



THE HAPPY HOLLOW HOLLER

HAPPY HOLLOW SCHOOL & PTO NEWSLETTER
October 11, 2013

Navigate the Newsletter:

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

- **Principal's Quote and Note ~ Bringing the Happy Hollow Student Handbook Alive for Everyone!**
 - **Drop-off and Pick-up ~ Don't arrive early ~ We are running 15 min. arrival and departure and the buses are now arriving on time! Yes!**
 - **Review of Drop-off and Pick-up expectations**
 - **School Meeting ~ All are welcome!**
 - **Lost and Found**
 - **October and November dates to remember**
-

No man is above the law and no man is below it; nor do we ask any man's permission when we ask him to obey it. Obedience to the law is demanded as a right; not asked as a favor.
~Theodore Roosevelt

PRINCIPAL'S CORNER

October, 2013

Dear Friends,

Friday, September 27th was the date on which we had hoped that all families would send back the signature page that is at the end of our Happy Hollow Student handbook ~ signed by each child who is a Happy Hollow student.

http://whh.wayland.k12.ma.us/UserFiles/Servers/Server_1036917/File/Handbooks/HH2013_2014StudentHandbook.pdf

On first glance, it appears long ~ it has many pages. However, when you begin to read it as a family, it is not long at all. Each section is written as a social story, explaining in some detail what is expected in each area of school around proper behavior. At the heart of the book is our school motto guiding all practices, "Kindness matters." We outline our core values that fall under this all-inclusive motto in a very specific way. We take time to explain what a right and a responsibility is and the difference between the two. We explain what is expected in the classroom so that students put forth effective effort and evolve into the best learners they can become. We explain how to be considerate in the halls. We explain behavior around safety and respect of others for the times in the day that place more responsibility on the student for self-control including riding the bus, using the bathrooms, gathering at whole-school assemblies, and attending field trips. Following along those lines we explain to students what our expectations are for behaviors in the most unstructured times in their day including recess ~ how to interact and play safely using equipment and when involved in games ~ even how to behave when winter paints our playground with snow and ice ~ and when eating lunch at a table of their choice and with whom they choose to sit. Finally, we explain what is safe to bring to school and what our expectations are for electronic device use during the school day.



After all of this, we explain how students will be partners in the learning process that helps them take responsibility for their behavior. This includes behaviors that could become bullying behaviors, inappropriate use of technology and other serious infractions to the well-being and natural flow of our school learning environment.

Because of this, I can assure you that the time spent reviewing the handbook and the signature page that suggests the student will "work (his/her) hardest to follow the Happy Hollow School rules" ~ is time very well spent. We dedicate the first page of our progress reports/report cards to ensuring that students are making progress in all of the areas outlined in our special and student-friendly handbook. When expectations are clear and clearly understood, students can be held accountable for their actions and learn from their mistakes ~ a crucial part of elementary school learning that creates the learning postures for high achievement throughout one's schooling.



*I will not bully others.
I will not stand by while others are bullied.
I will report and deal with bullying whenever I see it...
...because I have
the POWER of ONE*

Every other year, I try to bring in the Soren Bennick Production Company to present their Power of One anti-bullying program. They last performed here last year. Our students remember them well. We have used their key points and visual posters since September of 2009, so we will teach our first graders about the language around bullying behaviors and hopefully bring them back again next year.

The theatrical group gives a quick language around anti-bullying behaviors and has strong visual ties that make the language easily accessible for the whole school. Their posters are a main guide in my discussions with students who demonstrate any behaviors that if repeated under the state guidelines could be considered bullying. To avoid all that goes with identifying a young student as a bully ~ complete with reporting it to the state and having it follow on his/her school record ~ we are constantly educating our students to make good decisions around social behaviors. We teach this through our Open Circle curriculum and some teachers use concepts from the Responsive Classroom guide to build strong class cultures around supporting and caring for all in each of the class communities. Power of One is a quick way to tie all of these efforts together and to give students the visual and spoken means to identify and report bullying behaviors before they become true bullying. The following are the key points from the presentation that students are taught to observe:

