



THE HAPPY HOLLOW HOLLER

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HAPPY HOLLOW SCHOOL & PTO NEWSLETTER

December 8, 2017

“Our workforce and our entire economy are strongest when we embrace diversity to its fullest, and that means opening doors of opportunity to everyone and recognizing that the American Dream excludes no one.”

~ Thomas Perez, Former U.S. Secretary of Labor ~



December, 2017

Hello Friends,

Stand in the lobby of our school and you will feel the burn in your eyes and the lump in your throat that the voices of our children bring when they rise together in a song that resounds in a manner that reminds us that the greatest philosophers in history ultimately agreed that the human mission must always center on what will bring a brighter and better future. Our Happy Hollowians sing ~ “Give Light” and it is looping on our TV monitor that hangs above the entrance to our main hallway. The song by Kim and Reggie Harris and Magpie is comprised of simple lyrics that pronounce complex character building and teamwork ~ “Give light, stand together and give love”.

During this dark and cold time of year, we enter into a time we call “The Holiday Season”. We “dawn” our darkness with artificial light that symbolizes across all groups that our world will find peace and honor it on every shore. Many celebrations are religious, but there are opportunities for all to recap this message when we celebrate the coming of a new year ~ the birth of an opportunity to try once again to bring about our personal best tied in the lists for New Year’s resolutions.

I usually spend some time writing about how to help our young ones reconcile all of the turmoil and celebration that seems to define this time of year, but this year I remain inspired from a workshop I attended just Friday the last presented by Dr. Kalise Wornum on microaggressions against girls and women of color. ~ It has resounded with me all weekend and ultimately led me to write this article.

In the world of a principal, we are constantly helping students and families to resolve conflicts that most often center on acts that would be considered ~ if repeated and targeted ~ emotional bullying. Surprised? ~ Most are. Most think that the number one reason to be sent to the principal’s office is for aggression that is physical and behavior that is disruptive, disrespectful and disorderly. However, in the pensive space that a workshop setting provides ~ it all came together for me in a way that it yet had not.

I could not have agreed more with the content presented in factual findings that would not allow one to deny the power of racist microaggressions ~ specifically centered around young girls and women of color. However, many of the claims partnered with areas that I spend most of my discipline time helping students learn through behavior that is consistent with microaggressions that grow out of proportion and result in behaviors that leave them sitting at my office conference table ~ usually in tears.



With research so readily available, I found much as I searched the impact of these behaviors. An article by Dr. Derald Wing Sue Ph.D. (Professor of Psychology and Education the Department of Counseling and Clinical Psychology at Teachers College and the School of Social Work, Columbia University) entitled, “Microaggressions in Everyday Life: More than Just Race” ~ In no way do I want to imply that the issues around race should be any less center stage. However, there are ways we can all think about these attacks to ultimately end this year with goals for making the next one and years to come brighter with the light which our children sung about bringing to fruition.

Dr. Wing Sue defines microaggressions as “...the everyday verbal, nonverbal, and environmental slights, snubs, or insults, whether intentional or unintentional, which communicate hostile, derogatory, or negative messages to target persons based solely upon their marginalized group membership. In many cases, these hidden messages may invalidate the group identity or experiential reality of target persons, demean them on a personal or group level, communicate they are lesser human beings, suggest they do not belong with the majority group, threaten and intimidate, or relegate them to inferior status and treatment.”

So what does all this mean to our Happy Hollow Community? ~ We are a kind community and in many ways we are becoming more so through the work we do in our classrooms, in our service learning in our Star Classroom program. We work to make “Kindness matter.” ~ But, we are all human and our students are always learning with us.

Thus, this season ~ I am going to challenge myself and ask you all to accept the same challenge. Let’s work to stop the microaggressions ~ racial or otherwise in our sphere of influence. Dr. Wing Sue and Dr. Wornum agreed on some methods.

