



THE
HAPPY HOLLOW
HOLLER

HAPPY HOLLOW SCHOOL & PTO NEWSLETTER
December 12, 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 ~ The Power of One is alive and well at HH!**
 - **An after-school traffic reminder**
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 - **Gift giving policies**
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“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.”

~Soren Bennick Productions~

PRINCIPAL'S CORNER

December, 2014

Dear Friends,

At this time of year, people are often torn between the joy that the holidays bring and the exhaustion that the change in weather, dark and cold days and many obligations can bring about for even our youngest of people. Everyone seems to feel the pinch between now and when we break for the holiday vacation. That being said, I often like to remind us all to be patient with one another, to be more aware of others' feelings and to take care of each other. This is always a message that we try to aspire to at HH and I hope it is visible in all that we endeavor. We work on our social competencies as part of our core curriculum through the Open Circle Curriculum, supplemental lessons from the Social Thinking program, the Responsive Classroom strategies and many others.

Our Monday morning assembly meetings are another way we keep our “Kindness Matters” motto alive and simultaneously offer key opportunities to reinforce our expectations for academic excellence. Students and staff share important achievement toward both ends. The professionalism of our student fifth grade emcees is that of a well-polished news anchor team ~ this year's group is particularly skilled. Please try to come to an assembly if you haven't been to one as of late. You will be impressed and it will put a smile on your face that will last the day.

Service learning projects are well under way with students working hard to combine content learning with service-based projects. Students meet with me during their lunch and recess times to plan and organize. They receive a planning sheet and are empowered to seek adult help, to contact outside organizations and to teach what they learn as they help others. We are booking teams for March at this time!

We apply all of the social competencies through daily interactions throughout a school day and through our service learning program. Our acronym of how we bring it all alive is:

Kindness Matters

K ~ **Kind**
I ~ **Invested in learning**
N ~ **Need to include**
D ~ **Do our best**

- ▶ We make kindness matter.
- ▶ We are invested in learning and getting smarter.
- ▶ We need to include if everyone is welcome.
- ▶ We do our best because effort brings success.



In addition to all of these fine structures that support building and maintaining a strong school culture that promotes learning, and learning as good citizens, we actively look to teach our young people how to avoid bullying behaviors that result in someone or a group becoming bullies. The Open Circle program provides the lessons; but since 2009, we also use an overarching language at the school that comes to us from the Soren Bennick Production Company in the form of a high impact show called The Power of One. The show leaves us with an immediate and applicable language around proactively avoiding bullying situations and has proven to be exceptional over the years we have used it. We bring the company in every other year and educate in-house on the off year. The PTO generously funds this endeavor and we are grateful to them for this and their many other continual contributions to the betterment of our school community.

Power of One 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. The Power of One gives our students the visual and spoken means to identify and report bullying behaviors before they become true bullying.

They came to our school on November 17th and performed two shows, one for our K-2 students and one for our 3-5 students (the 3-5 adds a component of cyber bullying and using electronic devices to promote emotional bullying). The following are the key points from the presentation:



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:

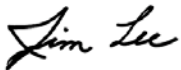
I will not bully others. I will not stand by while others are bullied. I will report and deal with bullying whenever I see it... because I have the Power of One!

Link to a clip of the performance: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4ghiJvx9WDM>

So my friends, as we move into the dark days of early Winter and the stress of many obligations and festivities, know that we are also looking to slow down a bit, to enjoy all that is bright and good and to keep an eye at all times on being the good citizens that make for an excellent learning environment for all students.

Happy Holidays! Happy vacation! Take care. Be safe. Be well.

All best,



Jim Lee
Principal

This and That from the Principal's Office:



Traffic Tip ~ Please do not park in the fire lane or on the hill that leads to it ~ even after school hours. There is a small amount of room for cars to back out of the spaces in front of the school. When people park in the fire lane, it is an accident in the making. ~ Also, it is against local and state laws !

This goes for BASE hours as well. There is never any parking allowed in the fire lane or on the hill that leads to that lane.



