
● YOUR GUIDE TO BEAR PRIDE ●

JANUARY 2026

Starting Strong, Finishing Strong - Marion Bear Style

As we begin the second semester of the 2025-2026 school year, the Marion Bears are starting strong and setting our sights on finishing even stronger. January offers a fresh start and a renewed sense of purpose—a perfect time for students to reflect on their progress, set new goals, and recommit to learning. The skills and knowledge gained during the first semester have laid a solid foundation, and this next chapter is all about growth, resilience, and confidence. Every lesson learned so far has prepared our students for what's ahead, whether it's improving grades, strengthening friendships, or stepping up as leaders. Now is the time to lean in and roar forward together. Together, our Bears are ready to tackle challenges, celebrate successes, and keep moving forward with determination and school pride.

Strong finishes are built on strong daily habits. Staying organized by using planners or calendars, breaking assignments into manageable steps, and reviewing classwork regularly can help students stay on track and reduce stress. Just as important is being well-rested and ready for the school day. Establishing a consistent bedtime, limiting screen time before sleep, and preparing backpacks and clothes the night before can make mornings smoother and set a positive tone for the day. When students take care of their bodies and routines, they are better prepared to focus, learn, and succeed.

Knowing how to study is just as important as finding time to do it. Students are encouraged to review notes daily—even for just 10-15 minutes—to reinforce learning and build confidence. Effective strategies include using flashcards, quizzing yourself, rewriting notes in your own words, or explaining concepts to someone else. Studying in a quiet, distraction-free space and taking short breaks can also improve focus and retention. When students use smart study strategies, they strengthen their skills, reduce anxiety, and set themselves up to finish the school year strong. Let's make this semester count and finish the year the Marion Bear Way - Believe, Attend, Explore, Respect! BEAR PRIDE!

What Happened Throughout the Decades?



10 years ago today film

Ten years ago today, on January 29, 2016, the movie world was dominated by the release of DreamWorks Animation's *Kung Fu Panda 3* and a major box office bomb for The Weinstein Company.

20 years ago today music

On this day 20 years ago, January 29, 2006, a massive event in music history occurred when the Arctic Monkeys' debut album, *Whatever People Say I Am, That's What I'm Not*, went to No. 1 on the UK album chart.



30 years ago today sports

On this day 30 years ago, January 28, 1996, the Dallas Cowboys defeated the Pittsburgh Steelers 27-17 in Super Bowl XXX at Sun Devil Stadium in Tempe, Arizona. It was the Cowboys' third championship in four years and their fifth in franchise history, with cornerback Larry Brown named MVP.

By Morgan Tieszen and Elizah Beil

Meet the Business manager!

MS. CRISSY LONGE



ABOUT CRISSY:

WHERE DID YOU GET YOUR EDUCATION?
I HAVE TWO DEGREES, AND THE ONE THAT HELPS ME DO MY JOB IS BUSINESS ASSOCIATES

IF YOU COULD TAKE A FIELD TRIP ANYWHERE IN THE WORLD, WHERE WOULD IT BE?
IRELAND WOULD BE FUN!

WHAT IS THE WEIRDEST THING THAT HAS EVER HAPPENED IN THE SCHOOL?
I'M PRETTY MUCH JUST IN MY OWN LITTLE WORLD IN MY OFFICE. I DON'T SEE MUCH.

ABOUT CRISSY:

WHAT WOULD YOU DO IF ALL THE STUDENTS TURNED INTO A ZOMBIE?
PROBABLY JUST STAY IN MY OFFICE AND KEEP WORKING!!!!

IF YOU HAD TO BE A FRUIT FOR A WEEK WHAT WOULD YOU BE?
AN APPLE. THEY HAVE TUFF SKIN!

4TH GRADE:

FOR THIS MONTH, DANICA SPERLING AND MALIYAH NANKIVEL INTERVIEWED TWO OF THE 4TH GRADERS. THEY WERE HENRY AND ADDYSON.



