



THE
HAPPY HOLLOW
HOLLER

HAPPY HOLLOW SCHOOL & PTO NEWSLETTER
January 16, 2015

Navigate the Newsletter:

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

- **Principal's Quote and Note ~ Instructional Rounds Happened @ Happy Hollow!**
 - **Thank you!**
 - **MCAS/PARRC information as we know it now**
 - **Please Review Bus Rules.**
 - **Dress for the weather!**
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“Instructional rounds are one of the most valuable tools that a school or district can use to enhance teachers’ pedagogical skills and develop a culture of collaboration. The goal of instructional rounds isn’t to provide feedback to the teacher being observed... The chief benefit of this approach resides in the discussion that takes place...at the end of the observation as well as in subsequent self-reflection.”

~Robert J. Marzano~

~cofounder and CEO of Marzano Research Laboratory in Denver, Colorado. He is the author of The Art and Science of Teaching (ASCD, 2007) and coauthor, with Mark W. Haystead, of Making Standards Useful in the Classroom (ASCD, 2008).

PRINCIPAL’S CORNER

January, 2015

Dear Friends,

If your child came home on Thursday, January 8th and said that something was different during the 9:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m. hour of school ~ it may have been that a combination of 29 Wayland administrators, directors, department heads, coaches and teachers from preschool through high school were walking the halls of Happy Hollow School and observing in all of our classrooms for the sole purpose of working collaboratively to focus on teaching and learning. ~ Not really a typical day, but very typical of the practice that keeps Wayland cutting edge and always looking for ways to improve the craft that makes for excellence in teaching and promotes optimal learning for our students.

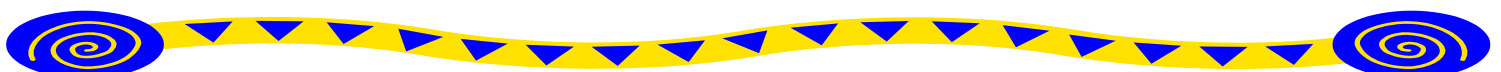
For the second time in Wayland ~ the first time being hosted at the Claypit Hill School last year ~ our staff participated in Instructional Rounds. Although the concept has been around for awhile (most prominently from 2009 on) and written about countless times, most especially by Harvard University educators ~ Elizabeth A. City, Richard F. Elmore, Sarah E. Fiarman, and Lee Teitel. These pioneers looked to the medical model where teams of medical professionals go on “rounds” each day to learn about best practices and to study medical interventions so they can better treat patients. Adopting the idea, they took this into the educational arena and created networks of educators from across district grade levels and job types to understand rigor and educational best practices. “Rather than call for ‘increased rigor,’ educators develop detailed lists of what rigor looks like in real classrooms.”

This was no easy feat and offers one of the most important opportunities of 21st Century education. The concept fully supported by our Superintendent and brought to us through his skillful and progressive leadership, is that the best way to improve and to capitalize on what we do well is to be able to clearly define what works and what needs to change for the better. Dr. Stein brought in an Instructional Rounds Consultant, Ruth Chapman, a retired principal from the Newton Public Schools. Ms. Chapman is thoroughly trained in the practice of rounds and has worked with our district administrative team as well as our staff from across the district and most specifically at the Claypit Hill School and the Happy Hollow School ~ the two who have hosted.

Why are hoping to make this a commonplace happening around our district?

“Our goal in doing instructional rounds work is to help schools and districts develop effective and powerful teaching and learning on a large scale, not just isolated pockets of good teaching in the midst of mediocrity. Accordingly, the network’s suggestions for the next level of work are not about ‘fixing’ any one teacher or group of teachers. They are about developing clarity, about good instructional practice, and about the leadership and organizational practices needed to support this kind of instruction at scale.” (Lee Teitel, Harvard Education Letter, May/June, 2009, vol. 25, #3)

The process begins when the staff works together to develop a focus of practice to be studied. The following was our process for developing our focus of practice at Happy Hollow. We considered that as a district, we continue to move to a more diagnostic approach to educating all of our students at all levels. For years now at the elementary school, we have been working at building a model for creating fluid Response to Intervention groups with an intense focus on providing explicit instruction based on individual student need.