Soren Bennick's The Power of One™

A bullying-proofing performance for elementary school children

The Power of One is a series of skits presented by actors who use boxes, colors, and masks to vividly portray what bullying is, what can be done about it, and how every child has the power of one, the power to report and deal with bullying when they see it. The Power of One:

- Explains the roles in bullying: Bully, Target, and Bystander
- Shows vivid examples of different types of bullying: Physical, Verbal, Exclusion, and Cyber bullying
- Alerts children that Targets need help and intervention
- Encourages students not to be bystanders
- Emphasizes the need for individual action to make the community a safer, better place
- Refers children to parents, adults, and teachers for further assistance and instruction

The set for the Power of One consists of a series of boxes that fit inside each other like a Russian egg. Each box is a different color: green, purple, yellow, and white, representing the different roles in the bullying process. Following the color scheme of the boxes, the actors put on a green mask when they play the Bully, a purple mask when they play the Target, and a yellow mask for the Bystander.

The highlight of the performance is when a volunteer from the audience looks into the Power of One box (which contains a mirror) and sees himself/herself!

This leads to the audience taking the Power of One anti-bullying oath and the conclusion of the performance.

Key points that remain as part of a school culture:

1. Report and deal with bullying when you see it
2. Don't be a Bystander
3. Bystanders are as guilty as bullies
4. You can make a difference

The Power of One Oath:

I will not bully others. I will not stand by while others are bullied. I will report and deal with bullying whenever I see it... because I have the Power of One!

I will review the Power of One program at an all-school assembly to refresh the minds of our older students and to introduce the key concepts to our first graders.

In conclusion, if you have not had an opportunity to review the handbook, please set aside some time as it makes all the difference in the world when students know that all of the adults are in agreement about how we expect them to behave both in school and out of school. They participate in so many extra-curricular activities and the laws around bullying say that schools must monitor the after-school activity times too. When it comes down to it, we are expecting our young people to act as our adult community does. We are saying there are rules and consequences that help us live peacefully and productively with one another. That message is a gift to pass along to a new generation of people. We want them to know that kindness matters and equally as important ~ how to act to make it matter.



Please call or email with questions, concerns or comments.

All best,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jim Lee".

Jim Lee
Principal

This and That from the Principal's Office:

DROP OFF AND PICK UP UPDATES:

1. There is no benefit to arriving early for either pick up or drop off.

The doors open at 8:30 am and the line moves along finishing at 8:45 am. If you arrive before that it makes it seem like it takes longer for drop off when the truth is the line will not move before 8:30 am.

Likewise, at drop off we dismiss the buses at 3:00 pm and then move the pick up line. We finish all dismissal by 3:15 pm or 3:20 pm at the very latest. Arriving early means you just sit in line. There is no benefit to being up front because once the line moves everyone is through in 10 minutes or less. It means that from 3:00 pm until 3:15 pm we dismiss 441 students from our building and get them on buses in cars on bikes or walking! We're doing well and I can't thank you enough for your assistance.

2. Please be careful not to block the sidewalks or roads around our school. Police will take notice and will write citations.
3. Please use the cross walks during drop-off and pick-up times. People are crossing between the cars and busses. Although adults try to be careful, this is an extremely dangerous practice. You are modeling to students how to cross a busy street in an illegal manner. Take the extra few minutes to walk to the cross walk and show them that using cross walks is important.



