



Goosehill Primary School

Weekly Notes-November 13, 2015



Dear Parents,

Throughout the school year, teachers assess their students' strengths and learning needs in all areas. They read and analyze their students' writing to determine what skills they have mastered and what they need to learn next. During math lessons, teachers observe their students as they work with numbers and solve problems. They review their students' classwork, homework, and unit assessments to see what skills and concepts they have learned and what may need to be retaught. Individual reading assessments are administered at least three times a year by the classroom teacher. During an individual reading assessment, the teacher listens to a child read an appropriately-leveled text and takes notes about his/her reading behaviors and skills. After the reading, the teacher asks the child to retell the story so she has an accurate assessment of his/her reading comprehension. As a school, we also administer short benchmark assessments to give us additional information about students' skills in order to provide them with targeted instruction which may involve support beyond the classroom. The support is called "AIS", which stands for Academic Intervention Services.

At Goosehill, AIS is provided for many students for short periods of time. We believe in giving children a "boost" right when they need it so that they continue to develop their skills without becoming frustrated. Sometimes AIS is provided ten minutes a day for 4-6 weeks when a teacher assistant might work with a child to practice blending sounds, spelling words, or learning sight words. This type of intervention is provided when a child is very close to achieving **benchmark** for that skill, or what we hope s/he will be doing at this point in the year. Parents will not receive formal notification of this service, as it is part of an ongoing process for giving students individual and small group attention. If you hear from your child's teacher that we would like to offer AIS in 30 minute sessions 3-5 times weekly, it means we have found an area in which your child needs some additional support in order to reach the benchmark level. The support will be provided in 6-8 week sessions and progress will be monitored closely. You will receive a letter outlining the service and will receive a progress report periodically.

Our goal is for all children to feel confident and competent as learners. Learning, especially learning to read, is fun when it has just the right amount of challenge; it isn't fun when it's too hard. Therefore, we believe in being pro-active in providing support so that children continue to develop a love of learning and become life-long readers.



I will be offering a Parent Workshop at the next GPFA meeting on Wednesday, November 18th at 9:30 when I will discuss the reading skills children need in kindergarten and first grade and ways parents can support them. Please join us!

Warm regards,

Lynn Herschlein

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Veteran's Day

Thank you to our first graders for sending such nice letters to our local Veterans thanking them for their service to our country.



Thanksgiving Food Drive As you know, the GPFA has facilitated our participation in a Thanksgiving food drive in conjunction with Helping Hands Rescue Mission in Huntington Station. Each child has been asked to donate one dry food item and \$1 to put towards a turkey gift certificate. The children have decorated boxes for the items to be stored, and they are talking about the importance of helping others, especially during the holiday season. Participation is voluntary. We think this is a wonderful opportunity for family discussions about charity and good will towards all.



FOCUS

The FOCUS event *Learning Standards: What Does It All Mean For My Child?* is postponed to Tuesday, January 27, 2016. More details will follow.

Thank you! Thank you to our GPFA, Mrs. Testa, and all of our families who supported the Parents' Night Out fundraiser. We are so grateful for all you do to support our school!

Dates to Remember.

November 15th - SEPTA Family Event - Peanuts Movie, 10am at Elwood Cinemas

November 18th - Photo Re-Take Day **Note:** Class Photo Retake of Cooper, Gross, DeRop, Katz, Riggles & Villa.
-GPFA meeting 9:30am- Mrs. Herschlein will present a workshop on reading benchmarks and ways to support your child's growth as a reader.

