



## Photo of the Week

Most of our students stepped back in time this week, as the Otters and Bear Cubs visited Grand Portage and the Fawns and Wolves went to the Chik-Wauk Museum and Nature Center. Students spent time extending their study of Minnesota history, the boreal forest, and the fur trade era. Here, a few of the Otters try out a replica birchbark shelter at the Grand Portage National Monument and Heritage Center.



## Thank You for Your Help!

Additional year-end activities have brought out even more volunteers, as field trip chaperones joined those who have continued to work with students here at the school. Our thanks to Hartley and Ramiro Acero, Dean Berglund, Gina Macy, Phyllis Olson, Lyle Gerard, Kathy Peterson, Lisa Walton, Rae Piepho, Kevin Kager, Walt McCarthy, Chris Callender, and Alexa Douglas. With the holiday on Monday and Beach Day scheduled for Friday, our lone Great Lunch volunteer this week was Roxann Berglund. Of course, everyone who enjoyed hot lunch on Wednesday was happy she was there! We appreciate all the ways that so many of you continue to support GES!

## What's Happening at GES

(Please call the school with any questions.)

**BEACH DAY POSTPONED Until Monday, June 6th** We'll hope for better weather and try again Monday to have our all-school Beach Day gathering. Please send appropriate clothing and a sack lunch for your student.

**Portfolio Night Tuesday, 6/7 from 4:00 – 6:00** Those of us at the school have been having a "special sneak preview" as we work with students to create their portfolio entries for this year. There are some fabulous pieces and lots of terrific memories in these collections. Please be sure to sign up for your ½ hour session soon. Extended families are welcome to attend as students present an overview of their work. Also, we will have our Lost and Found out during this time. Please try to identify anything belonging to your student and reclaim it.

**Graduation Thursday, 6/9 at 11:00** We will be celebrating the graduation of three eighth grade students this year. We invite the entire GES community to join us in recognizing this important step for Nate Carlson, Dylan Deschampe, and Alex Smith. There will be a Community Lunch served immediately following the ceremony.

**Last (1/2) Day of School Friday, 6/10** There will be a noon dismissal on this day, with buses running about three hours earlier than normal. Lunch will not be served. All personal property needs to be taken home.

**Fundraising Update** Thank you so much to everyone who helped with fundraising efforts over the past year! As a result of the involvement and support of parents, friends and community members, GES actually exceeded our annual fundraising goal! Overall, we earned over \$10,000, surpassing our goal of \$9,500. This essential source of income helps support the school's academic programs and facilities, and plays a key role in helping to foster an environment where students learn based on their individual strengths, passions, needs, and learning styles. We'd like to extend our thanks to all those who played a part in these results, and especially to Melanie Steele for her fabulous efforts to coordinate, communicate, and promote the important work in this area.

**New FY12 Calendar** We are sending home the 2011-20112 calendar as approved by the Board of Directors. It matches with the schedule of ISD #166 with the exception of one day: GES will be having an additional teacher workshop day and school will not be in session on Friday, May 18<sup>th</sup>. Students will not be attending this day.

**Outstanding Books** As the year is wrapping up, please take a moment to check for GES library books that may not have been returned during the year. Attached to the newsletter is a list of books that we show as overdue for your student. If you are in disagreement with our records and believe a book has been previously returned, please let us know and we will double check our stacks. Thanks for your cooperation in this one-of-many year-end tasks. Students who want to check books out for the summer should talk with their teacher.

**Next Board Meeting Tuesday, 6/21** Community input welcome at 3:30 or via email anytime; meeting at 4:00