4. No DOGS or pets on school grounds! This is a state law. We do allow animals at the school with special permission from the principal. In these cases, precautions are taken and arrangements made to ensure that there are no allergies to the animals and that the environment is safe. These times would include "Show and Tell" or the like, not drop off or dismissal times. ~ To have a dog on the premise, we need to ensure that it is qualified as a therapy dog and that no students are allergic. **Bringing a dog to the drop-off and pick-up times is breaking the law.**



The following are our procedures:

1. There are two lanes of traffic in front of our school. The one closest to the building is the drop off line. The other is a live lane where traffic will pull out from the drop off line to exit or they may be driving through to park in the parking lot. (The parking spaces in front of the building are for staff only. No one may pull out of those spaces during drop off or pick up as it forces the driver to back into the live lane of traffic.)
2. Please drive slowly and be aware that cars will be moving in and out of the traffic area. There is a period of congestion, but if everyone remains aware and patient, the whole process takes 15 minutes or less from beginning to end. This is to admit and dismiss over 400 children. It is impressive and moves smoothly when everyone cooperates.
3. There is no left-hand turn when exiting our driveway M-F from 8:00 a.m. - 8:40 a.m. and from 3:00 p.m. - 3:30 p.m. on M,T,Th and F. ~ **On Wednesday, from 1:50 until 2:20 (not posted on the sign due to space).**
4. **Wednesday dismissal is from 1:50 p.m. - until 2:30 p.m.**
5. Please pull all the way up to the end of the sidewalk in front of the school when you are unloading children. The line slows down when all the spaces to the end of the sidewalk are not filled.



6. No one is allowed to pass a bus with flashing red lights. (Yellow flashing lights are warnings and you may pass a bus with yellow flashing lights.) If you are in the live lane and a bus is unloading, you must wait behind the bus.

7. The drop off lane in front of the school in the morning is a live lane of moving traffic. You may not park or leave your car in this lane. School personnel will help your child exit your car safely. Make sure the children are seated on the right side or passenger's side of the car. They may not exit the driver's side of the car as this is the live lane and very dangerous.



8. At drop off time, if you would like to park and say good-bye to your child at the front door, you may park on the street and use the sidewalk to safely proceed to the doors.

9. If students arrive after 8:45 a.m., they are officially late for school and they must stop in the office to report that they are present and to receive a tardy slip.

10. Watch for pedestrians in crosswalks and on the sides of the road.

11. At dismissal: No child should be exiting the side door into the side parking lot. This is not a pick up area and is very dangerous. It also slows things down because staff exits from this lot and when we add those trying to avoid the pick up lane; it slows things down for everyone. Please cooperate and help your child to see you following the rules just as he/she is expected to do during his/her school day. Nothing sends a stronger message to a child than the actions of the adults around him/her.

12. Wayland Police will be out in full force looking for those who do not honor the speed limits on the roads around our schools and neighborhoods... You do not want a note from them! Those notes linger long!



Thank you for your cooperation in all of these matters... they really do matter!

- School Meeting Assemblies will be every Monday unless there is a holiday or school cancelation. Assemblies run from 9:00 a.m. – 9:30 a.m. All are welcome!

Lost and Found:

- Please continue to check this area on a regular basis. It means so much to us when we see the clothing and other items going home. Thank so much!

October and November at Happy Hollow:

| | | |
|---------------------------------------|--------------------------------|--|
| Monday, October 14 | No School ~ Columbus Day | |
| Monday, November 11 | No School Veteran's Day | |
| Wednesday, November 27 | School closes at 12:00 Noon | |
| Thursday and Friday, November 28 & 29 | No School Thanksgiving Holiday | |
| Monday, December 2 | Classes resume | |

Curriculum Corner

Technology News for Grades 1-5 from Ms. Crozier

It's been wonderful getting reacquainted with the children. They have done an excellent job reviewing computer lab rules and procedures. Students in grades 1st through 3rd have also reviewed many of the curriculum computer tools we use. Students in grades 4 and 5 have reviewed our Student Acceptable Use Policy (AUP) and have been using google docs.

This week I had the opportunity to listen to Matt Ivester, author of "LOL...OMG What Every Student Needs to Know About Online Reputation Management, Digital Citizenship and Cyberbullying". An important message from "LOL...OMG": Students have two responsibilities with regard to their web presence:

1. Present themselves in the best way possible
2. Be kind to others.

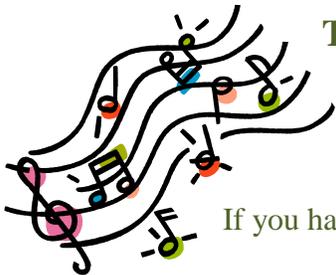


These life skills correlate to our Happy Hollow Core Values. His visit comes as we begin Internet Safety lessons. We continue to use the acronym LARK - Legal, Appropriate, Responsible and Kind to guide our Internet Safety discussions. Do you have internet safety rules at home for your children to follow?



