Sherman Central School District Newsletter Winter 2026

PAW PRINTS



IN THIS ISSUE

Superintendent's Message
Principal's Message
CSP Merger Information
Badminton Tournament
Track and Field Information
Winter Sports Highlights
High School Musical
Library News
Quarter 1 Honor and Merit Roll
Quarter 1 Students of the Quarter
Farm to Table Announcement
National Honor Society
Class News
Artist Spotlight
Drama Club Announcement

Respect and Responsibility Awards

At the end of 1st Quarter, we celebrated our students for demonstrating the character traits of Respect and Responsibility. Our 5th graders did an amazing skit during the awards assembly to highlight these important traits. Congratulations to our young actors who pulled it all together: Nolan Ames, Nevaeh Crandall, Miranda Gordon, Ida Jones, Nadia Kranz, Annabelle Lear, Charlie Long, Penelope Stow, Lucy Swanson, and Leighlon Whitehead.







PreK & Kindergarten:
Wyatt Mattocks, Nora Maynard, Zoey Farnham, Adelyn Miller, Harley Orton, Avery Eckwahl, Paxtyn Motherwell

1st and 2nd Grades
Gracelyn Miller, Willa Weise, Paisley Work, Charlotte Kobielski, Ellie Lou Marino, Kenai Hamilton, Abigail Douglas, Lawson Reed, Holden Taylor, Archer Taylor

3rd and 4th Grades
Hayden Weise, Isaac Kobielski, Talia Owens, Charlotte Work, Shawn Tyma, Owen Scadden, Lillian Maynard, Arianna Dulmus

Superintendent's Message



As we move through the heart of winter, I want to take a moment to thank our entire school community for the understanding, patience, and flexibility that have been shown over the past several weeks. This winter has brought extremely cold temperatures and significant snowfall, making day-to-day operations more challenging than usual.

I am incredibly grateful to our students, families, faculty, and staff for working together during weather-related delays, schedule adjustments, and Superintendent's Days. Your cooperation allows us to always prioritize what matters most; the safety of our students and staff. I would also like to extend a special commendation to our outstanding Transportation Department.

Our courageous and dedicated drivers work tirelessly in difficult conditions to ensure our students arrive at school safely each day. Without their commitment and professionalism, many of our school days simply would not be possible. We truly appreciate all that they do for our district.

A Focus on Vocabulary Across the District

This year, vocabulary development has been a major instructional focus throughout the district. Each department and grade level has been working toward monthly goals designed to strengthen students' word knowledge and comprehension skills. We are excited about the progress our students are making and the creative ways our staff continues to promote literacy across all subject areas.

Professional Development and Continuous Growth

At the end of January, our teachers participated in a Professional Development Day focused on several important initiatives:

- The Science of Reading – strengthening instructional practices based on research to support literacy development for all learners
- A Portrait of a Graduate – outlining the skills, attributes, and competencies we want every student to develop by graduation
- Accommodations and Modifications – taking a deeper dive into how we support diverse learning needs to ensure student success

These sessions reflect our district's commitment to continuous improvement and providing high-quality instruction for every student.

Supporting Our Students' Well-Being

I would also like to recognize our student board member, Brookelynn Wright, for assisting with the implementation of a daily snack program for students in grades 7–12. Through cafeteria funds, we have been able to provide snacks during the 4th period to support our older students who have later lunch periods. This initiative helps ensure students have access to food throughout the day. We appreciate Brookelynn's leadership and advocacy in helping make this program possible.

As always, I am proud of the hard work and dedication shown throughout our district. Even during a challenging winter season, our school community continues to come together to support students and move forward in positive ways. Thank you for your continued partnership and support.

Sincerely,

Carrie Yohe
Superintendent of Schools

Principal's Message



Dear Wildcat Families,

As winter settles in, I am proud to share several highlights that reflect the great work happening across our PreK–12 school community. Thanks to the dedication of our students, staff, families, and community partners, we continue to make meaningful progress toward our goals.

