



# THE HAPPY HOLLOW HOLLER

HAPPY HOLLOW SCHOOL & PTO NEWSLETTER

January 11, 2012

**Navigate the Newsletter:**

**If you find yourself pressed for time, use this guide to help you skim and scan.**

- **Principal's Quote and Note ~ Back to the Books After the Holidays!**
  - **Thank you!**
  - **January/February dates to remember**
  - **PTO Updates/Calendar**
-

*“Your success and happiness lies in you. Resolve to keep happy, and your joy and you shall form an invincible host against difficulties.”*

*~Helen Keller ~*

## PRINCIPAL'S CORNER

January, 2013

Dear Friends,

Dave Stanley is a freelance journalist who has covered sports, music and hard news since 2000. He has been published on CBSsports.com and various other websites. Stanley is also a feature writer for the magazine "WhatsUp!" I recently read a piece he wrote about students returning to school after the holidays. He said,

*“Whether you choose to simply relax over the holidays or work a part-time job for extra cash, going back to school after the break can be quite the adjustment. In a way, it is more difficult than starting school in the fall because you already have somewhat of a grasp of the academic year, and might underestimate just how hard it can be.”*

This year, we were fortunate to begin with a three day week, but this dark and cold time of year can be challenging for our young learners. We don't want to lose the momentum of the fall and yet, we need to be cognizant that although they are just back from a vacation, they may be tired, feeling a bit of a let down after all the excitement of the winter holiday season, or physically tired from the cold and many illnesses that circle around us during the winter months. Helping them to feel good and well-prepared for the second half of the year can be strategic and with some care can reduce stress, fatigue and help students maintain their focused, best efforts.



In his article, Stanley suggested that there are ten easy, yet important, steps to help students navigate the return to focused and productive learning postures. To summarize, Stanley suggest to do the following: (1) prepare ~ look for ways to talk about what's ahead without stressing ~ mention some fun things you know will occur and let your child/children know that you are looking forward to the return to a peaceful, productive time ~ talking helps normalize what is ahead and diminishes anxiety;

(2) strengthen peer relationships ~ when kids feel included and connected with their peers they are less nervous and more likely to be productive and even enthusiastic. ~ I say, make some early playdates so students have something social about which to look forward; (3) maintain a routine; (4) keep a planner online or on the refrigerator ~ if everyone in a family unit stays organized there is a feeling of readiness that naturally follows; (5) repeat the parts of the fall and earlier times that worked well ~ returning to familiar routines are comforting to people of all ages; (6) exercise regularly and (7) plan for it ~ if there is no plan it won't happen; (8) focus conversation on the day instead of broader expectations like “Now that the second half of the year is here, I really expect...” ; (9) eat healthfully; (10) and be consistent ~ don't try to take on many new things, make many resolutions or changes, stick to the routine you establish and make changes slowly.



The school supply company Avery has a website and they suggest products to help with all of their “tips”. While I am not suggesting that you go out and buy an abundance of new supplies, I thought these suggestions were interesting. Avery suggested the following:



“It seems like eons ago when the kids rushed home from school to start their winter break, and backpacks got shoved into closets. Now’s the time to dig out those backpacks, take inventory together, and see what supplies they’ll need to tackle the rest of the school year...”

Heading back to school also means getting back on a school schedule. Take some time with your kids to discuss how the daily routine will change when they return to school, and make it easier to make the transition with these tips.



- Make sure their study zone is free of distractions. Their desk and computer should be in a quiet place where you can monitor it. Time to turn off cell phones, TVs, computers and all other distractions that keep kids from fully focusing on the task at hand.

- Designate a set time for studying. Whether it’s a certain hour of the afternoon or right after dinner, establish a time dedicated to studying each day. You won’t believe the difference it makes and kids actually like the structure. They want to do well, too!



- Keep their desk stocked with study tools.”