Art Room News!-

Check out our Visual Arts Website to view what's been posted in our October Gallery and be sure to look for further updates this month.



The music room is full of wonderful singing on Thursday morning before school because the Happy Hollow chorus started rehearsals last week. Anyone in 4th or 5th grade who is still interested in joining may sign up through the Happy Hollow music website at: <http://happyhollowmusic.weebly.com/chorus-sign-up.html>

If you have any questions e-mail me at Amy_Pohl@wayland.k12.ma.us.

Thank you,
Amy Pohl
Music Specialist

HEALTHY HOLLER

Jeanne MacDonald, RN

News from the Health Room October 2013

Thank you to our PTO parent volunteers that helped with our entire school head lice check on Tuesday, October 1, 2013.

- Please continue to check your child's head as part of their daily routine. Early detection does help to minimize any outbreaks. For up to date educational information please review the following web pages:
- www.cdc.gov/lice/head/factsheet.htm
- www.headlice.org

Vision and Hearing:

- Will be done by the school nurses
- It will be done Wednesday, October 23; Thursday, October 24, and Friday, October 25th
- Vision and Hearing is a mandated screening required by the Massachusetts Department of Public Health.
- **Vision screening is done in grades 1-5 and hearing screening in grades 1-3.**
- Letters will be sent home if your child fails their screening. If your child is followed outside of school by a specialist, please send in a written note excusing your child from this screening.
- Student should wear their glasses if required for the testing



Illness:

- **We are starting to see cases of strep throat and also pneumonia.**
- Please observe your children for symptoms of headache and stomach aches. They may or may not have a fever or complain of a sore throat to have strep throat. These are symptoms that we see in young children.
- Please have your child evaluated by their physician if they show symptoms that do not go away.
- Students need to stay out of school at least 24 hours fever free (without the use of Tylenol/Advil) and be on an antibiotic for a full 24 hours before returning to school.
- Please reinforce good hand washing to help prevent the spread of germs.

Reminders:

- **Please make sure that your cell phone is checked periodically throughout the day as there are times that contact must be made to a parent if your child is sick and/or injured.**
- The school nurse may only leave a message on your home number informing you of your child's visit to the health room if they have been able to return to class.
- Please be sure that your child is **appropriately clothed** with the **colder days** ahead.
- Children in the lower grade levels should have **a change of clothes available**, placed in their backpacks in the event that clothes get wet during the school day.
- Please be sure your children are **eating a good breakfast** before they come to school. A **morning snack** should also be sent in with your child, to sustain them through their day.



Please contact me with any questions and/or concerns. I am available in the school from 8am-3:30pm daily. There is also confidential voice mail at 508-358-6051.

Jeanne MacDonald RN
Jeanne_MacDonald@wayland.K12.ma.us

2013-2014 PTO Events: Happy Hollow Save the Date

Together We Can Make It Happen!

