



Tiger Tracks

Be Respectful, Be Ready, Be Safe



Gurrie Middle School
1001 S. Spring Avenue
La Grange, IL 60525
708-482-2720

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www.d105/gurrie.net
School Closing Hotline: 708-482-2722

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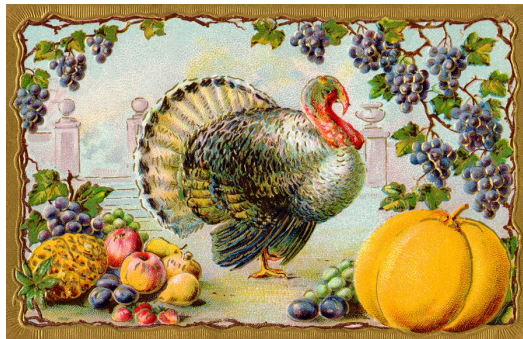
- November**
21 Project Linus, 1:15p.m.
22 Non Attendance Day
23 Thanksgiving Day
24 Thanksgiving Holiday

December

- 5 Holiday Orchestra Concert, 7pm
8 Honor Roll Breakfast 7:45am
14 Holiday Band Concert 7pm
20 Board of Ed. Meeting, 7pm
23—January 7: Winter Break, / no classes,
classes resume Monday, January 8 2024



*The Staff and Students of
Gurrie Middle School wish you all a
Happy Thanksgiving*



From the Principal's Desk



Greetings from Gurrie!

Believe it or not, Trimester 1 has ended, and we are one-third of the way through the school year.

I am very proud of how our students continue to model being ready, respectful, and safe!

Looking ahead, 8th grade students and parents will be involved with the transition process to high school. On November 7, LT staff and students visited our 8th graders in small groups and shared some of the exciting things that await them at LT and also answered questions from students. On November 13, LT held the Class of 2028 Kick-Off at LT South Campus. Students and families had the opportunity to visit a co-curricular fair, toured south campus, and learned about LT programs, athletics, and activities. On January 17, LT will host a virtual meeting to discuss the course registration process, share the Academic Program Guide, and elective course selection. On January 24, LT will host Future Freshman Night. Class of 2028 students and families will have the opportunity to attend presentations on academic programs as well as learn about elective programs and course offerings through showcases, demonstrations, and connecting with LTHS students and teachers. In late January, families will receive an email with your child's placement letter. The placement letter will detail your child's academic level placements for English, Math, Science, and in some cases, World Language classes. The letter will also include information regarding the process for completing a level change and making elective selections. In early February (date TBD), LTHS counselors will be here at Gurrie to meet with students and confirm elective selections and also review their freshman year schedule. Then in the spring, the online registration process for LT will begin which will include the submission of your child's birth certificate, health paperwork, and verification of residency.

In November, students participated in the Signs of Suicide program which provides important information regarding depression and how to help a friend (or themselves) who may be struggling. Each student learned about the ACT acronym (acknowledge, care, tell) and how to use it if a friend is struggling. Acknowledge - acknowledge that their friend has a problem. Care - let their friend know that they care about them and are supportive. Tell - tell a trusted adult about their friend's struggle to get any needed help and support. Students also learned that depression is a treatable illness and that suicide is a preventable tragedy that can occur as a result of untreated depression. In addition, students learned the signs of serious depression or possible suicide in themselves or a friend and how to help themselves or others by taking the simple step to ACT. These discussions are not easy ones to have but students were engaged and attentive to the content and instruction, asking great questions and participating in discussions with the presenter. According to a 2022 study by NAMI (National Alliance on Mental Illness) suicide is the second leading cause of death in youth ages 10-14 while 90% of those who died by suicide had an underlying mental illness, typically depression. In 2021 a World Health Organization study found depression to be the number one cause of illness and disability in adolescents worldwide. We are grateful to Elyssa's Mission for bringing this important program to Gurrie and providing factual and useful information to students, staff, and parents.

