



THE
HAPPY HOLLOW
HOLLER

HAPPY HOLLOW SCHOOL & PTO NEWSLETTER
April 11, 2014

Navigate the Newsletter:

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

- **Principal's Quote and Note ~ Placement for 2014-15 School Year**
 - **A Big "Thank You to Pam Bonaguide and Vicky Sin for the Happy Hollow 2014 Talent Olympics Show!"**
 - **April/May Dates to Remember**
 - **PTO Updates/Calendar**
-

“For time and the world do not stand still. Change is the law of life. And those who look only to the past or present are certain to miss the future” Finally!

~John F. Kennedy~

Hello Friends!

The snow has melted and the days are brighter, warmer and longer. We made it through a tough winter and the change to spring is certainly welcome. Change seems to be all around us at the elementary level here in Wayland. Not only is the sight of spring in our vision ~ we are also staring into the face of the future... As you are aware, the town is moving forward with the elementary schools' reconfiguration, returning to three K-5 schools in September, 2014.

To accommodate the needs of all three schools, teacher assignments will change as teachers may move to another grade, another school or take a leave of absence. Those assignments should be known by June and I will send you the information as soon as it becomes available.

For our students, they too will be moving along ~ some moving grades, some schools ~ but all will move along. Toward that end, as always, the grade level teachers, our special educators, specialists and guidance staff will begin to design student groupings in May. There will be a process in place for teachers from Happy Hollow, Loker and Claypit Hill to communicate with each other regarding student groupings, especially in regard to the class assignments at Loker.

Despite the changes, the overall placement process will not change. This year, we will have cross schools' communication before finalizing any classroom, but as always, care will be given to creating balanced classes across all of our grades and all of our schools. The following is a brief description of how it all works:

Classroom teachers will meet with specialists, guidance counselors and special education teachers to create well-balanced, heterogeneous groupings, which reflect diverse talents, interests and needs. The staff will also address factors such as gender, social and academic strengths, special needs and friendships - not necessarily “best friends” but students who have nice working relationships in school. There will be a process in place for teachers from Happy Hollow, Loker and Claypit Hill to communicate with each other regarding student groupings. The classroom groups will then be submitted to the principal for comments and/or adjustment. The principal will then sit down with the guidance department for a final look. At the end of this process the principal will assign a teacher to each group.

It takes a full month to move through this process; and with so many factors involved, we cannot accept requests for individual teachers. At each grade level, there is a whole team that works meticulously to determine the best possible class groupings. Every child is considered and all involved advocate for your child's academic and social needs. You may write requests about placement **if the following circumstances exist:**

- Request that your child not be placed with a specific child due to personal experience and impact on your child's learning. (A list of children will not be honored.)
- Concerns about placement with a teacher due to your close relationship with that teacher or if you would like a different experience, due to having an older sibling in a classroom in a prior year. (Teachers may also make a request based upon personal experience with a family.)

All letters regarding placement are confidential. If you are writing a letter, please send it to me by April 30th. Due to the complex grouping process, I cannot accept letters after April 30th. I also cannot guarantee that every request sent will be honored. We will do the best we can to honor those requests that follow the above mentioned requirements.

The PTO and I will host a morning coffee on Thursday, April 10, 2014 from 8:45 -10:00 a.m. on the topic of placement for the upcoming school year. I will share what I know at that time and answer any specific questions/concerns that you may have.

It is an exciting time for us all, as our new model will move us to a new place of excellence. It is the "Wayland Way" to make it all work ~ and to work for the best. I have no doubt that we will partner to keep the children at all schools productive, happy and successful.

So as the spring growth changes the face of our school, the reconfiguration will mirror its innovation. Every year there is spring and every year it looks different. Sometimes in major ways and sometimes in minor ~ that is the nature of spring. ~ That is the character of our schools.

As we come up on the spring break, my wish to you is always the same. Have a safe, happy and healthy April vacation! Take care and a very happy spring to you and your fantastic families!

All best,



Jim Lee, Principal

This and That from the Principal's Office:

PTO Happy Hollow Talent Olympic! A Huge Success! Thank you!

