

GRAYMONT ELEMENTARY NEWSLETTER

Student Spotlight



Fall is in the air!
Olivia shows off a colorful
autumn leaf while
enjoying the beauty of the
changing seasons!

UPCOMING EVENTS

- * K-4th Grade Field Trip
October 19
Tanner's Orchard
- * 1st Quarter Awards
October 22
8:00am
- * Early Dismissal
October 22
2:00 pm dismissal for
Parent Teacher
Conferences
- * No School
October 23
- * Red Ribbon Week
October 26-30
- * 8th Grade Pre-ACT
October 28

hello
FALL



Graymont Students Selected for ILMEA District 3 Junior Festival



Clara Drilling, Emma Rinker, Alayna Chapman, Ms. Macey David

Congratulations to three Graymont Grade School students who have been selected to participate in the 2026 Illinois Music Education Association (ILMEA) District 3 Junior Festival! Alayna Chapman (Soprano), Clara Drilling (Soprano), and Emma Rinker (Flute) earned their spots through a competitive audition process that required dedication, preparation, and many hours of practice.

The ILMEA District Festival brings together talented junior high musicians from schools throughout the region to rehearse and perform under the direction of distinguished guest conductors. Students have the opportunity to collaborate with other young musicians, strengthen their musical skills, and experience performing as part of a larger ensemble.

We are incredibly proud of Alayna, Clara, and Emma for earning this recognition, as well as all of our Graymont students who dedicated their time and effort to auditioning. Their hard work and commitment to music are something to celebrate!



Starting the Day with a Positive Message



One of my favorite parts of the school day is having the opportunity to pop into classrooms and see what our students and teachers are doing. These visits give me a chance to see students in action—not only demonstrating what they know academically, but also how they interact with one another and put important life skills into practice.

This week, I stopped by Ms. Winchester's third and fourth grade classroom at the beginning of the day and had the opportunity to hear their class pledge. Each morning, the Star of the Day leads the class by saying the pledge one phrase at a time, along with hand motions, while classmates repeat each part.

Their class pledge says:

"In this class, we show respect. Because it's not what you know, it's what you do. We are kind. We are responsible for ourselves. We work hard and won't give up. We are smart and can do hard things. We are going to have a great day!"

What a great way to start the morning! I especially love the message that it's not just what you know, but what you do that matters. These simple words reinforce kindness, responsibility, perseverance, and confidence—qualities that extend well beyond the classroom.

It's little moments like these that remind me how much learning takes place in our classrooms beyond reading, writing, and math. What a wonderful way to set the tone for a great day!



Student Interviews

Written by Remle Minnaert



Lydia's favorite subject is math because she enjoys practicing her multiplication facts. One of her favorite things about school is getting to rearrange desks each year because it gives her a chance to sit next to her friends! When she grows up, Lydia hopes to become a lawyer so she can take bad guys to court and help keep people safe. When asked whether she would rather have ice cream at lunch or recess all day, Lydia chose ice cream because it's yummy (and I have to agree!). Her favorite vacation destination is Colorado, where she had the opportunity to go skiing!



REISE

2ND GRADE

Reise's favorite subject is art because he enjoys making all kinds of fun crafts. His favorite project so far has been creating flip books! When he grows up, Reise hopes to join the Army, just like his grandpa. When asked where he would go if he could vacation anywhere, Reise chose New Mexico. Although he has never been there, he has learned about it in school and would love to visit someday.



Buy, Sell, Trade, and Learn!

The first and second graders are putting their economics unit into real-life experience this week. They are the producers and are working to create goods and services to sell to their classmates. They will create signs to advertisements to put up at their individual booths. This all culminates with our Graymont Market on Friday, where they will have a chance to act as consumers and use their "Hinz Bucks" to purchase the goods and services being sold. Mrs. Hinz and Ms. Fenn will also have goods available for trade during this time. The students are so excited and have been working so hard to put what we have been learning into action!



A Flat-Out Fun Way to Learn Geography!



