

Link Letter

Principally Speaking

Lunch Server Needed Wednesday



We need an extra lunch server this coming Wednesday, May 24. The time frame is 10:40 am - 12:20 pm. Can you help? If so, please click this link: <http://signup.com/go/NLKDGRG>

A Reminder About Parking

Today and tomorrow (May 22 and 23), our family lot will be closed in order for us to facilitate our next step with the greenspace, the rain garden installation. Our neighbor, Mary Free Bed, has graciously agreed to open their lot off of Cass. Thanks for your kindness and consideration as we share our neighbor's lot, and work with each other with our space modifications those days. This is an exciting next step in the greenspace project. Thanks for your help in making it happen.

Thank You

Thank you to our students, families and staff who helped us give such warm hospitality to our Heritage Hill Tour of Homes visitors as we shared with them the Vandenberg Building in its 95th year! Staff helped spruce up their rooms and displays and it was noticed. A special thank you to the Haskins, the Parisians, the DeMotts, Natasha Nyberg, Janelle Gaudet, Jessie Hammond, and Trevor Gilbert who helped greet our guests and give tours.

Mind Meets Music App

Mind Meets Music has released an exciting new FREE app available to our students! The Mind Meets Music App (M³ App) is designed to improve literacy skills and extend the reach of the Mind Meets Music program from classroom to home. The M³ App is available for iPads, iPhones and all Android (Google) devices. Dello the Dino takes your child through four levels of play, each one a different game with varying degrees of difficulty. Helping your child play these games can increase their success in building upon their reading skills. You can find the M³ App on Apple's App Store and the Google Play App Store. For more information about on the M³ App please go to the Mind Meets Music website:

<http://mindmeetsmusic.com/about-the-app/>



That's all for this week. Don't forget that we are off next Monday for Memorial Day. As always, thanks for reading, Be Kind, Keep Discovering, and have a great week!

Coach i John Robinson, Principal/Executive Director/Superintendent robinsonj@grcdc.org

Family Team Corner

Thank you for your Box Tops! We've had a wonderful response this year! The Family Team turns in your Box Tops and in return we get cash for our school! The \$ we receive from Box Tops helps us to pay for things like the yearbook - every student will receive a free yearbook & popsicle on June 8th. Keep the Box Tops coming in!

The last First Friday Food of the school year for our teachers and staff will be Friday, June 2nd. Our theme is Take Out! Please click on the link to sign up and thank you for all of your donations and love you've shown our teachers this year! <http://signup.com/go/YkeQvhl>

Co Steward Update - "Stella" aka, Sarah M. Cooper, mom of Laura in Discovery B & Alex in Discovery F, will be joining Janelle Gaudet as Co Steward of the Family Team! Sarah will be going by the nickname "Stella" so she is not confused with the GRCDC Pedagogista & Instructional Leader, Sarah Cooper.

The Lost & Found is overflowing! There are lots of winter items, lunchboxes, coats, etc. Please come to the Office to check out the Lost & Found!

Thank you for your support of our 2nd Annual Craft & Rummage Sale! We can't wait for next year!

Central Office Updates

- Rain Garden Installation—VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!** We are installing the rain garden all day on May 23 with the help of the Plaster Creek Stewards. They will guide us through installation during school hours and Discovery D students will be cycling through to help too. But we are in need of volunteers to help plant as well as spread mulch and soil. Sign up for one hour sifts to join the work: <http://signup.com/go/wLEOjuK>

Calendar

The calendar also available at grcdc.org

COMING UP THIS WEEK:	
5/22-5/26	M-Step Testing: Make—Ups Week
5/22 & 23	Rain Garden Installation — no parking in family lot for 2 days. Mary Free Bed lot will be open to GRCDC Families
5/23	Rain Garden Installation, Help Needed: http://signup.com/go/wLEOjuK IMMERSE Family Night @ Public Museum, 6:00—8:00 PM
5/24	Early Release Day, Dismissal at 1:10 PM Art Club until 2:30 PM
5/25	Minecraft Club, 5:30—7:00 PM
5/26	Afternoon Meeting, 3:00 PM
5/29	Memorial Day Break— NO SCHOOL
EVENTS HAPPENING IN THE NEXT FEW WEEKS:	
6/2	First Friday Food: http://signup.com/go/YkeQvhl
6/7	End of Year Celebration, 5:00—7:00 PM
6/9	Fifth Grade Camp Out (overnight at Camp Rockford)
6/12	Fifth Grade Graduation, 2:00 PM GRCDC Board Meeting, 6:00—8:00 PM
6/13	Family Team Meeting, 8:00—9:30 AM
6/14	Last Day of School, Early Release Day, Dismissal at 1:10 PM
6/21	Last day for teachers to mail report cards

Please arrange for your child to **arrive at school between 7:45—8:00 am**. Please sign your child in at the office if arrival is after 8:05 am.

