



THE
HAPPY HOLLOW
HOLLER

HAPPY HOLLOW SCHOOL & PTO NEWSLETTER

June 12, 2015

*"Bert: Winds in the east, mist comin in, /Like somethin' is brewin' and 'bout to begin./
Can't put me finger on what lies in store,/But I fear what's to happen all happened before..."*
~Mary Poppins- 1964



Dear Friends,

Soon it will be June 22nd. That afternoon, after the all-emotional clap-out walk, we will leave the school grounds ~ and everything will be different ~ like in a dream. It will be the kind of dream with some parts we can remember well and others that might be a blur. It will be the kind of dream we never forget. It will be like a dream because all that was real just the night before, just the morning of, and even up to the moment we parted ways ~ will no longer exist in the real world. It will only live in our hearts and minds. No matter our role, the phenomenon of a year of school is like no other part of the human condition. For 180 days, we came to a place, and met with the same people. We learned together, laughed together, went through fun times and challenges together, and shared a part of the history that makes our lives, that defines our spirits and builds who we are and who we will be in the days and years to come. No matter if you are a student, a family member, a staff member or a volunteer in the school, you were a part of what happened, and yet that time will be gone.

For me it is always bittersweet each time this wonder occurs. I am, of course, bursting with proud principal feelings ~ so many successes and amazing things happened beyond the arched mosaic that is the keyhole to our "Community of learning ~ Friendship, Respect and Scholars." ~ I never tire of reading the lines that encircle our doors. ~ Mostly, after all is calm and quiet, I stand in awe of the extraordinary learning and teaching that crosses curricular areas, the social, emotional and personal areas of development that become a year in the life of a child ~ your child ~ your children. I remember the smiles, the cute stories and the excitement of young people discovering the world one lesson at a time. I think of the faces that just passed me in the clap-out walk and wonder what their futures will bring, how many I may never see again and how many I may meet when they are grown and return to touch base. I am filled with unbelievable joy ~ and at the same time, the kind of sadness that feels like the perfect sandcastle was sculptured and crafted in a bright sunlight ~ then washed away as if never stood glistening up to a calm and deep sky. This is the world of education. One cannot touch the core of its essence and hold it as a treasured piece of art. Yet it is art. It is a treasure and its essence knows no bounds. Sharing in the life of a young learner is one of the greatest and most powerful of all human gifts and it is given to the constituents of a school each year. So if you are a student, a parent, a staff member or a friend of our school, you just traveled that journey through a time that will be like no other.

Because of this, I use my final newsletter to somehow try to capture the honor that it is to serve in my capacity, to let you know what an honor it has been to have your children in our school and to try to express my most sincere gratitude. This is the eighth time I've written this final letter and I still don't feel as though I've captured it all ~ I worry that I will fail to properly thank everyone who is so deserving of praise. There are so many to offer the gratitude that comes when a school is flourishing ~ and flourishing we are! Our community continues to thrive and to grow and as it





changes it reflects the work of every one of you. You make it what it is each year. You are the reality that touches the days of a school year and you are the memory that lives on as the memory of work well done.

So I must begin expressing thanks. Thank you to the PTO and all who work vigorously on so many committees to bring us everything from cultural enrichment, to wish list items, to our beautiful gardens, to an outstanding student talent show, to the movie night and all of the many items and endeavors that keep the creativity flowing and classroom teachers enriched with materials and opportunities to grow. Each of your efforts are the foundation that makes a school community prosperous in every sense of that word ~ from programs to financial support ~ to the Wayland Schools Foundation for their many grants~ to the School Council for continued support in providing us with the structures and programs that help us to understand our strengths and areas in which we will continue to improve ~ to the senior volunteer programs for compassionate contributions in the form of time and countless hours of direct service with staff and students ~ to our many student interns from nearby colleges ~ to our parent volunteers ~ some sharing lessons in language and other areas of knowledge on a regular basis ~ to the Central Office Staff for their many behind-the-scenes supports that keep the district running smoothly ~ to the METCO program and related committees ~ to the School Committee ~ THANK YOU all from the outstanding Happy Hollow faculty and me.

