



# MESSENGER

Monthly Newsletter of Marshall Elementary School  
Home of the Eagles! 1450 Rhomberg Ave. Phone: 563-552-4100

Dear Marshall Families,

December is here! Cooler temperatures... disappearing daylight. The upcoming weeks can become quite overwhelming as families prepare for gatherings, special travels and perhaps some shopping outings in preparation for special traditions. Oftentimes, children fall victim to later bedtimes, hectic trips to the store for that last item and altered routines. In spite of the hustle and bustle of the season, I hope that school will remain a focus. With about three weeks before the winter break begins, there is time for a lot of learning.

It is hard to believe that we are already in trimester two. Trimester one standard based report cards have been completed and are available on-line for you to view student grades and teacher comments in Infinite Campus. If you would like a paper copy, please call the office. Thank you for all the support and continued learning that you do at home with your child(ren).

Mrs. Galusha has been working hard with the 3rd, 4th and 5th graders getting ready for their Winter Concert on December 11th (snow date is December 13). You are welcome to attend the 2:15 pm or the 6:30 pm show and enjoy the wonderful singing of our Marshall students. Due to limited seating we ask that you attend only one of the shows. We look forward to seeing everyone as we join together around your children and celebrate their hard work. It will be an amazing night!

As we end 2018, with the winter break and a new year approaching, I wish you and your family a very Happy Holiday Season and a Happy New Year! May you have a safe and heartwarming break with your child(ren), family and friends. As I look forward to 2019, my wish for you is a year filled with joy, hope and love.

Yours in Education,  
Mrs. Schmidt, Principal

Ms. Schuller's Kindergarten room uses flexible seating purchased for classrooms through the DRA Grant awarded to Marshall School for the 2018-219 school year. Thank you DRA!

## IN THIS ISSUE

### MESSAGE FROM PRINCIPAL SCHMIDT

### CALENDAR

### CLASSROOM NEWS

### WHAT'S NEW, PTO?

#### Our School's Vision:

Marshall Eagles Soaring to Excellence

#### Our School's Mission:

Doing our BEST work....  
Being our BEST selves

#### Our School's Character Traits:

Being Responsible, Respectful and  
Caring



## SPECIALIST NEWS

### MUSIC NEWS - MRS. GALUSHA

We are having fun exploring the various techniques about music and the world. Fifth and Third grade got to attend the Art's Trek performance at the Five Flag's Center to watch the Dubuque Symphony Orchestra. Fourth grade has started the Adopt-A-Musician program where a musician from the Dubuque Symphony teaches us about their instrument for the school year. In Second grade, we have started to learn the basic elements of Music Theory. They have learned what a half note, quarter note and eighth note mean and have learned how to write them and compose a 4-bar composition. In First grade and Kindergarten students have been busy learning songs that introduce them to the world of music. We have explored different voices, levels of pitch, moving to the music and being creative with movement.

Our upcoming Winter Concert will be on December 11th, at 2:15 pm and 6:30 pm, showcasing Third, Fourth and Fifth grades and the Fourth and Fifth grade Marshall Eagle's Choir. If your student is in this performance, please have them to school by 6:15 pm and report to their classroom. Choir Students come to the music room by 6:15 pm.

### ART NEWS - MRS. LERCHE

Winter Solstice has the art room hunkered down with cups of color and magic. I love this time of year when we can weave together fantasy forests and animals with stripy socks, snowy villages with lighted windows and all manner of snowmen. I hope as a parent, you remember your scissors, paper, glue, glitter and days of saving your scraps for another creation. Don't you wish for a day like that now?

Our Kindergartners have been building their basic skills and their art room manners. Their creations quite often mark their lockers and currently you'll see Gingerbread Men and Ladies.

First graders are using what they learned last year to refine their skills. Their Lions are a testament to how well they can use color and "art marks" to tell a story.

Second grade should be proud of their Starry Night paintings. They work with energy and freedom and their paintings tell a lot about how they see the world.

Third graders have been all about Owls, experimenting with stamping, cut paper and clay. They topped off the season with a beautiful bit of oil crayon trickery to show volume and shadow with some really lovely drawings of pumpkins.

## CALENDAR

### DECEMBER 11

Winter Concert featuring grades 3, 4 & 5  
Performances at 2:15 pm & 6:30 pm  
Students performing should arrive at 6:15 pm  
**NO AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAMS TODAY!**

### DECEMBER 11

The Point Neighborhood Association  
presents their Annual Christmas Social  
*Holy Trinity Church* Basement (Barrier Free)  
1700 Rhomberg Avenue  
6:00 pm to 8:00 pm  
Bring a Snack to Share & a Nonperishable  
Food Donation  
Hot Chocolate & Punch Provided  
*There will be a Special Visitor too!*

### DECEMBER 12

Marshall PTO Fundraiser  
*Your Pie Restaurant*  
800 Wacker Dr., Suite 100  
15% of Sales will go to PTO When You Eat  
11:00 am to 9:00 pm  
*Enjoy a Quick & Delicious Lunch or Dinner!*

### DECEMBER 21

All School Assembly to Present Student Awards

### DECEMBER 24 - JANUARY 2

No School, Winter Break

### JANUARY 3

Return Back to School

Fourth grade have been working on a polished version of 3-dimensional coils, using their colored pencils to produce "candy shine". Not quite finished, but they're stunning.