A major instructional focus this year is ensuring that explicit vocabulary instruction is taking place in 90% of classrooms. Strong vocabulary skills support learning in every subject and at every grade level. I'm excited to report that we are already seeing this instruction in 72% of classrooms, a strong foundation that speaks to the thoughtful planning and intentional teaching happening daily. Ongoing professional development and collaboration throughout the year will continue to support our teachers as we work toward reaching and exceeding this goal.

We are also committed to improving student attendance, knowing that consistent presence in school is one of the most powerful factors in student success. Chronic absenteeism defined as missing 10% or more of the school year remains an important area of focus. Currently, 8.8% of our elementary students and 14.6% of our middle and high school students fall into this category, numbers similar to this time last year. While there is work to be done, we are encouraged by the conversations, supports, and partnerships taking place to help students be present, engaged, and connected each day.

One of the highlights of the year has been our Monthly Activity Period days, which have been a tremendous success. Students follow an abbreviated afternoon schedule and then participate in a 45-minute club of their choice, allowing them to explore interests, build friendships, and connect with staff in new ways. The energy and enthusiasm during these afternoons has been wonderful to see! Students will have the opportunity to select new clubs for the next marking period, keeping the experience fresh and exciting.

Important Upcoming Dates:

- Spring Break: 4/3-4/10. We encourage students to enjoy their time with family, rest, and recharge.
- SAT Administration: 4/15. For students in 11th and 12th grade.
- End of Year Carnival: 6/4.

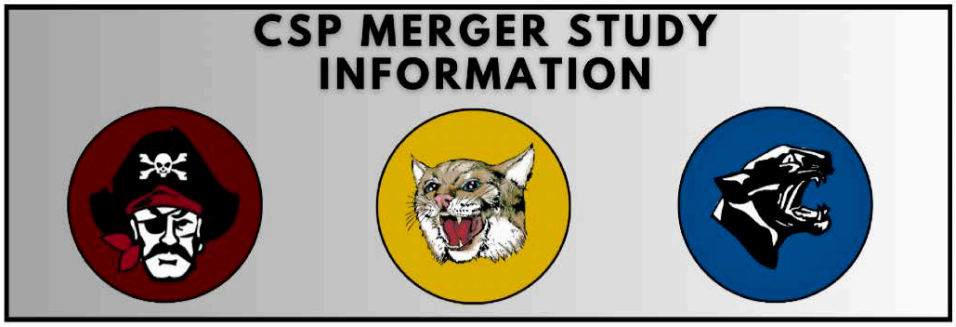
As we look ahead to spring, we do so with optimism, momentum, and gratitude. Thank you for your continued support and partnership as we work together to create engaging learning experiences and a strong, supportive school community for all students.

Warm regards,
Mrs. Leslie Melquist
Principal, Sherman Central School





CSP Merger Information



CSP Merger Feasibility Study Update: Stay Informed & Engaged!

The three school districts are committed to transparency and community engagement throughout the CSP merger feasibility study. We have launched several new resources to ensure every resident, parent, student, and staff member can stay informed and provide vital input.

CSP Merger Feasibility Information Hub

We are thrilled to introduce the new online CSP Merger Feasibility Study Information Hub. This is your central hub for all project information. The dashboard provides:

- **Project Updates & Timelines:** Follow the progress with key dates and milestones
  Share Your Voice: Participate in our official feedback survey to help shape the future
- **Meeting info:** Stay informed of dates and find recordings for public meetings
- ? **Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) & Resources:** Get answers to your questions.

Bookmark this link now: CSPhub.org

Frequently Asked Questions

Please be sure to check out the Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) document located in the CSPhub.org. This document addresses common questions we've received regarding the purpose, progress, and scope of the study. If you have specific questions that are not covered in the FAQ, please email our study team directly at: CSPstudy@e2ccb.org.

Community Forum Meetings

We're kicking off a series of community forums for the Clymer, Sherman, and Panama CSDs, hosted by White and Partners. Mark your calendars and join us at one (or all!) informative sessions:

Date	Time	Location
February 23, 2026	7:00 PM	Clymer CSD - SPC
March 9, 2026	7:00 PM	Sherman CSD - Auditorium
March 11, 2026	7:00 PM	Panama CSD - Auditorium

Thank you for staying informed.

