

GEARING GATOR



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Be Safe 

Be Respectful 

Be Responsible 

A Holiday of Music

Christmas is just around the corner and no holiday is complete without the joyous sounds of the season. We're excited about our holiday concert to be performed by our 4th and 5th grade students, December 8, 2010, at 7:00 p.m. at the Performing Arts Center



The program is something to be enjoyed by all of our Gearing families. Please plan to join us for this special evening of holiday music.

GEARING STUDENTS SHARE AND CARE DURING HOLIDAY SEASON

Gearing students learned to share and care during this Holiday Season by participating in several community service projects. From the donation of canned goods for *Wagons of Love* to the donations of items to fill the Christmas boxes for our troops serving overseas to the contribution of socks, socks, and more socks for our *Share the Warmth* project, and the writing of letters to our military men and women, many people will be provided with holiday gift wishes to brighten their holidays. Thank you for your participation in demonstrating our philosophy that "Gearing Gators are Caring Gators!"



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GEARING STUDENTS NAME THEIR HERO

Several of our Gearing students took the initiative to display their school spirit. They took the opportunity to write an essay about their hero and share it with us. Our book fair chairperson read the essays and identified four students to be recognized for their entries. Congratulations to Sarah Sepke, Jonathan Tackaberry, Faith Koester, and Alexis Delekta who shared their essays with all of us and were the recipients of a free book from our book fair.



HERE'S TO OUR BOOK FAIR HEROES!

To help make our fall book fair successful, all we needed were a few dedicated heroes. Volunteering for the book fair is more than just helping at Gearing. It promotes necessary skills that will last a lifetime. A special thank you to our book fair heroes: Robyn Limberg-Child, Chairperson, Meg Benson, Karie Hilton, Angie Beauchamp, Annette Sturdy, Julia Wilbert, Christine Mustazza, Mary Anne Sepke and St. Clair high school National Honor Society students.

Walk Club is off and running!

Every Wednesday during our lunch recess periods, students have the option to participate in WALK CLUB. We're logging our miles and earning lots of feet tokens. Who will walk the farthest this year?

We appreciate our parent volunteers, Mrs. Barr and Mrs. Landers, for making WALK CLUB possible. Encourage your child to participate.

"Educating Today's Child

Have you noticed the YELLOW STRIPES?

YES, our driveway is marked with visible yellow stripes. However, some of our drivers have been ignoring the striping.



Yes, our new sidewalk has been marked with YELLOW NO PARKING STRIPES AND SIGNS for the safety of our walkers and bike riders. Cars are NOT TO PARK ALONG THE NORTH EXIT DRIVE. Cars block the view of the exiting cars and buses and pose a safety hazard for our students. We appreciate the patience and cooperation of everyone at arrival and dismissal time each day.

CATCH THE JOY OF GIVING

We are very excited to announce that **Jingle Bell Junction** will be held December 13th-16th, just in time to do some holiday shopping.

All students are invited to participate in this PTO-sponsored holiday event and experience the joy of selecting their own special gifts for family and friends.

Many of our gifts this year are from a Michigan-based gift company, and we've been able to purchase a large variety of quality items suitable for both children and adults at reasonable and discounted prices. The cost of the gifts will range from \$.50 to \$6.00 with the majority of items in the \$1.00-\$4.00 range.

A **Gift List Planner Envelope** will be sent home with your child on December 8th. Please have your child bring the envelope along with their shopping dollars on the class shopping day as indicated on the December calendar. (Checks should be made payable to Gearing Elementary PTO.)

Help your child "Catch the Joy of Giving" this holiday season!

Volunteers are always needed to work Jingle Bell Junction. If Interested, contact Judy Koester @ 810.326.0181 or email koestersix@yahoo.com

Student Council is offering a *Happy Holiday Message Card* complete with a sweet oval lollipop for just \$.75 each!

Orders are available on a first-come, first serve basis as long as supplies last. We will be taking orders December 6th thru December 10th.



GEARING TEACHERS RECEIVE GRANT

Three of our Gearing teachers were the recipients of the ECSD Supporters 2010 fall grants and were recognized at a recent school board meeting.



We congratulate Mrs. LaParl who will use the grant dollars to purchase the STAR program, a research-based reading tool to help monitor her students' progress toward their individual goals.

Congratulations is also extended to Mrs. DuBois and Mrs. Kemp who will purchase a comprehension toolkit to replace fill-in-the blank answers and worksheets with engaging practices to foster active thinking and literacy as part of their reader's workshop daily instruction.

