

Good afternoon, we hope you've had a great week.

Student-led Conferences

Our second round of conferences are just around the corner. During this set of conferences, your child will revisit his/her goals that were created in October. He/she will discuss the areas of success and also those areas of continued needed improvement by using classwork and assessment information as evidence of his/her growth thus far this school year. You will be receiving reminders of your conference times in the coming weeks. We look forward to seeing you soon.

Do you know a great Math or Science Teacher?

Sigma Xi, The Scientific Research Society of Abbott Labs will again take nominations for the best middle school math and/or science teacher. GMS has had numerous nominations and one winner in the past couple of years. If you would like to nominate your child's teacher, you can pick up the forms in the front office or have your child do so.

Reading Challenge

Our students have achieved their second quarter reading challenge. To date the students of GMS have read more than 200,000 pages. Their goal was 180,000. Congratulations to our students for their dedication to this full year challenge.

Upcoming Trips

Just a gentle reminder about upcoming trips for both grade levels. Our 7th grade students will be traveling to Springfield this Spring. The cost of this trip is \$74.00. Paperwork about the trip will be coming home soon. Our 8th grade students will be taking a trip to Chicago this Spring. The cost of this trip is approximately \$85.00. Paperwork for this trip will be coming home later this Spring.

Information About Student Health

(Please download the full newsletter for information)

GMS Music News

(Please download the full newsletter for information)

GMS Discount Cards

GMS is selling discount cards to be used at local businesses as a fundraiser. These cards are \$10 each and can be used at many local restaurants and stores. If interested in purchasing, please download the full newsletter and complete the attached document and return with your payment to your child's homeroom teacher. The money raised through this fundraiser will be used for all GMS co-curricular activities to purchase and replace needed equipment.

Have a great weekend!

Marcus and Karen

NOTIFICATION OF STREP THROAT
(a bacterial infection from Streptococcal Group A organism)

Dear Parents:

A case of strep throat has been reported in your child's classroom.

Incubation period: (the time between exposure to the disease and the appearance of symptoms) Usually 1 – 3 days.

Contagious period: (when the disease can be transmitted to another person)
If left untreated, your child could be contagious for 10 days to several weeks or months.
If treated with an antibiotic, your child will no longer be contagious 24 hours after starting to take the medication.

Signs and symptoms:

Symptoms may include fever, headache, sore throat, nausea, vomiting and abdominal pain. Tonsils may be swollen, red and painful. If your child has these symptoms you should consult your doctor as soon as possible.

Treatment:

After your doctor determines a positive throat culture, antibiotic treatment is started. It is extremely important to take all medication as prescribed until gone.

How this disease is spread:

Strep throat is usually spread by direct person-to-person contact from nose and throat secretions, and rarely by contaminated food.

Control of cases:

The infected child should be excluded from school until he/she has been on antibiotics for at least 24 hours and is feeling ready and healthy enough to return to a full day of school activities.

General preventive measures:

Teach the importance of proper handwashing. When washing hands, use soap, rubbing hands together for 15 seconds and rinsing in running water. Children should be advised not to share eating/drinking utensils or food.

NOTIFICATION OF CONJUNCTIVITIS
(Pink-eye can be a bacterial or viral infection)

Dear Parents:

A case of "pink-eye" has been reported in your child's classroom.

Incubation period: (the time between exposure to the disease and the appearance of symptoms) 13 – 72 hours if a viral infection and 24-72 hours if a bacterial infection.

Contagious period: (when the disease can be transmitted to another person)
Children are considered to be infectious until symptoms are gone.

Signs and symptoms:

Include red eyes, watery or mucous discharge from eyes, itching, and burning.

Treatment:

If the infection is bacterial, your doctor may prescribe an antibiotic. **It is extremely important to use all medications as prescribed by your doctor.**

How this disease is spread:

This disease is usually spread by direct person-to-person contact by dirty hands, but may also be spread by respiratory droplets from coughing or sneezing.