To the parent and guardian group ~ you create the partnership that becomes all the efforts listed above but, most of all, you offer your support in all matters that relate to your children and their education. You are the homework team; the life coaches that navigate your young through the many tricky situations that are all a part of any school year. You offer praise and encouragement. You call when you need our assistance and you offer your assistance when we call. You help us teach your children well each time you sit with them to discuss homework, a project, a field trip, a special time, a fun or frustrating friendship. You volunteer in our school. You attend field trips, performances, assemblies and all that lets your children know that their efforts ~ effective efforts ~ are the key to the perseverance and stamina that builds success ~ and success builds onto success.

I must thank our staff too. With all the words available to offer thanks, none ever seem suitable when I try to capture the respect and admiration I have for our Happy Hollow staff. They are a most extraordinary group of people. They work tirelessly in efforts that begin with a commitment to strong professional development, they plan and correct for more hours than people should be awake in any given 24 hour period of time. They put countless resources into the formation of their class culture from the gifts they purchase and the gifts they bestow from their very talented and creative bank of reserves and tried and true best practices. They are always working to improve and solicit the feedback that becomes collaborative efforts and results in exciting and new ways to learn every, single year. I am so grateful for all they do and happy to know and work with every one of them!

It has become my tradition give you a list from which to begin a conversation with your child/children about the year past. Use the summer to revisit the year in a way that sets your child up for a new year that is filled with all that was good from the last one. This year, I offer you the following list:

Note: I modify it each year and hope you find it helpful. Please feel free to send me feedback and/or an addition or two based upon where *y*Our conversations take you this summer...)

1. What new ideas did you think about this year?
2. What was special about the year?
3. For all you are grateful ~ Who had a hand in your success? How do you know that?
4. Name five things you didn't know about before the year started.
5. What did you get better at this year? How did you get better at it?
6. What people did you meet ~ in school ~ on field trips ~ in cultural enrichment ~ etc.?





7. What projects did you do? Which ones came out the best and why?
8. When were you kind to someone and how did that turn out?
9. Did you participate in service learning in some way? What was that like? Will you do it again or for the first time?
10. When did you try something new?
11. Did you take any risks?
12. Name one happy time. What were you doing?
13. What was fun?
14. What was challenging? How did you make it through?
15. What is perseverance? Did you develop the ability to persevere?
16. What is stamina? How did you show stamina this year?
17. When were you a good friend and what did that feel like?
18. When was someone a good friend to you and what did you learn from that?
19. Are you still working on a challenge? How can I help you when the new year begins?
20. Who helped you and will you ever be able to help someone in that way?
21. When were you helpful?
22. How did you bring the core values of the school alive?
23. Why do you think people say that, “In the end, only kindness matters?” Do you agree? Why/why not?

Discuss with your child or children a time when they felt most successful, triumphant. Tell them to remember what that time was like and how they felt so they can keep that in mind and know that at least one way to learn is by building upon successes. Remind them that learning from mistakes and the times of challenge are equally important because how we learn to navigate those times becomes the strength and courage that we need to get us to the successes and joyful times.

After Move-Along Day: Be positive about the new placement/new school setting brought home at the end of Move-Along Day. Point out the good in the class make-up and share your belief that things will be great ~ that discussion goes a long way for alleviating anxiety and for building confidence. Every staff member will provide for a wonderful year that will offer all described above. Help your child to be open to the possibility. Don't dwell on who is not in a class or which teacher you did or did not get. You will have a great year if you set your mind to that way of thinking.

To the Fifth Graders: Congratulations! Each class takes on a special personality as it travels through the grades. In your year book, I defined your class as one that brought our motto, “Kindness matters.” alive and well from the first day you stepped into our school. You have been excellent role models, treating your underclassmen like “caring cousins”, aunts or uncles. You were so willing to help and that became your special leadership. You learned a lot and tried your best, always with benevolence ~ which means kindness, compassion, generosity and goodwill toward others. Not all groups are what you have been and I hope you continue in that way as you join with your cross-town classmates. If you know how to care for one another and solve problems, you will be successful learners. You have a keen intellect, but it is special because it combines with your kindness and makes you the problem solvers that become true leaders.