Dates subject to change

| EVENT | DATE/TIME | CONTACT |
|---|---|--|
| Gift Your Child: Part 1 | August – November | Abby Brogan & Heidi Renneker |
| Cultural Enrichment | Ongoing | Alexia Obar & Seta Abrahamian |
| Just Like Me | Throughout the year | 3rd Grade: Laura Byrne & Jamie Janoff 4th Grade: Jen Bonner |
| 5 th Grade Activities | Events/Dates TBA | Tamara Kolz |
| Lice Checks | Date TBD | Room Parents |
| PTO Board Meeting (starting in Oct.) | 1 st Friday of the month 9:00a Loker Library – 11/1 is next meeting | Amy Simmons |
| Nutrition Challenge | Fall 2013 | Stephanie Howard |
| Book Fair | Oct. 24 & 25 (Th & F) | Lynne Cribben & Gretchen Dresens |
| Halloween Movie Night | Oct. 25 (F) at 6:30 pm | Elena Taxiarchis |
| Coffee with Mr. Lee | Oct. 17 (Th) 8:45 in HH cafeteria | Amy Simmons |
| Coffee with Mr. Lee | Nov. 21 (Th) 8:45 in HH cafeteria | |
| Toy Drive | November/December | Alexia Obar |
| Holiday Teacher & Staff Appreciation | Dec. 16 (M) | Jill Zukerman & Samantha Richter |
| Fitness Challenge | Winter 2013 | Position Open |
| Town-wide PTO Meeting | Winter 2013 | Amy Simmons |
| Gift Your Child: Part 2, Backpack Auction | Early Winter | Amy Simmons |
| Lice Checks | Jan. 7 (T) 8:45 am | Room Parents |
| Lice Checks | Feb. 25 (T) 8:45 am | Room Parents |
| Bingo Night | Mar. 28 (F) | Alexia Obar |
| World's Fair | Mar. 29 (S) 1-4 at Loker | Becky Lloyd |
| Talent Show | April 4 (F) | Vicky Sin |
| Lice Checks | April 29 (T) 8:45 am | Room Parents |
| Earth Day Events | Spring 2014 | Katrien Vander Staeten |
| 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 Volunteer Needs



SCHOLASTIC BOOK FAIR

The Scholastic Book Fair will be coming to Happy Hollow on **October 24th and 25th**. Volunteers are needed to assist with set-up and sales. Please contact Lynne Cribben (lcribben@yahoo.com) or Gretchen Dresens (pdresens@yahoo.com).

PTO News & Events

PTO BOARD MEETING – All are welcome!

Friday, November 1st at 9:00 in the Loker Library

The Happy Hollow/Loker Board meets monthly, usually on the 1st Friday of the month at 9:00 Loker School Library. 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



am in the
welcome!



COFFEE WITH MR. LEE

Thursday, October 17th at 8:45 am in the Happy Hollow Cafeteria

Join Mr. Lee for his first coffee of the year on Tuesday, October 17 at 8:45 (directly following drop-off) in the Happy Hollow Cafeteria. If you have questions about the Elementary Building Use Task Force; drop-off, dismissal or pick-up procedures; biking-to-school safety; or any other concerns, questions, compliments or suggestions about the Happy Hollow Community, this is the perfect opportunity to talk to Mr. Lee about them in a small group setting. Coffee and snacks will be provided, and little ones in tow are always welcome.

PTO HALLOWEEN MOVIE NIGHT

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 25, 6:00 pm

Bring a blanket and watch a movie in the gym with other Happy Hollow Families. \$2 at the door includes the movie, popcorn and a bag of treats! (This is a family event, and all kids must be accompanied by an adult!)

Parents, we are looking for volunteers to help with decorations, tickets, food, and clean-up. Email us if you can join the fun:

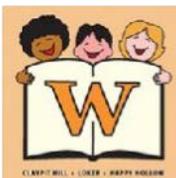
etaxiarchis@pbl.com and lmoscoffian@comcast.net.

CONGRATULATIONS to NEW SCHOOL COUNCIL MEMBERS

Please join us in congratulating Debbie Portyrata (Community Representative) and Daisy Representative) as the newly elected members of the Happy Hollow School Council!



Powers (Parent



Did You Know?

Many people ask what the PTO does with the money raised through Gift Your Child donations – read on to find out about just a few of the many ways the PTO put your donations to use at Happy Hollow last year:

- The PTO Cultural Enrichment Committee spent \$4100 on presentations for grades 1-5 including Poetry alive; Leland Faulkner World of Wonder for grades 1-3; Living Voices: Island of Hope coming to America for grades 1-3; Raul Gonzalez Residency in each classroom for grades 4 & 5; Historical Perspectives Amelia Earhart, Pioneer in Aviation for grades 4 & 5; and for all grades, a show by the Tardy Brothers.
- The PTO spent over \$2300 towards grade-level enrichment programs including the Power of One, an anti-bullying seminar for all grades; the Museum of Science's Animal Adaptations presentation for grade 4; the Discovery Museum's presentation

for grades 2 & 3; Pumpernickel Puppets for grade 1; the 3rd grade recorder concert; the Potato Hills Poetry workshop for grade 3; and many grade-level books, tools and materials throughout the school.

