

Great Falls Chatter



May 2015

Great Falls Career Fair

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Great Falls held its third annual Career Fair on May 6th. A wonderful crew of volunteers showed up to share their time with GF students. A wide variety of fields were represented. Volunteers shared their passion and expertise with students, who asked questions and gained knowledge about many types of work. The students and teachers all enjoyed the afternoon. Great Falls is grateful to the many volunteers who made this a very successful and enjoyable Career Fair!



Upcoming Events

Field Days at USM

June 1-8

Your child's grade will be participating in a fun filled, active field day in the first week of June. Please be sure that they are wearing sneakers and comfortable clothes, and have a water bottle.

Kindergarten

First Grade

Second Grade

Third Grade

Fourth Grade

Fifth Grade

June 2nd

June 3rd

June 4th

June 5th

June 1st

June 8th

First Grade Music Performance

June 1st

The first grade will be putting on a music performance at Great Falls in the gymnasium @ 6PM!

EOY Family Picnic

June 10th @ 5:30 PM

The annual Great Falls EOY picnic will be held in the garden area behind Great Falls on June 10th. Come by and spend time with other Great Falls families and staff. Earth Jams Music will be there performing live music as well. Bring your own picnic!



5th Grade EOY Banquet

June 12th - 1:00 PM

Kindergarten EOY Celebration

June 17th – 9:30 AM

EOY Celebration Grades 1-4

June 18th – 1:30 PM

STEP UP DAY!

June 18th

Students will be "stepping up" and meeting their teachers for next year. The 5th grade will travel to the Middle School to do the same.

Last Day of School

June 19th – Dismissal @ 12 PM

Letter From The Principal's Office

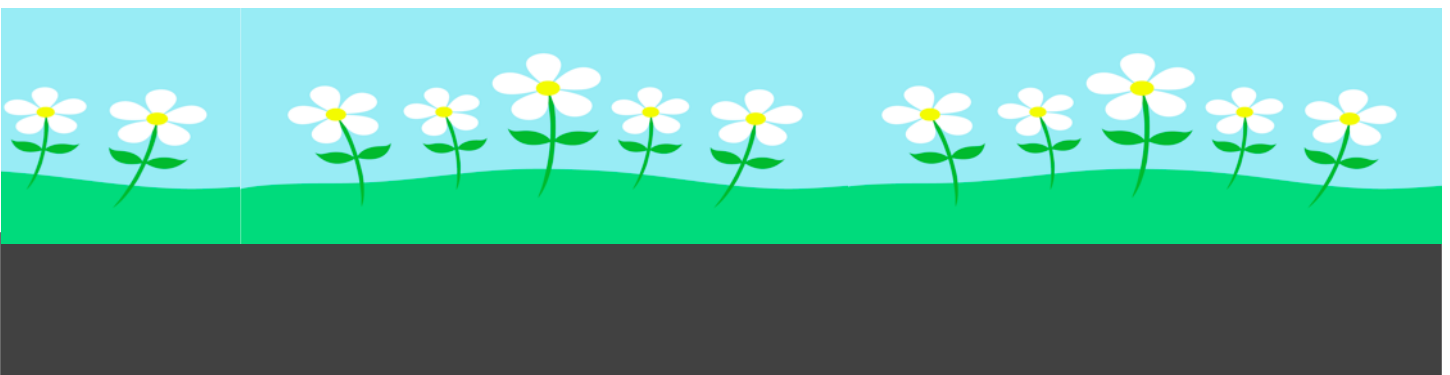
Dearest Great Falls Parents/Guardians,

I have had the pleasure and honor of serving the children and families in the Gorham schools through multiple professional capacities since 1981. There has been no greater joy and satisfaction over my career than the opportunity to build a new learning community at Great Falls School as Principal. The challenge has kept me fresh in my thinking, sharp in my skills, and curious in my intellectual endeavors - what a gift. I am extremely proud of what we have been able to build together and I hope that you are proud of our school community as well.

