



GRIZZLY GROWLER

December 5, 2008

Mrs. Crystal Bailey, Principal: 09641-83-7133 CIV, 475-7133 DSN
Mr. David Eldredge, Assistant Principal: 09641-83-7133 CIV, 475-7133 DSN
Mr. Mike Thompson, Superintendent: 0981-18-3429 CIV, 468-7429 DSN
Ms. Ann Bruenning, School Liaison Officer: 09641-83-1770 CIV, 475-1770 DSN
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OUR MISSION

The mission of Grafenwoehr Elementary School is to maintain a meaningful partnership with the community through which physical well being, academic growth, and emotional support are provided to all learners.

OUR GOALS

1. All students will improve their written expression across the curriculum.
2. All students will improve their vocabulary across the curriculum.

From our Principal Mrs. Bailey

Dear Parents,

The GES staff meets on the fourth Wednesday of every month to discuss in particular continuous school progress. Our staff developed our mission statement in 2006 and over the last two months we have reviewed the mission statement to ensure it is still what is needed for our school. We have changed it slightly and it has been endorsed by our staff, our elected body of representatives from the School Advisory Committee and the student council. Our mission statement now reads: The mission of Grafenwoehr Elementary School is to maintain a meaningful partnership with the community through which physical well being, academic growth, and emotional support are provided to all learners. Parents are always welcome to attend our continuous school progress meetings.

Our book fair will be next week. Please see the schedule that is included in the Grizzly Growler. We will also have the bookfair open on Thursday evening after the PTSA performances.

On the 18th we will be celebrating our STARs at the STAR assembly. We will also make a presentation to the Weiden Tierheim. We appreciate all of the donations of pet supplies and food supporting our student council efforts. Thanks you very much for your support.

Finally, as of this writing we have had 62 (27%) of our sponsors and 76 (87%) of our 4th and 5th graders complete the survey. I appreciate all of you who have taken time to complete the survey. I would like to encourage the rest of our sponsors/parents to let us know what we do well and how we can improve.

Have a great weekend!

Special points of interest:

- *PCSing? We need 5 days notice to process paperwork.*
- *Fridays are Spirit Days - Wear your Grizzly shirt or blue and gold colors.*

Dates to Remember

11 December
Acceleration for PCS or Block Leave (Please put the request in writing and send to Mrs. Bailey and your child's

11 December
PTSA Meeting, Bookfair and Winter Wonderland

18 December
STAR Assembly

22 December - 4 January
Winter Break

5 January
School Resumes

15 January
PTSA Meeting

What's Happening in Germany

Christmas is just down the road ! That's the time for the children where very exciting things are happening!

Did you have a chance to buy an Advent calendar? The first door opened on 1 December! Did you also light the first candle on the Advent wreath? Yes, we're on our countdown to Christmas already.

The Christkindlmarkets have started. This weekend, the Grafenwoehr Christkindlmarket takes place! Why not go downtown and enjoy that? Let's support that local event !

Besides Gluehwein and Bratwurst, have you seen those beautiful "**Lebkuchenhauses**"? They do not only look good but also taste wonderfully. Did you know they go back to the Grimm's fairy tale of 'Hansel and Gretel' ? Maybe, you want to read some fairy tales with your children or have them tell you some in the next few weeks?

Have you ever heard of '**Prune people**' ? Well, that's another German tradition during the Holiday Season! Why not look for some while at the Christkindlmarket? They are so unique and real affordable! You may want to use them as decoration - not eat them! Enjoy!



I saved the **BIG secret** for last! DON'T TELL!!! Tonight, Friday night (5 December), St Nikolaus is coming around putting goodies/fruit/small toys in children's shoes! The kids will be setting out their boots/shoes before they go to bed! It would be so great if they found some Gummibears/Kinderei/nuts/cookies/chocolate/ etc.... in their shoes when they wake up! St. Nikolaus visits ALL children - not just the German ones! Can you help him out ?

Wishing you all a merry Holiday Season and all the best to all of you,

Class 4B Word Phrases About Peace

No thunderous screeches
Peace is everywhere
We are peace
Everything in peace
Peace is hopeful
Peace is heavenly
Peace is magic
Give us peace
Peace on Earth
Nice and quiet
No more war
You can concentrate
Peace out Bro!
Slow deep thoughts
NO more fighting
Peace made quiet
Everything is quiet
No more terrorists
Love the world
I am PEACE
On our minds
In my heart

Basket Making Club meeting for 8 Dec is cancelled and will be rescheduled.



