

Grant At a Glance

Grant Elementary School ◦ 8511 County Rd WW ◦ Wisconsin Rapids WI 54494

From the Desk of Mr. B...

Winter Blues...



When will it ever end? It seems like winter and the ridiculous snowfall amounts just continue to grow by the day. It is March, right?

In meeting the required hours and minutes of instruction from the Department of Public Instruction, beginning this Monday, March 11th, the Grant School day will be extended by 15 minutes.

Our door opening bell will sound **at 8:35 a.m.** (five minutes early) and our dismissal bell will sound **at 3:50 p.m.** (10 minutes later) than normal.

In general, bus times will be 5 minutes earlier for pick-up and students will be dropped off 10 minutes later. Bus information will be updated in Skyward by Friday.

Let's all hope for a warm and sunny spring!

REMEMBER!



Turn your clocks ahead on Saturday night!

March 2019

Phone: 715-424-6766
For Attendance Press 1
Fax: 715-422-6384

**PLEASE CALL BEFORE
11 AM WITH ANY AFTER
SCHOOL CHANGES**



CALENDAR

- 08 School Carnival
- 11 School Day Start & Dismissal Times Change
- 15 2nd Trimester Progress Reports Available in Skyward Family Access
- 25-29 SPRING BREAK
(no school)

MEALTIME PRICES

Check your account at:
www.mymealtime.com

Breakfast	\$1.25
Adult Breakfast	\$1.85
Lunch	\$2.05
Adult Lunch	\$3.25
Child Visitor Lunch	\$2.45
Extra Milk/Juice	\$0.35

If eating lunch with a student, please RSVP by 9:00 a.m.

Mark Your Calendars Dates to Remember

School



Spirit Days

Friday, March 8th -

Youth Art Month

Make Grant Colorful!

KG = Purple / 1st = Blue

2nd = Green / 3rd = Yellow

4th = Orange / 5th = Red

Friday, March 15th -

Grant Grizzly Gear

Friday, March 22nd -

Dress Like a Pirate



Penny War Results

The results from the penny war for Malcolm McGregor are in!



Grant Grizzlies!!

In the end, after adding all the coins and subtracting all the dollars, Grant's total was **-\$62.06** and Central Oaks Academy's total was **-\$91.95**. The total amount raised for Malcolm and his family was **\$2,170**

We are truly humbled by the generosity of our community. A huge **THANK YOU** to all! Your support means so much to little Malcolm and his family!



Friday, March 8th

5:00 pm - 7:30 pm

FOOD

Portesi Cheese Fries = \$1.50 per slice

Hot Dogs = \$1.50

Nachos = \$1.50

Chips = \$0.50

Juice Boxes / Water = \$0.50

Soda Bottles = \$1.50

GAMES

Wristbands for unlimited game play are \$5 each.

Raffle Baskets

Raffle tickets are \$0.50 each

We have two **Grand Raffle Baskets** with those tickets costing \$5.00 each:

- An American Doll
- A 2 night stay at Warren's lodging next to Jellystone Park! You receive a stay in a Villa that sleeps 12 people, access to Jellystone Park Camp, Outdoor Waterpark, Water Wars, Lazy River and Mini-golf! This Grand Raffle Basket holds a retail value of \$813!!



Rapids Family Backpacks

'Rapids Family Backpacks' is a free weekend food program for school-aged children and their families.

How it works: Every Friday a plain backpack containing a meal, plus some meal "stretchers" like cereal and peanut butter, is placed in your child's locker. The backpack contains a recipe and all the non-perishable ingredients needed to create the meal. Your child returns the empty backpack to the office on Mondays.

***In addition to our usual rotation of meals, families also have the option now to receive traditional Asian food as an alternative.*

How to sign up: You can:

1. Fill out the enrollment form on the back and have your child return it to school
2. Contact your school's Rapids Family Backpacks Representative:
 - Grant- Shawn Pfeil, School Counselor, at (715) 424-6766
 - Grove- Rachel Sheets, School Social Worker, at (715) 424-6769
 - Howe- Barb Bondioli, School Social Worker, at (715) 424-6772
 - Mead- Lynette Simonar, School Social Worker, at (715) 424-6777
 - THINK- Janice Gerlach, School Counselor, at (715) 424-6784
 - Washington- Barb Bondioli, School Social Worker, at (715) 424-6788
 - Woodside- Becky Steckbauer, School Counselor, at (715) 424-6793

OR

3. Stop in the office at school

Each school has a limited number of backpacks available for each trimester. Sign up is first come, first serve. You will be contacted regarding whether or not you will be participating in the program.



