 p.m.**
Saturday, October 6 & 20 **11 a.m. – 12 p.m.**

All ages. Practice your reading with a great listener - a certified therapy dog! This is a great opportunity for kids learning to read or struggling with reading (and those who love reading too!) to practice reading aloud. Kids can choose whatever they'd like to read and one of our friendly therapy dogs will sit and listen. Please stop by or call the Youth Desk (517-321-4014 x3) to sign up for a ten-minute reading time slot.

* Registration required. Call 517-321-4014 (x3 youth or x4 adult) or go online at dtdl.org/events.

Grand Ledge Area District Library

Library News and Events

Preschool Storytime
September 11 - December 18
Tuesdays at 11 am

A weekly storytime for young children and their accompanying parent/caregiver.
Stories and literacy enhancing activities.

Paws for Reading
Tuesday, October 2 & 16
6-7 pm

Dogs love a good story too. A great chance for kids to practice their reading in a no-pressure environment. Registration required.

Pumpkin Party
Wednesday, October 17
6:30 pm

Decorate a pumpkin with your family!
All materials supplied. Registration required.

Color Cruise Storytimes
Friday, Ocober 12
10:15 and 11 a.m.

Join us on the Island for stories, songs, and literacy activities focused on the Fall Season.

Saturday Storytime
Saturday, October 20
11 am

A Saturday Storytime, perfect for busy weekday families.

Babysitting Workshop
Saturday, October 20
10 am - 4 pm

Earn Pediatric CPR, Basic First Aid, & Babysitting cards. Registration, $30 fee, and sack required.

Harry Potter Party
Saturday, October 27
2 - 4 pm

Feel free to wear your favorite Harry Potter clothing and join us for themed snacks, games, and fun!

Registration for programs can be completed by phoning the library at 517.627.7014 during library hours.

grandledge.lib.mi.us **517.627.7014**
131 E. Jefferson St., Grand Ledge MI 48837
Monday - Thursday 10am - 9pm, Friday & Saturday 10am - 5pm, Sunday 1 -5 pm

bicycle **ROAD RALLY**

October 13, 2018
11:30 am - 3:30 pm

Join us for the First Annual **Cruisin' Comets Bicycle Road Rally**! Grab your friends, family, and neighbors for this one of a kind event! Teams of 2-6 will ride around beautiful Grand Ledge, having fun while solving clues to figure out where to ride to next. The rally will end with food, drinks, live entertainment and prizes. All proceeds go to support the fine arts at Grand Ledge High School.

Register at www.GLMusicals.net

Sponsored by:
MSU Women in Engineering Recruitment and K-12 Outreach

This event is FREE!

Who: Kindergarten-4th graders
What: Hands-on STEM activities
When: November 17, 2018 1:00-4:00pm
Check-in 12:30-1:00pm
Where: MSU Engineering Building & Anthony Hall
Why: To have fun learning about **Science, Technology, Engineering, & Math**!

Register Online at:
www.egr.msu.edu/wie/k-12/programs-outreach

Registration is required and students must be chaperoned.
Registration deadline is Oct. 24, 2018
OR until maximum capacity is reached.

Questions? Contact us at wie-outreach@egr.msu.edu
or 517-432-1273

MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY

Report to PARENTS

Make Every Day Count: Boost School Attendance

To stay on track in school, students need to be present every day. Missing 18 or more days of school in a year puts a child's high school graduation at risk, according to BoostUp.org, a national dropout prevention campaign. Being absent for just two days every month of the school year can put a child behind academically.

Students with regular attendance are more likely to read well by third grade and score higher on tests. They also tend to be more engaged in school and feel better about themselves.

Put your child on the path to success with these attendance strategies.

Make school a priority. Every absence (excused or not), can impact a child's academic achievement. Talk to your child about how important their education is. Make daily routines for homework and waking up on time for school.

Maintain communication with teachers and keep an eye on your child's academic progress. If your child seems disconnected from school or is prone to skipping class, try signing him or her up for an after-school activity. A report by the University of Minnesota found that students in an after-school program attended 18 more days of school and missed nine fewer than their peers.

Make a plan. If your schedule or transportation situation makes getting your child to school a challenge, ask for assistance. Make a carpool or transportation plan with other parents or family members, or ask your school principal for community programs or school initiatives that may help.