We monitor growth through formal and formative assessments and as we are always looking to teach the whole child in a manner that cares for not only the academic success of our students but also the social and emotional aspects of their development. Toward that end, we continue to have conversations around how we help students to partner with us as we offer more intense, explicit instruction. Staff-run discussion groups have ensued around this topic, guided by the work of Dr. Carol Dweck (author of [Mindset](#)).

Dr. Dweck studies and writes about how we as educators can integrate aspects that bridge developmental psychology, social psychology, and personality psychology, to examine the self-conceptions (or mindsets) people use to structure who they are as learners and how they set goals and work toward achieving them. Furthermore, we look to understand how the “mindsets” of young students guide their behavior and choices around actively owning their learning. Dr. Dweck’s research looks at the origins of these mindsets, their role in motivation and self-regulation, and their impact on achievement and interpersonal processes, knowing that they are a key ingredient of student success throughout a child’s school day and throughout their formative years.

Therefore, our issue of practice became:

Issue of Practice: How are we fostering perseverance/stamina in our students?

Specific strategies for our observers were guided by the following two questions:

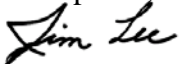
What teachers’ words and actions are heard and seen?

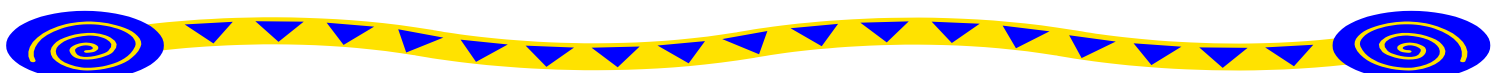
What students’ words and actions are viewed?

Following the hour-long observation time ~ three twenty-minute visits by teams of two in three different classroom settings across the school ~ including specialist areas ~ the observers then met until 12:15 p.m. They organized their observations ~ none assigned to any one instructor or student ~ into categories around building stamina. They had to write a statement based upon all of their findings and then they had to develop next steps for the school to follow in order to begin the process of making all of our efforts around building stamina and fostering perseverance into a common language that can become a common set of practices to ensure we are achieving this all-important aspect of teaching and learning across the school and throughout each school day.

The next step will be to share the results with the staff and then we will begin the work as a faculty in developing ways to follow-up. I will keep you posted on our progress. In the meantime, I have to thank Dr. Stein and all who took part in this amazing process. When I stood and saw 29 members of the Wayland Public Schools working together to study one aspect of our practice at the Happy Hollow School, it was truly an unforgettable moment. The care, expertise, reflective work could only be rivaled by an experienced medical team at one of our nation’s many top-rated hospitals ~ one more reason to be very proud to be a member of the Wayland Public Schools Team and one more reason that you as part of our school community should feel confident that we are truly in progress at the common goal of keeping this district a leadership institution that consistently looks to rediscover what it means to lead.

As we move further into the new year, my wish for you all is that 2015 will 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 to you all! On behalf of the whole office staff, we wish to thank everyone for the many cards and delicious treats and very thoughtful notes that you so kindly bestowed upon us before vacation. Each truly represented an act of kindness and was a reminder of how truly wonderful our school community is ~ We appreciate every effort, every thought and every act!

MCAS and PARCC TESTING: Happy Hollow, Claypit Hill, Loker and Wayland Middle School will participate in the pilot PARCC assessment program this year. This is instead of MCAS in grades 3-8 for language arts and mathematics. The acronym PARCC stands for Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers and is put out by the Pearson Company. The state has not decided yet if it will replace the MCAS, so this year's pilot will serve to better inform their direction. The fifth graders will still take the Science and Technology aspect of the MCAS as there is no test for that from PARCC as of yet.