Fifth grade have taken on a cultural theme to work out the logistics of a Day of the Dead Shrine/Frame using painted sticks, tin and found objects. Few directions and lots of options have them thinking.

The ability to be creative is a valuable asset in the 21st Century. High five to our students for taking the time and effort to approach this work with spark, rigor and a smile. Warm winter wishes, everyone!

## PE NEWS - MR. OSWEILER

We have done the first Pacer and Half-mile test of the year. This year differs from past years in the grading on these tests. Students are simply graded MET, or NOT YET, in regards to their standard grades. The students will have two more opportunities through the school year to meet the standard if they did not meet it in the first trimester. The students are told that the best way to improve on these tests is to increase their heart rate and exercise throughout the school year. I only see students 45-minutes every third day, not enough time to accomplish the results that we desire. I stress that all students get active in their daily lives with physical activities after school and on weekends. This can be done in many ways, including jogging, riding their bikes, playing outside with friends and family.

In the coming months we will be working on several tasks that address the students' motor skills. This will include proper overhand throwing form. This skill is one that many of the students struggle with. We start slowly going through the fundamentals of throwing and progress to accuracy. Any opportunity that your student has to practice throwing, they should take it.

As Winter has arrived, I ask that all students have sneakers available at school to change into from snow boots. Students will not be allowed to participate in physical education classes if they do not have sneakers because of the risk of injury to them and others. Students will be allowed to borrow school owned sneakers 2 to 3 times, after which reminders will be sent home.

## ATTENDANCE REMINDERS - FROM THE MAIN OFFICE

- When possible, please avoid scheduling appointments for your child during the school day or at a time requiring an early dismissal for your child.
- A note from the appropriate doctor confirming medical appointments requiring your child to miss school time should be sent to the main office after the visit.
- If an early dismissal is unavoidable, please provide a note to your child's teacher to alert him/her of your intent to call for your child early. This allows the teacher to plan and prepare materials and to have your child ready to go upon your arrival.
- Early dismissals requested for the convenience of parents/guardians are not considered "Excused" and will be counted as "Unexcused" according to District policy.

## BIRTHDAY TREAT POLICY

### REMEMBER - NO FLOWERS OR BALLOONS ARE ALLOWED IN CLASSROOMS

The safety of our children is of utmost importance, please remember that edible treats are not an option for birthdays.

We have many students with a wide range of severe, life threatening allergies to various nuts, milk products, wheat, soy, strawberries, kiwi, and much more. Although we are very diligent about monitoring items it is exceedingly difficult to verify the ingredients in any food product.

#### Non-Edible Birthday treat suggestions:

- \*Donate a book to the school library or classroom in honor of your child's birthday.
- \*Have your child bring their favorite book to share; the teacher or child may read it to the class.
- \*Donate a ball, jump rope or game to the classroom for recess.
- \*Provide each student in class with a colorful pencil, sticker, eraser, bookmark or chalk.

Recognition of birthdays or other special events with the delivery of flowers, balloons, or stuffed animals is not encouraged. If items do arrive for students they will be kept in the office until the end of the school day.

## CONNECTING WITH MRS. FRANNIE SMITH

## Connection Specialist

Teachers must be skilled at listening to their students as well as explaining things clearly. They must be able to adapt their methods of communication to all students regardless of ability or learning style. They are able to "read" their students and adapt to the needs of the individual. Teachers also appreciate this type of clear communication with parents, please feel free to talk with teachers with not only concerns, but also the positives in your child's life.

Ongoing research shows that family engagement in schools improves student achievement, reduces absenteeism, and restores parents' confidence in their children's education. Students with involved parents or other caregivers earn higher grades and test scores, have better social skills, and show improved behavior.

## LUNCH REMINDERS

Marshall continues to be a part of the Community Eligibility Provision (CEP), a FREE lunch and breakfast program. This funding is from both the federal and state level governments and allows our students to qualify regardless of family income. Families are required to complete the form during online registration. If you feel you did not complete the form, please call the office.

Milk is only free when it is part of the complete hot or cold lunch provided by the school district.

If a student brings a packed lunch from home and drinks a milk provided by Marshall, the milk is not free to the student. The cost will be \$.55 per carton. Families may bank money in a student lunch account to use for future milk purchases, or pay daily for the milk.