We will host the 24th annual Gurrie Thanksgiving on Tuesday, November 21. This longstanding Gurrie tradition brings together our students, staff, and members of our local community. Each advisory plans a meal and then we all sit down to eat at noon. It is such a wonderful opportunity to come together as a family, share a meal, and continue to build even stronger relationships with each other here at Gurrie and beyond.

As we head into the Thanksgiving break, I want to wish all of our families a safe and happy holiday and as always, let you know how much I am thankful to be a part of the Gurrie and District 105 community.

Happy Thanksgiving!

Ed Hood

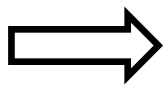
Health Notes.... Reminders

Winter is coming and so are seasonal illnesses. Parents are reminded to be watchful for flu symptoms in their children. Parents of children with asthma or chronic disease should have already consulted with their doctors regarding their need for flu vaccine.

Remember, sometimes we feel “less than great” but we are still able to do our job. A student may attend school with a cold, but needs to follow good hygiene practices. Cough drops are allowed at school as they do not fall under our medication policy. A cough lasting more than two weeks should be checked.

Remember to avoid giving aspirin for the flu due to its correlation to Reye’s Syndrome. Other reasons to keep a child home

are fever, vomiting, diarrhea, strep throat (must have completed at least 24 hours of medication before returning), conjunctivitis (pink eye), and ear infections. **Please do not send a sick child to school and endanger him or the welfare of others.** Remember that if your child has shown symptoms of any of these illnesses in the morning, chances are that they will not improve as the day goes on. Please keep your child home in those cases. If your child becomes ill at school, or has come to school ill, you must make arrangements to either pick them up or have someone pick them up. Sick children cannot be cared for in the nurse’s office for an entire day and then sent home on the bus. This jeopardizes the health of the entire school community.



Important Announcement for Families with Students with Food Allergies

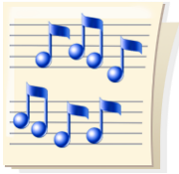
Some food at school sponsored special occasions may not be nut free. Parents/guardians may call the school to gather more information regarding foods that may be served at a specific event, or they may send an alternative food item with their child to eat.

A copy of the food allergy policy is available on the District website.

Books Make Great Holiday Gifts...

During the upcoming holiday season, remember books as gifts to children. Books last longer than most toys and games and they benefit the child. Studies show that children improve their reading ability by reading a lot. The gift of a book to a child tells that child that you value books and reading, and helps to create a lifelong appreciation of reading.





Music Notes

Winter Music Concerts

The Orchestra Winter Concert will be held on Tuesday, December 5th at 7:00 p.m. in the Gurrie Gymnasium, featuring the orchestras.



This year's Winter Band concert will be held on Thursday, December 14th.

The beginning Symphonic, Concert Band will all be performing alongside the 3:00 Jazz Band, GMS Jazz Ensemble, and the GMS Percussion Ensemble at 7:00 pm. These students are to report to GMS band room/ Cafeteria/ or small gym by 6:30 p.m.

Please continue to encourage your child to practice regularly and attend all rehearsals on time. The band, orchestras and choirs always look forward to performing for family and friends. This is a great way to start the holiday season.

LTHS Jazz Festival



The GMS Jazz Ensemble will be performing in the LT Jazz Festival on February 28th, 2024. The students will be attending an all-day clinic featuring one of the top jazz musicians in the Chicago area, as well as performing for the LT directors and students. More details to follow!

LT Solo and Ensemble Contest

This is just a reminder that the Lyons Township High School Solo and Ensemble contest will be held on Saturday, March 9th at Lyons Township South Campus. Information and registration forms will be passed out to band and orchestra members during the first week of December. Completed registration forms will be due early in January. It is encouraged that all students participate. Beginner musicians are not allowed to participate.