Thank you! Thank you! In the spirit of all things new, this year's PTO Happy Hollow talent show was under new direction. Pam Bonaguide and Vicky Sin teamed to carry on the much-loved tradition. They created a format that sported thirty-six acts, and an opening slide show created by Vicky's 6th grade daughter, Megan Sin. Megan was among several recent alumna who came back to help. Impressively Ava Tang joined Megan running, sound and technical support. Dante Parseghian and Quinn Fay provided the lighting. Long-time supporter Jonah Camiel offered equipment support. C.J. Brown was a back stage director, and Cassie O'Heron, Emily Chen and Sierra Blom ran the reception desk.

Parent volunteers included, but were not limited to: Gayle Gledhill, Donna Izzfell, Stephanie Leong, Nan Li, Cinin Syed and Tracy Scheidemantel. Thank you so very much!

Our fifth graders were leaders too! Acting as announcers were Victoria Andreasen, Jessica Robinson, Charlotte Salitsky, Carly Scheidemantel and Aly Syed. They were sensational!

We have so many talented students and as each took to the stage, he/she demonstrated poise, confidence, stage presence, perseverance, practice and... well... TALENT! Congratulations!

May MCAS/PARCC 2014

MAY

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
5 5th grade- Math Session 1	6 4th grade- Math Session 1	7 5th grade- Math Session 2	8 4th grade- Math Session 2	9 3rd grade- Math Session 1
12 5th grade- Science & Tech. Session 1	13 3rd grade- Math Session 2	14 5th grade- Science & Tech. Session 2	15 PARCC Gr. 4 Math	16
19	20 PARCC Gr. 4 Math MCAS: Last Day for make- ups			

May 20- Last day for make-ups

April and May at Happy Hollow:

Friday, April 18	Good Friday No School	
Week of April 21-25	Spring Vacation No School	
Monday, April 28	Classes resume	
Date?	5th to 6th Grade Transitional Tour	WMS
Saturday, May 10	Florence Adler Walk/Run	WMS
Thursday, May 22	5th Grade Play School Performance	10:00 am. -11:00 am Happy Hollow Gym
Thursday, May 22	5th Grade Play Parents and Families	7:00 pm - 8:00 pm Happy Hollow Gym
Monday, May 26	No School Memorial Day	

Curriculum Corner



FROM THE LIBRARY : THIS MONTH IN THE LIBRARY

Recently library classes have been hard at work studying everything from folktales to the use of primary sources for research and checking out many books each week.

First graders are continuing their study of traditional literature moving from folktales into tall tales and legends.

In

Second graders are also studying traditional literature featuring stories from around the globe to tie in with their lessons on the continents.

Third graders are learning how to find answers to questions using the encyclopedia and using non-fiction text features such as index and table of contents to answer research questions.

Fourth grade is beginning their Endangered Species and in the library we are learning what resources to use to do their research.

In the **Fifth grade** we read different versions of the traditional folk tale "The Pied Piper of Hamelin" discussing the historical and literary aspects of the story as background for their musical production of "Rats".

A hearty thank you to all our faithful library volunteers who, week after week, check in, check out, and shelve many hundreds of books! We couldn't do it without you!



MUSIC NOTES FROM MS. POHL

Happy Spring!

Grade 1

First graders will celebrate spring by participating in a variety of songs, games and folk dances. They will gain proficiency in the areas of steady beat competency, singing in tune and mallet technique as they accompany themselves in a variety of musical ways.

Grade 4

In April, Fourth graders will practice melodic and rhythmic improvisation. They'll learn about musical drones and experiment with a form of ensemble improvisation that is rhythmically free (rubato). Other activities will include review of a familiar folk dance, the introduction of a Peruvian Folk song/dance and skill-building rhythm games.

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>

HEALTHY HOLLER

Jeanne MacDonald, RN



NEWS FROM THE HEALTH ROOM March 2014

Head Lice

- Our last ALL school Head Lice check will take place after April school vacation on Tuesday, April 29, 2014 at 8:45am. Plan to meet in the school lobby.