- The PTO spent \$500 on volleyball equipment for Happy Hollow that is being used to run after school volleyball lessons, and can be integrated into the Physical Education curriculum.
- PTO spent \$7500 on of three sets of the Fountas and Pinnell Leveled Literacy Intervention System Kit for the first grade classrooms
- The PTO spent \$13,500 including curriculum materials, supplemental website subscriptions, classroom supplies, and other learning enhancement tools for the Loker and Happy Hollow staff.
- The PTO hosted a showing of *Race to Nowhere* for the Happy Hollow community.
- The PTO hosted a presentation and parent discussion with author Diane E. Levin on her book *So Sexy, So Soon*.
- The PTO sponsors many school-wide activities including Halloween Movie Night, Coffees with Mr. Lee, the annual Talent Show, the end-of-year celebration picnic, and teacher appreciation events.

The PTO relies on **Gift Your Child** donations from all of you, in conjunction with the proceeds from our winter Backpack Auction, to provide these and many more enhancements for our children's schools and for our school community. We thank the many families who have already so generously donated. If you have not donated yet, it is not too late! You can donate easily and securely on-line with a credit card at www.waylandpto.org, or you can return your donation (checks made out to "Wayland PTO"), along with the pledge card from your orange envelope, via your child's backpack to the attention of *PTO Gift Your Child*. Your donation is 100% tax-deductible, and is eligible for employee matching gifts programs. Donations of ALL sizes will have a direct and meaningful impact on the PTO's ability to continue funding all of these programs and more.

If you have any questions about *Gift Your Child*, please contact Heidi Renneker at hrenneker@gmail.com.



WAYLAND PUBLIC SCHOOLS DIRECTORY

Would you like to plan a play date for your child but you don't know her friend's phone number? Can't remember little Joey Smith's mom's name? Do you need to mail out invitations to your child's birthday party but you don't know any of his friends' addresses? If you had a Wayland Public Schools Directory, you could look that information up and more – it has a school calendar, school district contact information, month-by-month planner, and contact information for all (listed) children in the district from kindergarten through 12th grade – all

in one convenient directory.

The good news is that you can buy one now from your PTO! You can order your directory on-line with your credit card at www.waylandpto.org and it will be sent home to you in your child's backpack. They are \$15/each and are a great resource to have on-hand. Buy two, and keep one in your car! For alternate purchasing arrangements, please contact Abby Brogan at abbybrogan@hotmail.com.

Happy Hollow Hurrah!

HAPPY HOLLOW HURRAH

Many thanks to...

Cathy Caulfield for the wonderful Coffee Socials on Curriculum Nights.

Carla Stafford for coordinating a smooth day of school pictures with Hayward Photography.

To our Boston Families for hosting such a fun, community picnic for Wayland!

To our Back-to-School Lice Checkers: Pam Kainz, Lynne Cribben, Lori Caddoo, Daisy Powers, Elizabeth Curtin, Randi Rose, Eric Ngai, Carrie Greenberg, Vicky Sin, Lee Moser, Diana Lien, Kaat Vander Straeten, Cathy Davies, Mary Perry, Julie Suratt, Heidi Renneker, Teresa Sdoia, Kristin Neprud, Michael Ebright, Laura Martins, Jinglei Whitehouse, Ruth Murray, Philomena Quinn, Jen Dennis, Smita Chirayath, Caroline Owen Houde, Helga Lewenberg, Lilly Watkins, Brook Pyhtila, Kylie Williams, Cathy Caulfield and any other volunteers we missed – THANK YOU!

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.

Welcome 2013-2014 Board

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| 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/>