First, recognize what they are. ~ They are the little sarcastic remarks that are often followed by ~ “Just kidding.” ; “You know I didn’t mean it like that...” ; “It’s just a joke.” ; “Really, I was just teasing.” ~ They are the little remarks that demean and take a little piece of a young person’s self-esteem each time they occur. ~ And they do interrupt learning because they cause all the thinking to go to the amygdala in the brain and the learning is in the hippocampus. ~ Therefore, learning can stop from that moment on ~ for the rest of that day and eventually comes out in a negative reaction.

Dr. Kalise Wornum encouraged all of us workshop students to bring back “curious questioning” to our school communities ~ a sure way to begin the process of working to eliminate microaggressions ~ racially charged and otherwise. I think these are the questions that also will help our young navigate not only this busy time of year, but all times of the year. They are a “next-step” learning endeavor for us all. Wornum said, “Don’t get all mad ~ get curious.” It works like this:

1. Stop and think ~ ask “What am I not seeing? What am I seeing? Is there an implicit bias at play?”
2. Self-reflect ~ Ask “the curious questions” ~
 - a. “What makes you think that?”
 - b. “Why do you think that is...?”
 - c. “Was that what you meant to say? What was the intent?”
 - d. “What did you mean by that?”
 - e. “How did you come to that conclusion?”



Mr. Lee adds ~ “What would you do/say differently next time? How would that change the situation/outcome?”

3. Use a 4-1 system ~ Give four compliments for every time we have to redirect and/or confront a negative behavior. ~ Find the good.

Let's all add these three practices to our 2018 Resolution List. Let's work to do as the children sing ~ "Give light, stand together and give love." ~ If we can work toward that, we are always building a better tomorrow. ~ I believe we are on that path at our Happy Hollow School treasure. Let's continue to grow together.

I wish you all peace, time to relax and to enjoy this time of year in a way that makes it positive and happy! Happy vacation and New Year as well!

All best,



Jim Lee

THIS AND THAT FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S OFFICE



Traffic Concerns at Drop Off and Pick Up:

This time of year, people are often in a rush and some of the systems we had working well, begin to get lost in the shuffle... Please note some of the dismissal observations that have been made by staff and parents alike:

*First and foremost, please drive slowly through both lanes of school traffic. Speed is the most dangerous of all problems we face during drop-off and pick-up times.

*Pull as far forward in the line as possible - many stop in front of the kindergarten door or anywhere along the way. It is much easier to get people in and out of the line quickly if everyone pulls up. Children are willing to walk up a bit and it is safer for them to wait closer to the front door than down at the kindergarten door or dumpster area.

*Do not cut or jump the line - don't use the live lane, then cut into the drop-off lane where there is an opening. All this does is edge out someone who is waiting politely.

*Do not get out of the car to help your children. Let the staff on duty do that. If they need help opening the door and getting their backpack out, pull into a parking space.

*Do not get out of the car to go into the building for any reason. The live lane for drop-off and pick up is just that a "live lane". When people park there, we have an accident in the making, as people have to move into the live lane in order to pass the parked car. Please pull into a parking space to do that.

*Do not park on the hill at pickup and get out of the car to walk to the front of school to pick up your kid. Pequot is dangerous at pickup since the road is too narrow and only allows one lane of thru traffic. Parking holds up the whole lane. Again, park in a parking space if you need to pick up your child from the front the school.

*Be careful at the crosswalk at the entrance to the school. Cars are coming from two directions pulling into the driveway, and in the morning often don't see the kids are trying to cross at the crosswalk.

*Do not use the staff parking lot as a pick-up place. If you park in there, we believe you have business in the school ~ which is the only reason you would be parked there. If you try to get out sooner by parking there, the person on duty will most likely make you wait until the others have passed as the steady stream of traffic is moving along ~ just as they should be doing.

Let's work together to make our school model at pickup and dropoff times. Thank you so much.