## DROP OFF AND PICK UP OF STUDENTS

Parents and guardians we appreciate you continuing to be careful drivers and walkers with our students back in school. We know Marshall does not have a perfect area for students to be dropped off before heading for the courtyard and their lineup. Please make sure you and your students use the marked crosswalks that are monitored by Marshall staff. Please watch for the cones that mark off safe zones in the street and do not park in the crosswalk areas making it dangerous for students and staff.

Thank you for your help, student safety is important in and out of the building!

## DCSD DIGITAL BACKPACK

Dubuque is lucky to have a wide variety of events that support the education, health, wellness, quality of life, and enrichment of our students and the entire community. The district's Digital Backpack is a central, paperless way to share non-profit and educational information with families.

The Dubuque Community School District is pleased to share information about community events/activities. You may submit an event/activity at the Digital Backpack website.

**Community flyers can be viewed on our new Digital Backpack at [www.dbqschools.org/backpack](http://www.dbqschools.org/backpack)**

## DCSD FRESH FRUIT & VEGETABLE PROGRAM (FFVP)

Did you know your school participates in the Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program? The FFVP is a grant that provides children with free FRESH fruits and vegetables during the school day. The goal of the FFVP is to create a healthier school environment by providing healthier food choices and expanding the variety of fruits and vegetables in children's diets. This increase in fruit and vegetable consumption will impact their present and future health!





# WHAT'S NEW, PTO?

Contact Marshall PTO at: [marshallptodbq@gmail.com](mailto:marshallptodbq@gmail.com)

Visit our FACEBOOK page: [Marshall School PTO](#)

## MARSHALL APPAREL

Thank you for ordering Marshall apparel! All the apparel items are seen on a daily basis at school with both staff and students showing their Marshall pride! Another apparel order will take place in the Spring.

## PTO RESTAURANT FUNDRAISER NIGHTS

PTO is sponsoring two upcoming fundraiser nights at local restaurants. The first one will be on **Wednesday, December 12** from 11:00 am to 9:00 pm at **Your Pie**, 800 Wacker Dr., Suite 100. The second one will be on **Thursday, January 10** from 10:30 am to 10:00 pm at **Pancheros Mexican Grill**, 4840 Asbury Rd. Please join your fellow Marshall friends and family to earn 15% back from sales for PTO to use for student needs. Just show them the flyer from Marshall Elementary School and enjoy a night off from cooking!

## PTO VOLUNTEERS ARE ALWAYS NEEDED (AND APPRECIATED!)

If you would like to support your student's school in a positive and fun way, please consider becoming a PTO volunteer/member. During the school year PTO needs help to run fundraisers and other events at school for students and staff. Contact us through our email account at [marshallptodbq@gmail.com](mailto:marshallptodbq@gmail.com) We would love to meet you and hear your ideas for Marshall School and PTO!

## WHAT DO BOX TOPS, PRAIRIE FARMS MILK CAPS AND MILK MOOLA CAPS HAVE IN COMMON?

They all earn money for Marshall School! *Box Tops* are worth 10¢, *Prairie Farms Milk Caps* are worth 5¢ and *Kwik Trip Milk Moola Caps* are worth 5¢ each. The combination of collecting each of these products earns Marshall approximately \$450.00 a year for student needs. Please have your friends and family collect for Marshall School. The more items we get, the more money we make! Thank you to the current families and staff members that assist with the sorting, counting and computer input of these items. PTO will be making a transition to take over the responsibilities of items soon.

Fifth grade's Arts Trek to the Dubuque Symphony Orchestra.  
Thank you PTO for paying for our transportation!

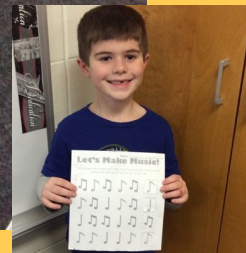
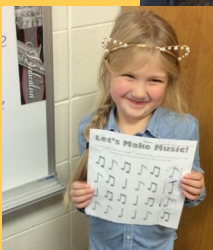
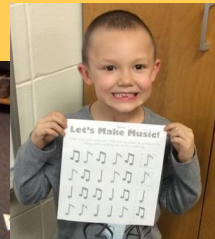
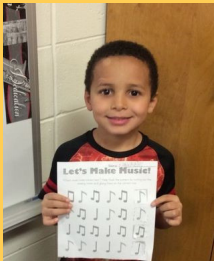


Arts Trek day with the Dubuque Symphony!





Fourth and 1st Grades visited the Veteran's Freedom Center in Dubuque in celebration of Veteran's Day. The center was presented with needed donations from Marshall School.



Music class is fun with Mrs. Galusha and hand's on learning!