

Martin News

JANUARY NEWSLETTER

“To Infinity and Beyond”

The Disney movie Toy Story was one of my children’s favorite movies and to be honest I really like it to. One of the most memorable lines came from Buzz Lightyear as he boldly stated, “To infinity and beyond!” I appreciate Buzz’s positive attitude believing he will accomplish what he sets out to do.

Since the start of the year I can hardly believe that it is the year **2020**! I have been around enough years that even saying 2020 did not seem like a reality. Even though we don’t drive space cars like on the Jetsons or live on the moon, we sure have had some significant changes. I am guessing you are like me and cannot imagine life without the internet or cell phones. I remember the day of using actual paper road maps when making trips, today we turn on Google maps and we arrive at our destinations. Do they even sell paper road maps anymore?

Changes are continually happening not only in the world, but schools as well. Teachers now use ActivPanels, large touch screens, instead of the dusty chalkboard to present their lessons. Students have Chromebooks in their hands instead of ragged notebooks. Student seating is not always in straight rows facing the front of the room and not all students are sitting in the standard chair. One will find more interaction between students as they are encouraged to work in groups in a collaborative manner. There are many, many changes from the way students are taught not many years ago.

I am excited to see what this new decade will bring us in our daily lives as well as in our schools. Today we are using items and thought processes that we wouldn’t have even imagined twenty years ago and no doubt this will happen in the future. I believe we need to expect change and enjoy the journey, “To infinity and beyond!”

-Mr. Waagen

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Mr. Bear's Message– Mission, Vision, and Beliefs

During the writing of this particular newsletter article, I am sitting in Mrs. Trouba's resource time pretending to be a 9th grader. How I'm tackling my teacher observations this year is by actually shadowing a student through an entire day. I go where that student goes and I do the things that student does throughout the day. So, this morning I started the day with English class where I was kept busy the period discussing a novel about the holocaust. I then went to Personal Finance and took part in discussions about how the Personal Finance class would look during the course of the semester. Thirdly, I went to math and learned about mean, median, and mode.

This is the second time I've done this. Earlier this year, I followed a sophomore throughout the day. That day went very quickly. I really enjoyed myself and came away a little smarter at the end of the day. It's interesting, though, how much a person's mindset can change the experience. Last night, I had a difficult time sleeping. So, I came into the day tired. It's only 11am, but the day could be done and I would be okay with that.

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Pre-School

In this year of 2020, the preschoolers seemed pretty excited to be part of the new year. Over Christmas break, they were all excited that they got to open presents. They liked the fact that they got to stay home too. One student in particular also said that they went fishing! They were proud of the presents they opened. They got some mermaid stuff with a mermaid castle, a barbie ambulance, a baby alive, and cars with mouths that open. Many of the preschoolers plan to go swimming a lot in this new year! Whether it's at the pool or the beach, they just want to go swimming. If at the beach, they would like to make sand castles too. One student hopes to get better at fishing and catch the big one! Others are looking forward to playing at the park and sliding down all the slides. Finally, they all want to go to kindergarten!!!!

Student Council

Students just celebrated National Hat Day by paying \$1 to the Student Council fund so they could wear their hats during the school day.



Kindergarten

It's a new year and we are back in school after Christmas break. The kindergarteners told us they opened presents, ate candy, ate delicious Christmas breakfast, and played on an Ipad! They were pretty excited about the presents they received. Their replies were; JoJo Siwa blanket, spaceship, clothes, sunny toy with a sunny car, and a new bike! A popular thing to do at the start of a new year is to predict what will happen to us. The kindergarteners hope the snow will be gone soon, and they look forward to summer vacation. Another one is excited to help watch their baby sister, and another one wants to go see their grandma's baby kitten.

1st Grade

This is the first time I have interviewed the first graders. They are growing up so fast! I remember when they were in preschool and now they will be in 2nd grade! How exciting! The three questions that were prepared this month were "What did you do for Christmas break?" "Did you get anything exciting for Christmas?" "What are your hopes, dreams, and goals for this new year?"

Their answers to the first question sounded like a good Christmas to me! They opened presents, went out of town, and watched movies. They were very proud of what they got for Christmas. The different gifts received were a glamer, some hot wheels, dino fossils, a tv, new outfits for dolls, and a phone! For the final question, some hope to have more work. Some want summer weather and for a longer summer. They want to learn about space as well. They also are very excited to be in the second-grade next year!

2nd Grade

As the new year begins, it seemed that the second graders were excited to be back and were full of energy! When asked about what they wanted to do this year, many are excited about sports. We have some future basketball and football players! Over break, some students said they spent time with family, while others focused on catching up on sleep. All the second graders had some pretty good gifts. Some of the highlight gifts were a Nintendo Switch, a sweet mermaid dress, a gingerbread house, a new camera, an LOL doll a Rockstar plushy, and last, but not least, a new Xbox 1.



