



Jaguar Jive



GIDDENS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

"Giddens Rocks!"

November, 2009

Susan Cole, Principal

Doug Kalbus, Assistant Principal

Special Dates To Remember

- Nov 1 – Daylight Savings Time Ends
- **Nov 4 – EARLY RELEASE DAY AT 12:00PM**
- Nov 5 - Bush's Chicken Night
- Nov 6 – Donuts with Dad 7:15 – 7:45
- Nov 6 – 13 – BOOK FAIR
- Nov 10 – PTA Meeting 6:30PM in cafeteria
- Nov 10– Watch D.O.G.S. Launch 6:30PM in cafeteria
- Nov 11 – Preschool Story Time 2:15 – Library
- Nov 12 – BOOK FAIR open late until 6:30PM
- Nov 12 – 3rd Grade PE/FA Program 6:30PM
- Nov 12 – Veteran's Day Lunch
- **Nov 12 – Thanksgiving Lunch**
- Nov 13 – Bookmark entries due
- Nov 16 – 20 – Education Go Get It Week
- Nov 20 – Yearbook Presales End
- **Nov 23 - 27 – Thanksgiving Holiday – No School**
- Nov 30 – Dec 11 – Canned Food & Sock Tree Drive
- **Dec 2 – Picture Retakes**



SPIRIT DAYS

- Nov 13 – Wear Giddens t-shirt



VETERAN'S DAY LUNCH – In honor of Veteran's Day, we are inviting veterans to have lunch with us on November 12. Lunch is served from 10:30AM until 1:00PM. Relatives of our students are encouraged to eat with their special student during their lunchtime. Other veterans may come and eat at their leisure and visit with our students. Lunch is Free for all veterans. We hope veterans will arrive dressed in their uniforms.

THANKSGIVING LUNCH - We invite our families to join us for our special Thanksgiving lunch on November 12. The meal is: turkey and dressing, mashed potatoes, green beans, cranberry sauce, roll, and tea or milk and for dessert, pumpkin cake. Adult lunches are \$2.75 and student lunches are \$2.00. We will try to stay as close to our regular lunch schedule as possible. Because of the large number of guests to be served, please allow a few extra minutes for lunch on this day.

NEWS FROM THE PRINCIPAL

In this article I would like to share some thoughts on three different topics.

I want to take this opportunity to introduce our new Assistant Principal, Doug Kalbus. Mr. Kalbus is a former Giddens teacher who taught 5th grade for six years. He has been with LISD for eight years and in education for 18 years. Last year Mr. Kalbus had the opportunity to work at two other LISD schools as an Assistant Principal and SRP teacher while he completed his administrative internship. He is happy to be back at Giddens and said he feels like he has "come home." Mr. Kalbus is a wonderful asset to our school...to our staff, students and parents. He truly cares about what is best for kids and is a great role model for our students!

How could it already be November? November 16 – 20 is National Education Week. This is the second year that LISD has focused on the theme "Education: Go Get IT!" All staff and students will be encouraged to wear their favorite college shirts while stressing the importance of pursuing a higher education.

Giddens hopes to start the Watch D.O.G.S. (Dads of Great Students) program very soon. This is a national program that was started 11 years ago. Watch D.O.G.S. is an initiative to involve more fathers and father figures to become positive role models. Several of our fathers have agreed to head up this program. We will have our official launch on Nov. 10th at 6:30pm in the cafeteria and all of our fathers are invited. For more information you can visit the following website.

http://www.fathers.com/content/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=21&Itemid=60

Susan Cole
Principal

Picture Re-takes – We will have picture re-takes on **December 2nd**. All students who were absent on picture day and those whose pictures were not acceptable and are returning their packages will have their pictures taken beginning at 8:00AM.

Food Drive - We will have a food drive for Hill Country Ministries starting Nov. 30th and ending Dec. 11th. The last two years students have collected over 1000 items to donate. We hope to reach that goal again this year.

Here are suggestions for the most needed food items: stew, spaghetti sauce, canned chicken, soup, canned tomatoes, tomato sauce, baked beans, ranch style beans, hot cereal and dry cereal.

Suggestions for most needed personal items: bar soap, dish soap, laundry detergent and toilet tissue.



Sock Tree-Giddens will set up a “sock tree” to help support the Leander ISD’s Clothes Closet which provides clothing to needy students. We will be collecting **NEW** adult and children’s socks. Children may bring their socks and hang them on our tree from November 30th thru December 11th.