Dismissal is 3:15 pm M, T, Th, F and 1:10 pm on Wednesdays

Grand Rapids Nutrition Center The full menu is available on our website: <http://grcdc.org/be-connected/link-letters/>

Breakfast (\$1.50):	Lunch (\$2.75):	Milk only: \$0.50
T—Egg & cheese sandwich	Italian meatball sub	
W— Triple berry French toast	Dutch waffle, turkey sausage link	
Th—Scrambled eggs	Chicken quesadilla	
F— Egg, cheese & sausage slider	Double stuff cheese pizza	
T 5/30— Cereal	Chicken strips	

Breakfast time:	7:30AM—7:50 AM
Discovery A & B	Lunch 11:55 AM—12:15 PM Recess 12:15—12:40 PM
Discovery C & D	Lunch 10:55 AM—11:15 AM Recess 11:15—11:40 AM
Discovery E & F	Lunch 11:25 AM—11:45 AM Recess 11:45 AM—12:10 PM

The Philosophy by Sarah Cooper

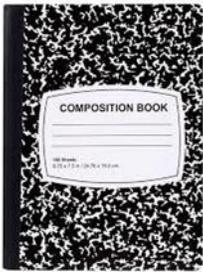
As our school year nears the end, parents often wonder how they can support learning over the summer. Without any reservation, I recommend all children read 20 minutes every day. All of our children are capable of this activity, given the right material. Pay close attention to your child’s report card in June as it will have your child’s reading level in it. As a school we use the Fountas and Pinnell guided reading levels, which range from Level A to Level Z. Libraries and book stores will be able to help you locate books at these levels — and I’m happy to help too! With your child’s reading level in mind, here are a few FREE [or nearly free] literacy based activities you can tap into this summer.



The [Kent District Library](#) offers reading programs for infants, youths, teens and adults. We recommend that you check out your local branch to sign up for this free program packed with motivators for reluctant readers... even a chance to win an iPad mini. The [Grand Rapids Public Library](#) also has a summer reading program. Today, your child was given a booklet with more information about their program.



The [Grand Rapids Art Museum](#) has free admissions on Tuesday from 10:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. and Thursday nights from 5:00-9:00 p.m. Check out a Discovery Pack from the Guest Services desk. It will help lead your children through the galleries with engaging activities. Or bring along a notebook and have your child find two favorite pieces to sketch. Challenge your child to write an opinion or persuasive letter, explaining why the selected piece is the most beautiful [or other descriptor] in the museum.



Journals: Let your child pick out a notebook. Children can cut out images and add drawings to the cover to make it unique. This notebook can be transformed into a daily journal, travel journal or even a parent/child journal. Discovery A gifted parent/child journals to their families. A child writes a letter to a parent in the journal and leaves it on mom or dad’s bed where it will be read and then a letter is written in return. This written conversation is one way to connect with your child, reinforce literacy skills and process the day’s emotions and events. Can’t commit daily? Try it weekly!



[Scholastic Reading Challenge](#) is a virtual reading program that helps parents and children log minutes of reading, earn rewards and have access to book lists.

Stay tuned for other ways to connect to more learning opportunities throughout the summer. And if you have a favorite activity others might like, please share! Sarah Cooper, Pedagogista coopesar@grcdc.org

We would like to extend a warm invitation to the GRCDC Community to attend:

*The 17th Annual End of the Year Celebration
Wednesday, June 7th, 2017 5:00 pm to 7:00 pm
In classrooms and back lawn
(If it rains, we will celebrate in the gym)*

The final documentation featuring children's work and the classroom study that was completed this school year will be on display. New families will receive a tour of classrooms and our school, led by one of our 4th and 5th grade docents student and a Family Team member.

Then we'd love for all of the families to gather on the school's back lawn for cookies and music. Please bring a blanket to sit on or a chairs if you would like. The entertainment this year is going to be featuring John Hampton performing from 5:00 pm to 7:00 pm.

We hope to see you there!
Sincerely, Discovery A and Discovery C

Community Corner

Thanks to the Museums for All Initiative, families who qualify for EBT cards can enjoy the Grand Rapids Children’s Museum for only \$1.75. Entry is for up to 4 people per card. The Museums for All Initiative’s goal is to ensure that every child and family has access to a high-quality children’s museum experience. For hours and more info about the GR Children’s Museum, visit their website: <http://www.grcm.org/>

IMMERSE Family Night is for students (& their families) who participated in the IMMERSE program this school year. Students in Discoveries C, D E and F all participated in IMMERSE this year. Work from GRCDC students will be on display and families will enjoy free admission to the museum on Tuesday, May 23rd from 6:00—8:00 PM.



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