



## Goosehill Primary School Weekly Notes- September 14, 2012

Dear Parents,

It was a terrific week at Goosehill! The children have settled into the routines of their classrooms and are engaged in productive learning activities. As I visit the classrooms, I see them exploring with blocks and counters, drawing and writing about the things they love, and reading books independently and with partners. They enjoyed a beautiful week outdoors at recess, and especially loved trying out our new “climbing star.” Thank you to our GPFA and all of our parents for making this wonderful contribution to our school. It is really a perfect addition to our playground.

On Tuesday, we had our first Spirit Day assembly. On Spirit Days, we ask all of the members of our school community to wear school colors: red, white, and blue. Many children wear school apparel, made available for purchase from the GPFA. At our monthly assemblies teachers, staff members, and I speak to the children about ideas and issues that connect us as a school. Because our Spirit Day fell on September 11<sup>th</sup> this month, we decided to commemorate the day by talking to the children about ideas related to citizenship and patriotism. Here are the concepts/ideas we discussed:

- The United States of America is our country. It is a part of our world.
- Living in a country is like being part of a big, special club. We are all members!
- We call members of a country *citizens*. Being a good **citizen** means you are helping your country be the best it can be. Some of the ways we can show good citizenship are: helping others, welcoming new neighbors and friends, sticking up for each other, cleaning up after ourselves, recycling, and voting (grown-ups).
- We also discussed the meaning of the Pledge of Allegiance and how we say it together to show respect for our country.

Thank you all for attending our Back to School Nights. Your involvement in your child’s school life is critical to his/her success. By attending school events, GPFA meetings, and parent workshops, reading our Weekly Notes, and communicating with your child’s teachers and principal, you will become more informed about your child’s school experience and be even more able to support him/her academically and socially.

Enjoy the long weekend with your families. If you are celebrating the holiday next week, we wish you good and sweet year!

Warm regards,

Lynn Herschlein, Principal