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 are not 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, January and February at Happy Hollow:

Friday, December 8	Elementary Instrumental Concert	10 AM HH Gymnasium
Monday, December 11	All School Assembly Meeting	9AM HH Gymnasium
Thursday, December 14	Grade 3 Open House	830 AM Rooms 1A, 5, 8
Monday, December 25 Monday, January 1	Holiday Season Recess No School	
Tuesday, January 2	Classes Resume	
Monday, January 8	All School Assembly Meeting	9 AM HH Gymnasium
Tuesday January 9	Grade 4 Open House	6PM Rooms 7, 9, 10
Wednesday, January 10	Chorus Concerts	10 AM & 7PM HH Gymnasium
Monday, January 15	NO SCHOOL Martin Luther King Day	
Friday January 19	Martin Luther King Dinner and Program	6-930 pm WMS
Monday, January 22	All School Assembly Meeting	9 AM HH Gymnasium
Monday, February 19 – Friday, February 23	Winter Recess	
Monday, February 26th	Classes resume	

FROM GUIDANCE

Happy Hollow has a long tradition of assisting families at holiday time through a special fund supported by our staff. It can be a difficult and stressful time if parents are struggling to provide gifts, food, and winter clothing for their family. If you find yourself in need of some assistance, please contact one of the Guidance Counselors. Your information will be kept strictly confidential.

Beth Santomena
Elizabeth_Santomena@wayland.k12.ma.us
 (508) 358-8649

JoAnn Kline
JoAnn_Kline@wayland.k12.ma.us
 (508) 358-8650

CURRICULUM CORNER

FROM PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Hockey is one of my favorite sports to teach, play, and watch! I have always loved the sport, and as a striking unit, I make sure that we cover it each year. There are many different movement skills and concepts covered in our lesson plans, and the students really enjoy practicing for their mini-games.

Students in grades K-2 have been using our pillo-polo sticks, which have a handle, a shaft, and what looks like a giant q-tip on the bottom for striking. These sticks are smaller and softer than our hockey sticks, and provide a larger surface space to hit with. We cover stick safety, proper way to hold the stick, controlling a ball, spatial awareness, pathways, directions, and speeds. Students practice dribbling and passing with partners along with shooting on goals. Our kindergarten students spend more time with dribbling, and might not get to shooting, but still have a blast! We play dribbling games that keep everyone involved and engaged. Students in first and second grades have the opportunity to shoot on nets, and are introduced to goalie positioning and strategies. Some classes will have the opportunity to play in mini-games.

Some grade three students will start the unit with hockey sticks, and some with pillo-polo sticks, it all depends on if I feel that they are ready for hockey sticks or not. If a third grade class starts with pillo-polo sticks, they will ultimately play a large team game at the end of their unit, and will probably have time with the hockey sticks as well.

Fourth and fifth grade students spend time working on stick drills. We have students practice dribbling weave drills through cones, passing/receiving, and we play shooting games to practice a safe shot. We then move onto playing a healthy competitive team game where we focus on safety and sportsmanship. Fourth and fifth grade students will spend a class playing a pillo-polo game at the end of the unit as well.

Everyone is working hard on developing their striking skills, and I am proud of all classes for being safe and respectful throughout our striking unit!

Please check out my blog for P.E. updates:
<https://loker-happyhollowpe.blogspot.com/>
Thank you!



FROM TECHNOLOGY

During the month of December, students are participating in the [Hour of Code](#) which is being held worldwide from December 4th - 10th. 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. Our programming unit includes hands-on programming with robots as well as using block-based websites. Students will start with solving puzzles on [Code.org](#) which is mainly block style programming. Students can see the JavaScript behind the blocks when they have completed the puzzles. Students may continue their coding practice while at home by accessing their Code.org classroom login from the [Computer Lab links page](#). Each student has their own account on Code.org so their progress will be saved. I access the teacher dashboard to see how students are progressing.



3rd-5th Grade: Just a reminder that students would benefit from keyboarding practice at home two times a week for 15-20 minutes. Students can access the All the Right Type website from the “For Students” link on the [Happy Hollow website](#).