To Everyone: Remember, good, solid education is never a race, practice is key. You do not have to master everything the first time you are exposed to it. You have twelve years to learn all you need for college and life. Take your time and be gentle with yourself as you meet and master new

challenges. Continue to choose what is good. Continue to find ways to help and support one another and continue to forgive and forget often. Kindness means giving second chances and helping others to learn from their mistakes. Continue to be involved in things that make you and the world better. Our choices become who we are.

I hope the rest of June, July and August will bring you all a way to have a happy, healthy and fun summer. Create the memories that fill you with the strength to face a new year with determination, kindness and confidence. That way, when the summer ends, you will be ready for and open to possibility ~ the ideas that make us all smarter and better people. In that way, we will not only rediscover the world, we'll make it change for the better!

Much peace,



Jim Lee, Principal

This and That from the Principal's Office:

Last Day of School

****Dismissal time on the last day of school, Monday, June 22nd is following a **Wednesday schedule and we will dismiss at 1:50 p.m.** Lunch will be served as it always is, but dismissal will be at the Wednesday time. Please take note as waiting in the office on the final day of school for a late pick-up is a sad last image for a great school year.

Lost and Found

****Lost and Found: Look through the bins and on the tables. We want every piece of clothing to be found by its rightful owner. Thank you for keeping the pile smaller than it has ever been throughout this year!

Move-Along Day: Friday, June 19th from 10:00 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.

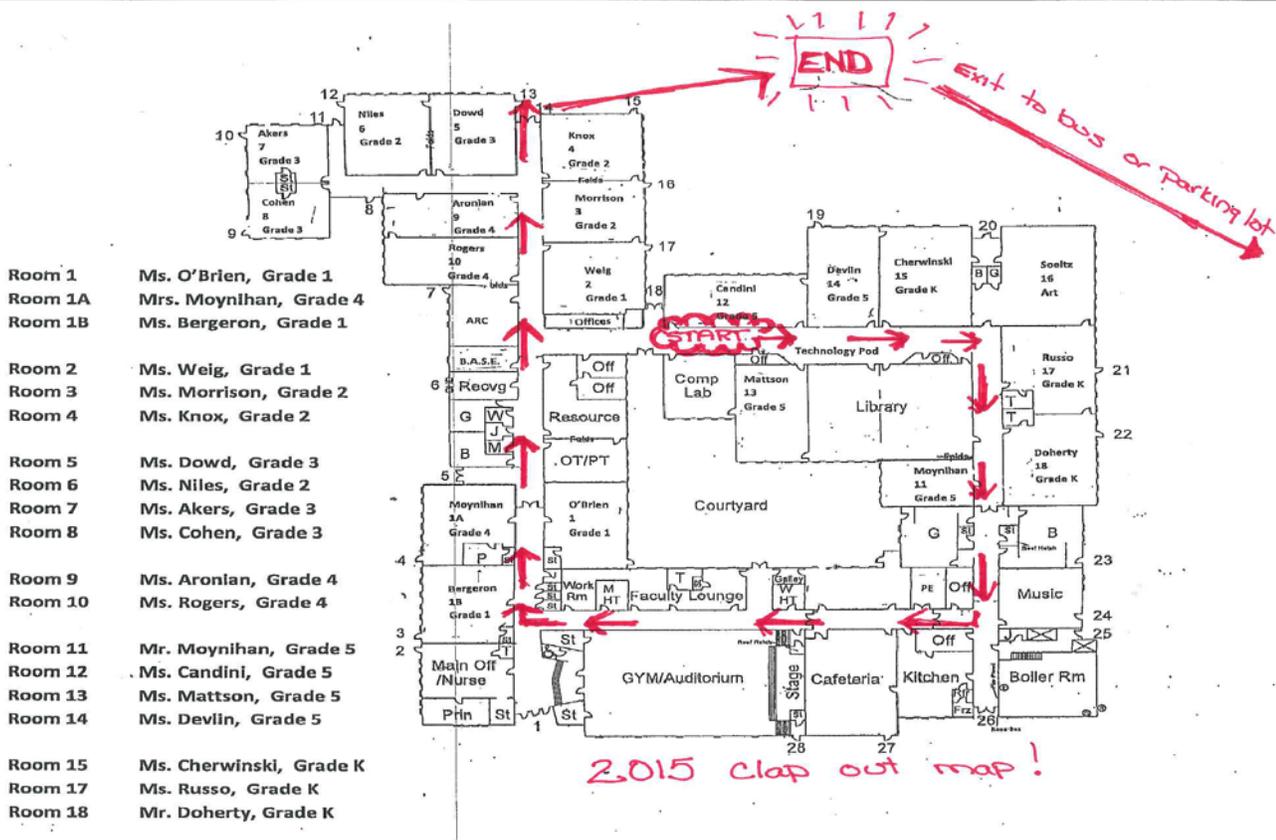
We will have a Move-Along Day for every grade this year ~ all in one school! No moving, no reconfiguration ~ just one classroom to the next! Yes! Students will have the opportunity to meet with their new teachers and classes. Please tell your children not to expect one teacher over another and not to expect all of their friends to be in their new classes. Be upbeat about the changes and they will come to that point as well.

