



THE
HAPPY HOLLOW
HOLLER

HAPPY HOLLOW SCHOOL & PTO NEWSLETTER
April 10, 2015

*“Joy in looking and comprehending is nature’s most beautiful gift.”
~ Albert Einstein ~*

Hello Friends!

I love the above quote by Albert Einstein! I feel like he understands what it is like to be an educator in the spring! Everything seems to come up... well... ~ *comprehension*! Just ask a teacher. Or better yet, ask a parent who has just come from a spring parent conference at the elementary level... So many leave these very special times saying things like, “He gets it!”; “She got it!”; “They are really catching on now! That class is on fire!”; “We’ve turned a corner!”; “It’s all there!”; “I am feeling so good about the year right now!”; “It has all come together!” ~ And so it goes. These are the comments that parents and guardians make as they leave the spring conferences.

Truly, it is no surprise because this is the time of year when the grade level takes hold. It mirrors the brighter and longer days and clearly follows suit with the newness that spring masters. Students put together the ideas they have been learning and “comprehension” becomes the title that crosses curricula, the social, emotional and *all* aspects of a child’s school day! It is very exciting and I personally want to thank all of the staff who work so tirelessly to ready for the productive parent conference times described by so many of you as you exit our building. Staff do an incredible amount of work ~ putting together portfolios, data and agendas that always come with so many personal stories. I also want to thank all of parents and guardians who take the time out of busy schedules to sit down and meet. Our partnership is one of the many defining qualities that makes us a leadership district.

Along with parent conferences, people are gearing up for the fifth grade play, lots of field trips and the talent show is this Friday night! There are project presentations and studies for the biography show and endangered species presentations are taking root! First graders are about to have their pancake breakfast ~ followed by tadpoles and hatching chicks. Our second graders will know everything about Flat Stanley traveling and the North End~ Our third graders will perform a recorder concert and our kindergarten students will be able to tell you all there is to know about trees and wood! ~ We are far from done! ~ And it all makes sense! We are at that magical time of year when students are working toward finding great success in meeting the grade-level standards for one grade ~ while keeping an eye wide open looking toward the summer ~ **and even planning for the next year!**

Looking toward the fall, we have no more reorganization for our students! We will send a fifth grade to Loker and all three of our schools will now be K-5 Schools! There will be some shuffling of staff and we will let you know of those changes by June. In the meantime, we are





going to start forming our new class configurations in May. So please read the following to understand our process:

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. The classroom groups will then be submitted to me for comments and/or adjustment. I will then sit down with the guidance/SPED department for a last look. ~ Finally, I will assign a teacher to each group.

It takes a full month to move through the entire placement 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 staff are involved, advocating 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.

This time of year is indeed exciting with so much left to experience, about which to wonder and ponder, to show and showcase, and to bring together the formative growth and success that become part of the special and magical time in one’s life known as the elementary school years.

All best,

Handwritten signature of Jim Lee.

Jim Lee, Principal



This and That from the Principal's Office:

Please dress for the weather! ~ We will have many days that are still cold, some rainy, a lot that are muddy ~ and that means being extra, extra prepared! You may want to send some spare clothing for those days when a slide to make a play becomes a disaster for sitting the rest of the day...

April and May at Happy Hollow:

Week of April 20-24	Spring Vacation No School	
Monday, April 27	Classes resume	
Saturday, May 9	Florence Adler Walk/Run	WMS
Monday, May 25	No School Memorial Day	
Thursday, May 28	5th Grade Play School Performance	10:00 am. -11:00 am Happy Hollow Gym
Thursday, May 28	5th Grade Play Parents and Families	7:00 pm - 8:00 pm Happy Hollow Gym

May MCAS/PARCC 2015

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
4 (left open for school assembly)	5 MCAS Sci./Tech 5th grade	6 MCAS Sci./Tech 5th grade	7 PARCC ELA 3rd grade	8 PARCC ELA 5th grade
11 PARCC ELA 4th grade	12 PARCC Math 3rd grade	13 PARCC Math 5th grade	14 PARCC Math 3rd grade	15 PARCC Math 5th grade
18 (left open for school assembly)	19 PARCC Math 4th grade	20 PARCC Math 4th grade	21	22
25 Memorial Day- No School	26	27	28 Happy Hollow 5th Grade Play	29 Last Day for Make- ups

HEALTHY HOLLER

News From the Health Room April 2015

IMPORTANT:

We are seeing many sick children here at Happy Hollow. There have been high fevers, upper respiratory illness, strep throat – with and without fever, and/ or sore throats, some have vomited. Please keep your child home if they are not feeling well, to prevent the spread of illness to others. Children need rest to recover.