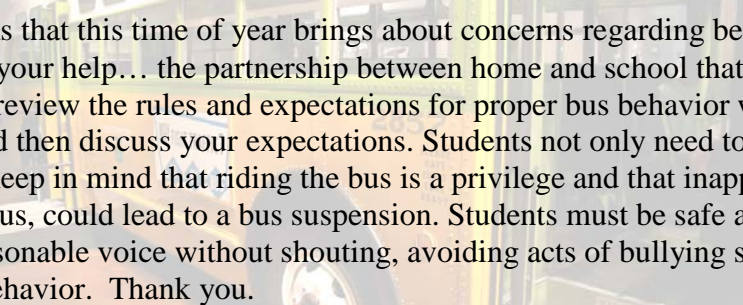
*The PARCC Assessment is broken into two components, Performance-Based Assessments (PBA) and End of Year Assessments (EOY).

*Performance-based assessments (PBA) in ELA/literacy and mathematics will be given in mid-March to early April ~ much like the MCAS in the past.

*There will be practice tests and we will be sending more information as all of the details from PARCC are made final.

*The End of Year Assessments (EOY) in ELA/literacy and mathematics will be given in May ~ also in keeping with the prior MCAS testing dates.

*All PARCC tests will be completed online.



On the Bus: It seems that this time of year brings about concerns regarding behavior on our buses. It is the time that we really need your help... the partnership between home and school that makes a huge difference. Toward that end, please review the rules and expectations for proper bus behavior with your children ~ refer to the student handbook and then discuss your expectations. Students not only need to remember the appropriate behaviors, they need to keep in mind that riding the bus is a privilege and that inappropriate actions ~ including acts of bullying ~ on a bus, could lead to a bus suspension. Students must be safe and that includes: sitting flat in a seat, talking in a reasonable voice without shouting, avoiding acts of bullying such as name calling, hitting, pushing or any related behavior. Thank you.

Dress for the Weather: Please continue to check the weather each day to ensure that your child is dressed for the day's temperature. We have some fluctuation and it can be really cold on little hands that don't have gloves. Each year, sad faces line the edge of the hot top when snowpants and boots are needed...or worse, some have to stay inside while others go out if they are not ready to play in the climate that defines the New England experience... Brrrrrrr!

Remember to check the lost and found: Our lost and found is once again growing and we will be looking to find homes for the left clothing as we near the winter break. Please take a moment to check if you have lost an item.

January and February at Happy Hollow:

Monday, January 19th	No School Martin Luther King, Jr. Day	
Friday, January 23 rd	Martin Luther King Community Celebration	Dinner from 6:00-7:00 p.m., Program 7:15-9:00 p.m.
Friday, January 23 rd	Happy Hollow Chorus performs with Claypit Hill and Loker Chorale groups at the MLK Dinner	WMS
Monday, January 26th	Report Card Distributed	Grades 1-5
Thursday January 29	Happy Hollow Winter Chorus Concert	10:00 a.m. HH Gym 7:00 p.m. HH Gym
Friday January 30	Middle School Honors Ensemble visit HH	9:00 a.m. – HH Gym
Wednesday February 11	String Jam Waylnd High School	7:30 p.m.
Thursday February 12	Band Fest Waylad HighShool	7:30 p.m.
Thursday, February 12th	Kindergarten Developmental Checklist Distributed	For all Kindergarten students across the district
Week of February 16-20	Winter Vacation	
Monday, February 23	Classes Resume	
Thursday February6	Wayand Sings Wayland High Schol	7:30 p.m.

Curriculum Corner



Technology News for Grades 1-5 from Ms. Crozier

All classes 1st-5th: Students had a wonderful time participating in the Hour of Code during technology class. Students used the Hour of Code puzzles on Code.org and on [Tynker Coding for Kids](#). Some students also programmed with Scratch. Collectively students programmed over 27,000 lines of code using Code.org. I imagine that number would be well over 50,000 lines if we included all of the other programming resources students used. Wow just amazing! [Here is a video of students coding](#) in the computer lab.

What's coming up in January?

1st Grade: We will continue our exploration of Kid Pix. Students will create a penguin picture which incorporates their classroom learning about penguins. We will share this project with you when it's completed.

2nd Grade: Students will finish their Google Maps scavenger hunt. Students need to use directional clues (North - South - East - West) to navigate from destination to destination. They are doing a great job!

