



Grant Gazette

At Grant Elementary **WE** Learn the Way, To Know the Way, To Show the Way!

Grant Elementary School
 425 West Upham Street
 Marshfield, WI 54449

January 2026

Welcome Back Students! Happy New Year, 2026!

I hope that everyone had a relaxing and festive Christmas/Holiday Break! It's that time of year once again when we all think about, talk about, or at least consider making some new year resolutions. With that in mind, I would like to offer up some suggestions, or "resolutions" parents/guardians can make together with their child/children in helping them to be as successful as possible at school. Please consider "Mr. Damrau's Study Tips for Success" when making "resolutions" (goals) with your child/children.

Mr. D's Practice/Study Tips To Support Your Child In Being A Successful Student!

Make sure your child has a quiet, well-lit place to read and/or do homework. Avoid having your child read or do homework with the television on or in places with other distractions, such as people coming and going.

Read with your child daily/nightly. Set up a daily/nightly schedule to read with your child. Speak with your child's teacher to determine an appropriate amount of time. Take turns reading.

Make sure the materials your child needs, such as paper, pencils and a dictionary, are available. Ask your child if special materials will be needed for some projects and get them in advance.

Help your child with time management. Establish a set time each day for reading, math facts practice, and/or doing homework. Make every attempt to not let your child leave reading practice/homework until just before bedtime. Think about using a weekend morning or afternoon for working on big projects, especially if the project involves getting together with classmates.

Be positive about reading, math facts review, and homework. Remind your child how important learning and school is. The attitude you express about their studies will be the attitude your child acquires.

When your child does homework/practice, mirror that practice. Show your child that the skills they are learning are related to tasks you do as an adult. If your child is reading, you read too. If your child is practicing math, balance your checkbook. Make correlations to daily life activities.

When your child asks for help, provide guidance, not answers. Giving answers means your child will not learn the material. Too much help teaches your child that when the going gets challenging, someone will do the work for him or her.

When the teacher asks that you play a role in supporting practice (reading, math facts), make every effort to help if possible. Cooperate with the teacher as best you are able. It shows your child that school and home are a team, working together for his/her benefit.

Stay informed – review classroom teacher notes, updates, and newsletters. Talk with your child's teacher. Make sure you know and understand how often reading and math facts practice should occur at home, and the purpose behind any homework.

Watch your child for signs of frustration. Let your child take a short break if he/she is having trouble keeping his/her mind on an assignment. Contact your child's teacher if/when you witness struggles with a concept or skill.

Reward progress. If your child has been successful in improving reading and math scores, celebrate that success with a special event (e.g., pizza, a walk, a trip to the park, playing a game with them) to reinforce the positive effort.



Here's to wishing everyone a happy and successful new year in 2026!

Mr. Jeff Damrau
 Principal, Grant Elementary

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DATES TO REMEMBER

- January 5** School Resumes
- January 6** 2:50pm Cribbage Club
** 6th & 1st grade only
- January 8** 2:50 Battle of the Books
- January 12** 2nd Quarter Ends
- January 13** 4:00 PTO Scotty's Pizza Night
- January 14** 4:00 PTO Meeting
- January 15** 2:50 Battle of the Books
Martin Luther King Jr. Day
- January 19** No School—Professional Staff
Workday
- January 20** 2:50pm Cribbage Club
** 6th & 1st grade only
3:30 Parent Teacher conferences
- January 22** 2nd Qtr report cards released
2:50 Battle of the Books
3:30 Parent Teacher conferences

JANUARY*

A Note from your Assistant Principal

I hope that you have all enjoyed the holidays together and are geared up for the rest of the winter season. While some things are a little different this year with our construction, I think it would be safe to say that the students have been flexible and adaptable!

Third graders at recess just before the first snowfall of the season!



Our annual visit from the High School Madrigals prior to the holiday break.



Warm Wishes,
~Mrs. Banser, Assistant
Principal

banserj@marshfieldschools.org
(715)384-4747





January 2026 Newsletter

Upcoming events:

- Ring in the new year at Melody Gardens on Friday, Jan. 2! Skate and rentals are \$4. Wear your Grant gear/school colors and join your friends and family at the skate rink. All are welcome/open to the public.
- You're invited! Mark your calendar for the Grant Elementary PTO Meetings – everyone is welcome to attend! Meetings are held in the Grant library at 4 pm. If you can't make it but are interested in learning more, send us an email! If you need to, bring your kiddos along, you can – there is plenty of room in the library!
 - Meeting dates: Jan. 14, Feb. 18, March 25, April 15, May 13.
- Culver's Night - Jan. 27 from 5 pm - 8 pm
- Scotty's Pizza Community Night - January 13
- Parent Teacher Conferences - January 20 & 22
- Snack Attack Fridays! IT'S BACK!! Fridays: Jan 30, Feb. 27, March 27, April 24. We will be selling the most requested snacks made by students! Please send \$1.00 or \$2.00 in a zip lock bag with your student's name on it.