Switching from holiday mode to school mode can be easier with a more prescriptive approach. We want our students to be happy, healthy and focused on their academics. All three are interconnected and none achieved if the others are not in place. Happy New Year! May 2013 bring you and your families all of life’s best, always!

Much peace,



Jim Lee  
Principal

**This and That from the Principal's Office:**

Many thanks! On behalf of the whole office staff, we wish to thank everyone for the many cards and delicious treats that you bestowed upon us before vacation. We feel so fortunate to know and work with you all. Each act of kindness was a reminder of how generous and thoughtful our school community is ~ and all remain greatly appreciated.

**January and February at Happy Hollow:**

Monday, January 10	<b>Happy Hollow Chorus Concert</b>	7:00 p.m. HH Gym
Thursday, January 14	<b>Happy Hollow Chorus Concert</b>	Gym 10:00 a.m. HH Gym
Monday, January 21	<b>No School Martin Luther King, Jr. Day</b>	7:00 p.m.
Monday, January 25	<b>MLK Dinner Celebration</b>	Dinner 6:00 p.m./Program 7:30 WMS
Friday, February 1st	<b>Middle School Music Ensemble visits HH REPORT CARDS DISTRIBUTED</b>	Two Performances
Monday, February 4	<b>Author Visit</b>	All Day
Week of February 18-22	<b>Winter Vacation</b>	
Monday, February 25	<b>Classes Resume</b>	
Date and time to be determined	<b>January/February Coffee w/ Mr. Lee Viewing and Discussion of the film <i>Race to NoWhere</i></b>	HH Cafeteria

## Curriculum Corner



### FROM YOUR GUIDANCE COUNSELORS:

In February and March students in **grades 1, 3, and 5** will participate in a program designed to educate children about sexual abuse prevention. The goals of the program are to help children 1) increase their awareness of abuse and exploitation; 2) develop skills and understanding that will help them avoid potentially abusive situations; 3) know how important it is to tell a trusted adult if they have been sexually abused; and 4) understand that a child who has been abused is not at fault. We will be working in each classroom, viewing and discussing a videotape. Parents may choose to preview the videos used in the program on either Tuesday, January 22 at 8:30 a.m. with Eileen McManus or Thursday, January 24 at 8:30 a.m. with Beth Santomena. The location will be posted in the front lobby on the morning of the previews.

If you have questions about the program, concerns about your child, or wish information about additional resources, please contact Beth Santomena at [\(508\) 358-2120](tel:508-358-2120) or Eileen McManus at [\(508\) 655-5802](tel:508-655-5802).

- Guidance counselors Eileen McManus and Beth Santomena



### MUSIC NOTES:

Susan Calkins—Newsletter Blurb—January 2013

#### Happy New Year!

##### Grade 2

January should be an exciting and musical month for HH second graders! For starters, we will learn an echo-response song that speaks about Martin Luther King Jr. as we examine the uniquely individual vocal qualities of each student. Also, we will wrap up some lesson activities that were started in December, including reading and discussing the life and music of Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart. Other classroom activities designed to foster development of beat-keeping, rhythmic literacy and creative invention skills will keep second graders on their toes in music classes.

*I am always delighted to be working with Wayland's creative and talented young students. Please feel free to contact me with any questions or concerns you may have.*

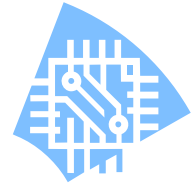
*Susan Calkins, DMA <[susan\\_calkins@wayland.k12.ma.us](mailto:susan_calkins@wayland.k12.ma.us)>*



### January is Poetry Month in the Library !

On Monday, February 4, 2013 Happy Hollow School will be treated to three performances from the nationally known touring group "Poetry Alive!" Poetry Alive! sends out a team of two actors who perform "poetry with a twist" - high energy, interactive performances which provide the students with a unique exposure to poetry. This group conducts performances in all 50 states and countries around the world. During library classes we will be reading poetry, learning about the different forms of poetry and maybe even writing some of our own poetry. To learn more about the group, visit their website at [www.poetryalive.com](http://www.poetryalive.com)  
A special note of thanks to the PTO for generously funding this unique performing group.

