



YOUR GUIDE TO BEAR PRIDE



FALL INTO READING THIS OCTOBER

Cooler days, colorful leaves, and cozy evenings make October a wonderful time to read together. This year, our school is using the Science of Reading to guide reading instruction from preschool through high school. That means teachers use research on how students learn to read and understand what they read. Younger students build skills with sounds, letters, and words. As students grow, they continue building vocabulary, knowledge, and comprehension in every subject.

Families play an important part, too. Reading at home gives students more chances to practice, discover new ideas, and enjoy stories. It doesn't have to be a big assignment. A few minutes together can make reading part of the day.

For preschoolers, try talking about the pictures in a book or finding letters they recognize. Elementary students might take turns reading aloud and talking about what happens next. Middle and high school students can share an interesting article, recommend a book, or tell you about something they read in class. Books, comics, recipes, and magazines all offer reasons to read and talk together.

October also brings some fun ways to connect reading with the season. Read a spooky story together, follow a pumpkin recipe, or learn why leaves change color. Younger children might enjoy making up a story about a friendly ghost, while older students could write a mystery with a surprising ending. Ask questions such as, "What do you think will happen next?" or "What clues helped you figure that out?" Talking about reading helps students think more deeply about it.

Whether October finds you turning pages, carving pumpkins, or dressing up for Halloween, we hope your family makes time for learning, laughter, and safe adventures. Let's make this a month full of good books and great memories!

**MORE TREATS,
FEWER TRICKS:**
STAY SAFE THIS HALLOWEEN

As Halloween approaches, we want everyone to enjoy the excitement safely. Keep these reminders in mind when planning your evening:

- Make a plan. Young children should trick-or-treat with a trusted adult. Older children going with friends should have an agreed-upon route, return time, and check-in plan.
- Be easy to see. Carry a flashlight or glow stick and add reflective tape to costumes or treat bags.
- Choose costumes carefully. Make sure costumes fit well enough to avoid tripping and that masks do not block vision.
- Watch for traffic. Use sidewalks and crosswalks whenever possible. Look both ways before crossing, and walk rather than run between houses.
- Stay with your group. Visit homes with porch lights on, and never enter a home or vehicle to receive a treat.
- Check treats at home. Wait until a trusted adult has looked through the candy. Throw away anything with an open or damaged wrapper, and check labels for food allergies.
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Drivers can help, too, by slowing down and watching carefully for children, especially near intersections and driveways.



GROWTH MINDSET

WHAT THE POWER OF YET MEANS

Even if you can't do something right now. If you keep trying, you will be able to do it better in life

THE POWER OF YET



I can swim



I can't drive ...



I can do math



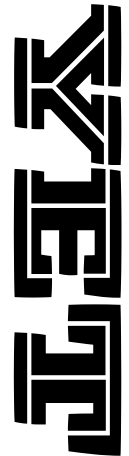
I can't write ...



I can read



I can't back flip ...



WHAT GROWTH MINDSET MEANS

The belief that your abilities and intelligence can improve through hard work, good strategies, and persistence.





SENIOR SPOTLIGHT

- Who was your favorite teacher?
"Mr. Lanfear because I like hearing his stories."
- What was your favorite high school memory?
"Winning the 2025 football State Championship."
- What is one thing that you won't miss about high school?
"I definitely wont miss homework."
- What has been your most used phrase throughout high school?
"Probably I don't know."
- What is one thing you want to accomplish after graduation?
"Find out what I want to do after high school."
- If your class had a reality show, what would it be called and why?
"The Drama club, because we are super dramatic."
- If you had to go on a 24-hour car ride, which classmate would you go with and where would you go?
"I would go ... shoot, probably California with Justin, because it's California with Justin."
- What advice would you give the freshman class?
"Probably to put in your full effort."