3rd Grade: We begin the new year with our word processing unit. Students will continue their keyboarding practice using All The Right Type. To access ATRT online - please use the link under the ["For Students" section of the Happy Hollow website](#). At this point, I reinforce accuracy with the children. Speed will come with practice. Students will then be introduced to Google Apps for Students.



4th Grade: We will use technology class to support the students and teachers as they work on their immigration/culture project. This could be in the way of research, gathering images, creating presentations...

5th Grade: Students will continue to work on their 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.



BAND

Band students are getting ready for their next concert. Please mark your calendars and join us for Bandfest on Thursday, February 12, 2015 at 7:30 in the High School Fieldhouse.



TALES OF A LIBRARY

New library books are flying off the shelves. Happy Hollow students are great readers!

All library classes are currently preparing for our author visit, sponsored by the PTO. On February 3rd, author/illustrator David Biedrzycki will visit with all grades to discuss his books and artwork. For more information on our visiting author, please refer to the following link. <https://sites.google.com/a/wayland.k12.ma.us/happyhollowlibrary/home/2015-author-visit---david-biedrzycki>

All students in grades 1-5 are invited to participate in a statewide bookmark contest sponsored by the Massachusetts School Library Association. Statewide winners will be invited to the statehouse in Boston for a special ceremony, along with other exciting prizes. Submissions incorporating the theme "Look What I Discovered At My School Library" are due to Ms Flannery in the library by Wednesday, 1/21. Interested students were given the official rules and entry form during library classes. For more information, please look here. <https://sites.google.com/a/wayland.k12.ma.us/happyhollowlibrary/home/2015-bookmark-contest>

As a reminder, students must return overdue library books before they can check out additional books. If there are any questions about overdue books, please email Ms Flannery. Thank you!

Keep reading!

Colleen Flannery-Schwarz, Happy Hollow School Librarian
colleen_flannery@wayland.k12.ma.us



Music Notes

FIRST GRADE

In music class 1st Grade students are working on reading rhythm notation. In December our favorite puppet Simon the squirrel visited our classes to help us practice sound and silence rhythms. The children also had fun with a poem titled "Toyshop." After we chanted the words some children moved creatively acting out their favorite toy that has come to life while others played glockenspiels. Later we connected these toy names to rhythmic notation. First graders drew a picture of their toy on one side of a piece of paper and then drew the rhythms notes to match. In the coming month we will continue to work on reading rhythms and identifying them in songs we are singing.

SECOND GRADE

Second graders are also working on reading rhythms. They are practicing by identifying long and short rhythms in songs and on rhythm cards. With a song titled "Tideo." the children focused on reading/playing long and short rhythms on xylophones and glockenspiels. In addition to rhythm work the second grade students are currently working on the folk dance "Bridge of Athlone." The children are have fun moving to the steady beat and creating a long bridge for a student to go under. By the end of a class full of dancing the children are full of smiles and very thirsty!

THIRD GRADE

The third graders are focused on reading pitch notation on the music staff and playing the recorder. We are playing games to help identify line and space notes in the treble clef. This week on recorder we are adding two more notes and beginning "Hot Cross Buns." The kids are working hard to produce a clear sound by playing with slow, calm air.

FOURTH GRADE

Fourth graders are practicing sixteenth note rhythms in class. We identified them in Mozart's "Rondo Alla Turca," and are also playing them in a drumming piece titled "Listen to my Heartbeat." In addition to rhythm work we are developing our singing skills in the coming weeks as we sing the round "One Bottle of Pop." We are focused on singing in harmony as different notes blend together in a round.

FIFTH GRADE

Fifth grade students just completed a unit on Jazz music. We learned about the life of Louie Armstrong and watched clips of his performances. He was an amazing musician who persevered even when life was challenging. Fifth graders learned about basic jazz vocabulary and performed a jazz piece on mallet instruments. They had opportunities to improvise their own jazz melodies.

CHORUS CONCERTS

The Happy Hollow Chorus is performing at the Martin Luther King Celebration at the Middle School the evening of January 23rd. The Happy Hollow Winter Chorus Concert is Thursday, January 29th at 7:00 pm. What a fun month full of singing!