Badminton

The Physical Education Department held a Badminton tournament for interested high school students the last day before winter recess, on December 18th. High school students participated in a badminton unit during the month of December with the badminton tournament being the culminating event. 19 teams of 38 individuals in a single elimination tournament vied for the ultimate championship crown. There were many close games that brought 2 teams together to show off their skills in the final round. This year's final championship game included Troy Chambers, a returning champion from last year and his new partner Jacob Ferranto facing off against Talon Persons and Gabe Kopta. The final round was a game to 21 points and after a back and forth game, the seniors pulled away for the win. Congratulations Troy Chambers and Jacob Ferranto and thank you to the rest of the participants.



Track and Field

2026 Track and Field Signups

Signups for Varsity and Modified Track and Field are located outside of room 307. If you have any questions about Varsity and Modified Track, please email Mr. Morano at dmorano@shermancsd.org or in his room (307). There are many opportunities to discover hidden talents, enhance running skills, or improve strength and conditioning. Track and field provides a supportive and tight knit community for athletes.



Winter Sports Highlights

Winter sports are well underway at SCS, and our student-athletes have been busy competing across a wide range of programs. The season began with Modified Girls Basketball, and we'd like to congratulate the team on a great season. Their effort, growth, and commitment did not go unnoticed.

This winter has also featured JV and Varsity Girls and JV and Varsity Boys Basketball, Boys and Girls Bowling, Girls Wrestling, and Boys Swimming. In the new year, Modified Boys Basketball tipped off, rounding out an active and exciting winter sports season. Many of these teams are still competing, and we continue to cheer them on and wish them the best of luck.

We are extremely proud of all our student-athletes for their dedication, teamwork, and school spirit.
Due to winter weather, schedules have changed frequently. For the most up-to-date athletic information, please visit www.shermancsd.org and click on the Athletics tab.

























High School Musical

Congratulations to the cast and crew for a wonderful production of “High School Musical” this past fall!























Library News

In December, we read several stories about "Rockefeller," a little owl who became trapped in a Norway Spruce that was cut, bundled up, and transported to NYC to be the Rockefeller Center Christmas tree in 2020. We compared multiple stories, we researched several species of owls, we charted wing spans, and students tested each other's owl knowledge with an owl puppet that could "answer" yes/no questions. After Christmas break, students experimented with coding using two different robotics kits: Cubelets and Cubetto.











Quarter 1 Honor and Merit Roll

Congratulations to these students for achieving Honor or Merit Roll for the 1st Quarter!

12th Grade Honor Roll
Elias Armes, Albert Burkett, Troy Chambers, Jacob Ferranto, Mary Fuller, Kamryn Heinert, Delilah Heverley, Scott James, Mason Moore, Miranda Reed, Allison Rhebergen, Jordan Spitale, Delilah Stoddard, Larsen Swan, Brookelynn Wright

12th Grade Merit Roll
Joseph Davis, Riley Johnson

11th Grade Honor Roll
Iona Burkholder, Caleb Cook, Moss Davis, Gracen Eddy, Madison Emory, Jasper Eschenbach, Adrienne Eshelman, Carlie Gable, Gabe Kopta, Kihomi Lilley, Kyle Maynard, Abigail Mellors, Elias Mendoza, Bria Palmatier, Talon Persons

11th Grade Merit Roll
Hayden Chambers, Cadence Courtney, Evan Gratto, Kaden Hallowell, Ethan Johnson, Parker Kopta, Arcana Osterhoudt, Tayler Pinzok, Brianna Reeves, Abriella Wasberg

10th Grade Honor Roll
Payson Altsman, Elliye-Mae Ball, Jayne Chambers, Jonathan Coblentz, Emmerson Faye Crawford, James Douglas, Lucas Gibbons, Kasen Gorée, Kimber Hetrick, Kiley Jones, Parker Kenyon, Natalie Kranz, Quinn Liffner, Shelby Melnick, Georges Meredith, Lincoln Minge, Baya Oehlbeck,Ella Paddleford, Bryce Pugh, Riley Rhebergen, Elle Ross, Ely Smith, Katelyn Whiteaker, Madalyn Wilson

