



Grand Ridge Grade School

NEWSLETTER

August 26 - Sept. 1, 2018

400 W. Main Street
Grand Ridge, IL 61325

Ted Sanders Supt. — Terry Ahearn, Principal
"Large enough to educate you, small enough to know you."

Phone: 815-249-6225
Fax: 815-249-5049

A Few Words from Mr. Sanders. . .

Keep your face always toward the sunshine and shadows will fall behind you. —Walt Whitman

Open House Night

School is off to a great start! We have 194 students this year, holding fairly steady compared to last year with our enrollment numbers. In 2017-2018 we ended with 197 students. We have several new students and families in the school, and we are excited to see them. A great time for new parents in the district to meet our staff is on **Open House Night, Thursday, September 6th from 6-7:30pm.**

Safety

We have been working hard to upgrade our safety around the building with new cameras installed and better lighting in the new parking lot. We will continue to work on the exterior lights around the building and hope to have more done this fall and winter. Another of our district goals is to test our emergency relocation plan. The safety team is working hard to develop this plan in coordination with the Grand Ridge Volunteer Fire Department and Officer Josh Jabczynski.

Community Relations

We have an objective this year to do a community-wide Needs Assessment Survey, led by our District Vision Committee. The goal of the assessment is to identify what the community of Grand Ridge feels is important for the future of their school. The survey will be conducted online, and when we have it ready, we will communicate with parents, school staff, and the community about how to take the survey. Your input will be greatly appreciated as we use this information to drive our district strategic plan.

We encourage everyone to attend and enjoy the events at the school from sports, to music concerts, the Veteran's Day Ceremony on **November 9th at 2:20pm**, and all other events open to the public. We would not be here without the help of our community and the work by the PTO and Booster clubs. Thank you for all you do for our children.

Our school has always been about helping children form good character above all else. Curriculum is important, and knowledge of events and information should be a goal for students; but without a foundation in good character all of that knowledge is useless. It is character and values that are far more important in the education process. Children need to have a firm understanding of what is right and wrong and no how to make the correct choices in their lives. Behavior flows from this understanding of good and bad, right and wrong, and can be dealt with simply by leading children in the way they should go.

Walt Whitman's quote above is a great way to start the year by thinking positively about what is to come. When we teach children how to be good and keep their faces toward the light, they will be able to overcome those darker times much easier. With a focus on goodness and beauty children can learn in healthy and constructive ways. They can learn to ignore those shadows and pay attention to what is truly important. Good luck to our students and staff this year. May you keep your eyes toward the sunshine.

Have A Great Week!!

“When the student is ready the teacher will appear.”—Lao Tzu

As we prepare to begin a new year, here are some helpful hints to make your child’s transition from home-life to school-life much more successful.

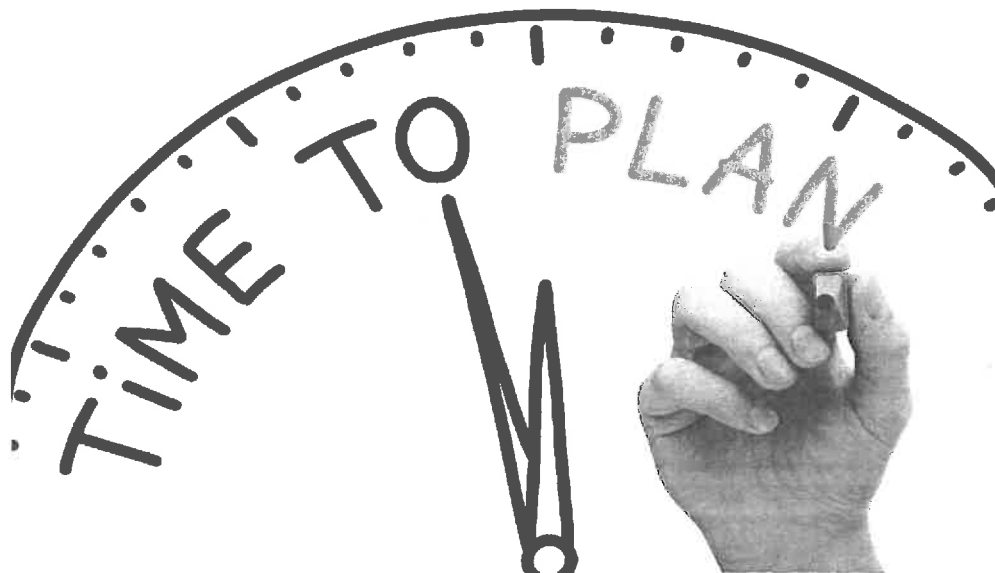
Bedtime routine is a must! For a young student to be happy and successful at school, he/she must have 8 hours of sleep each night. It is crucial to the development of young brains that they receive the rest they need to prepare and process the vast amounts of information they will receive at school. Remember when you had to learn new rules for your class, new expectations, new subjects, etc. It is the equivalent to an adult starting a new job!