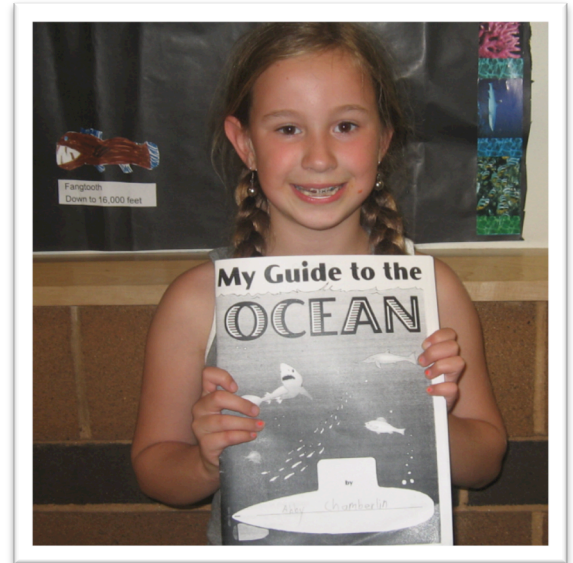
It is time for me to redirect my professional energies, and so I am retiring from the Gorham School Department effective the end of this school year.

Thank you for your partnership. Thank you for committing to your child's education and for acting as his/her greatest advocate. As I leave Great Falls School I have every confidence that it will continue to thrive and grow beyond what we can even imagine today.

Most Sincerely and Fondly,
Jane Esty



The whole 2nd grade has been studying the Ocean. They have learned about the different oceans in the world, levels of the ocean, tide pools, and the creatures that call the sea home. They are taking a field trip to Ferry Beach to explore the tide pools and continue their learning beyond the classroom!

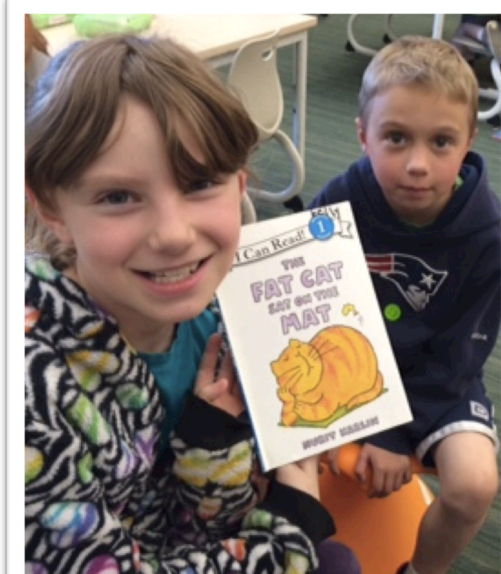


Mrs. vanLuling's kindergarten class had the opportunity to learn a little Spanish this past month, thanks to high school students Taylor Perkins and Molly vanLuling, who volunteered their time once a week after school. "Los estudiantes de Kinder son muy inteligentes"



Mrs. Kelly's and Mrs. Simpson's Students Sharing Books Together

Every other week, Mrs. Kelly's 3rd grade class and Mrs. Simpson's kindergarten class get together to read together. The students buddy up and bring some of their favorite stories to share.



Great Falls Third Graders Meet Their USM Pen Pals

This year the third graders at Great Falls have had pen pals from USM. Their pen pals are all student athletes. They have been writing back and forth all year. The third grade was able to take a trip to USM to spend the day watching the USM Huskies baseball team with their pen pals.



On April 30, the McAllister-Tibbitts team had a guest poet. In addition to being Noah and Grace Flynn's mother, Mrs. Flynn is a published poet and college professor. She came in to discuss imagery, figurative and sensory language with us. We listened to and wrote some poems some with strong imagery and creative language.



Great Falls Heart Heroes! Many Great Falls students were recognized recently for their exceptional fund raising efforts during the Jump Rope For Heart fundraiser. They received T-Shirts from the American Heart Association. All together, the Gorham Elementary Schools raised an astounding \$12,556!