10th Grade Merit Roll
Annabelle Fuller, Emily Lutgen, Aiden Walker

9th Grade Honor Roll
Peyton Biesik, Brody Bojarski, Paxton Britton, Bryce Cook, Amelia DeLellis, Ava-Kay Irwin, Aujhalon Kopta, Nolan Kranz, Kendall Martin, Miley Monticue, Adyson Newlands, Gavin Pangborn,Audrey Parnell, Aiden Woods

9th Grade Merit Roll
Hunter Courtney, Sandilyn Fraley, Lance Griswold, John Higby, Dakota Michael

8th Grade Honor Roll
Paige Altsman, Nelly Baker, Eli Barrett, Ariya Booker, Tyler Calhoun, Kayliann Fisher, Blake Henning, Audrey Johnson, Benson Lear, Parker Liffner, Xander Murray, Emma Oehlbeck, Luke Pinzok, Dylan Schmitz, Flynn Schmitz, Xander Schmitz, Ethan Taylor, Mia Whitehead, Emma Williams

8th Grade Merit Roll
Conner Buchholz, Carson Melnick

7th Grade Honor Roll
Everly Biesik, Chazz Bisbee, Connor Calhoun, Hannah Cook, Drake DeLand, Tye Douglas, Aubree Fraley, Aubrey Freeman, Wynslow Gilkinson, Brantley Hetrick, Ry-Lea Irwin, Riley Johnson,Aurora Kenyon, Owen Maynard, Clarence Meredith, Xavier Murray, Lexis Ross, Aynsley Shamburg

7th Grade Merit Roll
Kaile Blanchard, Jaxon Eddy, Brighton Fay-Vanderwork, Samuel Ferranto, Jase Goldberg, Madison Hotchkiss, Ahmet Ipekten, Zoey Long, Alex Milks

Quarter 1 Students of the Quarter

Sherman Central School's Senior High Student of the First Quarter is Albert Burkett. Albert is the son of Ronald and Dawn Burkett. He has two older brothers, Tyler and George. Albert's favorite course to take would be taking any of Mr. Morano's math classes. His hobbies include lifting weights, working out, and following the UFC. After graduation, Albert would like to attend the University of Buffalo to study dentistry/orthodontics.





Sherman Central School's Junior High Student of the First Quarter is Eli Barrett. Eli is the son of Steven (Julie) Barrett and Ashlynn Roudybush. He has four siblings, Callie, Beau, Dawson, and Theodore. His favorite courses to take are math and technology. In his free time, Eli enjoys trains, football, fishing, and hunting. After high school, he would like to attend Virginia Tech to study engineering.

Farm to Table Class

At the Board of Education meeting in November, Mrs. Maleski's Farm to Table class presented a delicious Thanksgiving meal! Students shared what Farm to Table means; where food moves directly from local fields or farms to your kitchen. They explained where they received their ingredients, how they prepared each dish, and even discussed the nutrients in their meals. Great job to Mrs. Maleski and her students for an informative (and tasty!) presentation!





National Honor Society

SCS proudly held its National Honor Society Induction Ceremony in November. The four pillars of NHS; Leadership, Scholarship, Service, and Character were highlighted throughout the evening, and our students truly embody each of these traits. We would like to extend a big congratulations to our newest NHS inductees.

Inductees:
Bria Palmatier
Jasper Eschenbach
Kihomi Lilley
Abigail Mellors
Adrienne Eshelman
Talon Persons
Carlie Gable
Caleb Cook

Current Members:
Albert Burkett
Jacob Ferranto
Mary Fuller
Kamryn Heinert
Larsen Swan
Brookelynn Wright















Class News- Prekindergarten

PreK had so much fun learning about Winter. We "made snow" to build snowmen, painted snowflakes, and made snowflakes with construction paper.











Class News- Kindergarten

Our kindergarteners have been busy learning and growing as we make our way through the school year! One exciting milestone we are counting toward is the 100th Day of School. Each day, students practice counting by ones and tens as we count our way to 100, building strong number sense and celebrating progress along the way.