Teacher Wish Lists:

- PTO asked the teachers to create classroom wish lists in case anyone wants to donate to their child's classroom! If you'd like to support, check out the attached links—every contribution goes directly toward making their classrooms even better for our students.

How has the PTO served our awesome students, teachers, and staff?

December was all about the students, teachers and staff:

- Provided a variety of treats for the teachers and staff each Friday in December.
- Each student enjoyed a cup of hot cocoa with marshmallows and cream!
- Forward Bank bake sale raised money for upcoming activities and supplies.

Interested in helping to support your student(s)? Ideas on what we can offer for the amazing students, staff, and teachers? We'd love to hear from you so send us a note!

GrantElemPTOmfd@gmail.com

Find us on Facebook and stay updated: Grant Elementary PTO – Marshfield, WI
Scan here to go to the Facebook page:





A Spotlight on Libraries

By Kelly Vaver

Where can parents go to find literary resources for their children, explore unique programs, and not pay a cent? The public library! With the

magic of a simple library card, kids and parents can check out books, music, movies, and so much more! Some libraries allow kids to check out board games, puzzles, and STEM kits. At the Everett Roehl Marshfield Public Library, people can reserve meeting rooms and borrow equipment such as digital talking book players and multi media projectors.

The library offers a wide variety of programming for kids, teens, and adults. Young children can participate in the “Read 1,000 Books Before Kindergarten” program where they can earn books and prizes when their parents read to them. In the summer, people of all ages can sign up for reading challenges and obtain raffle tickets for prizes. The library also offers story time, water play for toddlers, Lego nights, board game events, and teen programming. Adults can get tech help, study ancestry in the library’s genealogy room, attend gardening classes, join a book club, and more. The library also offers presentations from live musicians, authors, local dance groups, etc.

If you haven’t been to a public library lately, you’re missing out on all the fun! Stop by the Everett Roehl Marshfield Public Library or visit online at marshfieldlibrary.org.

Parent Cafe Series: It Takes a Village to Grow Healthy Children & Happy Homes

Marshfield YMCA

410 W McMillan Street, Marshfield WI

5:30-7:30PM



SCAN ME!



Mondays Evenings

1/12/26 - Healthy Habits, Happy Homes
2/09/26 - 1 Heart, 2 Homes
3/09/26 - Stronger than a 4-Leaf Clover
4/13/26 - Raising Confident Children
5/11/26 - Making Time for You
6/08/26 - Moving into Summer: *Keeping Kids Engaged and Parents Sane*

5:30pm: Family Meal

Enjoy a dinner with family before the Cafe begins

6:00pm: Cafe Discussion

Join other families for a safe and supportive conversation rooted in the Protective Factors that keeps families strong. Share your struggles and victories while learning from one another.

7:00pm: Giveaways and Wrap Up

Select a book or game for your family to take home, and pick up children from childcare area



CHILD ABUSE & NEGLECT
Prevention Board



Wood County
Health Department



New this Year - Winter Farmers Market in Marshfield

Big news! The newly formed [Marshfield Farmers Market Co-operative](#) will be hosting a Winter Farmers Market in Marshfield at the 2nd Street Community Center on Saturdays from 9:00 AM – 2:00 PM starting January 10th. Go to their [Facebook Event Page](#) and let them know you'll be going! Find food producers, craft vendors and catch up with the Farmers Market community in Marshfield! Can't wait to see you there. This work has been supported by our Regional Farmers Market Coordinator. Tell your friends & let's make it a great winter market for years to come!

Food Resources in Wood County

New Resource!

Our team put together this map of Food Resources in Wood County. You will find listings for food pantries, community meal sites, and more [here!](#)

The map is interactive and is meant to be used online by clicking the link, rather than just looking at the picture. When you open the map, you can click on the different locations for details like hours, contact information, and more.