Book Fair Schedule

	Monday - B Dec. 8	Tuesday - C Dec. 9	Wednesday-D Dec. 10	Thursday - A Dec. 11	Friday - B Dec. 12
8:30-9:10	1C	4B	1C	4A	
9:15-9:55	KB	3C	3A	KB	3C
10:00-10:40	5B	2C (look)	2C (buy)	5B	
10:45-11:25	3B	2B	3B		
11:30-12:10		3A			
12:15-12:55	KA	1A	1B(buy)	KA	
1:00-1:40	2A(look)	1B(look)	1A		2A (buy)
1:45-2:25	5A	4A	5A		4B



Harvest Time

2nd Grade Student

One day a farmer named DJ was dancing. He danced and danced until a corn came by. "Hi, bye" said the corn. "Hmm" said DJ. DJ new that corn cannot walk and talk, so he followed him all the way to the corn stalk. The corn jumped into the corn stalk and went to sleep. Next, DJ saw a pumpkin. The pumpkin was singing. DJ and the pumpkin sang and sang and lived happily ever after.

ATTENTION VOLLEYBALL CLUB!

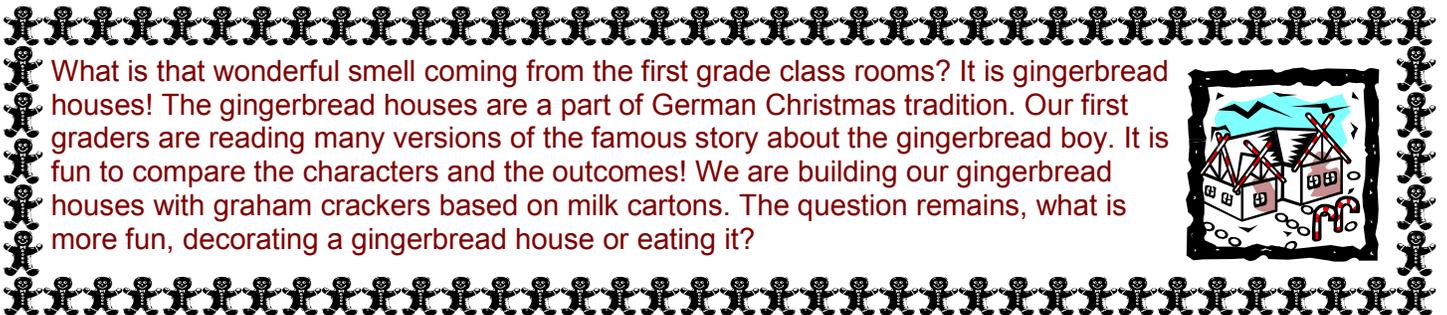
Parents vs. The Kids

December 9th for the Tuesday Club
December 11th for the Thursday Club

This will be the last practice.



Thanks for playing! 😊



What is that wonderful smell coming from the first grade class rooms? It is gingerbread houses! The gingerbread houses are a part of German Christmas tradition. Our first graders are reading many versions of the famous story about the gingerbread boy. It is fun to compare the characters and the outcomes! We are building our gingerbread houses with graham crackers based on milk cartons. The question remains, what is more fun, decorating a gingerbread house or eating it?



From the Counselors Desk

Dear Parents,

You may be interested to know of some of the issues parents have called me about lately concerning their child. Here is a short list:

1. Anxiety over homework
2. Problem making friends
3. Social skills
4. Dealing with Deployment
5. Lying
6. Giving in to peer pressure

When you call and we team up it can mean positive change. Solving issues is a process in the shaping of a child. If you feel you can benefit from a little outside help just call. A good time to reach me is between 0800-0900 and between 2:00-3:00 daily at 475-6598. I cant promise we'll solve all problems overnight but I promise to care and treat your concerns with respect. I like problem solving and brainstorming with parents.

GES Counselor
475-6598 DSN, Civ 09641-83-6598

Book Fair News



Grafenwoehr PTSA will sponsor a Scholastic Book Fair the week of December 8 until December 13. It will be held in the PTSA room from 8:30 until 3:00.



Thursday, December 12th will be Family Night. The Book Fair will be open from 5:00 until 5:50 p.m. and will reopen at 6:25 – 7:00 p.m., following the winter performance. The performance takes place at 6:00 p.m.

Each classroom will go to the Book Fair at least once during the week.

PET FOOD DRIVE

The Pet Food Drive was a huge success thanks to all your donations!!! We collected 323 items for the Tierheim in Weiden. Class 4B won a popcorn party for collecting the most items.

The staff from the Tierheim will come to pick up the pet food items on December 18th at our STAR assembly. Thanks to your fantastic contributions, they will be amazed with all the items we have for them! Student Council appreciates all your support with this project.