Read to your children before bed. As a young person begins to slow down from a busy day, you can help this process by reading a story together. If you have more than one child, read together to save time. The story time will help the children to gear-down from all the business, as well as helping to teach reading skills. Don’t force them to read to you; let this be a relaxing time. Read dramatically to your children and enjoy the time you share with them before bedtime.

Eat breakfast together. Even if it is only 15 to 20 minutes each day, have breakfast together. When children have breakfast they come to school ready to learn. It doesn’t matter so much what you eat as it matters that you are doing it together. Studies show that families who eat together have less stress and perform better in all areas than those who don’t. Talk about the day ahead and your family’s schedule. This will help everyone to feel organized.

Remind children that school and home may have different rules. Sometimes what we do at home during vacation is different than what is expected at school. Ideally, 2 to 3 weeks before school starts, it is a good idea to get your children on a schedule that works with school hours. Remind them of how to behave, how to show respect to others, how to use manners, and all of those skills you want them to know. Aristotle said that we must be trained to be virtuous before we become virtuous on our own. Reinforcing good behavior is rewarded in the end.

These simple suggestions can make a big difference in how successful this year is for your child. Starting the year off right will lead to a rewarding school experience for students, parents, and teachers. Don’t forget to ask questions and get involved with your child’s education. Remember, an education is pursued and earned; it is not given to someone by the school or the teacher. It is going to be a great year, and one that you and your child will remember for a lifetime.



2018-2019 MUSIC PROGRAMS:

****Veterans Day Assembly- Friday, November 9 @ 2:20 p.m. in the Gym**

(Grades K-5 will perform a song, Fifth Grade Choir, JH choir, and Band will perform.)

****Christmas Program Grades K,1,2- Thursday, December 6**

@ 6:00 p.m. in the Multipurpose Room

****Winter Concert- Thursday, December 13 @ 6:30 p.m. in the Multipurpose Room**

(Fifth grade Choir, JH Choir, and Band will perform.)