It's one thing to be an administrator or a teacher where you have quite a bit of control over your environment and not have had enough sleep the night before. You might have less patience. You might not do things as well as you would have had you had enough sleep. But, since you do have some control over your day, you can be flexible and the day might not suffer too much.

But to be a kid forced to sit through classes all day long, not having had enough sleep can be devastating. I did find myself wanting to close my eyes during each of the classes. I didn't, but I am certain that I was not as good of a student as I was when I was shadowing a sophomore. Even when teachers had exceedingly engaging activities, I found myself rebelling against them simply because I was tired.

I do have an opportunity to visit with a number of kids throughout the course of the day. Many kids talk about how they didn't get much sleep the night before. Those same kids usually don't have very good grades. I don't know if they don't get enough sleep because they have a hard time in school anyway or if that is the very reason they have a hard time in school. Either way, though, there can be no question that more sleep does create better students.

I do love coming to school. I make a choice to do so every single day. I've been doing it for more than 40 years. I do hear kids saying they don't enjoy school. I wouldn't, either, if all I wanted was to take a nap. So, even though the day is long and I'm going to be glad to be done, it is still very much a learning experience. I can empathize with those kids that are tired during the day. It certainly cemented the idea in my head, though, that a good night's sleep can make a world of difference.

Music News

Thank you to all who came to our Christmas concert!



3rd Grade

The third-grade class did several different things for their Christmas break. Some traveled to different places. One watched lots of movies, while another played Roblox with their family. The students were excited about the things they got for Christmas. One got a computer, and another got a Chromebook. One got an I-tech watch. One got a compound bow. One got a vacuum that runs by itself. One student got a pet. One student got a mini fridge. Another student got Beyblade. One got a new saddle. One student got clothes. The third-grade class have tons of different hopes, dreams, and goals for the new year. Some students hope to learn more math. One hopes to learn more on the recorder. One student hopes to get more puppies, while another hopes to get more pictures of kids with bunnies. One hopes to get more Beyblades. Some hope their parents win the lottery. One student aims to get straight A's, while another student's goal is to practice their handwriting.

4th Grade

The 4th graders had an amazing Christmas break! Some of them did fun things like opening presents and playing with their new kittens, while others simply relaxed and watched TV. The most exciting thing they got for Christmas were: an electronic basketball game, a phone, a sketchbook, a giant llama plush, and new cowgirl boots. The 4th graders have some good goals for 2020. Some are going to finish books they have already started reading, while others are going to start on a whole new list of books. A few of them really want to go to the Spelling Bee and do well. Others want to work on having better relationships. This will be a productive year for the 4th graders!



JH Bball

The JH girls basketball has come to an end. Amy Smith, an 8th grader, was our lone participant this year. She said that they won more games than they lost this year, and that she plans to keep playing in the future because she really enjoys playing in the games. She was particularly proud of a basket she scored on a post up play under the hoop. On top of that, she is proud of the fact that she is receiving playing time on the HS JV squad!

5th Grade

The Fifth-grade class is up and ready for the new semester of school! They all did various things during the break. Sadly, two of the students were sick most of the break. However, others got to spend time with family and friends, and one student got to travel all the way to Bismarck. All the students in class got various gifts for Christmas. One student got a new Drum set, while another got a foosball table and air hockey table. Another student got a new Transformer and a RC car. A new drone was the gift of another student. Even though it is cold outside, a hammock was another student's gift. The last student got Legos. The fifth-grade class also has some goals for the new year, which include being able to eat more Ramen, not have homework, going to the spelling bee, getting a YouTube channel, eating double Oreos, and avoiding sickness.

6th Grade

The 6th graders are happy to be back at school! Some things they did over Christmas break were going to see their grandma, eating food, opening presents, and just sitting around. Others did a little traveling. Mylehe went to see her mom in Grand Forks, and Fallon went to Minnesota. They received some exciting things for Christmas including a Nintendo Switch, AirPods, a weight bench, an Xbox 1, and socks! The 6th grade also have some goals for this year. They hope to pass the 6th grade with good grades. Mylee hopes to get a new cat, and Chloe hopes she can show her horse at the fair this year!

High School Bball

Lucas Rich is our lone high schooler playing this season. He is playing on the JV and Varsity squads this year. Combined the two teams have only lost one game so far, and that was a varsity game against Strasburg-Zeeland in which they lost by only 3 points. Our team also just recently won the Stutsman County Tournament where they beat the Ellendale Cardinals for the Championship, which was the team that went to State in our Region last year.

Despite having some knee problems, Lucas is enjoying the season so far, especially getting to be with his teammates. A play he is particularly proud of is when he sealed the deal to win a JV game by making two clutch free throws to put the game out of reach for the other team.