4TH GRADE QUESTIONS:

WHAT WOULD YOU DO IF YOU WERE A TEACHER FOR A DAY? THEY WOULD HAVE NO HOMEWORK! THEY COULD EAT ALL THEY WANT IN CLASS. DO ANYTHING THEY WANT.

IF YOU OPENED A STORE, WHAT WOULD YOU SELL? DR PEPPER! I WOULD ALSO SELL VIDEO GAMES.

4TH GRADE CONTINUED:

WHO DO YOU LOOK UP TO?

MY DAD! HE DOES A LOT OF STUFF WITH ME

WOULD YOU RATHER BURP GLITTER OR SNEEZE JELLY BEANS? I WOULD RATHER BURP GLITTER BECAUSE I LIKE BURPING.

Seinor Spotlight

**Madison
Crooks**



What is your favorite high school memory? **When all the girls in my class dressed up as the lorax**

What are your plans after graduation? **My plan after graduation is to possibly go to college or go into my work force.**

What advice would you give to the underclassmen? **Advice that I would give to the underclassmen is to keep your grades up and turn in your homework on time**

**Aclecksi Gomez
Riux**



What has been your favortie class this year? **“Advanced computers”**

Who is your favorite teacher? **“Mrs. Timmeran”**

What are your plans after you graduate? **“Not for sure yet, either collage or straight into the work force”**

Highschool Athletics

The Parker-Marion Boys Pheasants are off to an amazing start with a record of 4 wins and 2 losses.

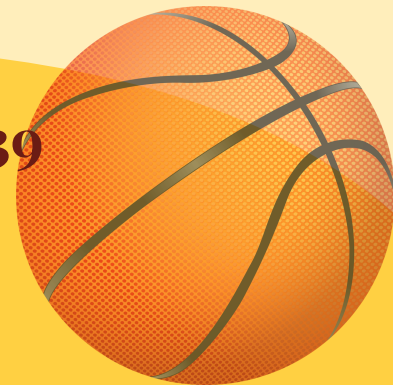
The Boys have a very busy January with exciting matchups. We can't wait to bring more victories to January.

MCM Cougars W 64-39

Baltic Bulldogs L 56-67

Alcester- Hudson Cubs W 60-39

Winner Warriors L 51-77



The Par-Mar Girls Basketball had a great January, which was also very busy. Their score this month ended at 2-11, and they are expected to win more games in the coming weeks...

JH Basketball

Par-Mar Pheasants

JH BOYS

On January 17th, the Junior High Boys Basketball team traveled to Alcester-Hudson for their end-of-season tournament. The boys played three games, winning all three to become tournament champions. They defeated West Sioux 25-10 in their first game, then beat Baltic 35-32 in a close matchup. In the championship game, they defeated EPJ 35-34, rallying from a 12-point deficit to secure the win.