In math, students are working hard on adding to 10 and subtracting within 10. Through hands-on activities, games, and real-life problem solving, they are gaining confidence with numbers and learning to explain their thinking. It's wonderful to see how much their math skills have grown!

Reading skills are also taking off! Our kindergarteners now recognize over 20 sight words, helping them become more fluent and confident readers. They love spotting sight words in books, around the classroom, and even at home.

In social studies, we are learning all about our community and what it means to live in a rural area. Students are exploring community helpers, local places, and how rural communities are special and unique. These lessons help them connect classroom learning to their everyday lives. Kindergarten is a great place for learning!

Class News- First Grade

In first grade, we are learning how to count money, tell time, and add three numbers. In Social Studies, we finished a unit about holidays around the world and talked about our own families holiday traditions. We talked about the Thanksgiving Day Parade, and had a lesson in directed drawing of one of the floats. Our science investigations have us learning how animals survive the cold and how some animals hibernate or migrate. In writing, we are focused on opinion writing, which is a fun way to get to know our classmates better. In SEL, we are learning how to cope with our many different feelings. We also successfully collected food for the local food bank, teaching our students empathy, generosity, and social responsibility.









Class News- Second Grade

It has been a magical and productive quarter in second grade! Our young scientists have been busy exploring the properties of matter, while in ELA, we've been traveling through enchanted lands in our fantasy book units. In writing, students have been sharpening their opinion writing skills by crafting heartfelt arguments to convince their teachers to get a class pet—we've been very impressed by their logic!

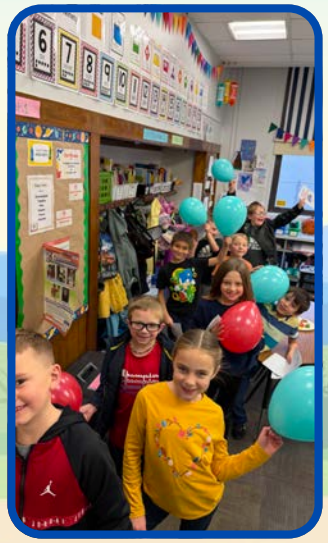
In math, we've mastered double-digit addition and subtraction and are now putting those skills to work as we learn to navigate money and time. We also capped off the season with a cozy "Polar Express" celebration, enjoying hot chocolate and holiday cheer in our pajamas. We are so proud of the growth our students have shown and can't wait for the adventures ahead!











Class News- Third Grade

The third grade classes enjoyed learning about several countries around the world and how they celebrate Christmas. It was a lot of fun to see the different traditions that they take part in and how some were very similar to ours, but some were very different! To celebrate each country, the classes had a taste of one of their traditional foods such as Rosca de Reyas from Mexico and Panettone from Italy. We also had a riot creating our own Gingerbread Houses to celebrate Germany! Special thanks to all of the volunteers that made that an incredible day for everyone! Both classes also had the pleasure of a visit from two special elves and even Santa dropped in to say hello! It was a fun month of learning and fun for all of us!!







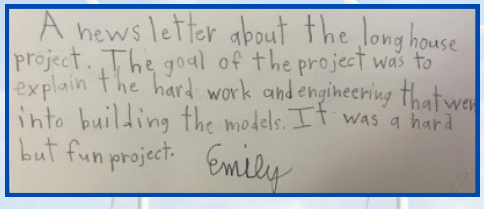




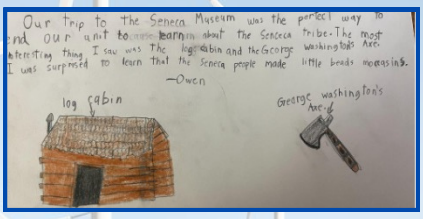


Class News- Fourth Grade

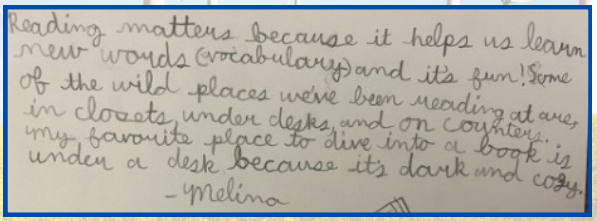
One of the constant focus points for our fourth grade math and science students is to become more independent as problem solvers. In **math** we have been diving deeper into place value and how it can help us better understand more complex concepts of multiplication and division. In the push for painting a clearer picture as we encounter our daily mathematical situations, we are striving more now than ever to enhance our vocabulary and master our standards. In **science** we are submerged daily in informational text, real world problem solving and activity based learning. Currently we are discussing the world's energy issues and developing better solutions for both energy consumption and production.