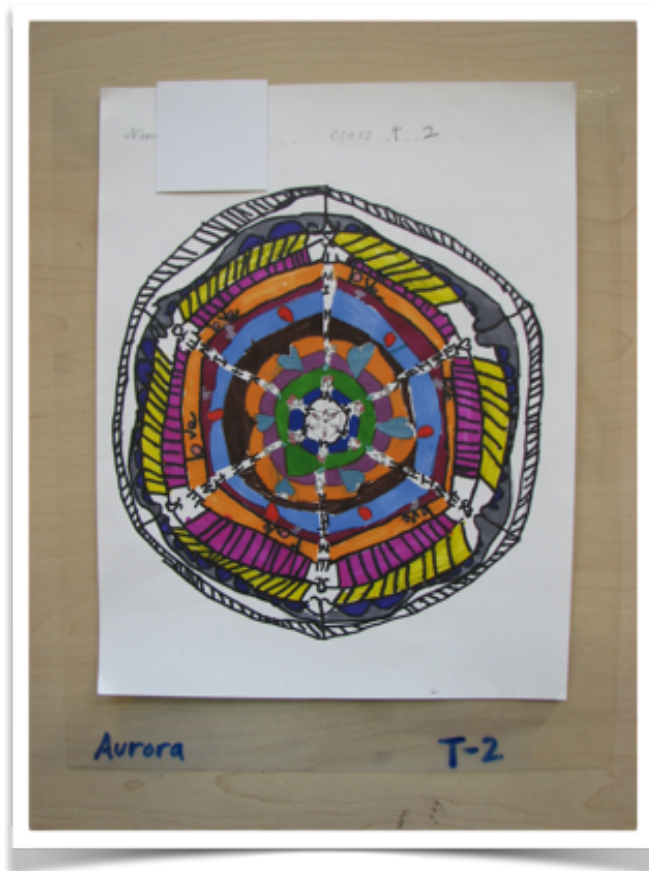
GHS and GF Art Collides

Recently, Gorham High School students in Mrs. Stein's class did write poems from a special source of inspiration. Their poems were all based on pieces of art that were created by Great Falls students.

An **ekphrastic** poem is a vivid description of a scene or, more commonly, a work of art. Through the imaginative act of narrating and reflecting on the "action" of a painting or sculpture, the poet may amplify and expand its meaning. The High School students worked with their teacher, Mrs. Stein, to create poems to go along with the photos of Art that Mrs. Rimkunas sent to them. Mrs. R. randomly picked work from different classes and did not tell the High School students what the pictures were about. The high school students came up with some very cool poems. Of course, the Art was inspirational!

Love

by Isacc Emerson



Love is beautiful,
Love is what makes the Earth go
around,
Love can come in many different
shapes, sizes, and color
Love could be in the shape of a heart,
Love could be the shape of a teddy bear
given on Valentines Day,
Love could be as big as the ocean blue,
Or as small as a pond,
Love could be blue, red, orange, black,
purple, yellow and, gray
Love is what makes the Earth go
around

Emerald Gem

Summer simmers down, stroking the track,
The metallic hums zooming by,
Sunlight glistens an emerald car as it flies faster than lightning,
Driven by never-ending ambition and motivation,
Fueled by hard-work and a daring spirit,
Fans stare in eternal awe as the glittering gem zooms to victory,
The daredevil inside clutches a leathery wheel,
Tires screech like eagles as they race forward in pride,
The crowd reaches for the edge of their seats,
Eyes wide as the moon,
the lime racer zips by, blowing their hair and stealing their breath,
It flies past, victorious,
The emerald racer wins again,
the race is won,
this day is done.



Kaitlyn

Charlie

0419

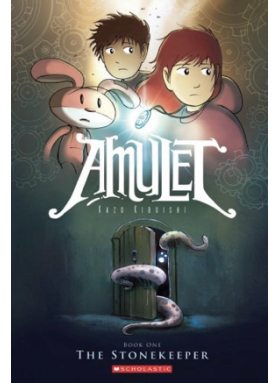
Amulet

By Kazu Kibushi

Review By Lucien

The Amulet series is a journey of a lifetime. If you like books by Kazu Kibuishi then you'll love amulet. When a girl finds a stone that's an amulet, she does not know its true power.

