

Golf Middle School News and Views

January 2008
Volume 3, Issue 5

Mr. Keith Westman, Principal

From the Principal's Pen

Dear Golf Middle School Community,

Beginning on Tuesday, January 29th at 9:00 A.M., you will be able to sign up for an opportunity to meet with your child's teacher during our second Parent-Teacher Conference sessions using our online scheduling program.

Parent-Teacher Conferences will be held on:

Wednesday, February 13th from 6:00-8:30 P.M.

Friday, February 15th from 8:00 A.M-12:00 P.M.

Tuesday, February 19th from 6:00-8:30 P.M.



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Instructions for signing up for conferences through *P/T Conferencemaker*, our online conference scheduler, have been mailed home. I hope that you find the upcoming conferences informative and useful.

In other news, our annual Golf Middle School Spelling Bee will be held on Wednesday, February 6th at 2:00 P.M. Each grade level will have a spelling bee during the week of January 28th. Four grade-level winners will participate in the school-wide bee. Study guides and further information is available in the school office, or by visiting our website at www.golf67.net.

Finally, the third quarter officially began on Tuesday, January 22nd. Second quarter report cards will be sent home with all students on Wednesday, January 30th.

Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at school.

Sincerely,

Mr. Keith Westman, *Principal*

Golf Backpack!

All documents that are distributed from the *GMS* office may be found online in the Golf Backpack.

Athletic Calendar

For a list of all upcoming athletic games, please refer to our online athletics calendar.

Available at:
www.golf67.net

Did you know?

Peer tutors are available to provide one-on-one support in the area of Mathematics for any *GMS* student who is interested. Peer tutors are available to meet in the morning, during the lunch/recess period, during 9th Period, and after school.

If you are interested in having your child work with a peer tutor, please speak with your child's Mathematics teacher or Mr. Westman.

5th Grade Team

Mrs. Yabut, Mrs. Hockenberg and Ms. Bitonti

Welcome back! We hope everyone had a relaxing and enjoyable Winter Break. We are excited to kick off 2008 in 5th grade, and have a lot of exciting activities planned for the year. Here's an overview of the January happenings:

- January 31st we'll take our second field trip to Centre East Theater to see the Chinese Golden Dragon Acrobats. Prepare for a memorable experience.
- In Science, we have just begun our study of Inertia the Universe. Be sure to ask your child whether or not there is gravity in outer space!

In Math we're diligently preparing for the upcoming ISAT test. As you will notice, the students have a weekly extended response problem. Please be sure that your child is taking time with this assignment so that he/she is well prepared for the test.

We look forward to an excellent 2008, and expect wonderful things from our students!

6th Grade Team

Mr. Brian Carro, Mrs. Hope Nelson, Mrs. Peggy Steadman

The sixth grade team is pleased to welcome back Ms. Steadman from her maternity leave. We would also like to thank Ms. Kim for all of her hard work with the sixth grade students during Ms. Steadman's absence.

Invention Fair

The Invention Fair is not until April, but the sixth graders will begin working on their ideas in February. Help students come up with great ideas by devising practical solutions to common household problems. These always make the best inventions!

We have begun third quarter and would ask parents to please take some time to help get their student's notebooks, folders, and supplies organized.

7th Grade Team

Ms. Liana Alonistiotis, Mr. Gregg Gilman, Mr. Kevin Atwood, Mrs. Bari Levin, Mrs. Julissa Reyes

Welcome back and Happy New Year!

In 7th grade Math, the students are working with intercepts and the slope formula. In Spanish, students are learning to use adjectives to describe gender and number. In Language Arts, students are reading novels written in poems, studying the poems of Shel Silverstein, and writing some poems of their own.

Information regarding the upcoming 7th Grade Springfield Trip will be sent home as soon as we receive confirmation of the dates from Educational Tours, the company who coordinates this annual trip. During this day-long trip, students will visit sites such as Lincoln's Tomb, the State Capital Building, Salem Village, and the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library. If you are interested in chaperoning this trip, please contact Mr. Westman at school.

8th Grade Team

Mr. Ted Carris, Mrs. Lisa Featherstone, Mrs. Kristine Joyner, Mrs. Danielle Maldonado

Happy New Year from the 8th-grade Team!

