

# Gator Gazette\*

\*HUGH GREGG SCHOOL - WHERE WE PLEDGE TO LEARN TOGETHER EVERY DAY!\*

VOLUME 7, ISSUE 7

APRIL 2011



## PTA Co-President's Message

Finally the weather is starting to warm up and it's getting dark later, spring is here!



Alligator Idol was on March 20<sup>th</sup>. It was great to see all the kids get up on that stage and perform. We have some amazing talent at Gregg School, and all you parents should be proud. We are also thankful to West High for letting us use their auditorium. Having the extra space was really nice. Also the PTA has a Facebook fan page. If you have a Facebook account then do a search for Hugh Gregg Elementary PTA and "like us" to get updates on events and to ask us questions.

PTA meetings are open to all Gregg school parents, they are held on the 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday of each month in the cafeteria at 6:30pm at Gregg school. If you think you can't come because you don't have anyone to watch your children, bring them with you- we have child care available. Hope to see you at the meeting.

Stacy Banas, Co-President



## Principal Post

Dear Families,

As predicted, March was very hectic! I am certain your children's activities and homework have kept you busy! With Alligator Idol, Jump Rope for Heart, parent-teacher conference days, science projects, spirit days, and Family Art Night, there certainly have been plenty of things to do to stay connected with school!

Many thanks to those children who participated in this year's Alligator Idol show. It may have been long, however, we have so many talented (and brave) students, that it takes time to showcase them all! Moving the event to West High's stage/auditorium made it even more special and we are appreciative of their efforts! Thanks to all involved and a special thanks to Mrs. Teri Bagley for her many years of organizing the event!

The Student Council has been busy planning and assisting with school projects. They helped with Family Art Night, made bead badge holders for staff, raised over \$300 for the St. Baldrick's Organization with their Hats On day, and are gearing up for a school grounds clean up in honor of Earth Day.

Coming up very soon will be our NYS ELA & Math Assessments. They will be given to students in grades 3rd, 4th, and 5th on May 3, 4, 5 & 6th and also on May 11, 12, & 13th. Students who are absent on test days will have to make them up. We have taken practice tests at school and students should be familiar with the format. A good night's rest, a hearty breakfast, and your encouragement on test

## April Dates

|     |                           |
|-----|---------------------------|
| 1-8 | Spring Break              |
| 12  | PTA Meeting, 6:30         |
| 15  | End Marking Period 3      |
| 18  | Evacuation Drill, 1:00 pm |
| 21  | Earth Day Spirit Day      |
| 22  | No School                 |
| 26  | Author Visit              |
| 29  | May Day                   |

day would be appreciated!

Finally, our Gregg School tradition of "Bringing in the May" will be held a few days early when we wind the May Pole on Friday, April 29. This spectacular event is always a memorable part of our school year when we crown our next May Queen and King! We have high hopes that this will help it feel like spring around here!

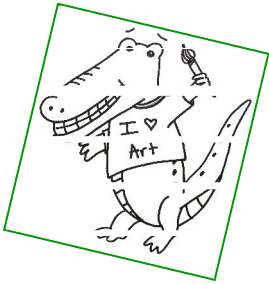
Wishing you the best,

Mrs. Ann Collins, Principal



## March ART News

Mrs. Wukovitz



During the month of April, we will be looking at the illustrations on Jarrett Krosoczka, our visiting author coming on April 26<sup>th</sup>. Primary students will be working on creating murals based on Krosoczka's books around the school. With the help of the intermediate students at Gregg School, we are going to transform the Library into a scene from the Lunch Lady Graphic Novel series. We are very excited about this wonderful opportunity to have such an acclaimed author coming to Gregg School!

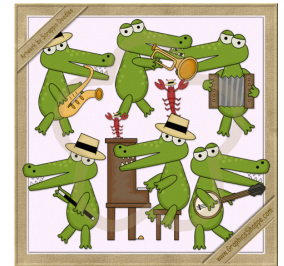
To celebrate spring, I chose a few different projects that will help us celebrate Earth Day and put them on the Art Website. Recycled materials are the best materials for art projects. Go to the Spring Projects Link on the Art website to find the directions to make projects that use things you probably have laying around the house.