This is the most awesome book, and series, in the world. It's filled with action, mystery, and awesomeness. You need to read it! It's one of my favorites!

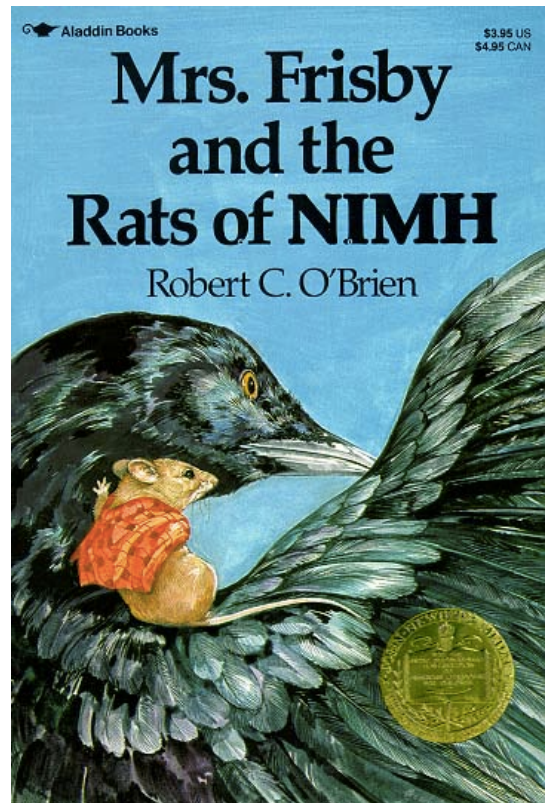


Mrs. Frisby and The Rats of NIMH

By Robert C. O'Brien

Review By Nash and Erin

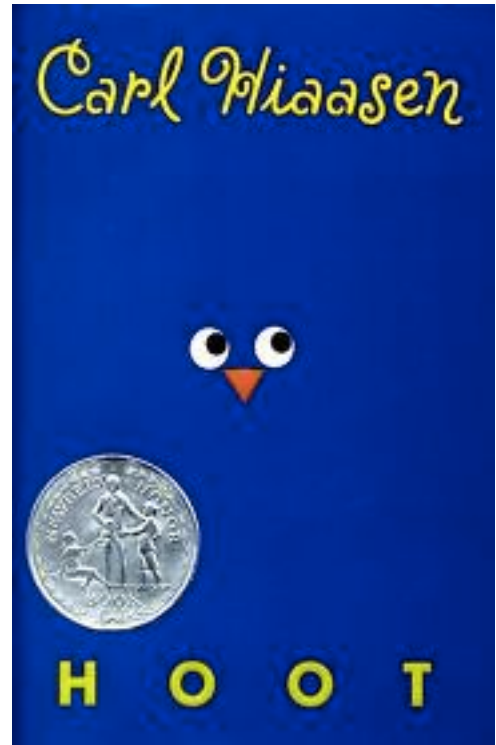
Mrs. Frisby and The Rats of Nimh is a never-ending adventure, with all kinds of twists and turns, that you'll never forget. As a mouse widow it is hard to raise 4 children, especially when 1 has pneumonia and can't get out of bed, and the plow is coming in 5 days. Now it is a race against time to move the house and save the children. Mrs. Frisby makes many friends on her journey. When she meets The Rats of NIMH she finds that they are not your ordinary rats. This book will keep you on the edge of the seat until the end of the book!