Elizabeth Bryant  
Library Media Specialist



## Technology News January 2013:

### 1st Grade:

First graders have started off the new year with exploring the program [Kidspiration](#). Kidspiration is a visual learning tool which helps students strengthen their reading and writing skills. During the first several class periods we will focus on learning some of the tools. Then the children will use the program to show what they know about a topic. Look for this project to come home in February.

### 2nd Grade:

Second graders have started off the new year with our programming/robotics unit of study. Robotics deals with the design, construction and operation of robots. In this unit we will be using three different tools - [Turtle Pond](#) website, Beebots and the software MicroWorlds Jr.

We are beginning with the Turtle Pond website and a review of the four basic commands. This will reinforce and expand on their knowledge from first grade. Students will use these four commands to move their turtle to a pond. Two challenges are available in Turtle Pond; the turtle can make turns at angles other than 90° - 15°, 30°, 45°; and obstacles can be added to their grid. Lots of thinking and planning are needed for this activity. Ask your child to share with you the four basic commands and their thinking.

### 3rd Grade:

Students are working on their 2013 Resolutions. Each student wrote four resolutions with their classroom teachers then selected one to share. Students are using Kid Pix to illustrate a picture of their goal. We will then upload their pictures to a website called [VoiceThread](#); where students will then record their voices explaining their resolution. VoiceThread is a collaborative, multimedia slideshow that holds images, documents and videos and allows people to navigate pages and leave comments in 5 ways - using voice (with a mic or a telephone, text, audio file, or video (via a webcam)). We will share the link to our resolutions when we are finished. What are your resolutions for 2013?

### 4<sup>th</sup> Grade:

students have moved to working with Microsoft Word to create documents from templates offered in the program. Each student has created a "Fictional" flyer of a school event. In the flyer students have added and formatted text and images. Students also explored "google safe search" to find information to use on this fictional flyer.

### 5<sup>th</sup> Grade

work continues with the Imaginary Friend Digital Storybook. As the students work in their classrooms preparing their recordings for these books, we will spend some time in the technology lab setting up the project in iMovie. Students will draw on skills learned last year in the Poetry Podcast Unit.

**HEALTHY HOLLER**  
**Jeanne MacDonald, RN**

**All School Head Lice Screening**

- *A big “Thank you” to all the parents who came and screened for head lice. We could not do it without you!*
- *Thank you to our lice coordinator, Elizabeth Curtin, for coordinating this very important classroom check.*
- *Please take the time to check your child’s head. For more information, please review the following sites, or contact the health room.*
- [www.cdc.gov/lice/head/factsheet.html](http://www.cdc.gov/lice/head/factsheet.html)
- [www.headlice.org](http://www.headlice.org)

**Flu information:**

- *Flu Like Activity is elevated across the state and is now at “moderate” activity level for the first time this flu season in Massachusetts. Flu like activity is defined if you have a temperature of 100 degrees F/37.8 degrees C or greater, and a cough and/or sore throat.*
- *Please monitor your children and if they are not feeling well, they should stay home until they feel better.*
- *For information regarding the FLU vaccine and steps that can be taken to protect yourself from the flu, please go to [www.mass.gov/dph/flu](http://www.mass.gov/dph/flu) or <http://www.cdc.gov/flu/> .Please speak to your healthcare professional about receiving the flu vaccine if you have not received one, as it is not too late and is strongly recommended.*
- *Remember that good hand washing is the most effective way to prevent the spread of germs and infectious disease. It is important to remind your child to wash their hands before eating or touching food, after using the bathroom, after blowing their noses and/or coughing, after touching pets or animals, after playing outside, and after visiting a sick friend and/or relative. If soap and water are not available, use an [alcohol-based hand rub](#). Please reinforce this practice at home, as parents are the best role models!*
- *“Cover your nose and mouth with a tissue when you cough or sneeze. Throw the tissue in the trash after you use it.*
- *Wash your hands often with soap and water. Avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth. Germs spread this way.*
- *Try to avoid close contact with sick people.*
- *If you are sick with flu-like illness, CDC recommends that you stay home for at least 24 hours after your fever is gone except to get medical care or for other necessities. (Your fever should be gone without the use of a fever-reducing medicine.)*
- *While sick, limit contact with others as much as possible to keep from infecting them.”  
(info from [www.cdc.gov/flu/protect/preventing.htm](http://www.cdc.gov/flu/protect/preventing.htm) )*