ESL NEWS

We are plugging away on our writing unit. It is exciting to see some of the younger ones write a sentence for the first time. Very soon some of our best pieces will be displayed on a bulletin board. In class we are working on vocabulary words that describe ourselves. Thank you for your support.

From Our Nurse



It is very surprising to know that about 150,000 school age children and teens are diabetic in the United States today and it continues to increase daily. A high number of these cases are Type 2 form that is dominant in children with inactivity, poor nutrition, and obesity. Diabetes is a chronic disease where the body does not produce or use insulin properly. Diabetes comprises the bodies ability to convert food into energy which is necessary for growth. It is overwhelming that diabetes is ranked as Americas sixth-leading cause of death. Diabetes is fast becoming an epidemic in America with no easy fix. There are things we as parents can do to start a turn around with diabetes today. We need to encourage healthy living with exercise, good nutrition, and more active play time and less time with computers and video games. We also need to teach our children to make good healthy food choices and do the same for ourselves. When changing this aspect of living we need to make it a goal or reward not a punishment for our kids. The high diabetes numbers will only change if we as a whole change our way of thinking. It is a very serious health issue that needs attention today, for a better longer life tomorrow.



Maggie's Special Bag
By 5th Grade Student

Once there was a girl named Maggie. She was five years old.
One day Maggie was walking home from school. She stopped walking and started to cry. She was sad. She looked across the viaduct. There was something there. It was a red, glowing paper bag. Suddenly she felt happy, and skipped home.
"Today was great!" Maggie told her mom.
"Why is that?" Her mom replied.
"I don't know." Said Maggie.
When she was playing, her favorite toy broke. She started crying when the bag popped up again. This time Maggie grabbed it, and a wave of happiness rushed through her.
She ran down stairs yelling she found a happy bag.
By the time she reached her mom it was gone.
"Sweetie you don't have a happy bag. Stop pretending you can change emotions." her mom said.
"I'm not lying. I can change emotions!" she said and started to cry.
The paper bag popped up once more
"It's the attack of the angry bag!" Her mom yelled.
"Hi happy bag. I see your perception of the happy bag is different from mine." Maggie said calmly.
"Where did you learn that word?" Her mom said less shocked.
"T.V of course." Replied Maggie.
After a couple of minutes the bag disappeared and she was happy for most of her life.

ADHD Support Group Class

On Dec 10th the Graf ACS will host an ADHD Support Group meeting from 11-1230 in Bldg 244. You may call to register at 475-8371. There will be valuable info for parents.

Volunteers needed for the bookfair.

When: Monday, December 8, 2008 - Friday, December 12, 2008

Times: 8:30 - 3:00



Math Matters - Class 5A is making Math Matter using technology. The students prepared a presentation "Graphing Data Using Excel and Pixie".

Oberpfälzer Adventmarkt

Sonntag, 07.12.2008 Marktplatz Grafenwöhr

Rahmenprogramm:

- 10.00-19.00 Uhr: Marktbetrieb
- 11.00 Uhr: Stadtkapelle Grafenwöhr spielt Weihnachtslieder
- 13.30 Uhr: Deutsch-Amerikanische Eröffnung
Umrahmung vom Schulchor mit Christkind der Volksschule Grafenwöhr und der Bläsergruppe der Musikschule Pressath/Grafenwöhr
- ab 13.30 Uhr: Kutschenfahrten
- 14.00 Uhr: Deutsch-Amerikanischer Chor „The Encores“ singt Weihnachtslieder
- 14.00-16.00 Uhr: Kinder basteln Weihnachtsschmuck im Rathaus
- 15.30 Uhr: Kinder des katholischen Kindergartens „St. Josef“, Hütten, singen Weihnachtslieder
- 16.15 Uhr: Musikverein „Klingende Töne“ spielt Weihnachtslieder
- 17.00 Uhr: St. Nikolaus, Knecht Ruprecht, Santa Claus und das Christkind verteilen Päckchen an alle anwesenden Kinder



- Große Tombola
- Verlosung von Weihnachtsgänsen, gestiftet vom Wirtschaftsverein Grafenwöhr
- Weihnachtskrippe der Schnitzergemeinschaft Grafenwöhr
- kostenloses Kinderkarussell
- reichhaltiges Weihnachtssortiment
- 13.00 – 16.00 Uhr im 1. Oberpfälzer Kultur- und Militärmuseum Ausstellung „50 Jahre Elvis in der Oberpfalz – Auf den Spuren des King in Grafenwöhr und Umgebung“
Ausstellung „Mit Griffel und Feder“, 500 Jahre Schule Grafenwöhr



Die Bevölkerung
ist herzlichst eingeladen!

