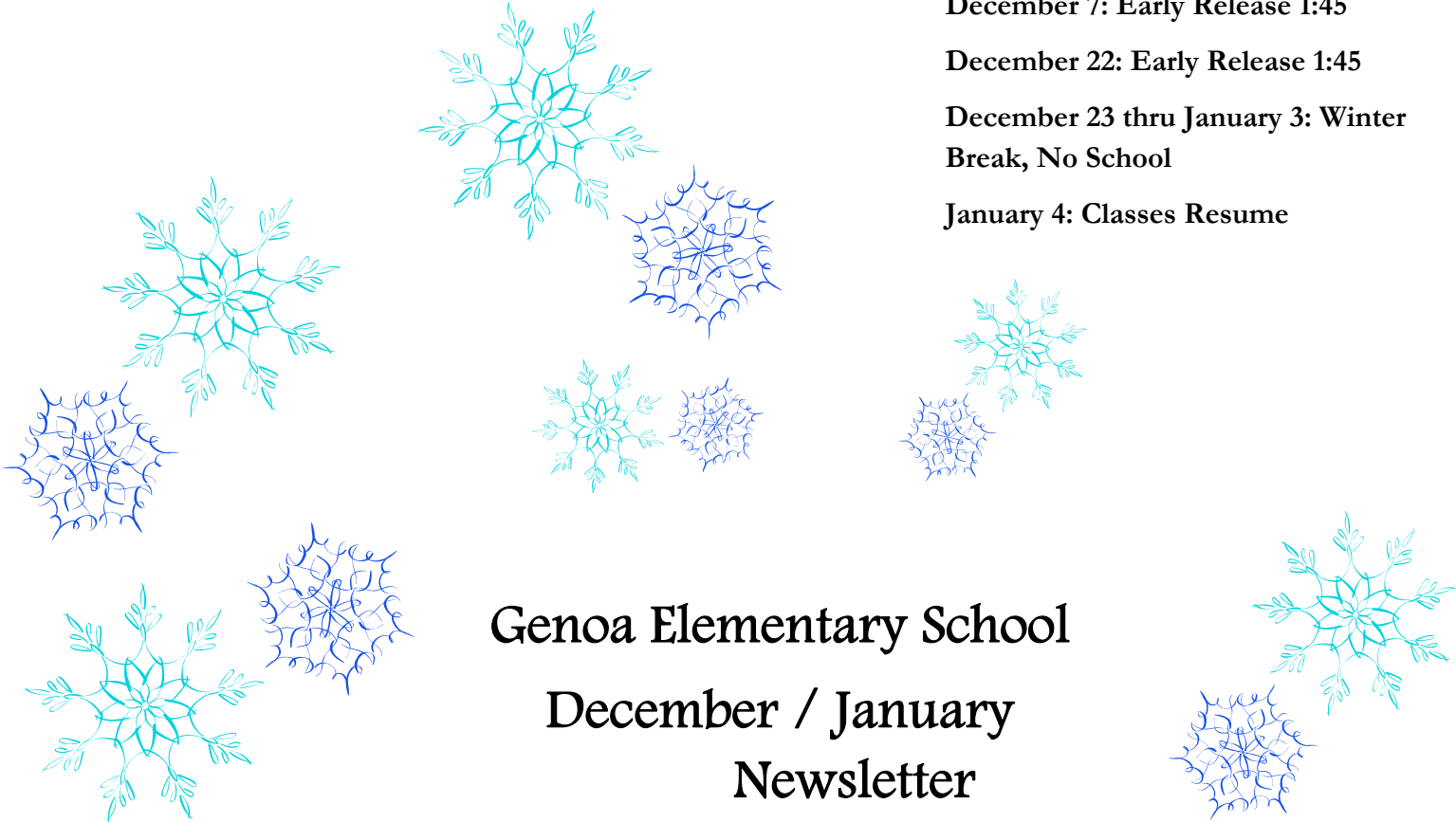


December 7: Early Release 1:45

December 22: Early Release 1:45

**December 23 thru January 3: Winter
Break, No School**

January 4: Classes Resume

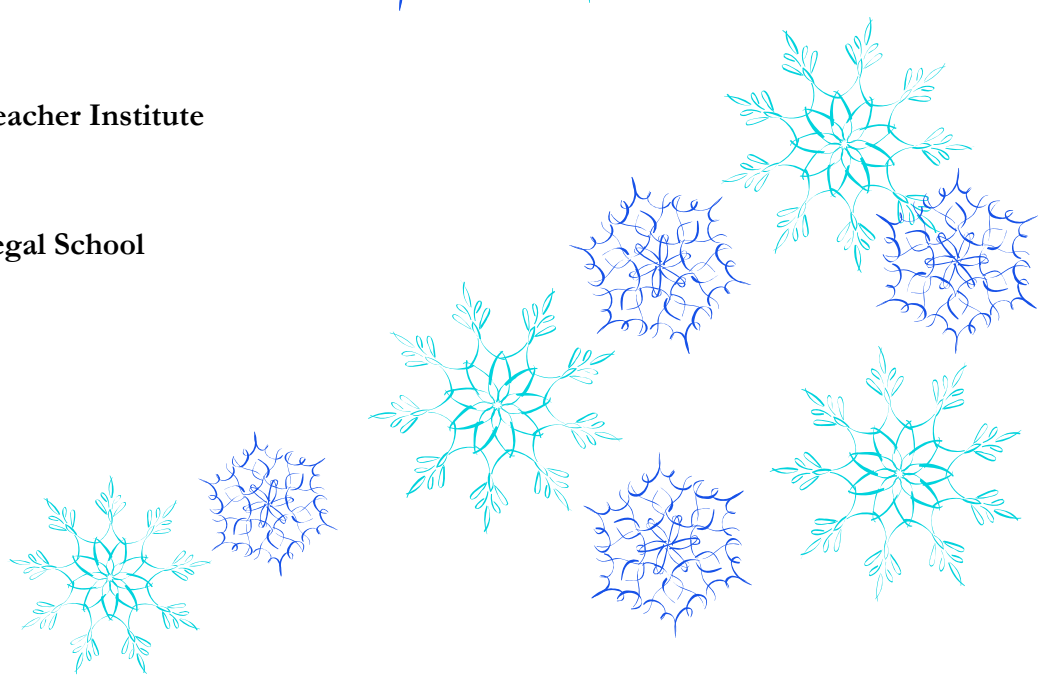


**Genoa Elementary School
December / January
Newsletter**

**January 13: No School, Teacher Institute
Day**

**January 16: No School, Legal School
Holiday**

**January 25: Early Re-
lease 1:45**



Hello From the 5th Grade Hallway!!

Hard Working! That would be the word used to describe our fifth grade students. The group has been working diligently this quarter to become awesome readers. During Making Meaning we have been focusing on summarizing and connecting. Also, in November many students were able to earn their book-it reward for reading minutes. Because there is two week break from school, please remind your child to continue to read for at least 30 minutes each night so that he or she can earn a book-it for the month of December and January. Feel free to listen to your child read aloud and then ask questions about their reading. Some of these questions may include:

- Describe the main character and setting.
- Describe the plot or main events of the story.
- What did you visualize?

If your child is struggling with these questions, have them reread the passage or ask them if the book is a “just right book” for him or her.

In addition, we spent time solving algebraic expressions and polishing up on our division skills. We will continue to work with division throughout December.

Parents, thank you for visiting your teacher’s classroom to conference in November. Conferences are a great opportunity for the teachers and parents to discuss goals for the individual students. Don’t forget the month of December brings fun and festivities. We will have the holiday party on Thursday, December 22nd. **The party will start at 1:00.** This will kick off our winter break which starts December 23rd. School will resume on Wednesday, January 4.

December and January are both chilly months. Please be sure that your child is dressing warm for outside recess. Sometime in January will be the fifth grade spelling Bee. Details on the Spelling Bee will come after School resumes from Winter Break.

Have a wonderful winter!

The Fifth Grade Team

5th Grade Student of the Month: Leea Perry

Hi, my name is Leea Perry and I am happy to be student of the month! I am in Mrs. Johnigk’s class, I am 10 years old and I love sports. I play volleyball, I am a pitcher in softball and I like that my dad coaches me in softball. I was born on August 7, 2011. I have a brother named Nolan, a dog named Bucky and a cat named Ernie. My mom’s name is Amy and my dad’s name is Paul. My favorite color is blue and my favorite animal is a duck. I love summer because we go to Chetek, WI, stay on the lake and get to do lots of fishing, boating and swimming!

From the 4th Grade Team

Can you believe we are nearing the end of second quarter and the holidays are here. We hope you enjoy this joyous time of year with your families and take some time to relax. Remember to keep reading over break in order to meet the 600 minute required reading for the classroom and to earn a Book-It certificate plus the Six Flags and First Down Reading Incentive Programs.