To access Mrs. Wukovitz's Online Art Room please go to <http://tinyurl.com/greggschoolart>. Or you can find the website by going to the Gregg School website and go under the "Staff". There you will find a "Staff Web Sites" link that lists all of the school's teacher web sites. At the bottom, you will find Mrs. Wukovitz's Online Art Room. Make sure you bookmark it as a "Favorite" so you can check back for more project ideas.

## Gator Band News

Mrs. Bergstrom

Congratulations to Jaren Brewer, Sam Dickerman, Amanda Flick, Jordan Haggard, Caitlyn Hogan, Hodrin Kamnang, Gabe Kio, Nikolus Nickerson, Rianne Nickerson, Grace Scouten, Jacob Serdula, Madison Sullivan, Alexis Woodcock and Jenna Woolgar. Their hard work has earned them a seat in the Gator Band. Look for them at our spring concert on May 19<sup>th</sup>!



Congratulations to Danielle Butler, Jonathan Hodge, Connor Lin, Kate Mertus, Tobias Towner and Nolan Williams! They have completed their first instrument lesson book and have joined the Book Two club.

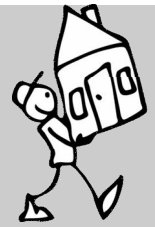
Next PTA Meeting:  
 Tuesday, April 12 at 6:30 pm  
 Join us! Childcare available.

**PTA**<sup>®</sup>  
 everychild.onevoice.<sup>®</sup>

<http://www.goodsearch.com/nonprofit/hugh-gregg-elementary-school-pta.aspx>



## If you have an address or phone number change



Please notify the school of any changes in contact information. In the event of an emergency, we MUST have a way to contact you!



Second graders Sarah Dinardo, left, and Emma Krauss, right, kick up their heels on St. Patrick's day at our Carle Irish Dancers assembly.



### Attention Students!!

The PTA is announcing our Spring Box Tops contest! Clip and send in your Box Tops by **Tuesday, May 10!** The classroom that sends in the most Box Tops will win a class party! Remember to ask your relatives and family friends to help you! By working together, we can earn a lot of money to be used for PTA-sponsored activities. If you have any questions, contact Renee at [jacobs2008@gmail.com](mailto:jacobs2008@gmail.com).

**Thank you!!**

### Fill 'er Up!

Gator Student Council reminds everyone to send in their (pop) can tabs. If we reach our school-wide goal (filling this trash can), Mrs. Collins will have to dress like a 10-year old girl (with neon green nail polish) and carry our mascot Hughie all day AND eat a pie in front of the school blind-folded without using her hands.



**Don't you want to see that?**

### **Gregg School's Mission**



**Help** all children learn and  
**Gain** skills through experiences leading toward  
**Success** and happiness in life.



3/20/2011

Alligator Idol



### 5th Grade Corning Museum of Glass/ Infinity Project

On January 14<sup>th</sup>, the fifth grade classes at Gregg traveled to the Corning Museum of Glass for a morning of exploration and investigation about the properties of glass and the process of glassmaking. The groups also had the opportunity to make their own sun catchers in the hands on studio.

As a part of the preparation for the trip, students learned about the life and influences of the great glass artist, Josh Simpson. They learned that Josh has created many glass "planets" that have layers of realistic looking plants, countries, clouds and even satellites. At the museum, students were able to view some of his pieces.



Students also learned about Simpson's Infinity Project. Josh creates many miniature planets to give to students. Students receive one planet to keep and one to place somewhere in the world for another person to find at some unknown point in the future. The purpose of this is to hopefully get the person who finds it to think about where it may have come from and why it was there. Students wrote persuasive letters to convince Josh to choose them to hide one of the planets.



Recently, students **Kate Mertus** and **Catherine Vandercook** found out that they were chosen from among the participants to receive the special planets. Kate plans to hide hers at Tanglewood Nature Center. Catherine plans to hide hers in Central Park where pieces of Waterhouse Hawkins' dinosaur models are hidden. Congratulations to both students!

You can check out Josh Simpson's website and Infinity Project website at [www.joshsimpson.com](http://www.joshsimpson.com).

Mrs. Keeler & her first grade class thank everyone who supported their recent "Balancing Their Day" project! The project was fully funded and the exercise balls have arrived and are being put to good use!