Guidelines for Keeping Your Student Home Due to Illness

Keep your child home if he/she has:

- Fever : Your child should remain at home with a fever greater than 100.4 degrees. A child can return to school after he/she has been fever free for 24 hours (without fever-reducing medication such as Tylenol or Motrin)
- Diarrhea/Vomiting: A child with diarrhea and/or vomiting should stay home and return to school after being symptom free for 24 hours
- Rashes: A child with a suspicious rash should return to school only after a health care provider has made a diagnosis and authorized the child's return to school.
- Colds : Consider keeping your child home if he/she is experiencing discomfort from cold symptoms, such as nasal congestion and cough. A continuous green discharge from the nose may be a sign of infection. Consider having your child seen by your health care provider.

Your child is expected to be picked up from school in a timely manner when sick, to reduce the spread of illness to other students and/or staff. Please make sure your cell phones are checked throughout your day if parents need to be contacted. All phone numbers need to be up to date in the school office.

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/>
<http://www.tickencounter.org>

Spring Allergies:

- Please be sure that you are observing your child for signs and symptoms of allergies
- It is important that your child be given allergy medication before symptoms start
- Many children will have watery, red, itchy eyes, and over the counter eye drops will help if given before school

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.



Please contact me 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



CURRICULUM CORNER

FROM THE GUIDANCE OFFICE

For parents of students in grades 1, 3, and 5:
Information regarding the sexual abuse awareness program

In the coming weeks students in grades 1, 3, and 5 will participate in a program designed to educate children about personal safety and 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 video presentation. There will be opportunities for parents to preview the videos used in the program on the following dates: Tuesday, April 28 at 9:15 a.m. with JoAnn Kline and Thursday, April 30 at 8:30 a.m. with Beth Santomena. Locations will be posted in the front lobby the morning of the preview.

If you have questions about the program, concerns about your child, or wish information about additional resources, please contact one of us at [\(508\) 358-2120](tel:5083582120).

Guidance counselors
Beth Santomena and JoAnn Kline

What's coming up in April? Technology News for Grades 1-5 from Ms. Crozier

1st Grade: We have finished our penguin pictures!! Students did an amazing job with their typing, animations and recordings. Soon I will have a classroom slideshow to share with you. We have started our programming unit. Students will use a variety of tools to explore programming - Scratch Jr. on ipads, [Beebots](#) (which was funded by the WPSF several years ago) and the program MicroWorlds. Programming provides students with a creative avenue for problem solving, project design and expression.



2nd Grade: Students have begun creating a continent slideshow using their classroom research. Kid Pix Slideshows will consist of 5 pages. Each page will have a background (either drawn or ready made), typed facts (at least two sentences) and picture details. I'm already very impressed with their focus and drawing skills! I love what I am seeing!



3rd Grade: Students will continue to work on their writing about LARK (Legal, Appropriate, Responsible and Kind) using Google Apps for Students. We use the LARK acronym to model appropriate online etiquette and behavior. This past week students played a game called "Share Jumper" on Common Sense Media's Digital Passport website. Students were engaged as the game modeled examples of what information should/shouldn't be shared online. The game was fast paced, which is also a good reminder for students to slow down and think before they answer questions or enter information online. Students used this information in their paragraph writing about being responsible online users.



4th Grade: We will begin our programming unit this month. A technology favorite for many students. Programming provides students with a creative avenue for problem solving, project design and expression. Students will be programming with the program Scratch, and using [Probots](#), which was funded by the WPSF several years ago.



5th Grade: Students are finishing up their Digital Superhero Comic Strip. Students are creating a short video about digital safety. Some students are creating iMovie videos while other students are creating a scratch animation. For our next project, students will create a Battle of the American Revolution google map. Students will identify at least 6 battles and pin those locations on a google map. Each pin will include information about the battle as well as images.



5th Grade Tech Crew: Thank you to the tech crew students in Ms. Mattson's class. It was a pleasure to work with you. Ms. Devlin's class has taken over hosting responsibilities. We have five students who will be on their technology crew. They did an amazing job running the technology needs during our assembly this week. If you'd like to see tech crew video work, please check out [this link](#).

PTO News and Events

TALENT OLYMPICS – The Show Goes On This Friday!

Date: Friday, April 10th

Time 6:30-8:30pm

Place: Happy Hollow Gymnasium

Ticket: At door \$2/person \$10 max/family



THIS SUNDAY: Garden Move Day

Please come and help us move the Happy Hollow Gardens! This will be a great day for parents and children alike. Parents get to show their support for the environment, and children will be able to plant flower bulbs in the front of the school, with a little marker for them to write their name, and watch the wonder of flowers unfolding this fall.

The Garden Move Day is THIS SUNDAY April 12 at 12 noon. The more people, the less work for all! Please sign up on Volunteerspot... here is the link:

<http://vols.pt/GjNDw8>

Let us know what you can bring... and get ready for a blast of springtime!