HOOT

Review By Hannah & Ali

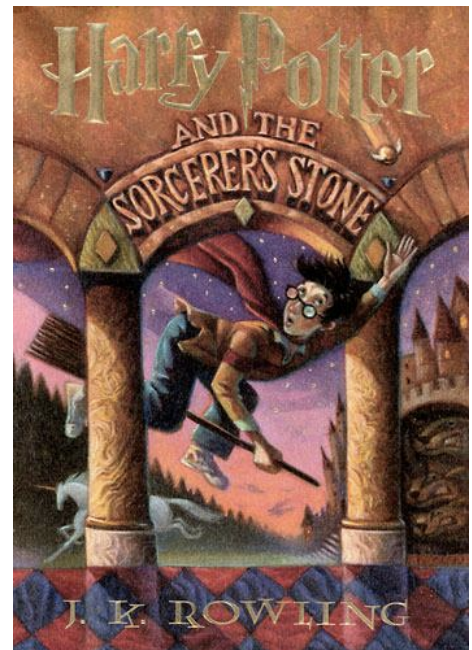
If you're looking for an adventurous book you should read *Hoot* by Carl Hiaasen. We think *Hoot* is a great book. *Hoot* is about a kid named Roy Eberhardt who just moved to Florida and meets a kid who calls himself Mullet Fingers. Mullet Fingers is trying to save some burrowing owls. Roy wants to help, but doesn't know how to. The city is building a pancake house right where the owls are burrowing. It is illegal to destroy burrowing owls habitat, but the governor doesn't realize the burrowing owls are there. Though the person who is building it does know about the owls. Can Roy and Mullet Fingers save the owls? Find out in *Hoot*!



Harry Potter And The Sorcerer's Stone

Review By Benjamin and Nolan

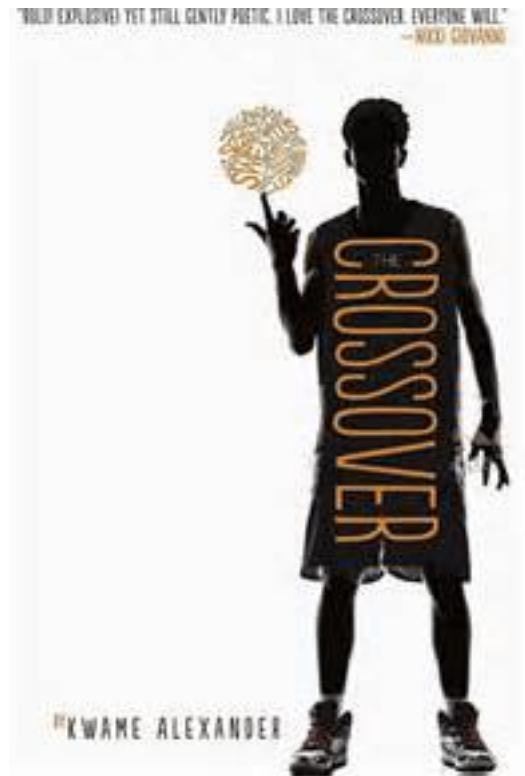
Harry Potter is living with his aunt and uncle. His bedroom is the cupboard under the stairs and he is treated like the house butler. One day, he receives a letter, but before he can read it, his uncle tears it up. The next day he receives another letter and his uncle tears that one up too. One day, thousands of millions of letters arrive at the house for Harry. His uncle is so ANNOYED that they move out to a cabin on an island (it also happens to be Harry's birthday.) Harry is looking at his watch when suddenly the door breaks down. Harry is about to learn two things: what he is, and how his parents really died. Read the book for more!



The Crossover Book Review

By: Annika

The Crossover is a really good book from the beginning to the end. The crossover is about those two boys named Josh and Jordan who both love to play basketball. Their dad is a retired NBA player. The book is really heart warming in some parts, and the other parts are just amazing! If you like basketball and good books than you will like *The Crossover*.



Wing of Fire Book Review By Zoe

If you like books with some **action** you will like Wings of Fire by Tui T. Sutherland. Sutherland makes you feel like you're in the book with the characters. This story is going to make you sad and a little bit scared. In this book there are five Dragonets (teenage dragons), Clay, Tsunami, Glory, Sunny, and Starflight. They each have their own powers. This story is about these five Dragonets fighting to stop the war between three Sandwing dragon princesses Burn, Blister, and Blaze. They are fighting for a spot as queen. Do they stop the war? Read the series to find out!

