

MES Newsletter

November 2025

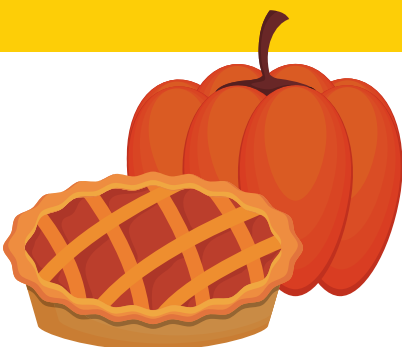


Tip for Families:

Help your child prepare the night before—lay out clothes, pack backpacks, and get to bed on time. Morning routines become easier when everyone's ready! I know that even when I have my lunch ready for the next day, my whole morning routine goes better! Small things add up!

Family Challenge:

At dinner each evening, share one kind thing you did and one kind thing someone did for you. Watch how gratitude grows!



Dear Families,

As we fall into November (see the pun!), I would like remind everyone about the importance of daily attendance at school. Missing just two days per month means a child misses 10% of the school year. That adds up to learning gaps that can be hard to close.

Here's what consistent attendance brings:

- Stronger academic skills and confidence
- Better friendships and social connections
- Established routines that support lifelong success
- More opportunities to participate in activities and special events

We are also working on being kind to others. Kindness isn't just nice—it's necessary. When children practice kindness, they create a school environment where everyone feels safe, valued, and ready to learn.

Ways to Practice Kindness:

- Include someone sitting alone at lunch
- Hold the door open for others
- Offer genuine compliments
- Help a classmate who's struggling
- Say "please," "thank you," and "I'm sorry"
- Stand up against bullying (tell a trusted adult)

We are dedicated to creating a school where every child feels welcome, safe, and excited to learn. Your partnership in encouraging attendance and kindness helps us build this community together.

Remember: Every day your child attends school with a kind heart, they're investing in their future and making our school a better place for everyone.

Warm Regards,
Shelly VanVoorst, Principal

Arcadia Marsh Visit

Two 5th grade classes explored Arcadia Marsh on a field trip Wednesday. It was led by Kathryn Borowicz from the Manistee Conservation District. Students were able to nature journal as they walked the boardwalk, built nests with fallen nature elements, tested the marsh water, discovered the reality of a bird's journey during migration, and much more!



Tasting a Book with Tanya Hunter

"I set up the classroom like a restaurant with nice tablecloths and flower centerpieces. There is a virtual fireplace projected on the screen, the lights are dimmed, there is soft music playing, and they are eating a variety of snacks and drinking juice or water.

The students are given a menu for Chef Hunter's Restaurant that they use to choose books to order. There are six books; an appetizer, soup, salad, beverage, main course and dessert. They will get each of the books to look through.

As they look at the books they record information on their menus regarding what the book is about and would they like to read more and why. Then they rate the books from their favorite to least favorite.

This is a fun and engaging way for students to have some control over their book choice that will be used for small group literature circles/novel studies."