Also, as the cold winter winds blow, please make sure your child is dressed for the weather with a winter coat, hat and gloves. A hooded sweatshirt is not warm enough and students go outside when the temperature/windchill is at 10 or above. Your child also needs snow pants and boots in order to play in the snow.

This is a great time of year to replenish your child's school supplies. Your child will come home with a list of supplies that are needed when they return in January. Finally, please continue to check and sign your child's agenda book nightly.



4th Grade Student of the Month: Amber Herrmann

From the Principal's Desk



With this article, I would like to highlight how GES uses Common Formative Assessments. Exactly what are Common Formative Assessments? These types of assessments are given periodically during the year to measure academic growth in a specific content area. They are common, as all students take the same grade level test. The information gained from the test is formative in that it is used to guide instruction as opposed to being a summative grade. The focus of our Common Assessments is reading comprehension. Portions of retired ISAT tests are used for the assessment. The assessment consists of two reading passages followed by several multiple choice questions specific to each passage. There is also one extended response question where students are asked to answer a prompt in writing based on one of the passages. The structure of the test allows students to become more comfortable with the ISAT format. It also gives teachers ample information to tailor instruction to meet the needs of their students, as the test are standards based. December brings our second formative assessment of the year. To conclude, I would like to thank everyone for attending conferences in November. Your time was greatly appreciated by the faculty. Finally, on behalf of GES I would like to wish all of you Happy Holidays.

John Francis
Principal

REMINDER

Early Release: December 7 and 22, 1:45pm

Winter Break: December 23 thru January 3

Classes Resume: January 4, 2012

Preschool Screening

Genoa-Kingston will be conducting a pre-school screening for children between the ages of 0 months to 5 years of age. Each child's session at screening will last a minimum of 30 minutes. The screening is standardized using a play-based format. The play-based format will naturally assess your child's readiness, social interactions, speech-language, and fine/gross motor skills in a developmentally appropriate manner. Additionally, vision and hearing will also be screened. At the end of screening, you will be informed of the results. The results are only an indication if your child is progressing according to developmental norms.

The free screening is open to all Genoa-Kingston children between the ages of zero to five years. Screening will be held at Davenport Elementary School on February 7, 2012 from 8:30 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Please call Genoa-Kingston Student Services at 815-784-8391 to set up an appointment