Ms. Winchester's third and fourth grade students are continuing their exploration of the different regions of the United States with the help of a special traveler—Flat Stanley!

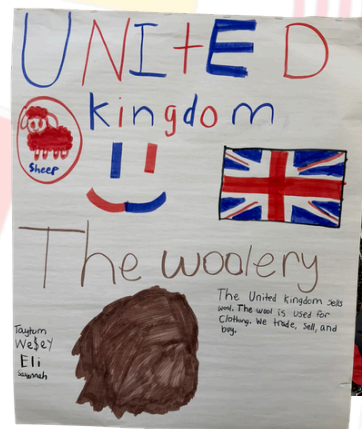
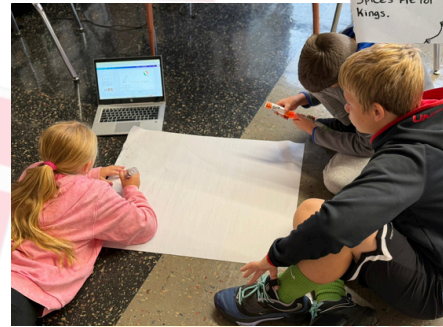
After reading the book Flat Stanley, students are putting their learning into action by writing letters and mailing their very own Flat Stanleys to people across the country. The hope is that recipients will share information about where they live, including interesting landmarks, local attractions, geography, and what makes their region unique.

This fun project combines reading, writing, geography, and real-world connections as students learn more about the diverse regions of our country. Students are excited to see where their Flat Stanleys travel and what they discover along the way. We can't wait to hear about their adventures!



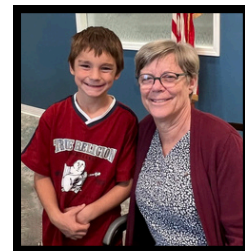
Trading Around the World

Our fifth and sixth grade students are exploring cultures, resources, and economics from around the world through a Mock Market project! Each student selects a country, researches its culture and available resources, and decides what goods or services they could sell or trade. Students then create a unique market name, design a logo, and develop a poster featuring their country's flag and products. This hands-on project combines geography, culture, economics, and creativity while helping students understand how resources influence trade around the world!



Building Connections Across Generations

Graymont's first and second graders visit Evenglow Senior Living each month as part of their community outreach efforts. Students and residents enjoy bingo, crafts, and time together while students learn about citizenship, community service, and connecting with others. It's wonderful to see the smiles these visits bring to everyone!



BREAKING NEWS- NEW PRINCIPAL!

BY ASHTYN RICH &
TAYTUM MAYS



ALL ABOUT MRS. MINNEART

THIS NEW PRINCIPAL'S NAME IS MRS. MINNAERT. WHEN SHE WAS A TEACHER, SHE LIKED TO TEACH AG AND READING. HER FAVORITE COLOR IS BLACK BECAUSE IT MATCHES WITH EVERYTHING. HER FAVORITE FOOD IS CHEESE CAKE. HER FAVORITE BOOK IS WHERE THE WILD THINGS ARE. HER FAVORITE THING TO DO ON THE WEEKEND IS SPEND TIME OUTSIDE WITH FAMILY. IF SHE GOT THE CHANCE TO HAVE A SUPERPOWER IT WOULD BE TO CREATE WHAT EACH STUDNT NEEDS IN THE CLASSROOM. HER DAUGHTER, REMLE, GOES TO THIS SCHOOL AND SHE IS IN 6TH GRADE.

MRS. MINNAERT IS A
WONDERFUL PRINCIPAL!

FUN FACTS

LIKES TO GARDEN



HAS BEEN TO 14
COUNTRIES



WHEN SHE WAS A KID, IF SHE AGREED TO TAKE CARE OF THE ANIMALS, SHE WAS ALLOWED TO BRING ANY ANIMAL HOME!



QUICK QUESTIONS

COFFEE OR TEA
AFTERNOON OR MORNING?
DOGS OR CATS?
MATH OR RECESS?
SKITTLES OR M&MS?
FOOTBALL OR SOCCER?
COUNTRY OR POP MUSIC?