The 8th-grade students are immersed in a study of the Holocaust as they read the historical novel *Daniel's Story* in Mrs. Joyner's class while concurrently studying this important piece of history through Mr. Carris' class. We love seeing the students make thoughtful connections across the curriculum. They will watch and discuss the Academy-award winning foreign film *Life is Beautiful* as a supplement to their studies.

Our students are also reading non-fiction selections on table manners and etiquette. As a culmination to this unit, students will enjoy a meal together while being assessed on their adherence to proper table manners and considerate table conversation. In science class, students are engaged in a study of anatomy and physiology under the direction of Mrs. Maldonado. Ms. A continues her wonderful work in preparing the students for the rigors of high school mathematics and algebra.

Volunteer Service Club

Mrs. Lisa Featherstone, Mrs. Kristine Joyner, and Ms. Elizabeth Jones (Guidance Counseling Intern), Co-Sponsors

The Young Associates Board (YAB), an affiliated organization of Children's Memorial Hospital, is proud to present the 9th Annual Corporate Challenge for Hope, "Leap for a Cure". The event is to be held on Friday, February 29, 2008 and will be held at the MCA Warehouse in Chicago.

The Corporate Challenge for Hope entails various Chicago corporations entering small teams to compete in five playground inspired games alongside an oncology patient, or "champion", from Children's Memorial. If not competing in the games, guests will enjoy dinner and drinks, a silent auction/raffle, and live music. For further details and ticket information, please visit our website: <http://www.childrensmemorial.org/corporatechallenge/default.asp>.

Golf Middle School's own Volunteer Service Club (VSC) will be contributing to this charity event in three important ways. First, each member of the VSC will be assigned one of the patient "champions" for which to write a good luck message. Secondly, the VSC will be decorating tablecloths in the playground theme to be displayed on various tables used at the event. Finally, the VSC will be raising funds to purchase custom hats for each patient champion who will be participating in the games. If you have any further questions regarding this event or VSC's participation, please contact Mrs. Featherstone at lfeatherstone@golf67.net.

Cheerleading

Mrs. Joann Stavropoulos and Ms. Liana Alonistiotis, Sponsors

Congratulations to the 2008 GMS Varsity Cheerleading team:

Shana A., Samantha B., Frankie B., Eva D., Brittany E., Ayana J. (Manager), Kaitie K., Kasey K., Nicole P., Susie S., Jaimie S., Martyna T., Vivien T.

Boys' Basketball

Congratulations to our Varsity, Junior Varsity, and 6th Grade Basketball team members! Good luck on your upcoming season!

Varsity: *Mr. Gregg Gilman, Coach*

Zain S., Matt C., Dale L., Sebastian M., Samuel L., Abraar A., Justin T., Saad K., Joe H., Edwin C., Mitul L., Yiorgos G.

Junior Varsity: *Mr. Ted Carris, Coach*

Dan M., Dan A., Dan N., David D., David P., Sarkis A., Phillip Y., Sam G., Mark M., Hesham A., Bartek K., Brandon C., George V., Shaun D., Giorgos L., Brandon S., Will B.

Music Department

Mrs. Traci Bowring, Instrumental Music

Mrs. Laura Blanchard, General and Vocal Music Teacher

Band and Chorus Calendar

Saturday, Feb. 16	IGSMA Solo Contest	TBA	Golf
Saturday, Mar. 15	Northwestern Solo Contest	TBA	Northwestern
Tuesday, April 8	VanderCook College Middle Level Band and Chorus Festival (Chorus and Concert Band only)	TBA	VanderCook
Wednesday, May 7	District Spring Concert	7 p.m.	Golf
Thursday, June 5	Graduation (All 6 th and 7 th grade band members)	6:45 p.m.	Niles North

**Please note that the IGSMA Solo Contest is being held at Golf Middle School this year. Golf will host the contest for 13 schools in our IGSMA district.

Upcoming District 67 Events

2/12/2008

PTA Meeting, 7:00 P.M.

2/13/2008

P/T Conferences, Evening

2/15/2008

P/T Conferences, No School

2/18/2008

No School

2/19/2008

P/T Conferences, Evening

2/21/2008

Board of Education Mtg.,
6:30 P.M.

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