

New Groningen Elementary



NG Field Day Volunteers Needed

Parents, relatives, and friends:

New Groningen is hosting our Field Day Friday, May 20th at Zeeland Stadium from 9:45am - 1:45 pm. This event celebrates the school year with entertaining games and activities that bring us closer together as a learning community. We are looking for volunteers to host our different stations that we have set for the day. Volunteers will teach and run 1 of the 18 fun games and activities. **If you are interested in volunteering for our special day, please send an e-mail to Biz Geertsma**

at egeertsm@zps.org and she will reply with confirmation. Volunteers can plan on meeting at Zeeland Stadium by 9:30 a.m. to receive teaching instructions and station placements for the event. If you have any questions, please contact Biz Geertsma by email (egeertsm@zps.org).

We look forward to a fantastic field day to celebrate the 2015-2016 school year!

Boxtop Competition Winners

Both 1st and 2nd place (Mr. VanHoven & Mrs. Pratt's classrooms) will receive an ice cream sundae party on Friday, May 6th.

Total money raised for our school during this competition: \$816.70

Box top contest totals:

VanHoven - 1442
Pratt - 1155
Brower - 853
Cousins - 797
Wolffis - 766
Lamer - 600
Klyn - 474
Meyering - 319
McCarty/Gut. - 275
Lloyd - 269
Bolhouse- 249
Lampe - 247
Devries - 216
Walcott - 204
Lazo - 196
Lauritzen/Tufnell - 143
Schuring - 54
Holman - 40



Issue 17

May 2, 2016

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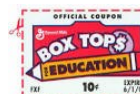
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The mission of New Groningen Elementary School, in partnership with staff, family and community, is to promote learning as a lifelong goal by providing opportunities for all students to succeed.



We believe in fostering relationships between staff, parents, and the local community. We believe in a safe and positive school environment where everyone is treated with respect. We believe that all children can learn through experiences and real life applications.



Green Commute School Challenge - May 18

During Green Commute Week *individuals* and *organizations* are invited to participate in the commute challenge. Four local employers with the highest participation are awarded prizes. What does it take to compete? Each member of the team is willing to Green Commute 2 or more days during the week, record miles each day, and then be eligible to receive discounts at restaurants and bike shops, as well as win valuable prizes. For more information, please see [Commute Challenge Details 2016](#).

BOGOF Book Fair – May 2-5

The Scholastic **Buy One Get One Free** Book Fair is here! The Book Fair will be held in the New Groningen Media Center May 2 - 5. Students can get 2 books for the price of one! This is a great way to stock up for some summer reading. Teachers will be signed up for classroom shopping times during school, and parents are welcome to stop in as well. Families are also welcome to shop before school on Wednesday, May 4 and Thursday, May 5 from 7:45-8:30 a.m.

Calendar of Events

May:

- 2nd-5th - Buy One Get One Free Book Fair in the Media Center
- 6th - Boxtop Winner's Ice Cream Party
- 6th - 1st Grade Field Trip to Captain Sundae and the Zeeland Print Shop
- 6th - KG Field Trip to Royal Park Place (rescheduled from April)
- 9th - 4th Grade M-Step Testing Begins
- 11th - Muffins with Mom (Last Name A-M) 8:00-8:30 a.m.
- 12th - Muffins with Mom (Last Name N-Z) 8:00-8:30 a.m.
- 11th - 13th - Half Day of School - Dismissal at noon (12:00 p.m.) Tulip Time
- 18th - Green Commute Challenge Day
- 18th - 2nd Grade Field Trip to Zeeland Public Safety and City Hall
- 18th - NGFA Meeting 2:30 p.m.
- 20th - NG Field Day
- 23rd - 3-4th Grade Spring Concert at 7:00 p.m.
- 24th - 27th - 5th Grade Camp
- 26th - 2nd Grade Field Trip to the Water Treatment Plant and Tunnel Park
- 26th - ZeeBus visit to NG during last recess
- 27th - 3rd Grade Field Trip to Camp Geneva
- 27th - KG Field Trip to Dutch Village
- 30th - No School - Memorial Day



You're Invited!



Our Tunes Are Bloomin' Spring Concert

Featuring NGE Grade 3 & 4 Students

Monday, May 23, 2016 at 7:00 p.m.

In the Anchor Café, New Groningen Elementary School

Student Information

Please report to school no later than 6:45 p.m.

3rd grade students report to their classroom

4th grade students report to their designated location

Suggested to Wear: "Dress up" clothes; bright, like blooms J

Please...no leggings/jeggings, or athletic wear.

For riser safety, no high heels or flip flops.



Questions? e-mail Mrs. Balcer at hbalcer@zps.org





Green Commute

School Challenge

Wed. May 18, 2016

Green Commute is: A community event promoting alternative transportation, including: Biking, Walking, Sharing a ride/carpooling, Riding the Bus or using Public Transportation.

On May 18, 2016 the Green Commute Planning committee is challenging local schools to promote Green Commute and compete against other local schools to see who is the most Green!!

Schools that participate will receive a special gift for every student. Every student who utilizes alternative transportation on May 18, 2016 will count as 1 point and the school that has the highest percentage of participating students will receive an award for the school showing their participation and dedication to promoting a more "Green" community.

Congratulations to West Ottawa Public Schools Woodside Elementary for 79% participation and winning the 2015 School Challenge.

For more information on Green Commute visit: www.the-macc.org/green-commute/

Read Aloud
15 MINUTES
Every child. Every parent. Every day.

DOES READING ALOUD REALLY MATTER? YES!

More than one in three children arrive at kindergarten without the skills necessary for lifetime learning.

Research shows that reading aloud is the single most important thing you can do to help a child prepare for reading and learning.

LANGUAGE DEVELOPMENT
The number of words that a child knows on entering kindergarten is a key predictor of his or her future success.

LITERACY SKILL BUILDING
Vocabulary, Phonics, Familiarity with the printed word, Storytelling, Comprehension. Reading aloud builds literacy skills.

WHY READ ALOUD?

INSTILL A LOVE OF READING
Your example demonstrates that reading is important, pleasurable and valued.

BRAIN DEVELOPMENT
From birth to age 3 are critical years in the development of language skills.

KNOWLEDGE GAINED & SHARED
Books are a pleasure, yes, and they are also informative. You and your child can learn something new as you read aloud.

BONDING
Is anything better than sharing a good book?

More than 15% of young children, 3.1 million, are read to by family members fewer than three times a week.

DON'T GOOD PARENTS ALREADY READ ALOUD DAILY? NO

Only 48% of young children in this country are read to each day.

Reading 15 minutes every day for 5 years:
27,375 MINUTES

IS 15 MINUTES ENOUGH TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE? YES!

456.25 HOURS

Tell a friend at www.ReadAloud.org