



Grand Ridge Grade School

NEWSLETTER

Week of Sept. 13 - 19, 2020

400 W. Main Street
Grand Ridge, IL 61325

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

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A Few Words from the Superintendent

"Nothing in the world is worth having or worth doing unless it means effort, pain, difficulty.....I have never in my life envied a human being who led an easy life. I have envied a great many people who led difficult lives and led them well."—Theodore Roosevelt

After a few weeks of school we are beginning to get into the routine. It is a different routine than before, but still a routine much needed by our students and our staff. This COVID-19 pandemic is teaching us a great many things. Here are some of the things we have learned:

People are important. If you have been quarantined for long periods of time you know that you begin to miss your family and friends. TV screens, computers, and phones do not take the place of human contact. We miss the sight of a person's entire face when we talk. We miss the expressions of emotion and the un-muffled sound of the voice.

Teachers are important. Our teachers have had to demonstrate how incredibly flexible and fast they are at learning new things. Teachers who had never heard of Zoom meetings before March learned to host classroom discussions on the platform. Teachers who only had a basic understanding of Google Classroom were suddenly thrust into being professionals at teaching children and parents how to use it correctly. It didn't happen without a lot of effort and energy. It was truly amazing to see how fast everyone figured it out. Through that process, they showed parents and students by their example why education and learning how to learn are such important skills in the world. Without teachers leading through these tough times, students would have been lost. The voice of a teacher reaching out during a forced lock-in was a comforting sound to those who needed reassurance that everything was going to be alright.

We take everything for granted. Going to dinner with friends, walking into a store carefree, sitting in the park listening to a band, or any number of events we normally would do, were all taken for granted. Right now we would all love to just go to the movies and eat popcorn, watch high school football on a Friday night, or pack the gym for a basketball game. Why didn't we know that we had it so good? Why didn't we stop to be thankful for that time together.

If we can learn anything from these events that we've all been through over the past several months, it is that we have lived as if we were entitled to all these things and have not recognized the real value of our relationships with others. We are not owed anything. What we have, the people we are able to share it with, the places we can go, are all blessings that are far more valuable than we realized a few months ago.

Theodore Roosevelt was correct. We have all had to go through some very tough times, and we are still in them. However, the pain, effort, and struggle of life show us its value. It is worth the struggle. Even if it seems rough right now, this too shall pass, and we will be able to be with those we love and care for soon. Our minds must be focused on the goal of getting through the hardship. Know that this challenge will strengthen us as a community. We will learn from it. We will grow. We will discover how to love and care for each other in a better way. We will understand the importance of human touch, human expression, face-to-face communication, and the freedom to be together. It's a hard lesson, but it's worth it.

Have A Great Week!

Calendar of Events

Mon. Sept. 14 - Baseball @ Northlawn 4:30 p.m.
11:50 Dismissal

Tues. Sept. 15 - 11:50 Dismissal

Wed. Sept. 16 - Booster Club Meeting
11:50 Dismissal

Thurs. Sept. 17 - 11:50 Dismissal

Fri. Sept. 18 - 11:50 Dismissal
Midterm Grades

Special Birthdays

September 13	September 14 Lucy Alexander	September 15	September 16 Mrs. Rix	September 17	September 18 Logan Mills Mariah Williams	September 19 Hunter Nettleingham Candon Pablan Haylie Harcharik
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****PLEASE NOTE :**
MENU IS SUBJECT TO
CHANGE WITH
AVAILABILITY**

BREAKFAST/LUNCH MENU

	Monday Sept. 14	Tuesday Sept. 15	Wednesday Sept. 16	Thursday Sept. 17	Friday Sept. 18
Breakfast Menu	Strawberry Chex Yogurt Fruit Juice	Cereal Granola Bar Fruit Juice	Cereal Cheese Stick Fruit Juice	Cereal PB Toast Fruit Juice	Cereal Bar Yogurt Fruit Juice
Lunch Menu	Uncrustable PB&J Celery w/ PB Fruit Fritos Juice	Pizza Munchable Carrots w/Ranch Fruit Juice	Turkey Wrap Celery w/ PB Fruit Cheetos Juice	Uncrustable PB&J Cheese stick Carrots w/ Ranch Fruit Juice	Sub of the Day Turkey Sub Celery w/ PB Fruit Fritos Juice