November 19th - **Spirit Day- Wear Goosehill apparel or school colors (red, white, blue)**

November 25th-27th - No School. Thanksgiving Recess



Notes from the GPFA

Thanks to the support of our amazing Goosehill families, our Third Annual Parents' Night Out was a huge success! We broke our previous record and raised over \$9,000 for our school. We'd like to especially thank **Kim Testa** for all of her hard work and dedication organizing the event. It is not an easy task and she handles it all (everything from booking the venue to wrapping ALL of the baskets) with ease! We'd also like to thank the following individuals for their help making the night such a success: Rhonda Sutaria, Lisa Olson, Lisa Lesser, Lisa Smith, Nicolette Klebacha, Erin Amadori, Janine Mullen, Phil Chiovaro, Amy Koenigsberger, Kaitlin Eisenegger, Cat Bauer, Rebecca Goodkin-Carlin, Bessi Mavronicolas, Stacy Neri, Ivy Kleinberg, Sierra Mittleman, Andrea Streater, Carolyn Chiovaro, Sandra Reilly, Theresa Kingdon, Nora Burger, Claudine Caracciolo, Denise Ioannou, Georgia Tsafos, Jenn Steele, Meg Gallagher, Catrine Golia, Mel Saladino, Julie Starrett, Grace Hsu, Jennifer Potenza, Christine DeSimone, Liza Davidian, Tricia Avidano, Amanda Light, Lisa Baxter and the Pelizzi Family. Also, thanks to all who purchased tickets, attended the event, made a donation and bought raffles. We are fortunate to have such a supportive school community!

Looking for something to do with the kids this weekend? Take your kids to a private showing of the Peanuts movie and raise money for SEPTA at the same time! Elwood Cinemas, Sunday, November 15th @ 10:00 am; \$15 per ticket, includes popcorn & drink. Get your tickets now at paypal [@paypal.me/CSHSepta](https://www.paypal.com/CSHSepta) For questions contact cshsepta@yahoo.com.

Our neighbor, thebarnus.com, will be hosting a seasonal benefit for the **Cold Spring Harbor Educational Foundation** in their restored 1700's machine barn on Wednesday, November 18th & Thursday, November 19th from 10 am to 2 pm. One-of-kind giftware ranging from jewelry and accessories to hostess gifts and decorative home goods will be on hand for this limited time with proceeds benefitting our children's education. Come for sips and bring your lists! 8 Heather Lane, Lloyd Harbor.

FIRST GRADE BOYS BASKETBALL COORDINATOR NEEDED! Please contact Bridgette Perlmutter at (631) 367-1096. The league is in desperate need of someone to volunteer a small amount of time in order to organize teams, hand out trophies, etc. The season is in threat of being canceled if someone does not volunteer. Please consider volunteering if you have a first grade boy signed up.

**For Kids & Teens! Programs from Cold Spring Harbor
Library's Youth Services Department. Registration Required!**

Mini Masters
Stories with Cindy Sherman
Monday, November 16
@ 2:00 pm

For children in ages 3-5 with adult
Discover the photographs of
contemporary artist Cindy Sherman and
create your own Sherman-inspired story.

Mix-it-up Up Mayhem
For Children of all ages
Friday, November 20 @ 3:30 pm
Come make a cool craft you may
have missed!.



TEEN PROGRAM:

Teen Advisory Board

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 13 @ 3:00 pm

Embrace the Negative: Negative space Painting

Enjoy a relaxing afternoon of exploring negative space with painting, painters tape and canvas!
*Want a say in what the Library has to offer our Teen population? Join the Teen Advisory Board
and share your ideas and know-how for projects, movies, crafts, programs and stuff for Teens*

**For more information about any Kids or Teen Programs, contact a Youth Services Librarian
at the Cold Spring Harbor Library - 631-692-6820**

**For Adults! Programs and Services from Cold Spring Harbor
Library's Information Services Department**

The Queazles
Sunday, November 15 at 3 pm



Take a trip back in time to arguably the best days
of rock & roll, the British invasion, and bell bottoms
with **The Queazles!** This five-piece 60s tribute
band will play hits from groups like the Beatles,
Beach Boys, Four Seasons, and Dave Clark Five.

Appropriate for the whole family!

Advance registration requested.

**For more information about any Adult Program, contact Information Services
at the Cold Spring Harbor Library at 631-692-6820.**