Lost and Found:

Please check the lost and found before you leave for the winter break. We have many items and it would be great if the children could have them at home for the vacations. Thank you!



Gift Giving Policies:

Gifts Given to a teacher or staff member:

- Public school teachers, as municipal employees, may not accept gifts valued at \$50 or more. Nor can staff members accept (from one family) a number of smaller gifts which together are worth \$50 or more.
- A teacher accepting a gift of less than \$50 from a current student may be required to disclose that gift if it creates the appearance of a conflict of interest.
- A teacher may accept a group gift of up to \$150 per year from his or her class as long as the gift is identified as being from the entire class, and the identity of the contributors and the amounts given aren't identified to the teacher. In addition, no individual family may make a contribution of \$50 or more to a group gift.
- Gifts to individual teachers may be given in the form of gift cards as long as they are in accordance with these limitations.

Gifts Given to the classroom or school:

- Gifts of \$200 or more to individual classrooms, schools, or the district (as opposed to the teacher) require School Committee approval and acceptance. Gifts of less than \$200 may be approved and accepted by a principal or the superintendent.
- Classroom gifts in the form of cash must be deposited and processed through a town account, although reimbursements may be made after an authorized gift purchase.
- Under no conditions can gift cards be given as a classroom gift since they cannot be deposited in a town account.
- Gifts In General: The School Committee policy recommends: "In lieu of gifts to individual teachers, parents are encouraged to make contributions to school support organizations such as the PTO, CAPA, Boosters, and the Wayland Public Schools Foundation."
- Finally, many teachers truly experience "Thank You" notes as one of the best gifts they can receive.

December and January at Happy Hollow:

Friday, December 23rd	Full day of school Holiday Recess begins at 3 p.m.	
December 24th – January 4th	Holiday Recess	
Monday, January 5th	Classes resume	
Monday, January 19th	NO SCHOOL Martin Luther King Day	
Friday, January 23rd	Martin Luther King Dinner	WMS 6-9 pm
Thursday, January 29 th	Chorus Concert	10 am for school HH Gym 7 pm for families HH Gym

Curriculum Corner

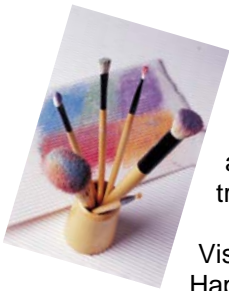


Mathematics

The Elementary Math Team is looking for parent volunteers to help assemble math kits that will be used in Grades K-2. These kits will be used by teachers and students during regular classroom instruction. Assembly of kits will take place on December 19, 22 and 23 at Loker School in cozy Room 17. Shifts on each day run from 9am to 12noon and 12noon to 3pm each day. No prior experience needed! If you can volunteer for one or more shifts please contact

Becky Lepow, K-2 Math Coach, at Rebecca_Lepow@wayland.k12.ma.us

Thank you for considering this request!



News from the Art Room:

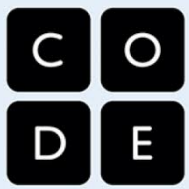
"Drop Into Art" for grades 4 and 5 continues through December on Fridays at 8:10 am. Free! Students are working in groups on papier mache animal sculptures and making great progress. We've had a tremendous turn out of students each week!

Visit our art website listed under "Classrooms: Ms. Soeltz" for updated information on our art program at Happy Hollow. During the month of December, the artwork of third grade students in Mrs. Akers' class is on display at the Town Building in the school committee room. Showcased is a collection of cut paper designs which explore symmetrical and asymmetrical balance. Please take a look at our artwork lining the main corridor at Happy Hollow. There you will find 1st, 3rd, 4th and 5th grade work currently on display. Ceramic plates by 5th graders will soon be out for viewing in their hallway and the kindergarten "People" paintings are hanging over their coat hooks in the kindergarten/art corner of our school!

Assembly: On Monday, December 15th, there will be a short presentation by several 5th graders on the work we have been studying and creating, school wide, in our art classes this fall. We will share highlights from each grade level.