We applaud each of these teachers for their successful grant applications and commitment to our students.

GATOR SPIRIT WEAR AVAILABLE

New gator sweatshirts and sweatpants are available just in time for the cold winter weather. Review the ordering information that will be sent home with your child and place your order before Christmas for delivery after the holiday. **Show your school spirit with new Gator wear!**



Ten boxes of *Holiday Wishes for the Troops* have been mailed just in time for Christmas. Student Council thanks you for your generous donation of over 1,000 items. A special thank you is extended to Mrs. Pickett, mother of second grader Savannah Pickett, for dedicating her time to pack, label, and mail the boxes. The troops are certain to appreciate the thoughtfulness of our Gearing family.

BIRTHDAY DONATIONS

Thank you to third grader, Sarah Sepke, for donating An American Girl Chrissa Stands Strong to our media center. *Thanks, Sara, for being part of our Birthday Club!*

en for Tomorrow's World"

A Memo from the Media Center

According to the ECSD Board policy, "textbooks, library books, and other equipment are on loan to the students. Students are expected to exercise reasonable care in using these items. To ensure that all materials remain in good condition, students may be assessed a fee for lost or damaged books." (page 19 Student/Parent Handbook)

The Gearing Media Center has noticed an increase in the number of returned library books containing damage from liquids. Thank you for your assistance in helping your child keep their water bottles, juice boxes and other liquid items away from media center materials so that all of our books can be enjoyed by our students.

Mrs. Dingman, Mrs. Kammer & Mrs. Zollweg

LEAVING SCHOOL EARLY? Every minute of the school day is important. Emphasis is placed on daily instruction; therefore, we discourage early dismissals.

However, if your child should need to be released early, please notify the school in writing. Students will be called to the office when you arrive. Please be reminded that parents are required to sign out students at the time of pick up. There are no early dismissals after 3:15 p.m.

"Go for the Gold"

ART	Mrs. Beauvais
PE	Mrs. Beauvais
MUSIC	Ms. Peterson
MEDIA	Mr. Hillier
SPANISH	Mrs. Kemp
CUSTODIAL	Mr. Hillier



Reading Counts! Superstars

Mrs. Alley
Mrs. DuBois
Mrs. Roehring
Ms. Peterson

Thank you to these classes for participating with our school wide initiative!

SPARKLE WITH

SCHOOL SPIRIT

Haley Binkley
Joe Dobat
Emily Govaere
Hannah Grippe
Lauren Kramp
Audrey Ledbetter
Lily Lemoine
Desiree Lesh
Cameryn Moran
Autumn Osterlund

Brionna Pacquette
Savannah Pickett
Cole Schneider
Crea Sidney
Shane Smith
Robbie Wesley
Reagan Wiley
Dianna Zuniga
Eli Zurakowski

Student of the Month

Congratulations to the following students for being selected by their teacher as December's Gator of the Month.

Collin Agosta
Alyssa Bacon
Allison Bleasdale
AnnElise Eitniear
Lauren Kramp
Nate Luther

Keagan Malcolm
Porter Malcolm
David Padilla
Ava Pergitone
Dylan Taube
Tyler Williams
Janine Yope