NOTE FROM MR. LANFEAR

Thank you Austin,

Any teacher to be recognized by a student for making a positive impact in their life is, in my opinion, the greatest award a teacher could ever hope for. I am grateful, honored, and humbled for this recognition. Austin, you are a rare kind of person that I admire greatly. You are the kind of person that without doubt, people can count on. You are always calm and collected but never checked out. You don't say much but when you do speak, people listen because they know whatever you are saying is genuine and honest. You listen and observe while taking everything in before you question or react. You make your own path that follows your own values and don't let anyone or anything get in your way which shows you have integrity. I have no doubt that you will go far and achieve great things in life. I am hopeful that one day, long after graduation, I will get to hear a few of your stories.

Sincerely, Mr. Lanfear



SENIOR SPOTLIGHT



MARION HIGH SCHOOL

- Who was your favorite teacher throughout high school?
Abby Lien, she made me feel like more than just a student.
- What is your favorite high school memory?
Breaking Alexs' glasses on his head.
- What are you not going to miss about high school
Strictly having to be here from 8:00- 3:15.
- What has been your most used phrase through out high school.
If I watch TikTok for 10 minutes, I will do some homework.
- What is one thing you want to accomplish after graduation?
To be rich in all aspects.
- If your class had a reality show what it be called and why?
Trailer park trash because we act like we grew up there.
- If you had to go on a 24-hour car ride, which classmate would you go with and where would you go?
Avery, I would go to Ireland so we can see our celebrity crushes.
- What advice would you give the freshman class?
It's not that serious, it will all work out.



NOTE FROM MS. ABBY LIEN

IT'S HARD TO BELIEVE THAT LIZ IS ALREADY A SENIOR. I REMEMBER HER AS A TIMID FRESHMAN WHO WAS STILL FINDING HER CONFIDENCE, BUT SHE HAS GROWN SO MUCH THESE LAST 4 YEARS. SHE HAS ALWAYS BEEN HARDWORKING, BUT WATCHING HER GROW INTO A CONFIDENT YOUNG WOMAN BOTH IN THE CLASSROOM, ON THE FIELD, AND IN LIFE HAS BEEN SOMETHING I WILL NEVER FORGET. ONE OF THE BIGGEST LESSONS I HAVE TRIED TO TEACH MY STUDENTS IS THAT THEY ARE CAPABLE OF DOING HARD THINGS, AND I HOPE SHE CARRIES THAT BELIEF WITH HER LONG AFTER SHE LEAVES HIGH SCHOOL. I AM HONORED THAT SHE CHOSE ME AS HER FAVORITE TEACHER AND SAID THAT I MADE HER FEEL LIKE MORE THAN A STUDENT. THAT MEANS MORE TO ME THAN SHE PROBABLY REALIZES. I HAVE HAD THE PRIVILEGE OF NOT ONLY BEING HER TEACHER AND COACH, BUT ALSO HAVING THE OPPORTUNITY TO BE A COACH ON THE OPPOSING TEAM. SHE HAS GIVEN ME PLENTY OF REASONS TO BE PROUD, AND I KNOW SHE WILL CONTINUE TO WORK HARD, FACE CHALLENGES HEAD-ON, AND ACCOMPLISH GREAT THINGS. I CAN'T WAIT TO SEE WHAT THIS NEXT CHAPTER HOLDS FOR HER!

FROM MS. LIEN



Elementary



Preschool



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LEARNING FOCUS

This month the Preschoolers are learning the alphabet. When they learn a new letter they do something that starts with that letter.

TEACHERS ANSWERS

What was the biggest highlight in your class this month. She said... Getting to know the students.

What is a funny or sweet thing a student has said or done did this month? She said... A student asking her to be there neighbor.

What is a topic or skill the kids are working on this month? She said... The alphabet.





OCTOBER

MIDDLE SCHOOL CLASSES

Mrs. Vandembark

- Every Monday, the 6th-8th graders do activities focused on Growth Mindset.
- We are working on the Science of Reading, learning how morphemes build words, and working on writing better sentences.
- We will be starting a novel, *The Sign of the Beaver*, written by Elizabeth George Speare.
- They should be excited to become stronger readers, learn more about a growth mindset, and discover how embracing challenges can help them grow as learners.