Senior Highlight- Kenzie Knight

Kenzie plans to attend Valley City State University to pursue a degree in Elementary Education when she graduates. She said her favorite memories are all of the archery trips she has been on, but last year's was the best one yet! Her advice to the underclassmen is make lots of memories now before the real world hits you.



LUNCH

JANUARY 2020
Montpelier Public School

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
		1 NO SCHOOL	2 NO SCHOOL	3 NO SCHOOL
4 Popcorn chicken bowls	5 Sloppy joes	6 Lasagna	7 Sweet & Sour chicken	8 Pizza
9 Scalloped potatoes & ham	10 Chicken nuggets & buttered noodles	11 Hamburgers	12 Chef Salad	13 Chicken Fajitas
14 Chicken Enchiladas	15 Pizza Burger	16 Biscuits & Gravy	17 Enchilada Hotdish	18 Corn Dogs
19 Broccoli Ham Hotdish	20 Hamburger Hotdish	21 Crispitos	22 Homemade chicken soup	23 Subs



Remember to put our Valentine's Date Night event on your calendar! All proceeds will be going to the Prom Fund for Montpelier Public School. Food will be served from 6-9 pm at the school, which will include a soup & salad bar, roast beef, mashed potatoes, corn, and a dessert. **Get your advanced tickets for only \$10 each through Feb. 6.** After Feb. 6, tickets will increase to \$15 each. There will be free child care provided at the school, so parents can have some time to enjoy a good meal by themselves!

We would also like to recognize Leah Peckham in her act of kindness and charity! Last month, Leah won a horse and rider Christmas costume contest sponsored by SN Tack by receiving the most votes on Facebook. Her prize was a \$200 shopping spree to SN Tack's store. She decided to donate half of that to *A Moment of Freedom*, which is a therapeutic riding center. Be sure to congratulate her the next time you see her!

Important Dates

- Jan. 20– HS BBB @Kindred
- Jan. 21– HS GBB&BBB vs. BCN
- Jan. 23- HS GBB@LaMoure
- Jan. 24– HS BBB @Oakes
- Jan. 25– School Board Retreat
- Jan. 28– Bookmobile
- Jan. 28– HS BBB & GBB @Linton
- Jan. 30– HS BBB vs. South Border@Kulm
- Jan. 31– HS GBB vs. Carrington@Kulm
- Feb. 1– HS BBB @Kensel
- Feb. 4– HS GBB @Kensel
- Feb. 4– HS BBB vs. Ellendale
- Feb. 6 & 8– HS BBB JV Tourney @Kulm
- Feb. 7– HS BBB vs. Milnor-NS
- Feb. 7– HS GBB @Fessenden



Counseling News

Thank you for partnering with us to help raise our Montpelier students to be loving and kind individuals.

Below are 6 great reasons why parents should read to their children. Maya Angelou has a great quote, “Do the best you can until you know better. Then when you know better, do better.”

The Single Habit That Raises Smart, Kind Kids?

This is what happens when you read aloud to your child every day:

Your child’s vocabulary will grow: The more words they hear, the more they will know.

You grow your child’s brain, literally. The more you read to your child, the more the neurons in her brain will grow.

You put her on the path to be a lifelong reader. Reading is essential for the learning process, and kids who struggle with reading tend to struggle in school. But you have the power to give your child this one key to success in school and life because: “The single most important activity for building the knowledge required for eventual success in reading is reading aloud to children.” – Becoming a Nation of Readers

Your child’s behavior will improve. When you read aloud, you increase your child’s **ability to pay attention and concentrate** – skills that definitely help your child in school. Also, reading aloud to a child can even decrease aggressive tendencies in the child.

You build a stronger bond with your child. Kids love when you read aloud to them because of the **physical closeness and emotional bonding** it offers: “We’re blown away that kids time and again said the **most special time they recall** spending with a parent is reading together.” This makes sense when you think about it. In our busy modern lives, how often do we stop everything we’re doing, *put down our phones*, and just enjoy time with our kids? A strong connection with your child **leads to better cooperation** from them, and that’s something pretty much every parent could use more of.

You increase your child’s capacity for empathy. When you read fiction to your child, her brain is “literally living vicariously through the characters **at a neurobiological level.**” In other words, you’re exposing your child to different types of people and giving her the ability to put herself in their shoes while you read. Growing your child’s empathy muscle will teach her to be a friend who empathizes, a partner who can see her partner’s side in a disagreement, and a compassionate person who helps others in need.

The one single habit of reading aloud to your child kicks off a chain reaction of all these positive outcomes, **and more.** If you’re looking for the **secret** to raising smart kids, reading aloud is it.

Senior Highlight– Derek Smith

Derek plans to stay and help his dad on their farm when he graduates. He said he couldn’t pick a favorite memory from school because there are so many he’s made. He has just enjoyed being around his friends! As for advice, he wants the underclassmen to never forget to enjoy your time while in school because it goes by fast!

