



**MANISTEE ELEMENTARY**

# MARINERS MONTHLY



## EVENTS Be in the know

### Holiday Sing! Performances at the MMHS Auditorium



First Grade  
Monday, December 15  
@6pm

Second Grade  
Tuesday, December 16 @  
6pm

Third Grade  
Monday December 15  
@7pm

Fourth Grade  
Tuesday, December 16 @  
7pm

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December 22  
Winter Break begins,  
no school

January 5 - First Day back  
to School

Save the date for the 3rd-  
5th grade Elementary  
Talent Show  
Friday Feb 6 @ 6pm!

## MONTHLY WORD from Principal VanVoorst



Dear Families,

As the winter season approaches, we want to take a moment to reflect on the joy, warmth, and connection that this time of year can bring. It is a season filled with opportunities to slow down, cherish time with family and friends, and celebrate the values that matter most to each of us.

This time of year offers a wonderful chance to nurture qualities such as empathy, kindness, and togetherness. Whether through the traditions you hold dear or new ones you create together, we hope you find moments to strengthen the bonds that connect you to the people who matter most.

Winter can also be a time to celebrate connection in all its forms—connection to family, friends, and the world around us. It's about showing appreciation, offering support, and spreading kindness wherever we go. We encourage you to share meaningful moments with your children through activities that foster these values, such as making handmade gifts or cards, volunteering in your community, or simply spending quality time together.

We hope you enjoy whatever traditions make this season special for your family. Whether it's decorating your home, sharing special meals, reflecting on the year, or creating new rituals, these practices help create lasting memories and teach children the value of time spent with loved ones.

As we close out the calendar year, thank you for your continued support in fostering a positive, caring, and inclusive community at our school. We wish each of you a peaceful winter season filled with moments of joy and connection. May this time with your family and friends renew your spirits and bring you closer together.

Warmly,  
Shelly VanVoorst, Principal




## COOL THINGS HAPPENING IN OUR CLASSROOMS



### POETRY NIGHT

The 5th graders at Manistee Elementary School participated in a 4-session poetry workshop with an instructor, Derek Miller, of the National Writers Series. Students learned about poetry, wrote poems, and picked a favorite poem to go through a publishing process. Each student in 5th grade received a copy of the published poetry book in a celebration where they were able to read their finished piece aloud. It was a great experience for our students!

## MARINERS ARE ON TRACK

EXPLORE. INSPIRE. ACHIEVE.

## STUDENT SUCCESS STORIES



There are lots of mathematicians in 5th grade so we have invited 12 students to join a math enrichment program! These 5th graders meet twice a week with one of the 5th grade teachers during our math WIN time. The lessons include higher level math material, from statistics to algebra to story problems with number puzzles.

Congratulations to Eliza, Griffin, Hadrian, Adalyn, Emma, Rae, Davie, Dallas, Fletcher, Isaac, and Fiona. We are very proud of each of them and their awesome math skills!



### VETERAN'S DAY

Mrs. Crumney came into the school to talk to different grades about Veterans Day and what it means to be a Veteran. She read a book and talked about the different branches (air force, navy, army, etc). She brought in some of her gear when she was in the service. Students were able to try it on. Students also made cards for her and her daughter to hand out to Veterans in the Medical Care/Assisted Living.



### COOKING PARTY

Students in Mrs. Abel and Mrs. Gouker's room earned a cooking party on Friday! They measured out the ingredients and made step by step directions. They ended up making delicious sugar cookies! Yum!