Freshmen in Cory Richardson's Physical Science class are studying nuclear fission (radioactive decay). They used mousetraps and small balls (atoms) to simulate what happens when a neutron hits a larger mass and splits into smaller mass. The balls bounce around when triggered by the mousetraps—fast at first, then more slowly, modeling the half-life rate of decay. Very cool!

Upcoming Events

- January is National Braille Literacy Month
- 1/18-22 No Name Calling Week
- 1/19 Popcorn Day
- Monday 1/17 Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday (no classes)
- Monday 1/17 Transportation Day
- 1/18 & 19 Dorm shopping at Dollar General
- 1/26 Academic Bowl Team Ranking Test
- 2/4 Mid-Quarter 3
Sometimes, you just need a break from learning because your brain feels full but your belly feels empty! Elementary students and staff have a fun time socializing every day at lunch—and once bellies are full, it is time to go back and fill up the brain some more!

GSD’s Tasty Tiger Café is still going strong! The high school students who run the café (with the assistance of Jo Nickelson, Graduation Coach) have become much more proficient at making drinks and snacks, taking orders, and serving as cashier and wait staff. The menu has expanded and special menu items are featured, such as the seasonal pumpkin spice latte offered in December! Delicious!

January is National Braille Literacy Month. Louis Braille, who developed the tactile code, was born 4 January 1809. A Frenchman who became blind as a young child, Braille invented the braille system when he was only 15 years old! The system spread and, with small variations, is used around the world. Braille said, “Access to communication in the widest sense is access to knowledge, and that is vitally important for us...We must be treated as equals - and communication is the way we can bring this about.”

Did you know braille is used at GSD? Some people are deafblind or are deaf with low vision. Using ASL and braille are key ways for people who are deafblind to access communication. Braille is a wonderful tool that allows the world of information to open.

Top left: “ASL meets Braille” (shown in text, braille, and ASL).
Top right: a woman shows the ASL sign for braille
Left: black and white drawing of Louis Braille