Report In. Know your school's attendance policies. If an absence or early dismissal is unavoidable, contact your school. If your family's religious observances fall on school days, let teachers know early in the year which days your child will miss.

Carefully weigh sick days. If your child is sick, talk with your health care provider to determine whether they should stay home from school. If the doctor or nurse recommends that your child stay home, find out exactly how long and on what conditions he or she can return to class (for example, after 24 hours of antibiotics).

Before keeping your children home, make sure they aren't faking symptoms. Regularly feigning sickness may be a sign that your child is anxious about facing a challenge at school, such as bullying.

Schedule wisely. Know your school's calendar, and arrange doctor and dentist appointments after school, on weekends, or during holiday breaks, if possible. Resist the urge to schedule vacations when students will miss school. This gives students the impression that school is not a priority.

Help students complete assignments. When your child has to miss school, make arrangements with teachers to pick up a packet of make-up work. Ensure that your child follows through, and be available to explain concepts or monitor their work. If your child's absence will be lengthy (for surgery, for instance), alert teachers as soon as you know and pick up assignments as the days go on.

Web Resources

Get Schooled has a number of attendance-related games and tools, including the Attendance Counts calculator and celebrity wake-up calls for students.
https://getschooled.com/

The Children's Hospital of Colorado's **How Sick is Too Sick? guide** can help families decide which symptoms should keep students at home.
http://bit.ly/1860RlA

Attendance Works offers research, webinars, and handouts designed with elementary and middle-level parents in mind.
http://www.attendanceworks.org/tools/

naesp National Association of Elementary School Principals

Report to Parents, written to serve elementary and middle-level principals, may be reproduced by National Association of Elementary School Principals members without permission. It can be posted to school websites, blogs, or sent via email. Back issues are available to members at **naesp.org**.

RP 32:1

Popcorn Days

MINIMUM 25 CENT DONATION
1 BAG PER CHILD

All money sent in stays directly to your child's classroom!
Popcorn supplies provided by Neff PTO

Popcorn Dates:

September 20
October 18
November 15
December 13
January 17
February 21
March 21
April 18

©dianne j hook

The treat trail begins at
620 N. Clinton Street and continues up Bridge Street.

Wear a costume, bring a smile & have fun!

Brought to you Aire Serv & your local Grand Ledge business owners

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

2018/2019 ADVISORY TO ALL PARENTS

Dear Parent/Guardian:

Grand Ledge Public Schools has adopted an Integrated Pest Management program. Inherent with this are the District's efforts to reduce pesticide use as much as possible. While it may occasionally be necessary to apply a pesticide, this program **does not** rely on routine pesticide applications to resolve problems. We use various techniques such as habitat alteration, sanitation, mechanical means, exclusion, etc. to prevent pest from becoming a problem.

As required by Michigan law, you will receive advanced notice of non-emergency application of a pesticide (insecticide, fungicide, or herbicide), other than bait or gel formulation, which is made to the school, school grounds, or buildings. This advance notice of a pesticide application will be given 48 hours before the application by the following two methods:

1) Posting at the primary entrances to your child's school. The entrances that will be posted are the main entrance and those that have a sidewalk that leads directly to a parking lot.

2) Posting in the common area located by the main office of the school.

Please note that notification is not given for use of sanitizers, germicides, disinfectants or anti-microbial cleaners. In certain emergencies, such as an infestation of stinging insects, pesticides may be applied without prior notice to prevent injury to students, but you will be promptly notified following any such application, via the two posting methods identified (above).

You may review the school's Integrated Pest Management program and records of any pesticide application upon request by contacting the Operations Department at 517-925-5430.

Parents or guardians of children attending the school are also entitled to receive the advance notice of a pesticide application, other than a bait or gel formulation, by first class United States mail postmarked at least 3 days before the application, if they so request. If you would like to be notified by mail please contact Operations at the following number 517-925-5430. Please give your name, mailing address and what school(s) your child or children attend and they will put your name on the advance notification by US Mail list.

Please note that after the school year is completed and during the months when school is not in regular session (summer), those parents who requested advance notice by mail, will be notified using an alternative method consisting of a telephone message notification system. Parents and guardians may call 517-925-5430, at least 1 day before an application, for advance notification. The school will also continue posting advance notification at the school by the methods identified above.

Sincerely,

Dr. Michael V. Johnson, Assistant Superintendent
Human Resources & Operations

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