Book Fair - Our first book fair will be November 6th –13th in our library. There will be a wide variety of books available and we encourage you to help your children select their books. Look for additional information that will come home in the Wednesday folder. Book fair times are:

Friday - Opening at 7:00AM – 3:00PM
Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday - 7:30AM-3:00PM
Thursday - 7:30AM-6:30PM
Friday - 7:30AM - 12:00PM

Mrs. Weitzel needs volunteers at the book fair. Please sign up on the volunteer website if you can help. Come and shop during our Thanksgiving Lunch on Thursday.

LIBRARY NEWS - We will be having a bookmark contest. Every student may enter and there will be 5 winners from Pre-K to 2nd and 5 winners from 3rd to 5th. The winners will have their entries made into bookmarks to be used in the library this year. Each entry must be in black and white. You may use pen or pencil but NO colors. All designs must stay within the bookmark boundaries so that all of the bookmark can be copied. Students will take home a blank bookmark form in their Wednesday folder on October 28. Entries are to be brought to the library by noon on Friday, November 13. Winners will be announced during morning announcements on Monday, November 16. Mrs. Weitzel will answer questions regarding the bookmark contest at 570-5600.

VOLUNTEER NEWS

Thank You, Thank You, Thank You

We cannot thank the following parents enough for volunteering their time at the Fall Picture Day: Brandi Gregorio, Catherine Liu and Kelley Claybrook. Thank you also to those that have already signed up for Donuts with Dad, Fall Book Fair and Thanksgiving Lunch.

A big thank you to those helping out in the workroom, classroom and at home. Keep up the great work!!!

How about a little friendly competition?!!!! For every time slot you fill for the week of Donuts with Dad, Fall Book Fair and Thanksgiving lunch your name will be put in a hat. At the end of the week, we will draw 5 names and those 5 parents will receive a mini Bundt cake from “Nothing Bundt Cakes”. So please sign up on-line or on the bulletin board outside the library. These cakes are delicious so the more slots you sign up for, the better your chances will be.

Nicole Beard and Lea Carter
 Volunteer Coordinators

CAFETERIA’S 6TH ENTRÉE FOR NOVEMBER

Monday	Cheese Nachos
Tuesday	Pepperoni Pizza
Wednesday	BBQ Rib Sandwich
Thursday	Popcorn Chicken with potatoes
Friday	Cheese Pizza

Giddens would like to thank HEB #265 and Oak Farms for donations made for Donuts with Dad. Also thank you to the individuals who donated so this event could take place.



Concern for Others

In November, Leander ISD will be focusing on the ethical principle Concern for Others. Your child will discuss how to demonstrate concern for others in school and in the community. Below are discussion topics for you and your child to reinforce what will be discussed in school.

- Discuss family history, traditions, and customs. Identify how your family is similar and different from other families.
- Discuss why we should respect other people and their property.
- Discuss how family members show concern for each other.
- Discuss current events and let your child observe that family members can respect each others' differing views on a subject.

EARLY RELEASE DAY – The students will be dismissed at 12:00 noon on Nov 4th. The cafeteria will serve a sack lunch on this day.

Update – Box Tops Collection



Keep turning in those box tops! Please don't forget to include your child's name and teacher in or on the baggie of box tops when you turn them in. The deadline for the contest is December 4th, so keep clipping! Also don't forget to sign up at www.boxtops4education.com.

Campbell's Labels -Once again we are participating in the **Labels for Education** program. This is a great way to earn FREE merchandise for our school, and Campbell's makes it so easy to redeem labels. With your help, our school can make this year the best ever! Participation is easy-simply save labels from Campbell's products and put them in the collection bin outside the office. With soup season just around the corner, we should do great!! Don't forget to ask friends and family to collect labels too. If you have any questions, you can visit www.labelsforeducation.com for more information. Thanks for your support.



District News-November 2009

Dear Parents:

This August, Leander ISD launched ParentLink, a communication tool that keeps our parents interested, informed and involved in their child's campus. ParentLink has proven to be extremely effective in enhancing LISD's ability to communicate campus and district activities with our stakeholders.

In October, LISD mailed parents their login IDs, passwords and instructions for accessing their ParentLink account. Using this information, parents can now log in and change their user ID and password to one of their choosing. *(Note: This information does not pertain to Parent Connection, the system that allows parents to access their student's grades and attendance information. ParentLink is strictly for campus and district communications.)*

Some parents may have received more than one letter, each with a different ID and password. **If you received more than one letter, please log in under one ID and password.** Once you have logged in, you have the ability to merge all of your accounts into one account.

If parents need assistance editing their account information, they can visit www.leanderisd.org and click on ParentLink/Insider News or contact their child's campus.