**Other information:**

- *Please be sure that your child has appropriate clothing to go outside during the winter months (coat, snow pants, boots, gloves, and hat)*
- *Parents need to keep their cell phones on and check them periodically throughout the day. These numbers are called if your child needs to be picked up from school due to illness and/or injury.*

## 2012-2013 PTO Events: Happy Hollow Save the Date

*Together We Can Make It Happen!*

Dates subject to change

EVENT	DATE/TIME	CONTACT
Cultural Enrichment	Ongoing	<a href="#">Alexia Obar &amp; Seta Abrahamian</a>
Just Like Me	Throughout the year	3rd Grade: <a href="#">Beth Byrne</a> 4th Grade: <a href="#">Jen Bonner</a>
Coffee with Mr. Lee	TBD	<a href="#">Rebecca Purdin</a>
Fitness Challenge	January	<a href="#">Jeanne Brown</a>
"Race To Nowhere" Presentation	TBD	<a href="#">Rebecca Purdin</a>
Town-wide PTO Meeting	Winter 2013	<a href="#">Stephanie Leong</a>
Gift Your Child: Part 2, Backpack Auction	January	<a href="#">Amy Simmons</a>
Diane E. Levin, Ph.D. Lecture @ Loker Auditorium	Feb. 6 @ 7:00 pm	<a href="#">Stephanie Leong</a>
Lice Checks	Feb. 26 (Tu) at 8:45 am	<a href="#">Elizabeth Curtin</a>
Talent Show	Mar. 15 (F)	<a href="#">Nan Li</a>
Town-wide Bingo at WMS cafeteria	Mar. 22 (F) at 6:00 pm	<a href="#">Alexia Obar</a>
Lice Checks	Apr. 23 (Tu) at 8:45 am	<a href="#">Elizabeth Curtin</a>
Earth Day Events	Apr. 27 & 28 (Sa & Su)	<a href="#">Katrien Vander Staeten</a>
Annual PTO Meeting & Thank you Breakfast	Jun. 6 (F) at 9:15 am HH Caf	<a href="#">Stephanie Leong</a>
End of Year Picnic	Jun. 10 (M) at 5:30 pm Rain Date: Jun. 11 (Tu)	<a href="#">Nell Getz</a>
Book Fair	Jun. 10 & 11 (M & Tu)	<a href="#">Lynne Cribben &amp; Gretchen Dresens</a>
Teacher & Staff Appreciation Event	Jun. 14 (F)	<a href="#">Michele Loconzolo &amp; Leslie Thompkins</a>

## PTO News

### THE BACKPACK AUCTION IS HERE!!

The Gift Your Child Backpack Auction catalogues went home in all elementary school backpacks on Monday, January 14th. If you didn't receive one, it is available on-line, a full list of this year's donors.

NEW THIS YEAR: The Backpack Auction committee has been busier than ever gathering participants and collecting many new and exciting donations for this year's auction catalogue. Be sure to check out the new camps joining us this year, as well as our new Lessons, Parties & Fun, and For the Grown-Ups community sections. Join us in thanking generous individuals and organizations!



including

new

Classes & these

Take a look at the Backpack Auction Catalogue, browse with your families, coordinate with your friends and send in your best bids! Bid sheets can be returned to the Backpack Auction box on the lobby table, or you can email your bids to the Backpack Auction Committee. May the best bids win!