We will also be holding our annual District 105 Pre-Solo and Ensemble Showcase on Tuesday, March 5th (orchestra) or Thursday, March 7th (Band). This is a requirement for all 4th-8th grade orchestra and 5th-8th grade band students. More details will be distributed after winter break.

District 105 Music Program Dress Code

Students should wear their D105 Music Polo (make sure it fits, if not please ask their director for another size), black pants, and black shoes.

Choir News!

The Gurrie Choir will have a "Carols in the Courtyard" event on Monday, December 4th, from 3:30-4:00. All are welcome to stop by and sing with us!



Cheerleading

Congrats to the 2023-2024 Gurrie Cheerleading team.
Our cheerleaders are:

Brianna Cervantes
Alexis Beene
Emily Romo
Bella Vidales
Ami Solis
Alivia Rivera
Celeste Brittmon
Jenah Flores
Payton Meller
Yisel Chairez
Olivea Cuellas
Yuvia Reyes
Ava Heeb
Dalia Brazeau
Sophia Dowling
Zofia Staszkiwicz
Eyevlyn Lopez
Gigi Gibson
Joselyn Sanchez
Lily Nunez



The cheerleaders are off to a great start and are excited to cheer on the Boys Basketball Team this year!



2023-2024 Boys' Basketball Begins

8th grade Grade Tryouts took place the week of October 16th. The following boys were named to this year's team: Hunter Schumacher, Cruz Villarreal, Sean Mhley, Christian Torres, Jackson Brock, Nolan Callahan, Tramario Roberts, Ryan Sand, Ian Collins, Jax Brown, Will Potter, and Max Polonowski.

8th grade Tryouts took place the week of October 16th. The following boys were named to this year's team: Nikola Brnjos, Charles Peto, Gavin Foley, Jack Biwan, Scott Kress, Bodie Mets, Carl Courtright, Khiryee Nesbitt, Luke Calderon, Michael Olszowka, Liam McNeil, Liam Cherry and Giovanni Woosley.

Luke Rowen and Nate Aaronson are the Team Managers!

The teams are coached by Alex Wilkinson and Joe Pontrelli.

SPORTS CALENDAR

November

13 Boys' Basketball @ Westchester
14 Boys' Basketball @ Pleasantdale
16 Boys' Basketball VS Park Red
28 Boys' Basketball VS Willow Springs
30 Boys' Basketball VS Park Blue

December

4 Boys' Basketball VS McClure Red
5 Boys' Basketball @ Highlands
7 Boys' Basketball VS McClure White
11 Boys' Basketball a@ Washington Blue
12 Boys' Basketball VS Washington Red
18 Boys' Basketball VS Highlands
19 Boys' Basketball VS Pleasantdale

January

9 Boys' Basketball @ Park Red
11 Boys' Basketball @ Willow Springs



YEARBOOK

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Don't miss out on all the memories...order your Gurrie Middle School Yearbook today for only \$20.00!

Gurrie students will soon receive a yearbook order form in their Wednesday envelope. Please return the completed form with cash or check made out to Gurrie Middle School, to Mrs. Neadly in room 209B. If you pay with cash or check you will receive a receipt (delivered to your advisory) to confirm your order. If you need another copy of the order form, look for the link on the Gurrie website. If you prefer you may also **ORDER ONLINE** with a credit card at jostensyearbook.com. Just click "BUY YOUR YEARBOOK" and then search for Gurrie Middle School. Yearbooks must be ordered by Wednesday, March 1, 2024 and they will be distributed during our school yearbook signing party at the end of May.

You can also email photos to be considered for our Gurrie Yearbook! Please email your photos to Mrs. Neadly at lneadly@d105.net. Please include your child's name & grade with the email. We'll select the best for use in our 2022-2023 Gurrie Yearbook.

If you have any questions, feel free to contact Mrs. Neadly, Gurrie yearbook advisor, by email at lneadly@d105.net or call 708-482-2720, ext. 1219.

BUY YOUR
**YEARBOOK**
Yearbook