Let our students know that they will find success and happiness in any possible class configuration (or school setting) and with any of our fine staff members. This will help it to be a positive and productive time for all. It is our hope that knowing will relieve some of the anxiety that grows over the summer when they are wondering whom they will have and who will be in their new classes. Seeing the new room and meeting the new teacher most often helps children to feel secure, most especially if they have your home support.

Clap Out:

“Clap-Out” will begin at 1:40 p.m. on June 22nd, and follow the route of the map below. Grades 1-4 will line the main school hallway and “Clap Out” the fifth graders at 1:50 p.m. We will exit to the back of the building and are asking you to form a corridor that extends to the side of the school by the fourth grade wing. No one should exit the back playground via the route by the modular classrooms to the parking lot. We are asking that all go up the side path by the fourth grade wing and out to the front of the building. This is to keep everyone safe.

Please see the map below.



June at Happy Hollow:

Monday June 8	School Picnic	5:00-7:00 pm Happy Hollow (rain date June 10)
Wednesday June 10	Field Day	Rain Date Monday June 15
Friday June 19	Move Along Day	Happy Hollow
Monday June 22	Last Day of School	Dismissal 1:50pm

HEALTHY HOLLER



NEWS FROM THE HEALTH ROOM June 2015

THANK YOU to the PTO, parents, and all of the Happy Hollow staff for your help and support this year. It has been a pleasure working with all of you and with your children.

ALL medications (prescription and/or over the counter) need to be picked up by the last day of school (June 22, 2015), by a parent or designated adult.

Reminders for September:

New medication orders (prescription and/or over the counter) are required for each academic school year, and will be necessary for the start of school, September 2015. These orders need to be signed by BOTH a parent and licensed prescriber. Forms are available in the school office or can be downloaded from the Happy Hollow School web page (<http://whh.wayland.k12.ma.us/>)For Families/Health Services/Health Info & Forms. Orders can be faxed to the school at 508-358-3761 attention: Jeanne MacDonald RN.

Please submit your child's most up to date physical to the school nurse (2015). An updated physical is required on all students' entering 4th grade in September.

Additional summer information:

Please read information about tick borne and mosquito borne diseases: Lyme, West Nile, Eastern Equine Encephalitis(EEE), and ticks on the MA. Department of Public Health webpage at www.mass.gov/dph search health topics A-Z.

On sunny days please remember sun screen, hydration, and bug spray.

See you in September! Have a great summer!