If you have any general auction questions, please contact the Backpack Auction Committee. For more information on a specific business or camp, the 2012-2013 Donor List is a great place to find websites for more details.



## SAVE THE DATE

Wednesday, February 6, 2013, 7:00pm, Loker Auditorium



Diane E. Levin, Ph.D. co-author of *So Sexy, So Soon* will be joining us to discuss the new sexualized childhood and what we can do about it. Dr. Levin is a professor of education at Wheelock College and a former Wayland Public Schools teacher. She is an internationally recognized expert who helps professionals and parents deal with the effects of violence, media, and commercial culture on children. *So Sexy, So Soon* was written to help parents understand how early sexualization affects children of all ages and genders, and to give parents age-appropriate tools to deal with these issues.

PTO speaker event supported by your Gift Your Child donations.

## PLANNING FOR THE HAPPY HOLLOW FITNESS CHALLENGE

We are planning for this year's Fitness Challenge, which will run in January. If you want to volunteer to help with this fun event or contribute a fitness-related prize, please contact Jeannie Brown at [jeanne\\_brown@comcast.net](mailto:jeanne_brown@comcast.net).

## Volunteers Needed

### HAPPY HOLLOW'S GOT TALENT



We know that Happy Hollow's Got Talent, we need your help to showcase it in a Talent Show this year. We are looking for volunteers to help run the annual Happy Hollow Talent Show. Please email Stephanie Lanoie at [happyhollowpto@gmail.com](mailto:happyhollowpto@gmail.com) if you'd like to help out with this Happy Hollow favorite!

### JUST LIKE ME

Our third unit of the 4th Grade Just Like Me Program is coming up soon and we are for volunteers!

Volunteers are needed for the Learning Disabilities Unit on:

- Wednesday, January 9 from 9-10:30am for Ms. Devlin's class and 10:45am-12:15pm in Ms. Cherwinski's class
- Thursday, January 10 from 9-10:30am in Ms. Rogers' class and 10:45am-12:15pm in Mr. Moynihan's class



looking

Volunteering is fun, rewarding and a great way to be with your child in the classroom. Kids really enjoy the program because they learn through lively and interactive activities led by parent volunteers. Training takes place on Thursday, January 3 at Happy Hollow from 7-8pm and is strongly suggested. If you are interested in volunteering or have any questions, please reply to Jennifer Bonner at [jenbonner@verizon.net](mailto:jenbonner@verizon.net).

Thank you!

## ALL SCHOOLS CALENDAR / DIRECTORY

### PROJECT MANAGEMENT VOLUNTEER(S) NEEDED



Wayland PTO is looking for a volunteer(s) to manage/produce the All Schools' Directory and Calendar book sold in the fall to Wayland families with children in the public schools. The project requires the acquisition of times and dates for relevant events scheduled for the upcoming school year and entering them into a template for hard copy calendar pages in the final product. Cover artwork is selected with the assistance of the HS art faculty, photographed and formatted. Student listings must be acquired from the district and resolved with requested changes per parent input. Listings must be properly formatted in Excel for the booklet. The majority of work occurs at the end of the prior school year and in late August when the student listings become available. The book is then produced by a professional printer under supervision by the Wayland project manager. Please contact Kay D'Orlando if you are interested in the project: [kjdorlando@comcast.net](mailto:kjdorlando@comcast.net) or 508-358-1135

## Happy Hollow Hurrah

A huge THANK YOU to Nancy Funkhouser for managing the lost and found this year. Items from the first half of the year donated to the Fitchburg schools to go to kids needing winter things.