Microtransit Service in Wood County

The Wood County Health Department, in partnership with Feonix Mobility Rising, are working on planning and operating a microtransit service in Wood County and the surrounding area, called Central Wisconsin Catch a Ride. Data from Wood County's most recent Community Health Assessment (CHA) identified transportation as an area of need for those in our county. With input from members of the Marshfield Chamber Foundation's Leadership Marshfield 2025 cohort, Central Wisconsin Catch a Ride was proposed. The program would be a part of Feonix Mobility Rising's nationwide network of microtransit services, designed to provide reliable and safe transportation for rural communities.

Central Wisconsin Catch a Ride will primarily focus on rides to healthcare, employment, and education — with the opportunity for basic needs rides to places like the grocery store or pharmacy as capacity allows. Rides can be booked over the phone or through an app supported by Feonix Mobility Rising at least 24 hours in advance. Rides will cost an estimated \$3-5 per leg of the trip, but the fee has not yet been set. Car seats will be available for riders who have children but must be requested when booking a ride.

The program is hoping to be operational in May of 2026 but needs community support to make it happen. Donations can be made to the [Marshfield Area Community Foundation page](#). You can also follow Central Wisconsin Catch a Ride on Facebook. If your organization is interested in donating monetary funds, in-kind resources, partnering on a rider contract, or learning more about the service, please reach out to cwcatcharide@gmail.com.

LifePoint Program Updates

Wood County Health Department offers weekly syringe services through the LifePoint Program as a satellite site of Vivent Health. The program has several exciting updates happening in 2026:

Time Change

The Wisconsin Rapids program will operate on Wednesdays from **Noon – 2:00 p.m.** at the River Block Building (111 W Jackson Street, 3rd Floor).

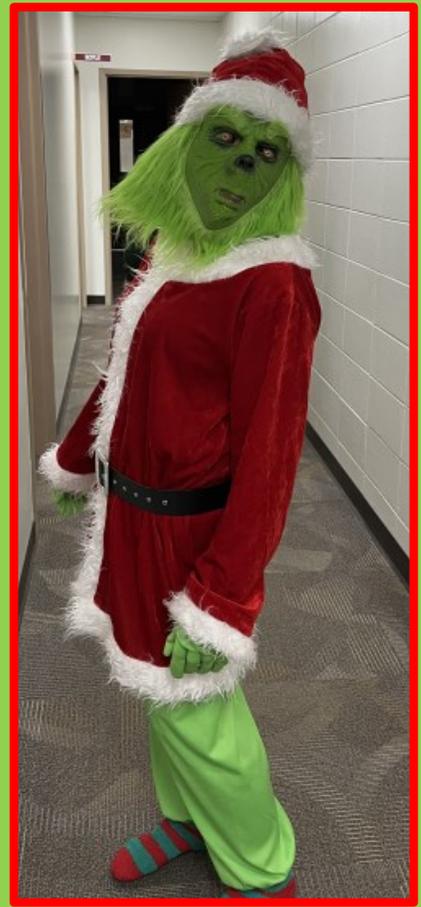
Program Expansion

Beginning January 5, the LifePoint Program will be offered in **Marshfield on Mondays from Noon – 2:00 p.m.** at Patriot Tower (630 S Central Avenue, 5th Floor).

With the upcoming holiday season, the Wisconsin Rapids Program will be closed on Wednesday, December 24 and Wednesday, December 31. Find more information about the program on the [Wood County LifePoint Program webpage](#)

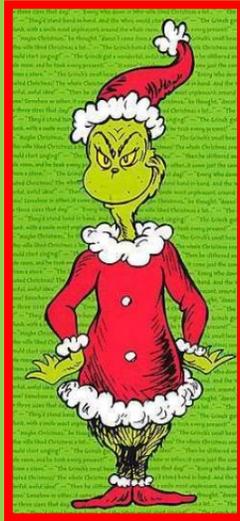
Grinch Day Fun

Students had fun when the Grinch popped into classrooms to make some mischief one Friday in December to celebrate the upcoming holidays.



Maybe Christmas
doesn't come
from a store.
Maybe Christmas,
perhaps, means
a little bit more.







Winter Concert

MINTEL CONCERT



1st and 3rd grade students performed winter concerts at a new venue this year due to construction. Thank you to Mrs. Yadon and the classroom teachers for all their hard work and flexibility to make the performances a success. Also, thank you parents for being so understanding of the changes this year.



REMINDER: Please have your child(ren) bring all their snow gear to school after winter break, the cold weather is here to stay and children will go out at recess whenever the temperature is 0 and above.