December 2014

Technology News for Grades 1-5 from Ms. Crozier



All computer classes will participate in the [Hour of Code](#), which is being held worldwide from December 8th - 14th. The Hour of Code is an opportunity for millions of students to try computer science. At the elementary level, we have been exposing children to programming for many years. We build the foundation for programming in Kindergarten by introducing the Beebot (a WPSF Grant that was funded several years ago). We will continue to use Beebots, Probots, MicroWorlds, and Scratch in our technology program. However, during the next two weeks, students will use the Hour of Code puzzles on Code.org and on [Tynker Coding for Kids](#). If students would like to continue their work on Code.org while at home after classes end on Tuesday, December 23rd, students may access their classroom login from the [Computer Lab links page](#) for their grade level. Each student has their own account on Code.org so their progress will be saved.

Below is a synopsis of computer class activities leading up to the Hour of Code lessons.



Kid Pix Deluxe 3D

1st Grade: Students are learning to use Kid Pix 3D. Each week we explore several tools. Thus far, they have explored: pencil, paintbrush, bucket, mixer, rubber stamper, oops guy and the water pump. Kid Pix 3D is always a first grade favorite.



2nd Grade: We began to explore several geography websites to support the classroom work in this area. Links to activities can be found under "For Students" - "Computer Lab Links". We also used Google Maps to go on a Massachusetts scavenger hunt. The hunt will continue when we return in January.



3rd Grade: Students are using online versions of two important reference tools - dictionary and encyclopedia. The Encyclopedia Britannica website has both tools in one! The link is under "For Students". A great elementary resource!

4th Grade: We have focused on several basic word-processing features using google docs; cut, copy, and paste. These are great shortcuts to use when writing. We also had a lesson on [Talking Safely Online](#) from the Common Sense Media Digital Citizenship Curriculum. This lesson focused on keeping private information private and the difference between online friends and face to face friends. I'm very happy to hear that students are communicating online with family and face to face friends. Nice Job!

5th Grade: Students have been working on a Digital Superhero Comic Strip. Students designed their own digital superhero whose goal is to protect digital citizens. Students had a few drawing choices - Kid Pix, Scratch and Google Draw. Then students began to plan out their comic strip story in Google Docs. Next, students will illustrate their comic story or create a Scratch animation.

5th Grade Tech Crew - It has been wonderful working with Mr. Moynihan and Ms. Candini's students. If you'd like to see their Animoto video work, please visit the [HH School Meeting website](#). Ms. Candini's class will be wrapping up their responsibilities at the end December. Ms. Mattson's class will host when we return in January (be on the look out for signup information). Thank you to all the families and students for your support and commitment to this volunteer program.



HEALTHY HOLLER
Jeanne MacDonald, RN

News From the Health Room December 2014

Important information about your child's health:

- If your child has complaints of headache, stomachache, with or without fever and/or sore throat and these complaints do not go away, then you should take your child to their doctor to check for strep throat. Some rapid strep tests done in the doctor's office have been negative, with the throat cultures being positive 48 hours later. Strep throat is very contagious in the school setting.
- Children diagnosed with "strep" throat need to be on an antibiotic for 24 hours before returning to school, so they are not contagious to others.
- If medication is required during school time, please ask your pharmacy for a "school bottle" labeled from the pharmacy with medication name, dose, and frequency. We will also need a parent permission form/note.
- Your child's health is an important concern. It is critical that children get the rest that they need to recover from either a bacterial and/or viral infection.
- Please have your child protected from influenza (a viral infection) by getting them the FLU vaccine-it is not too late.

Other Info:

- Please dress your child appropriately with the winter months upon us. (coat/mittens/boots/snow pants, change of clothes)
- Children should have a daily snack/drink provided from home.
- Please check your cell phone throughout the day as parents will be called if your child needs to be sent home.
- The most important first line of defense against germs is good hand washing. Please continue to reinforce this at home. We will continue to educate children here at school.
- If parents are cleaning out closets and/or drawers and would like to donate used clothes to the health room, (pants-all sizes) would be appreciated.