Brains OF THE BEAR DEN

POT

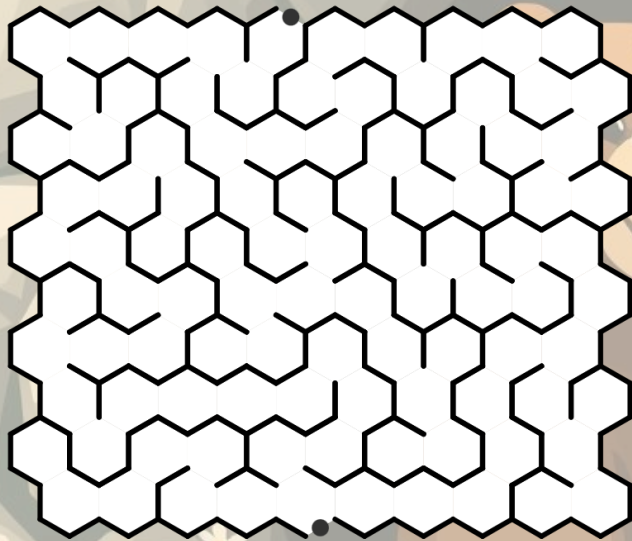


Try

stand
2

**T
O
W
N**

**EYE
EYE**



ANSWERS

Rebus Puzzle Answers
Travel over seas
Forget it
For once in my life
Breakfast

Aryssa Strout and Faith Pekron

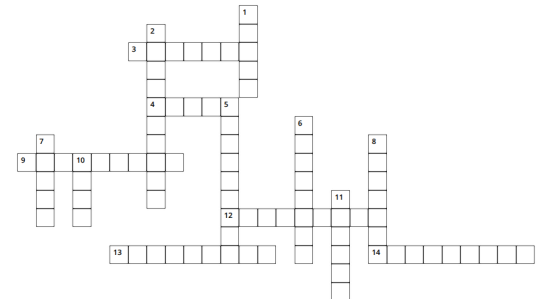
8	3	7	1	4	5	9	2	6
5	2	1	6	7	9	8	4	3
9	6	4	2	8	3	7	1	5
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2	1	5	9	3	6	4	8	7
7	9	8	4	5	1	6	3	2
4	8	9	3	6	2	5	7	1
1	5	2	7	9	8	3	6	4
6	7	3	5	1	4	2	9	8

Cozy Activities

X	H	B	W	R	K	N	S	O	G	Z	B	X	Y
N	S	R	L	A	K	K	O	U	D	N	R	A	G
A	E	N	Y	A	R	N	U	K	D	P	E	R	D
X	R	Q	A	T	N	M	P	J	T	I	L	K	M
V	T	U	I	C	Y	K	T	H	E	L	A	A	O
P	D	D	F	E	K	E	E	H	A	L	X	E	V
M	W	U	I	L	K	S	S	T	Y	O	V	Z	I
U	H	W	R	S	T	P	N	I	I	W	D	C	E
U	S	D	E	H	E	N	U	G	R	J	F	W	Z
Q	U	I	L	T	C	Q	G	C	A	N	D	L	E
O	G	M	S	I	O	P	U	W	B	O	O	K	U
N	W	F	M	Y	U	U	U	V	O	B	B	B	I
T	Q	A	R	O	C	X	S	W	R	T	A	K	P
Z	X	M	B	A	H	O	T	B	V	B	K	X	P

Blanket Book Candle Couch Fire Movie
Pillow Quilt Relax Snacks Snug Soup
Tea Warmth

winter nature



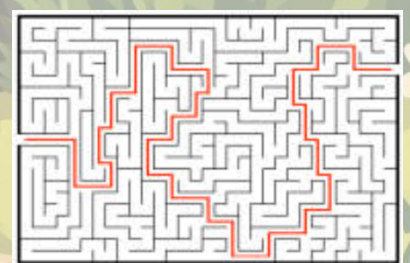
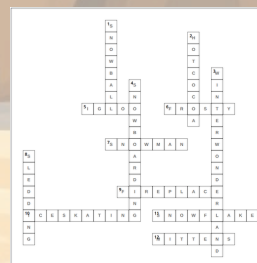
Across

- Tree that produces cones and has needle-like or scale-like leaves.
- Melted snow or ice that has turned into a wet, muddy mixture.
- Injury to skin and tissues caused by extreme cold temperatures.
- Rapid flow of snow down a slope, often triggered by a disturbance.
- Tree or shrub that retains its green leaves throughout the winter.
- Unique ice crystal that falls from the sky in cold weather.

Down

- Heavy jacket with a hood, designed to keep the wearer warm in cold weather.
- Popular winter plant with bright red leaves, often used as a holiday decoration.
- To spend the winter in a dormant state, conserving energy.
- Severe snowstorm with strong winds and low visibility.
- Thin layer of ice that forms on surfaces when the temperature drops below freezing.
- Hand coverings with a separate section for the thumb, warmer than gloves.
- Vehicle used for sliding downhill over snow or ice.
- Long, pointed piece of ice that hangs down from a roof or tree branch.