Check your children for ticks

- Important information about ticks and what you need to do to protect you and your family
- Please read information on the following websites:
http://kidshealth.org/parent/firstaid_safe/sheets/tick_bites_sheet.html
<http://www.cdc.gov/Features/StopTicks/>

3rd Grade Parents

- Please send in your child's updated physical. All 4th grade students are required by the Massachusetts Department of Public Health to have a physical on file going into 4th grade. This can be 1 year prior to the start of 4th grade, or within 30 days from the start of school. (August 2013-2014)

Illness

We continue to see cases of strep throat in all classrooms. If your child has continued complaints of any of the following they should be checked by their physician. They may have only one complaint.

- Sore throat
- Stomach ache with/without vomiting
- Headache
- There can be NO fever
- Cough

Strep throat is a highly contagious childhood illness. It is a bacterial infection that must be treated with an antibiotic. It can be spread thru droplet infection. Your child must be on an antibiotic for a minimum of 24 hours before they are allowed to return to school.

Please call with any questions and/or concerns.

Have a great Happy, Healthy April school vacation!

Jeanne MacDonald RN Jeanne_MacDonald@wayland.k12.ma.us
508-358-6051

2013-2014 PTO Events: Happy Hollow
Save the Date

Together We Can Make It Happen!
Dates subject to change

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

Are you looking to get involved at school? We are in need of volunteers for many unique opportunities. Most of these volunteer opportunities require only a small time commitment, but have a huge impact on our schools and our children. Take a peek at the events calendar and contact the committee head to learn more or email Amy Simmons at: happyhollowpto@gmail.com.

EVENT	DATE/TIME	CONTACT
Cultural Enrichment	Ongoing	Alexia Obar & Seta Abrahamian
Just Like Me	Throughout the year	3rd Grade: Laura Byrne & Jamie Janoff 4th Grade: Jen Bonner
5th Grade Activities	Events/Dates TBA	Tamara Kolz
Nutrition Challenge		
Fitness Challenge		
5th Grade Bash	April 11 (F) 6-8 pm at WMS	Alexia Obar
Lice Checks	April 29 (T) at 8:45	Jeanne MacDonald
Earth Day Events	TBD	Katrien Vander Staeten
PTO Board Meeting	May 2 (Fri) at 9:00 in Loker Library	Amy Simmons
Florence Adler Walk/Run	May 10 (S) registration 9:00 at Wayland Middle School	
Fifth Grade Play	May 22 (Th)	Kristin Neprud
Annual PTO Meeting & Thank you Breakfast	Jun. 4 (W) at 9:00 am HH Caf	Amy Simmons
End of Year Picnic	Jun. 9 (M) at 5:30 pm Rain Date: Jun. 11 (W)	Cathy Caulfield
Book Fair	Jun. 9 & 10 (M & T)	Lynne Cribben & Gretchen Dresens
Teacher & Staff Appreciation Event	Jun. 5 (Th)	Jill Zukerman & Samantha Richter

PTO News & Events



Be a Part of the Happy Hollow Community

A Message from Amy Simmons, Happy Hollow/Loker PTO President

It is the time of year when the Happy Hollow PTO board begins planning in earnest for next year's board, committee chairs, activities, events and fundraisers. 2014-2015 will be an exciting year for Wayland's elementary schools! As our community reconfigures back into three K-5 school communities, it is a chance to reinvigorate our school traditions and events at *all three schools*, and it is a wonderful time for parents to model positive transitions for their children by trying out new things, taking on something new, and by becoming involved in their new school community. The PTO is a wonderful way to feel a part of your school. Your children know that you have had a hand in building the school traditions that they love, and *they* love knowing you are around the school and involved.

There is a role for everyone, whether you work and only have a few minutes in the evening to help, or you stay at home and have little ones in tow...there is something that will fit your availability. Are you organizational? Great at communication? Creative and artistic? We would love to have you join us in the PTO next year – if we don't know you are interested, we can't reach out to you to find a role! Please email Amy Simmons (Happyhollowpto@gmail.com) if you are interested in becoming more involved. We strongly encourage parents of children in younger grades to join us – without new faces to support our veteran volunteers, the many ways in which the PTO enhances our school (both behind the scenes and through more visible school events) won't happen.