****Solo and Ensemble Contest for interested Band and Choir students-**

Saturday, March 16 at Milton Pope

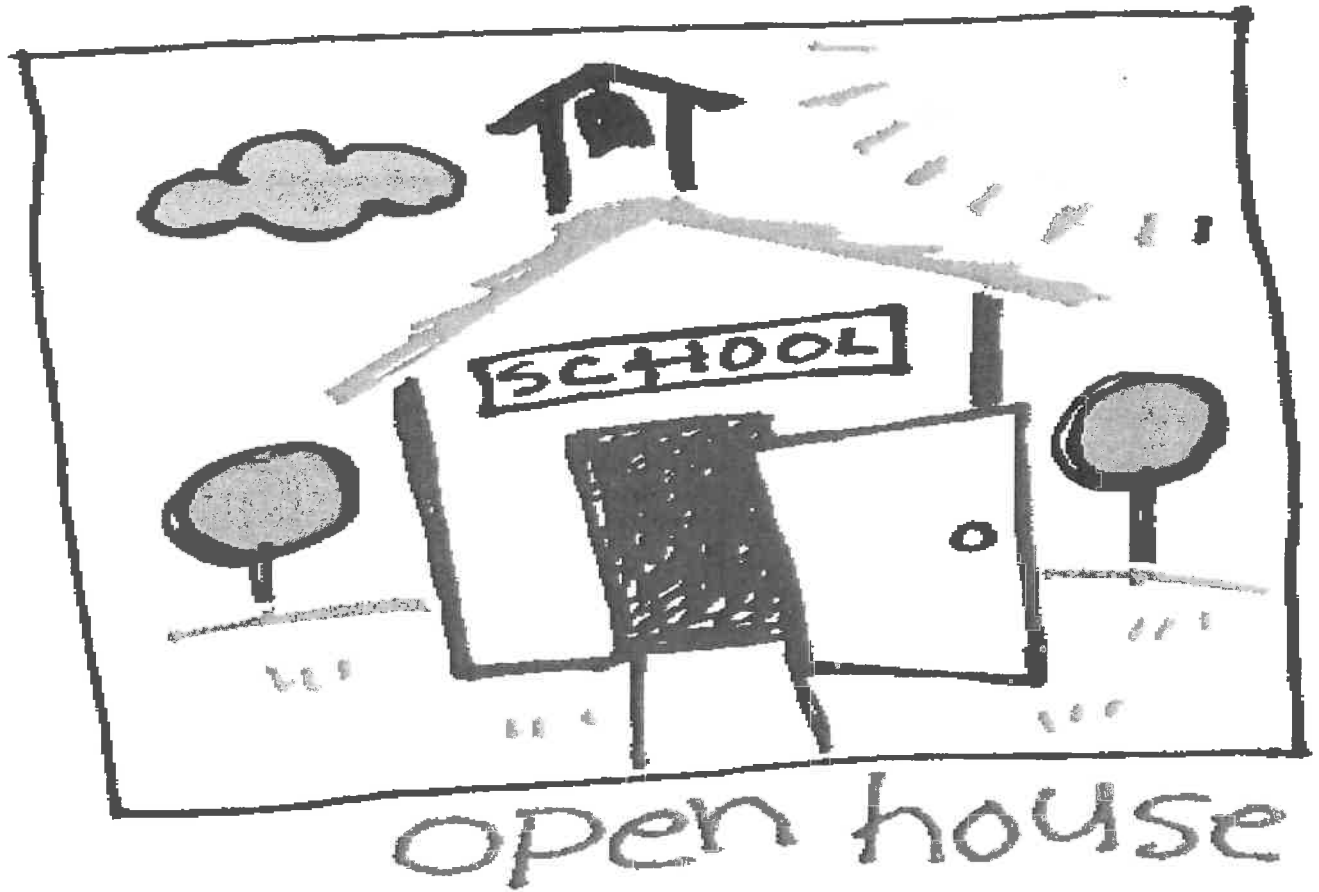
****Spring Program Grades 3,4,5- Thursday, April 11**

@ 6:30 p.m. in the Multipurpose Room

****Spring Concert- Thursday, May 16 @ 6:30 p.m. in the Multipurpose Room**

(Fifth grade Choir, JH Choir, and Band will perform.)

****.- Music classes are co-curricular. Information learned in Music class each week is applied to our programs. Daily participation and performance attendance play an integral part in each student's grade. Please plan to attend!**



OPEN HOUSE

THURSDAY SEPTEMBER 6TH

6:00—7:30 P.M.



Fun for Seniors

GRAND RIDGE SENIORS

Please mark your calendar for the following
third Wednesday of the month luncheon
dates at Grand Ridge Grade School for only
\$3.50 each.

September 19-noon

October 17-noon

November 14-noon

December 19-noon

January 16-noon

February 20-noon

March 20-noon

April 17-noon

May 15-noon

Entertainment provided.

Please call for reservations.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

August 27 - Baseball vs. Northlawn 4:30 p.m.
Softball @ Holy Family 4:30 p.m.
Dismiss 2:20 p.m.

August 28 - Baseball @ Woodland 4:30 p.m.
Softball vs. Tonica 4:30 p.m.
LEASE Pre School Screening 9:00 a.m.
Dismiss 2:20 p.m.

August 29 - Dismiss 2:20 p.m.

August 30 - Baseball vs. St. Michaels 4:30 p.m.
Dismiss 2:20 p.m.


August 31 - Dismiss 2:20 p.m.