6		7		8	1			
1		8						
2		3			6	8	1	
			6	4		5	8	
			2	9	3	4		
7			1			9		
4	7			2				
9		6	7		4			8
	8	2		6				



The Student Times: January

The Bright Ideas Bulletin

This January the science students have been working really hard on projects and they are the following classes: Life Science, dissected different flowers to study reproductive parts of flowers as part of sexual vs asexual reproduction. They also grew bean and corn seeds to demonstrate geotropism, Biology: reviewed onion root slides to study mitosis, they also used skittles to demonstrate probability in genetics, Physical Science: they have used marbles and ramps, paper airplanes and carts to demonstrate different physics properties including speed, acceleration and friction, Chemistry: They did a lab that studied the reaction capacities of different metals in order to demonstrate how different numbers of valence electrons affect reactivity, finally Bio II: the Tea Storm Chasers came and visited our classroom as part of our unit on meteorology. Those are all the new fun and amazing projects the students of each class have been working on we hope they continue to work hard and exceed our expectations!!

The Iron Rail Times

The One Act play has been working really hard on making sure that the play is to the expectations of the audience, they have been perfecting the play and some individual actors have received an outstanding award and they are the following: Domani Butler, Harli Ross, Jackson Donland, and finally Avary Thomas. Overall they have all been working so hard that they have the chance to compete at state on Thursday February 5th we wish them the best of luck and stay tuned for the results.

The Young Farmers' Journal

In this month of January the agriculture students have been working on various projects the 6th Grade has been learning all about Agriculture, FFA, and our National Parks Systems, Welding classes have been learning about metal arts and South Dakota Metal Sculptors - they then have been tasked to create their own sculptures, In the Animal Science has been learning all about biosecurity and how to keep our livestock species safe, Ag Structures has started working on a milk cow display for the Turner County Fair, Finally Horticulture has been learning about how plants function, and soon they will be working on designing planters and starting seeds.

By: Jair Folgar &
Bentley Carda

NEW YEAR NEW FACTS!

NEW YEAR CELEBRATION



Did you know that the New Year is the oldest celebration? Well, people have been celebrating the New Year for more than 4,000 years ago! The earliest recorded New Year celebration dated back to ancient Babylon, where the new year began in mid-March.

COLD MONTH!



January is one of the coldest months in the Northern Hemisphere. This happens because the Earth's surface continues to lose heat after the shortest day has passed. Meanwhile, it's summer time in the Southern Hemisphere, where January is often one of the warmest months.



FRESH START



Did you know that January is a popular month for fresh starts? This is from people starting new jobs to launching new fitness routines. January is often seen as a rest month as well. Many businesses begin new budgets, schools start with a fresh semester, and people feel motivated by "clean slate" which comes with a new year.

BY HALLIE FOLGER AND ARIANA PIEHL

2026

February

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1	2	3 Parker/Marion vs Chester • JV Girls • JV Boys • Varsity Girls • Varsity Boys	4 6th Grade Honor Band at DWU	5 Parent teacher conferences, Scholastic book fair Parker/Marion vs Wagner, Level C Girls, Freshman Boys	6 Lyman Quad, Marion/Freeman vs Groton Area Varsity Boys No School	7 Parker/Marion vs Flandreau • JV Girls • JV Boys • Varsity Boys • Varsity Girls
8	9 Parker/Marion vs Viborg-Hurley • JV Boys • JV Girls, • Varsity Boys • Varsity Girls School board meeting	10	11	12 Play Your Heart Out Game Night (Madison Crooks Senior Project)	13 MCM Round Robin Duals (Varsity Boys)	14 Sioux Valley vs Parker-Marion • C Team Boys • JV Girls • JV Boys • Varsity Girls • Varsity Boys
15	16	17 Parker/Marion vs Garretson • Varsity Girls • Varsity Boys • JV Girls • JV Boys	18	19 Regions (Varsity Girls) Scotland/Menno vs Parker/Marion • JV Girls • JV Boys • Varsity Girls • Varsity Boys	20 School in session Chamberlain vs Parker-Marion • C Team Girls, • C Team Boys, • JV Girls, • JV Boys, • Varsity Girls, • Varsity Boys	21 Region 2B Tournament (Varsity Boys)
22	23	24	25	26 Adopt a grandparent	27 Help Day	28