HEALTHY HOLLER

Jeanne MacDonald, RN

News from the Health Room

January 2015

Flu Information:

- Presently, the Wayland Public Schools has not observed widespread influenza activity, but influenza activity is widespread across the United States, and at high intensity in many locations.
- According to the Massachusetts Department of Public Health Flu Surveillance, the flu will peak in Massachusetts within the next few weeks. At the end of December 2014, 15 influenza-related pediatric deaths had been reported nationwide. School closures due to high rates of influenza-like illness have also been reported nationally.

MDPH, like CDC, recommends a three-pronged approach to influenza prevention and control:

- Vaccination – there is still time to get vaccinated. Call the Wayland Board of Health at 508-358-3617.
- Everyday prevention: hand washing, cough etiquette, and staying home when sick.
- Treatment – antivirals like Tamiflu are most effective when started early after symptom onset.

Please read very important information from the CDC about the flu at:

- <http://www.cdc.gov/flu/takingcare.htm>

Please Remember:

- To keep your children home if they have a fever, have vomited, and/or are not feeling well.
- To make arrangements for your children to be picked up from school in a timely manner if you are not readily available when called by the school nurse.
- Children need to have a coat, snow pant, boots, gloves/mittens, and hat to be able to go to recess safely. For younger children they should have an extra set of clothing in their backpack if their clothes get wet during the school day.
- 4th grade students need an updated physical exam, which is required by the Massachusetts Department of Public Health. Please send your children updated physical exam to the school nurse if you have not done so this year.

Lice Information:

- Please continue to check your child's head as part of their daily hygiene for possible head lice.
- Early detection is key to prevent additional cases.
- Please review the resources listed for additional information:
 - <http://www.headlice.org/>
 - <http://www.cdc.gov/parasites/lice/head/index.html>

Please call and/or email with any questions/concerns.

Jeanne MacDonald RN

Jeanne_MacDonald@wayland.k12.ma.us

508-358-6051

PTO News and Events

BACKPACK AUCTION – GIFT YOUR CHILD PART 2

Do you have a talent or ability to share with the community? Do you have a product that you would like to donate? Consider donating to the Gift Your Child Backpack Auction!

The **Gift Your Child Backpack Auction Committee** is busy rounding up annual favorites including camps, experiences with the local fire and safety departments, varsity sports, and teacher items for this year's Backpack Auction. Last year, with great success, we expanded the Backpack Auction offerings a bit to include some of the many talented members of our community. We would like to, again, extend the invitation to anyone within the Wayland community who might be able to offer a unique or special experience to please consider donating to the auction. This could be anything from sharing a hobby (knitting lessons, sports lessons, photography, baking lessons, cooking an ethnic dish, etc.), to something pertaining to your career (author, musician, athlete, artist, event planner, etc.), or a donation from a family-run, Wayland business (architect, baker, photographer, musician, restaurant, etc.) in the form of a product or an experience. If you have an idea for an experience that you could share with a winner (adult, child and friend, group of children, etc.) or something you'd like to offer to the elementary school community to bid on, please contact Cathy Davies (cathydavies1970@gmail.com) or Andrea O'Brien (<mailto:aobrien68@gmail.com>) by January 30, 2015.

And look for the Backpack Auction booklet coming to a backpack near you this March!!

Happy Hollow Lost and Found:

There are tables in the lobby displaying items from the lost and found bins. Please check the tables for missing clothing such as hats, coats and mittens. As is customary in our schools, items not picked up by the close of school on Thursday January 8, will be donated.

Happy Hollow 5th Grade Activities Planning Board Meeting

Date: Monday, January 12th at 7:30pm

Location: 379 Commonwealth Rd. Wayland

To All 5th Grade Parents and Activity Committee members:

Please join me in planning the remainder of our childrens' 5th grade activities. Roller Kingdom was a huge success thanks to Lee Moser, Kristi Mabe, and a number of volunteers!! Let's make the other events as successful.

Please RSVP [here](#)

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
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 13 th (F)	Stephanie Leong
Bingo Night	TBD	Cathy Caulfield
World's Fair	TBD	Samantha Richter
Talent Show	March 27 or April 10 (TBD)	Vicky Sin
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@rtgroup.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