For any questions, please contact Jennifer Pearlman at HappyHollowPTO@gmail.com or The Garden Team Coordinator, Deborah Niles, at Deborah_Niles@wayland.K12.ma.us.

SAVE THE DATE- PTO's DISCO NIGHT!

Saturday May 9th

Break out the bell-bottoms, feathered hair and white suits (or not). But do brush up on your Bee Gees, Donna Summer and Village people as we turn Sandy Burr into a disco inferno!!

Boogie down with your friends from *all three elementary schools*—this is a party you won't want to miss. This is not a kids' party so book your sitters soon.



PTO APPRECIATION

The Backpack Auction – Thank you to everyone for supporting the Wayland Elementary PTO! **This year's auction raised approximately \$30,000** to be used for educational enhancement programs in our elementary schools, and we couldn't have done that without the generosity of the teachers, staff, and community members who donated many wonderful items, and of course, the elementary school families who bid on these items.

As we wrap up this year's auction, all donors have been put in touch with the winner(s) of their item(s). If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us at backpackauction@gmail.com.



Thanks again for your support,
Catherine Davies & Andrea O'Brien
on Behalf of the Claypit Hill, Happy Hollow, and Loker PTO

Ladies' Night – Thank you to **Cathy Caulfield** for opening her home and hosting a Happy Hollow Ladies' Night last Thursday. It was a great evening for connecting with friends and meeting new ones. The dress code was casual and the turnout was fantastic with over 60 women wearing their most comfortable jeans, yoga pants and even some pajamas!



ATTENTION 5TH GRADE PARENTS

5th Grade Bash

The Fifth Grade Bash will be happening on Friday, May 1, from 5:00-7:00 in the Middle School Cafeteria for all Wayland Fifth Graders. Permission slips will be going home with each student, and will also be sent home electronically. Please consider signing up to donate or to volunteer your time for the event via our

VolunteerSpot: <http://vols.pt/FFpihv>

Room Parents Needed for the 6th Grade

The Middle School is also looking for a few volunteers to become "6th Grade Parent Representatives" next year. Parent Reps at the Middle School serve as "room parents" do at the elementary school - but for the whole grade! Responsibilities for the 6th grade year would be to assist with the "back-to-school" night dinner for the teachers, stuffing information folders for the parents, Walden Pond Bike Trip coordination, and 6th grade "Math Night" ice cream social. Please email Peg Trentini at pegtrentini@gmail.com if you are interested or if you have any questions. We look forward to hearing from you!

From The 5th Grade Activities Chair

1. **PHOTOS:** For the yearbook and slideshow we need pictures of your 5th grade children. Here are some of the guidelines:
 - Only 5th graders should be in the photos
 - If possible they should be school-based events (Roller Kingdom, field trip, sports events, assemblies, etc.)
 - Should have multiple 5th graders in the picture
 - Preferably label the picture with kids' names and event where taken
 - Pictures can be delivered to the 5th Grade green mail slot in the Happy Hollow foyer or electronically to Sandy O'Driscoll at odriscoll6@verizon.net
2. On April 30th, we will be distributing the **5th grade T-Shirts** to all 5th graders and taking a **5th grade photo** with Hayward Photography. We need 1 or 2 parent volunteers that morning to help distribute the t-shirts. This is only a 30-minute commitment. Please contact Laura Byrne at triplelfff@gmail.com if you are interested in helping.
3. The **5th grade play** is fast approaching. Ms. Pohl is looking for parent volunteers to help with costumes and scenery and day of preparation. PLEASE contact Ms. Pohl ASAP if you are able to help out with the play.

Not receiving updates on 5th grade activities?

Contact: Kate MacDonald, 5th Grade Activity Chair
508-816-0597, ksamacdonald@verizon.net

2014-2015 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 in your child's school? We are in need of volunteers for many unique opportunities. Most

Talent Show	April 10th (F) 6:30 PM – 8:30 Happy Hollow Gym	Vicky Sin
Earth Day Events	TBD	Jennifer Hood-DeGrenier
Elementary Joint Social – Disco Party!	May 9th (Sat) Sandy Burr Country Club	Cathy Caulfield
Annual PTO Meeting & Thank you Breakfast	June 3rd (W) at 9:00 AM in Happy Hollow Cafeteria	Jennifer Pearlman
Teacher & Staff Appreciation Event	June 4th (Th)	Jill Zukerman & Catherine Theobald
Town-wide PTO meeting	June 5th (F)	Stephanie Leong
Book Fair	June 8th & 9th	Sara Langan & Christine Walsh
End of Year Picnic	June 8th (M) at 5:30 PM – 7:30 PM Rain Date: June 10th (W)	Cathy Caulfield

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 below and contact the committee head to learn more. Or, email the Happy Hollow PTO President, Jennifer Pearlman, at: happyhollowpto@gmail.com.

The 2014-2015 Board

<u>Position</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>email</u>
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