

Ram Gazette

A publication of the Georgia O'Keeffe PTA

December 12, 2011

Ram Calendar

12/14 FOL mtg. 12:30pm @ library

12/19-30 No School for Winter Break

1/2 No School for New Year's Day

1/3 No School for Inservice

1/4 Classes begin for Spring Semester

1/10 PTA mtg. 6:30pm @ cafeteria

1/11 FOL mtg. 12:30pm @ library

1/16 No School for Martin Luther King Jr.

1/16 LOE Club begins Mondays 2:30-3:30 in library (through 3/5/12)

1/20 GOK Night at NM Mustangs hockey game

1/24 Class Pictures

Ram Gazette Volunteer

Have some extra time to spare? The PTA is currently looking for someone to fill the volunteer position as the Corresponding Secretary. What are the duties for the Corresponding Secretary? To send out the weekly Ram Gazette and to attend monthly PTA meetings on the first Tuesday of every month! Contact Jessica Pascua for more information: ram.gazette@gmail.com

Clorox Power a Bright Future Grant

The voting for the Clorox Power a Bright Future Grant is now over. Thank you to everyone who took the time to vote for Georgia O'Keeffe during the six week voting period. We appreciate the support and over 1,600 votes received.

While the winners will not be announced until January, our school faced a great deal of competition in this contest. One school in Texas had over 100,000 votes! There is still a chance that GOK will receive the "Judges Choice Award". This award is given to the school that did not win the most number of votes in its' category but that the judges deem worthy of receiving one of the \$25,000 grants. We will keep our fingers crossed that our school is selected for this award in January. Until that time, thank you again for your votes and your support of our school's participation in this contest.

Another Spanish Class Added!

As per popular demand, an additional section of our After-School Spanish program is now open for enrollment! Doña María will continue to teach the Thursday class (2-3pm) but will now also offer the same class on Wednesdays 2:30-3:30 pm beginning in January. Email her directly at pocoloco@q.com for more info and registration form. Come join all the Spanish fun: Traditions from around the Spanish-speaking world! Cultural food sampling! Storytelling! Games! Dance! Música! Arte! Olé! For more info please visit www.pocolocospanish.com.

Cookie Dough Delivered!

Last week the Otis Spunkmeyer cookie dough was delivered and distributed. If you found any problems with your order please email Tami at mtbaker@comcast.net this week! We won't be able to fix any discrepancies after winter break. Thank you for supporting the PTA!

Extra Laptop, Anyone?

The GOK PTA is looking for a used laptop to be donated. We have recently received SafetyChild software that will allow parents, volunteers, and visitors to sign in at the office electronically. This new software will keep records, print reports, and cross reference background checks – all things to help keep our kids safer! If you have a gently used laptop that you would like to donate for this purpose, please contact Tami at mtbaker@comcast.net. Tax-deductible donation receipt available upon request.

Mardi Gras Chairperson Needed

In previous years, the GOK PTA has hosted a Mardi Gras themed fundraiser in March to support the technology program at GOK. We are looking for a chairperson or co-chairs to start planning! In the past, the activity has included a silent auction, student art sale, and fun for the kids – we can follow this format or come up with brand new ideas! Please contact Tami at mtbaker@comcast.net if you are interested or have questions.

Evening PTA Meeting

The next GOK PTA meeting will take place the evening of Tuesday, January 10th, at 6:30pm in the GOK cafeteria. Everyone is welcome to attend! We are starting to look ahead to next year and are in need of a nominating committee. This committee would work on recruiting new volunteers and finding people interested in serving in the PTA. If this sounds like something you can do, please attend this meeting and bring your ideas with you!

Spring After School Clubs

As our Fall After School Clubs come to an end, it's time to think about our spring schedule! Find information on our web site: <https://sites.google.com/site/gokemsi/> . The following clubs have openings:

Artsy Math – Tuesdays w/Mrs. Burnham for 3rd-5th grade
Poetry In Motion – Tuesdays w/Mrs. Huggins for 3rd-5th grade
Geo Bee – Thursdays w/Mr. Boye for 2nd-5th grade
Homework – Mondays w/ Ms. Polan for 1st-5th grade
Land of Enchantment – Mondays w/Ms. Robin for 3rd-5th grade (requires reading & testing on three LOE books)

If your student is interested in participating, please fill out the TWO registration forms found on the web site and submit them to the office. If you filled out these forms in September you don't have to do it again. Please direct questions to Tami at mtbaker@comcast.net .

Spelling Bee Update & Qualifiers

During the last two weeks we have tested all students age 9 and over at GOK to qualify for the spelling bee. Written tests of 50 words were given and graded. The GOK school spelling bee was originally scheduled for this week, but because our medals and trophies won't be delivered in time, the school bee has been postponed until after winter break. A few more weeks to study! Watch future gazettes for the final date and time. Students who qualify for the school spelling bee will be given study packets this week.

Congratulations to the students who qualified to participate in the GOK Spelling Bee:

3rd grade
Madelyn Johnson
Reid Barton

4th grade
Una Oljaca
JR Ramoso
Tiana Staehlin
Christian Viets
Sophia Serna
Lily Martin
Ava Jahner
Aaron Cavazos
Iain McKechnie
Michelle Upham
Brock Zuyderwyk
Vlad Bragin
Neve Barker
Maia Keough
Karena Sandoval
Ambrose Hwang
Audrey Rodriguez
Micky Dzur

5th grade
Alli Baker
Athena Keough
Kevin Xue
Cameron Gates
Lucas Gatterman
Tessa Anderson
Allen Hewson

Skylar Smith
Leila Toussi
Brendan Sanders
Alex Sanders

Read and Feed

There is a new schedule out for read and feed! Please contact Cecy Wheeler at cecywheeler@yahoo.com if you want to read in the months of January through May.

If you are new to read and feed, it is a great program where a volunteer gets to read to the children during the lunch hour. The children bring a sack lunch to the library and they eat their lunch while you read to them. The schedule is as follows

Kindergarten - Wednesdays 11:20-11:50
1st grade - Wednesdays 11:30-11:45
2nd grade - Wednesdays 11:15-11:30
3rd grade - Thursday 12:00-12:15

Thank You for Supporting the Book Fair!!!

I would like to thank you all for supporting our Scholastic Book Fair last week! We don't have our final numbers yet, but our projections are really good for another successful sale. Your support is greatly appreciated and will go far in keeping the library programs funded for the year and our collection up to date.

I would like to thank our Book Fair coordinators, Karen Breeze and Shirley Staehlin for organizing a fabulous fair. A big thanks to Alison McKechnie for taking charge of the Trinkets Table and gift wrapping and to Tami Baker for daily support of all of us. Thanks also to our FOL Treasurer, Kristi Sawant who might be wishing we weren't the biggest fair in New Mexico!! And a sincere thanks to all the library volunteers who set-up, worked the fair during the week, and helped pack it all up.

Enjoy all the great books and the Happiest Holiday Season to All!

Annie Huggins

Submitting Gazette Articles

A quick reminder if you have something to submit for the Gazette, **Sunday night, 6:00 p.m. is the deadline.** If entry is not submitted by deadline it will be added the following week. Feel free to use this wonderful information resource to spread the word about upcoming events. Send articles to Jessica Pascua at ram.gazette@gmail.com.

Get all the school news you need right here in your Gazette!