"Did you know that reading helps your brain? Yeah, it does! That is why reading is important. You can read anywhere; in the car, outside, in the dark, and even on the bus! Don't forget to read!" -Colton

Class News- Fifth Grade

The fifth grade has been busy with academics and activities! In Math we have been working on multiplying and dividing numbers that have decimal place values. We finished up our Space Unit with a great field trip to the Yahn Planetarium at Penn State Behrend, and knocked off one of our NYS Science Investigations. In ELA we just finished up our novel, Wonder, and are diving into context clues next!. We have also had an ever exciting week with BOCES presenters for Project Know!







Class News- Sixth Grade

The SCS 6th graders have jumped into new and exciting topics this quarter. In math, students have begun their introductory algebra units. They are learning that variables represent unknown quantities, how to evaluate expressions, and how to solve equations—building a strong foundation for higher-level math and problem-solving skills.

In science, our focus has been on the transfer of energy. Students participated in an integrated hands-on investigation to explore whether thermal energy transfers differently through various materials. This inquiry-based learning helped them connect scientific concepts with real-world applications. To wrap up the unit, students will undertake an engineering challenge: designing and constructing a working solar oven. This exciting module will encourage creativity, critical thinking, and collaboration as students apply their understanding of energy transfer practically and engagingly.

We are beginning an exciting new unit on informational reading. Students are exploring biographies and stories about how successful individuals achieved their success. We are focusing on identifying main ideas, supporting details, and how authors organize information in informational texts.

In Social Studies, we celebrated finishing our unit on India. Next, we will begin learning about China. Students can look forward to comparing cultures, geography, and historical contributions in the coming lessons.



Artist in the Spotlight: Kihomi Lilley



Watercolor Painting
"Shark in the Water"
Drawing & Painting



Cell Phone Case Design
"Untitled"
Drawing & Painting

My general art interests are in visual art, digital art, and the performing arts. Some of my favorite art classes I have taken over the years were Drawing and Painting along with Illustration and Animation. My favorite projects between the two classes were my water color whale shark from Drawing and Painting and my character creation in Illustration and Animation.

Some interesting things within my art style are I sneak in small things that remind me of my family into my art work. Most of the time I write the people within my family that inspired my art underneath the first coat of paint. In the future I intend to continue my art through college and continue to create art and make art within my community. My future plan for college is to work and become an art therapist to help children use and confirm their emotions through art.



Abstract Acrylic Painting
"Love"
Drawing & Painting



Abstract Acrylic Painting
"PerPal"
Drawing & Painting



Contour Drawing
"Self-Portrait"
Drawing & Painting



Watercolor Colored Pencil
"Portrait"
Drawing & Painting



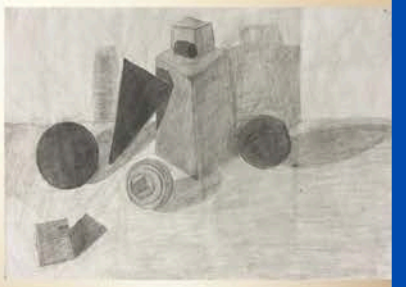
Watercolor
"Untitled"
Intro to Illustration



Peek-n-Peak Pumpkin
"Darwin"
Intro to Illustration



Acrylics on Canvas
"The Sun May Rise Again"
Drawing & Painting



Grayscale Still Life
"Untitled"
Drawing & Painting

Sherman Central School
PO Box 950
Sherman, NY 14781

Board of Education
Teresa Guzman, President
Brooke Long, Vice President
Emily Reynolds
Joe DeLellis
Kathy Sweatman

Not for Profit Organization
U.S. Postage
PAID
Permit No. 55
Mayville, NY 14757