Rapids Family Backpacks is a non-profit organization with a mission to alleviate hunger by providing a nutritious weekend meal-in-a backpack for families facing financial difficulties at Wisconsin Rapids Elementary Schools.

Eligibility:

Any student and their family are eligible for a backpack (as supplies are available) if they meet the following:

- Contacted an elementary school social worker and/or school counselor
 - 1st come 1st serve basis
- Enrollment form filled out with help from the elementary school social worker and/or school counselor (below)
- Signed a waiver (below)

Protocol for Receiving Backpack:

- Student will receive backpack on Friday or end of week
- Student will return empty backpack on Monday morning. Failure to return backpacks may result in denial of receiving subsequent backpacks.

Enrollment:

Enrolled by (staff name): _____

Family Name: _____ School where receiving backpack: _____

Parent Name(s): _____ Phone number: _____

Date of enrollment: _____ Student (teacher) to be given backpack: _____

Names/ages of people living in home: _____

(OPTIONAL): Does your family qualify for the free school lunch program? Yes _____ No _____

(OPTIONAL): Presently, does your family qualify for homeless services (living in motel/car/campsite, in transitional housing, in shelter or foster care, with another family due to loss of housing or economic hardship, in section 8 or military housing, or is student living in own apartment? Yes _____ No _____

Waiver:

By signing this waiver, I _____ waive and release Rapids Family Backpacks from any liability, loss, claims, expenses resulting from consumption of food(s) packed within the backpack. These liabilities will include but are not limited to any health hazards resulting from improper or inappropriate handling and storage of food items.

I acknowledge that this waiver and release is being signed by me voluntarily, without coercion, duress, or undue influence and with full knowledge of its terms and effects. I have read the above waiver and release of liability and fully understand its contents.

Name (Print) _____ Signature _____

Date _____

Reading Connection

Tips for Reading Success

Beginning Edition

March 2019

Wisconsin Rapids Public Schools

Book Picks

Read-aloud favorites

■ Shelter Pet Squad: Jelly Bean

(Cynthia Lord)

Suzannah has just become the youngest member of the Shelter Pet Squad, a group of kids who help local shelter animals. Her first mission is to find a forever home for an adorable guinea pig named Jelly Bean. Book one in the Shelter Pet Squad series.



■ In Mary's Garden

(Tina and Carson Kugler)

This biography tells how Mary Nohl loved art as a little girl and grew up to create an unusual garden. She used materials like sand, metal, wood, and rocks to make interesting sculptures, turning her garden into what would become a historic landmark.

■ The True Story of the 3 Little Pigs! (Jon Scieszka)

According to the big bad wolf, the story everyone knows about the three little pigs is wrong. And he's here to set the record straight. Readers will laugh at the wolf's elaborate tale of how he never meant to eat the pigs—he just wanted to borrow a cup of sugar. (Also available in Spanish.)



■ If You Were the Moon

(Laura Purdie Salas)

The child in this story thinks the moon just hangs around in the sky. But it really has many "jobs," from making ocean waves to waking nighttime animals. This picture book uses a conversation between a girl and the moon to present scientific facts.



Pretend play boosts vocabulary

"I'm grooming my stuffed dog." "I can fix that car—I'm a mechanic!" Imaginary play gives your child chances to say words that he might not use every day. Try these ideas to grow his vocabulary through make-believe.



Find props

Give your youngster new things to talk about. You could put a wrench and a socket with his toy cars. Or offer him empty food packages to play store. When you notice him using the props, name them for him. You could say, "I see you're repairing your cars with a wrench and socket" or "Oh, your grocery store sells relish and chickpeas."

Play together

Spend time pretending with your child, and introduce new words. Maybe you'll hold a chopstick and say, "I'm a conductor. I'm using this baton to conduct the symphony." Or if you're playing vet, ask,

"What kind of dog do you have? Mine is a Siberian husky."