For parents who will be joining the Loker community, Pam Cerne (pamelarpw@aol.com) would love to speak with you, and for parents who may be joining the Claypit community next year, you can reach out to Lauren Reynolds (beachfish621@aol.com), who will be PTO President at Claypit next year.



Coffee With Mr. Lee – Creating 2014-2015 Classrooms

Thursday, April 10th, 8:45 am in the Happy Hollow Cafeteria

Join the PTO for Mr. Lee's monthly coffee on Thursday, April 10th, at 8:45 am in the Happy Hollow Cafeteria. Mr. Lee will be joining us at 9:00 to discuss the process that the teachers, staff and Mr. Lee follow to build next year's classrooms, followed by a general question and comment period.

Please join us to learn more, or with any questions (they don't have to be related to this month's topic), concerns, comments or suggestions that you would like to share – this is the perfect opportunity to talk to Mr. Lee in a small group setting. Light refreshments will be provided. Please contact Amy Simmons at Happyhollowpto@gmail.com with any questions.

ANNUAL ELEMENTARY FUNDRAISING MEETING

Friday, April 11th at 9:00 am in the Loker Cafeteria

Join the joint elementary PTO boards on Friday, April 11th at 9:00 in the Loker Cafeteria to review this year's fundraising results, discuss feedback from the community, and to determine the 2014-2015 fundraising approach for *all three* elementary schools. This is a great opportunity to give feedback and to learn more about how our elementary school PTOs raise funds to support the many programs (Cultural Enrichment, Author/Artist visits, community events, etc.) that we sponsor in Wayland's elementary

HAPPY HOLLOW LOST AND FOUND:

Please drop by the lost and found to look for any missing clothes. All items displayed the week of April 14th and donated on April 17th.



elementary

will be



PTO BOARD MEETING – Join us!

Friday, May 2nd at 9:00 am in the Loker Library

The next Happy Hollow/Loker PTO Board will be on Friday, May 2nd, at 9:00 am in the Loker Library. Come see what your PTO is working on! These meetings are open to the entire membership and everyone is encouraged to attend with any questions, ideas or suggestions. Little ones in tow are always welcome!

LICE CHECKS – Tuesday, April 29th at 8:45 am

A reminder that the LAST LICE CHECKS OF THE YEAR (!!!) are scheduled for Tuesday, April 29th (after Spring Vacation). Volunteers should meet in the school lobby for instructions and supplies.

Happy Hollow Hurrah!

HAPPY HOLLOW HURRAH

Many thanks to...

Alexia Obar, Heidi Renneker, Tracey O’Rourke and the many other Wayland elementary parents who made the annual family favorite, Bingo Night, such a huge success once again.

Rebecca Lloyd, Kate Moore and their many volunteers for bringing the Wayland Elementary Schools’ PTO’s World’s Fair back this year for everyone to enjoy as part of Wayland375.

Vicky Sin and her committee for organizing Happy Hollow’s annual Talent Show – great job! Special thanks go to **Pam Bonaguide** for all of her help. Many thanks to parent volunteers **Gayle Gledfill, Dawn Izzifell, Stephanie Leong, Nan Li, Tracy Scheidemantel & Cinin Syed** and to our alumni volunteers **Sierra Blom, CJ Brown, Emily Chen, Quinn Fay, Cassie O’Heron, Dante Parseghian, Megan Sin & Ava Tang**, and to all of the awesome performers, their parents and families for support, and special thanks to **Mr. Lee, Ms. Crozier, our custodians, the BASE staff and Ms. Dukes-Pearson!**

Marci Alvarado and the Fifth Grade Activities Committees at both schools for organizing the Roller Kingdom trip for the town’s fifth graders.

And many thanks to those we might have left off this list! If there’s anyone who’s helped out that you wish to acknowledge in future newsletters, please email the information to Andrea O’Brien at aobrien68@gmail.com.

2013-2014 Board

President & Townwide Rep	Amy Simmons
Vice President	Andrea O’Brien
Treasurer	Pamela Cerne
Ways and Means	Abby Brogan & Heidi Renneker
Secretary	Cathy Davies
Social	Cathy Caulfield
Kindergarten Rep & Townwide Rep	Lisa Lappi
Kindergarten Rep	Christine Walsh
Past President	Stephanie Leong

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