Control of cases:

If your child has a bacterial infection, he/she should be kept home until at least 24 hours after beginning an antibiotic or until the symptoms are gone.

General preventative measures:

Teach the importance of proper handwashing. When washing hands, use soap, rubbing hands together for 15 seconds and rinse in running water. Children should be advised not to share clothing, towels, make-up or eye medications.

GMS Fundraiser Cards

Hello! Grayslake Middle School is selling discount cards to local businesses as a fundraiser. The cards are \$10 each and can be used at Dunkin Donuts and Baskin Robbins in Third Lake, Arby's, Family Video, Great Clips, Domino's Pizza, and a variety of other locations. If you are interested in purchasing a card, please fill out the form below and return to school along with cash or check for \$10 for each card (please make checks payable to CCSD #46). If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Amy Corey at corey.amy@d46.org or 847-543-5887.

Student Name: _____

Homeroom Teacher: _____

Number of cards you are purchasing: _____

Please check one of the following options:

_____ Send my card(s) home with my child

_____ I will pick my card(s) up from the office at GMS

January Information 2010

Solo and Ensemble News!!!

*Students continue to work weekly with vocal practice and instrumental "Solo and Ensemble". It is of great importance that you sign-up each week with your director ('s) Mrs. Novack has her sign-up sheet available outside classroom door. Mr. Thomas has his weekly sheet posted on his office door in the band room. We will have final dress practice on Wednesday, February 10th between 3:30-7:00 p.m. and on Thursday, February 11th, from 1:00-7:30 p.m. "All Participants" are required to sign-up for a 10 minute presentation on one of the given dates above. Students are also reminded to give themselves plenty of time for core parent teacher conferences. Reminder that the contest will be held on **SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 13TH at Woodland Middle School, Gurnee.***

Strike-Up The Bands.....

Friday, February 19th "A Night of Jazz!" Don't miss the GMS annual Jazz Night. This is our second year! Last year was an awesome good time. Over three hundred guest viewed 2 outstanding jazz ensembles. This year we bring you "3"! Look for more information to come soon. WE ARE IN NEED OF PARENTS TO WORK THE EVENING EVENT. Choir students will sign-up in the choir room to assist for the evening. We are in need of baked items to sell during all transitions of jazz bands and intermission.

"MARCH INTO MADNESS!" District Contest Information:

Just a reminder that Grayslake Middle School will compete on Friday, March 12th. This includes; 7th Grade Concert Band, 8th Grade Symphonic Band, 7th Grade Treble Choir and 8th Grade Treble Choir. The contest event will be held at PARK CAMPUS SITE! Students will arrange rides to this event. This is to cut down bus cost and fees. All GMS music members have mandatory attendance for this contest event.

Grayslake Middle School 3rd Annual "State Contest Festival"

Calling all parents, former GMS band and choir students. Grayslake Middle School will be the hosting site for the Illinois State Music Festival 2010! We will host this contest event on Friday, April 23rd and Saturday April 24th this year. Over 5,000+ guests will pass through the doors of GMS. We are starting to put together our volunteer rosters. Have any questions contact your GMS music director ('s).

April Showers, Bring May Flowers and Great America Music In The Parks.....

This year, we have the opportunity to attend the Music In The Parks Great America Festival at Gurnee, Illinois.

Information will be sent home at the end of January. All students who wish to participate are expected to attend prior the District Music Contest and State Music Festival in order to be eligible. The fee for this contest event includes; Contest Event, Ticket To Theme Park. District #46 will provide bus transportation for all members. **All Jazz Ensembles will compete on Friday, April 30th between 3:30-6:00 p.m. at Viking Middle School. 7th and 8th Grade Bands and Choirs will compete on Saturday, May 1st between 7:30 a.m.-10:00 a.m. at Viking Middle School.** All performing ensembles will travel to Great America for a fun day of adventure and an awards ceremony to be held at 5:00 p.m. at the Warner Brothers Stunt Area in the Southwestern Territory of the theme park.