Act out a story

It's common for youngsters to pretend they're book characters after hearing a story. When you read to your youngster, explain unfamiliar words he can use to act out the book. If the story was about a scuba diver, perhaps he'll pretend his pajamas are a wet suit. He might turn a cardboard tube into a snorkel and go on an imaginary underwater adventure! ♥

How to handle reading errors

Oops! Your youngster just goofed while reading to you. What should you do? Keep these tips in mind:

- Wait to see if she catches her own mistake. If she doesn't notice her error by the end of the sentence or paragraph, ask, "Did that part make sense?" or "What other word would make sense there?" She'll learn to self-correct—an important step toward becoming an independent reader.
- Resist the urge to correct every mistake your child makes. That can interrupt the flow of the story. For example, if her error doesn't really affect the meaning of the sentence (say, she reads *house* instead of *home*), consider letting her keep going. ♥



“Just right” books for now—and later

Q: What are the three categories of books that help new readers grow?

A: Books that are too easy, ones that are too hard, and those that are just right!

Too easy. That favorite book you think your child has outgrown is similar to a “beach read”



for adults. She knows all the words and doesn't have to think too hard about the plot. Encourage her to relax with books like these—they build confidence and her enjoyment of reading.

Too hard. Sometimes kids want to read books that are out of reach of their reading abilities. If

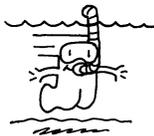
your youngster has her heart set on one, read it aloud to her. She'll enjoy listening to a book she chose. Plus, she'll pick up new words and be exposed to a more complex plot.

Just right. These books are ones your child can read with a little help. To determine if a book is a good fit, have your child read the first couple of pages to you. If she knows most of the words and understands what she's reading, it's likely the book will challenge her abilities without frustrating her.♥

Fun with Words

Rhyming dominoes

Forget dominoes with dots—this game uses rhyming words instead! Play it to help your child hear sounds in words.



Materials: 40 slips of paper, pencil

1. Have your youngster draw a line on each slip to divide it in half like a domino. On each half, help him write a word ending with one of these letter combinations: *all, et, in, og, un.* (Be sure to have 8 words per letter combination. Repeat words as needed.)



2. Spread the dominoes facedown, let each player take three, and flip a starting domino faceup.

3. Players take turns trying to form a chain of dominoes where rhyming words touch. Say the starting domino has *met*. If your child has a rhyme (say, *pet*), he links his domino with that one, end to end. If he doesn't have a rhyme, he takes a new domino, and his turn ends.

4. Continue taking turns, adding a rhyming domino to either end of the chain. The first player to get rid of all his dominoes wins.♥

Parent to Parent

And now...the family news

After a local news anchor visited my daughter's class for Career Day, Amelia wanted to be a reporter, too. I suggested that she interview her grandparents and deliver a news report about their activities. What a hit!

Her grandparents loved being interviewed, and Amelia remembered to ask *who, what, where, when, and why* questions—just like the news anchor said she does. For instance, Amelia asked her grandmother, “When did you start your new job?” and “What do you like best about it?” She listened carefully and wrote down the responses.

Finally, I videotaped Amelia reading her report in her best “anchor voice.” This has been a great way for her to work on writing, speaking, and listening skills.♥



Q&A

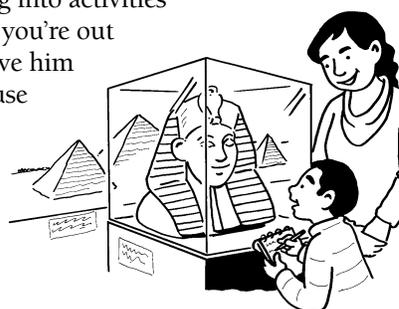
Writing on the move

Q My son's teacher says he needs more writing practice, but it's a struggle to get him to sit still and write. Any ideas?

A Try weaving writing into activities your son can do while you're out and about together. Give him a special notebook to use when you go places together, perhaps to a museum or the park. Encourage him to write about what he sees. At a museum, he

could jot down information about the Egyptian pyramids or a Tyrannosaurus rex. In the park, he might write a description of a carousel or a waterfall.

At home, suggest that he expand on what he wrote. Maybe he'll write a story about visiting a real pyramid in Egypt or making friends with a T-rex. Or perhaps he'll write a “visitor's guide” to the park.♥



OUR PURPOSE

To provide busy parents with practical ways to promote their children's reading, writing, and language skills.

Resources for Educators,
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