Unclaimed  
warm

Visit us online at <http://www.happyhollowpto.org/>

**Wayland Public Schools**  
**Wayland Special Education Advisory Council**  
**2012-2013**

**7:00 – 9:00 P.M.**

**Wayland Town Building – School Committee Room – 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor**

**Thursday, January 31, 2013**

**Helping Children Manage Stress & Anxiety**  
**Presenter: Dr. Amy Parker**

**Thursday, February 28, 2013**

**Transitions: School Level to School Level**  
**Presenter: Special Education Team Leaders**

**Wednesday, April 3, 2013**

**Book Group: Far From the Tree,**  
**by Andrew Solomon**  
**Parents' Perspectives of Differences, Parenting**  
**Children with Differences.**  
**Facilitator: Ms. Cathy Milton**

**Tues, May 21, 2013**

**Computer Applications**  
**Presenter: Ms. Carolyn Rasta, Assistive Technology**  
**Specialist**

The Wayland Special Education Parent Advisory Council (SEPAC) is the parent advisory council for children with special needs. The Council advocates for children with special needs and performs in an advisory and collaborative role to the Wayland School Committee relative to special education issues. SEPAC sponsors general open meetings to educate and inform parents about topics that affect them and their children. If you would like more information about SEPAC or to join and have your name on our mailing list please contact:

**Laura Malnight, Co-President**  
**Cari Cornish, Co-President**

**508-358-0283**  
**508-545-1038**

**lmalnight@gmail.com**  
**cjcornish00@gmail.com**

## Flu Press Release

The following message is from Wayland's Health Department Nurse; Ruth Mori RN, BSN regarding current flu activity.

Massachusetts Flu Activity continues to increase dramatically and is much higher than what is typically seen at this time of year. Influenza-like illness (ILI) is defined by fever greater than 100F, cough and/or sore throat. The week ending December 29<sup>th</sup> showed 4.4% of out-patient visits were due to ILI as reported by MA sentinel provider sites.

National Flu Activity analyzed at CDC has found that 91% of the circulating influenza viruses are those included in the 2012-2013 flu vaccine. Dr. Joe Bresee, Chief of the Epidemiology and Prevention Branch in CDC's Influenza Division states that "Anyone who has not already been vaccinated should do so now".

Recommendations to prevent and control the spread of influenza-like illness include:  
Cover your mouth when you cough or sneeze by using a tissue or your inner elbow. Do NOT use your hands.

Wash hands often with soap and warm water or use an alcohol-based hand gel. If you are handling food in a restaurant environment you should continue to follow proper hand washing protocols and wash hands often.

Stay home from work or school when sick. CDC recommends that people with influenza-like illness remain at home until at least 24 hours after they are free of fever (100° F [37.8°C]), or signs of a fever without the use of fever-reducing medications.

It's not too late to vaccinate. If you have not received your yearly flu vaccine please call the Wayland Health Department at 508-358-3617 to receive a free flu vaccination.

## Class of 2016 Fundraiser: Christmas Tree Removal

Tired of dragging your Christmas tree to the transfer station? The Wayland High School Freshman Class would like to help you out! We will come to your home, pick up your Christmas tree, and bring it to the transfer station.

**When: Saturday, January 12, 2013**

**Time: 9 am – 3pm**

**Cost: \$15 (\$10 for senior citizens)**

To sign up for tree removal, please email Kathleen Thompson at [kathleen\\_thompson@wayland.k12.ma.us](mailto:kathleen_thompson@wayland.k12.ma.us). Please include your name, address and phone number in your email. If you have any questions, you can call Janet Manning or Kathleen Thompson (2016 Advisors) at 508-358-3723.

Happy Holidays!



Dear Families,

This message comes to you from four second grade girls who are doing a service learning project for the Department of Children & Families Kids Fund. They are having a book drive to raise books for children ages 0-17. They want to collect new or gently read books from January 29th to February 4th. They will have a collection bin at the main entrance of the school and wanted to give plenty of time for people to clean out bookcases to start the new year in a neat way while doing a really good deed!

Thanks in advance for your support and books!



**What's all the BUZZ ? .....**

**.....SAVE THE DATE!!**

The 2013 annual Wayland Public Schools Foundation Spelling Bee will be **Sunday, March 24th !!**

Details will be available late January. The bee is for grades 2 though 5.