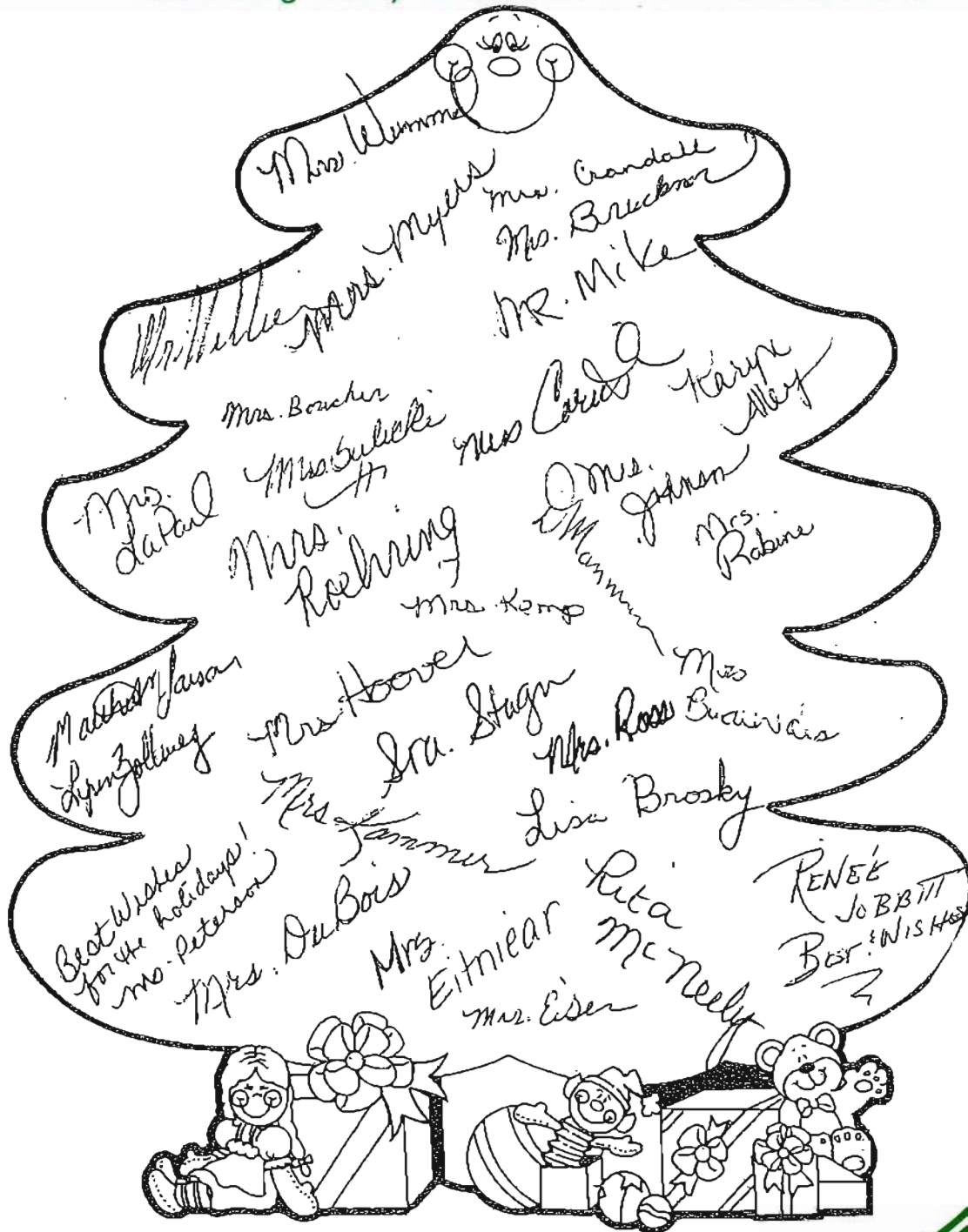


Happy Birthday

Serena Acciavatti
Clayton Bacon
Sarah Beadle
Abigail Boes
Gracie Boes
Carly Cadreau
Maddison Chapdelaine
Brodie Churchill
Eliseo Delia
Braden Gunderson
Randy Harwood
Logan Hurlburt
Lea Kemle

Zachary Kue
Emily MacDonald
Ryan McConnell
Cameryn Moran
Isabella Murphy
Case Peterson
Jordan Pullman
Nicholas Raymo
Paul Riddell
Kaci Ripley
Shailene Vo
Molly Wiegand





May your holiday be filled with joy
& your home be warmed by love.

Holiday greetings from the faculty &
staff of Gearing Elementary.



Classroom Spotlight

Mrs. LaParl's class has been working in Life Science on a unit about leaves. The students have been observing the size, shape, texture, and colors of tree leaves. They compared the shapes of leaves to geometric shapes and discussed similarities and differences they have observed. The class went on a leaf hunt where they collected leaves to study. They also did leaf rubbings, stamped with leaf shapes, and made sun catchers to display the leaves they collected.



Mrs. Roehring's class has been very busy this Fall!



Third graders in Mrs. Roehring's class have been learning about the geography of Michigan. The class created posters for a cumulative project. The children showed what they have learned about the natural and human characteristics of Michigan and how people have changed and adapted to the environment of Michigan. The class used the internet, books, magazines, and their creativity to create the posters that are displayed in the hallway.



The class also helped coordinate a school-wide community service project called *Wagons of Love*. The class collected nearly a thousand pounds of food. It was exciting to see the long stream of wagons winding down the streets all the way to the St. Clair food pantry where they personally delivered the food. Third graders helped to weigh and organize the food items for people in need. The third graders were excited to help St. Clair families!