Jeanne MacDonald RN
508-358-6051



CURRICULUM CORNER

FROM THE LIBRARY

Kindergarteners and first graders have been reading non-fiction narratives. Second and third graders will have (hopefully!) completed hearing their chapter book read-alouds by the time you see this. Fourth graders did amazing work on their book trailers using iMovie and are now hard at work on their endangered species research. Fifth graders are finishing up their biography research and working on their presentations here in the library.

Please encourage your children to continue reading over the summer. [Research shows](#) that children are more motivated to read when they are given a choice of well regarded titles. Reading over the summer also helps to avoid the "[summer slide](#)." Make frequent trips to the library as part of your summer plans and offer plenty of interesting books at home. Don't miss the Wayland Public Library's Summer Reading Program for even more summer reading fun. Choosing a book for a family read-aloud is another wonderful way to share and discuss good books. For guidance, the elementary librarians have prepared a list of summer reading suggestions, which can be accessed at <https://sites.google.com/a/wayland.k12.ma.us/hhlibrary/Library-News/summerreading>.

On a personal note, I'd like to express my gratitude to everyone for making my first year in the Happy Hollow Library so wonderful. Big thanks to the library volunteers, both parents and students, and especially to Debbie Bell for acting as the Library Volunteer Coordinator. The library simply wouldn't function without all of your help!

ALL LIBRARY MATERIALS ARE NOW DUE!

Children may not check out any more books this year. Overdue notices will be handed out in classes this week and emailed home at the end of the week. Lost books will need to be paid for or replaced with a new copy. Please get in touch with me if you have any questions or feel that your child received an overdue notice in error.

Bring them back, bring them back! You can't check them out any more! (Sung to the tune of "Let it Go.")

Enjoy your summer, and happy reading!

FROM INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC

Congratulations to the Happy Hollow String Players on a fabulous year! We are so proud of your hard work. Please keep your instruments to the end of the school year -- we will continue to meet. Hopefully you can continue your rental over the summer, but if you need to return it, please wait to do so until after lessons have ended. (You can bring your instrument directly to your rental shop at that time.)

We look forward to seeing you in strings next year!
Ms. Tandon & Ms. Jacobsen



FROM THE TECHNOLOGY LAB

What's coming up in June?

Technology News for Grades 1-5 from Ms. Crozier

It's been an amazing year in technology class. Students have created some wonderful projects, worked together to solve technical problems and become skilled users of technology. **All students in grades 3-5 have made some progress in their keyboarding practice, feel free to continue to practice over the summer!** Below is a snapshot of some of our end of year projects. **Have a wonderful summer!**

1st Grade: First graders have been busy programming these last few weeks. After programming with Beebots, students expanded their programming skills using Scratch Jr. on iPads. They created an animated water scene. Lots of time to be creative and expand their programming knowledge.



2nd Grade: Second graders have been very busy finishing up their continent slideshows using Kid Pix 3D. I wonder if your child has already told you about this project. Their slideshows have been posted on my [2nd Grade Sharing Projects website](#). Their slideshow represents what they were able to accomplish in computer class over the last 7-8 weeks.



3rd Grade: Students continue to expand their Google Doc knowledge. Their LARK writing piece is finished and will be coming home. Students used Google Drawing (part of the google docs suite) to create a cover page for their technology portfolio.



4th Grade: We spent the last part of the year working on a programming unit; as well as supporting the students with their endangered species projects (research and setup of their presentation). Brick programming in Scratch is very similar to the Hour of Code activities students completed back in January. Students also used [Pro-Bots](#) to get a real hands on programming experience. Some students programmed their Pro-bot to go through a maze while others use the pen feature to program their car to draw shapes. These are both fun ways to extend their programming and engineering thinking.



5th Grade: We used several class periods to help students prepare for their Biography Celebration. We also used the time to finish up any incomplete projects.

5th Grade Tech Crew - It has been a wonderful year working with the 5th graders on the HH Tech Crew. Thank you to all of the families for your support and to the children for your commitment and dedication to this volunteer program. Have a wonderful summer!