Please feel free to contact me with any questions and/or concerns at 508-358-6051.
Happy Holidays and stay healthy!

Jeanne MacDonald RN

Jeanne_MacDonald@wayland.k12.ma.us

PTO News and Events

A NOTE FROM THE PTO PRESIDENT

I would like to thank **Cathy Davies** and **Andrea O'Brien** for their outstanding effort this fall during the Gift Your Child fundraising campaign. These funds support the PTO programs and events throughout the year. They also support our teachers by providing special "wish list" items such as the rug pictured below.

This rug was requested by Beth Crozier, the technology teacher. Each technology class begins with the students seated on the floor for instruction and other teaching with the smart board. The visual cue provided by the design of the rug helps children stay in a particular spot and improves the learning environment.



Once again, Cathy and Andrea will be hard at work preparing for the Backback Auction that kicks off in March. I have no doubt it will be the best one yet!

Jennifer Pearlman
Happy Hollow PTO President

GIFT YOUR CHILD

A huge **THANK YOU** from the PTO to the Happy Hollow families for all of your generous Gift Your Child donations. Your participation in the first part of our annual fundraiser goes a long way in helping to fund the many programs the PTO supports in our schools.

To learn more about where the PTO uses these donations in our school, please visit our website at waylandpto.org/happy-hollow-pto. **If you would like to take advantage of the tax deduction before year-end, donations are always welcome** and can still be made at waylandpto.org or by sending cash or check (made out to "Wayland PTO") in to school with your child in an envelope marked "PTO – Gift Your Child".

And keep your eye out for the **Backpack Auction** (Part 2 of Gift Your Child) in March 2015, with perennial favorites from Wayland's elementary schools' faculty and staff, area camps, and community organizations as they "Gift Our Children"!

NEXT PTO MEETING – MARK YOU CALENDAR

Join us on January 8th, Thursday, for our first meeting of 2015. (Location TBD)

There are many ways to get involved at the Happy Hollow school. Come to the meeting to find out what you can do. We have something that will fit your schedule!

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 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.

EVENT	DATE/TIME	CONTACT
Holiday Teacher & Staff Appreciation	December 12th (F)	Jill Zukerman & Catherine Theobald
Gift Your Child, Part 2: Backpack Auction	Early Winter	Andrea O'Brien & Cathy Davies
Chinese New Year Celebration	TBD	Nan Li
Town-wide PTO meeting	March 13th (F)	Stephanie Leong
Bingo Night	TBD	Cathy Caulfield
World's Fair	TBD	Samantha Richter
Talent Show	March 27 or April 10	Vicky Sin

	(TBD)	
Earth Day Events	TBD	Jennifer Hood-DeGrenier
Annual PTO Meeting & Thank you Breakfast	June 3 rd (W) at 9:00 AM in Happy Hollow Cafeteria	Jennifer Pearlman
Teacher & Staff Appreciation Event	Jun. 4 th (Th)	Jill Zukerman & Catherine Theobald
Town-wide PTO meeting	June 5 th (F)	Stephanie Leong
Book Fair	June 8 th & 9 th	Sara Langan & Christine Walsh
End of Year Picnic	June 8 th (M) at 5:30 PM – 7:30 PM Rain Date: June 10th (W)	Cathy Caulfield

The 2014-2015 Board

<u>Position</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>email</u>
President	Jennifer Pearlman	jenniferorzo@yahoo.com
Vice President	Meg Flatley	megflatley@gmail.com
Secretary	Julie Suratt	juliesuratt@gmail.com
Treasurer	Christine Roberts	christine.j.roberts@gmail.com
Ways/Means (1)	Cathy Davies	cdavies@rtegroup.com
Way/Means (2)	Andrea O'Brien	aobrien68@gmail.com
Social	Cathy Caulfield	ccaufield16@gmail.com
Past President	Stephanie Leong	stephanie_leong@alum.wellesley.edu