What do you call an alligator in a vest?

An Investigator
Joke told by Keaton Gann

Joke of the MONTH!!

Why does everyone want to employ elephants?

Because they will work for peanuts

Joke told by Keaton Gann

Mr. Epp

7th Grade - Life Science
Students have been learning about the characteristics and classification of living organisms. They have classified tree leaves and used microscopes to study tissues and organisms. Their first test was during homecoming week.

8th Grade - Physical Science
Students have been learning how matter is classified and completed a lab comparing mixtures and compounds. They are now studying phases of matter and will make Ziploc bag ice cream and cornstarch mud.

The Sports Scoop

On the Field With Domani

We asked Domani Butler three questions about the game's challenges, scoring goals, and the teammate who helps him stay focused.

What is the hardest part of the game?

"In my opinion, the hardest part of the match is playing through the full 80 minutes at 100 percent," Domani said.

How do you feel when you score a goal?

"Since I'm not in a position where my main role is to score goals, it feels pretty good whenever I'm able to score or help put my teammates in a position to score," he explained.

Who helped you focus or made you laugh during the last game?

"In our last game, the teammate who helped me focus the most was Derek Escobar. He helps me realize we need to have fun. When we're having fun, that's when we're playing at our best," Domani said.

On the Field With Austin and Michael

We asked Austin Waldner and Michael Blau three questions about their fans' support, their teams, and the songs that get them ready to play.

How do you feel when you hear people cheering you on?

Austin said hearing people cheer for him motivates him because they want to see him succeed.

How would you describe your team?

Austin described his team as exciting, fun, and encouraging.

What is your hype song?

Austin's favorite hype song is "Back in Blood."

We also spoke with football player Michael Blau.

How do you feel when you hear people cheering you on?

Michael said hearing cheers makes him feel better and helps him play better.

How would you describe your team?

Michael described his team as hardworking, strong, and confident.

What is your hype song?

Micheal's favorite hype song is "A Milli" by Lil Wayne.

On the Field With Jacob

We asked Jacob Bult three questions about his favorite hype song, his team, and how it feels to hear fans cheering.

What is your hype song?

Jacob's favorite hype song is "Counting My Blessings."

How would you describe your team in three words?

Jacob described his team as fit, outgoing, and tough.

How do you feel when you hear people cheering you on?

Jacob said hearing people cheer for him makes him feel pumped up.

On the Court With Clair and Maliyah

We asked Claire Donlan and Maliyah Nankivel three questions about volleyball, their teammates, and their favorite pre-game song.

Who helped you focus or made you laugh during your last game?

Claire named Shyla Even from Parker.

How would you describe your team in three words?

Claire described her team as encouraging, positive, and supportive.

What is your hype song?

Claire's favorite hype song is "Alleluiah" by Elevation Worship.

We also spoke with volleyball player Maliyah.

What is your hype song?

Maliyah's favorite hype song is "Suit and Tie."

How do you adjust your serving during a game?

Maliyah explained that she considers where the setters will move and which players are weaker passers when deciding where to serve.

How would you describe your team?

Maliyah described her team as one big family. Her teammates cheer each other on and remind one another that it's a game and everyone should have fun.

On the Run With Faith

We asked Faith Pekron three questions about her favorite part of cross country, what keeps her motivated, and her running strategy.

What is your favorite part of cross country?

Faith said her favorite part is collecting golf balls.

What goes through your mind while running the mile?

Faith said she thinks about songs that help keep her motivated.

What is your strategy for running the mile?

Faith said her strategy is to pace herself.

On the Court With Kinley

We asked Kinley Beckstrand three questions about her team's hype song, keeping energy high, and her serving technique.

What is your team's hype song?

Kinley said her team's hype song is "Titanium."

How does your team keep its energy high on the court?

Kinley said the team keeps its energy high by moving on from each play and focusing on the next one.

How do you adjust your serve when targeting weaker passers?

Kinley said she focuses on following all the way through with her hand.