September 1 - Softball @ Holy Cross 10:00 a.m.

September 3 - No School - Labor Day



SPECIAL BIRTHDAYS

August 26 LaShean Givens	August 27 Nolan Christiansen	August 28 Isabella Katrein	August 29	August 30	September 1 Mr. Dumke	


PLEASE NOTE:

****MENU IS SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITH AVAILABILITY ****

BREAKFAST & LUNCH MENU

	Monday August 27	Tuesday August 28	Wednesday August 29	Thursday August 30	Friday August 31
Breakfast Menu	Cereal Cheese Toast Fruit Juice	Cereal Bar Yogurt Fruit Juice	Cereal Bunny Grahams Fruit Juice	Cereal Toast/Jelly Fruit Juice	Cereal Granola Bar Fruit Juice
Lunch Menu	Chicken Fajita Lettuce / Cheese Cup Salsa Fruit	Turkey Wrap Lettuce / Cheese Fruit Condiments	Mini Corn Dogs Baked Beans Applesauce Condiments	Ham on Goldfish Bread Fries Fruit Condiments	Chef Salad Turkey/Egg/ Cheese Fresh Fruit Breadstick Ranch or French Dressing

September 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
2	3 Labor Day NO SCHOOL	4 Baseball vs. Marseilles 4:30 p.m.	5 Baseball @ Gardner 4:30 p.m. Softball Regionals PTO Meeting 7 p.m. Dismiss 11:50 a.m.	6 OPEN HOUSE 6:00 - 7:30 p.m.	7 Baseball @ MVK 4:30 p.m.	8 Softball Regionals
9	10 5/6 Girls Basketball @ Central 5:00 p.m. Softball Regionals	11 5th gr. Girls Basketball Holy Family Tournament Basketball Regionals 7p School Board Mtg.	12 Dismiss 2:20 p.m.	13 5th gr. Girls Basketball Holy Family Tournament	14	15 5th gr. Girls Basketball Holy Family Tournament Baseball Regionals Softball Sectionals
16	17 Baseball Regionals Book Fair 	18 5/6 Girls Basketball vs. Milton Pope 5:00 p.m. 7/8 Girls Basketball @ ICS 4:30 p.m. Midterms	19 5/6 Girls Basketball vs. TCA 5:00 p.m. SENIOR LUNCH Dismiss 2:20 p.m.	20 5/6 Girls Basketball @ ICS 5:00 p.m. 7/8 Girls Basketball @ Odell 5:00 p.m. Sports Pictures 2:00 - 3:00p.m. School Pictures	21 7/8 Girls Basketball Holy Family Tournament Softball State	22 7/8 Girls Basketball Holy Family Tournament Baseball Sectionals Softball State
23	24 7/8 Girls Basketball @ Flanagan 5:30 p.m.	25 5/6 Grade Girls Basketball vs. Holy Family 5:00 p.m.	26 5/6 Girls Basketball vs. Gardner 5:00 p.m. Dismiss 2:20 p.m.	27	28 Baseball State	29 Baseball State
30						



P.B.I.S. Store Volunteers Needed:

Our school takes part in the **Mid-West P.B.I.S. Program**. Administration, Teachers, and Staff reward our students daily for their **good behavior**. Students receive **Mohawk Money**. Students may go to the **Mohawk Store** once per month to spend their **Mohawk Money** on store items. The store has an assortment of small toys and several bigger items, such as athletic equipment, available. The store is open **Monday through Thursday during recess**. The **2016-17 Store Dates** are posted on the back of this page. **Volunteers may choose their dates. Please RETURN THE BOTTOM portion of this form with your child or contact Mrs. Varland if you are interested in working in the MOHAWK Store. Your help is greatly appreciated. Thanks,**

Mrs. Varland and the P.B.I.S. Committee varlaa@grgs95.org or **GRGS Phone Number: (815) 249-6225**

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2016-17 P.B.I.S. Store Volunteer Form:

Name: _____ Phone #: _____ E-mail: _____

Child (ren's) Name(s) & Grade(s): _____

I am interested in helping in the Mohawk Store.

All volunteers must have a background check on file in the office.