4th Grade: Fourth grade students will practice their programming skills in January. We will use December classes to support students with their immigration and cultural project. Students will use websites to research facts. Many of the resources can be found under “For Students” on the Happy Hollow website - CultureGrams, and Encyclopedia Britannica are two examples.

HEALTHY HOLLER

I hope this finds you all healthy! We are beginning to see cases of coughs, colds, and strep throat. You may be aware that **strep throat** does not always present with a fever, and there may not be a sore throat.

Other symptoms of strep throat are:

- *headache
- *stomachache with or without vomiting
- *swollen neck glands
- *enlarged tonsils
- *unusual rash



If your child is confirmed to have strep throat, please let the school know. It will help to minimize the spread and help prevent recurrent cases.

When should a student stay at home: If your child has vomited due to illness; they should remain out of school for a minimum of 24 hours after vomiting has ceased.

If your child has a fever of 100.4 degrees F or higher; they should remain out of school for 24 hours after the fever is gone without fever reducing medication.

If your child has been treated with an antibiotic for a contagious infection they need to be on an antibiotic for at least 24 hours before returning to school.

Flu Information: The CDC recommend that everyone 6 months and older get vaccinated. Flu is on the rise.

Is it a cold vs flu? : <http://www.mass.gov/eohhs/docs/dph/cdc/flu/cold-flu-comparison.pdf>

Physicals: All 4th grade students are required to have an up-to-date physical for (2017). It is required by the Massachusetts Department of Health. Please send these in ASAP if you have not done so already.

Head Lice: Parents should check their child's head as part of their daily routine at home. Early detection for head lice helps to prevent additional cases from occurring in a classroom. Please review the following websites:

www.cdc.gov/lice/head/factsheets.htm

www.headlice.org

<http://www.webmd.com/children/ss/slideshow-lice-overview>

Other Important Info: Please be sure that your child is appropriately dressed with the colder days ahead (coats, hats, mittens, etc). 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. This will save a call home and trip to school during the day for you.

All students should have a morning snack provided from home.

Please check your cell phone throughout the day as parents will be called if your child needs to be sent home. Children need to be picked up in a timely manner, so please have a backup available, and consider a neighbor.

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.

As always, I am available daily if you have any questions or concerns.

Jeanne MacDonald RN

Jeanne_macdonald@wayland.k12.ma.us

508-358-8648

PTO NEWS & EVENTS



PARENTS OF 5TH GRADERS: REQUEST FOR SLIDE SHOW & MEMORY BOOK PICTURES

As you may know, we're putting a slideshow and memory book together for the 5th Grade end-of-year celebration. Both are a compilation of years of pictures. As you can imagine, kids love both these keepsakes, so we'd like EVERYONE included throughout both projects. We can't do it without getting the pictures from you and since it will take some time to put the slideshow and yearbook together, we are requesting the pictures be submitted sooner rather than later.

Please submit the following pictures for each child. These are guidelines, so get as close as you can.

1. Infant (9mos-15mos)
2. Toddler (2-3.5yrs)
3. Kindergarten (only if your child attended kindergarten somewhere other than Loker School)
4. Group pictures of HH 5th graders and/or any field trip/event pictures from any of their years at HH

Here's how you get them to us:

1. Upload your photos to the following Google Drive link:

<https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/0B3cDx8Prb7g2bXR5ZUt0SXp2YkE?usp=sharing>.

2. Please label your photos as follows: brown_joe1, brown_joe2, etc.

3. If you are unsuccessful with this, please scan your pictures and email them to us at:

hmemorybook@gmail.com. Remember to be sure they are oriented correctly and be sure the file name with each picture has your child's name (brown_joe1, brown_joe2, etc.).

If all you have is hard copies and would like us to scan them, you can give them to Carla Stafford. Please label the photos and she will return them promptly. Mail: 35 Davelin Rd or give to George in Ms. Mattson's class.

ALL CANDID pictures must be directly related to Happy Hollow. During school hours or a school event (band, chorus, movie night, talent show etc.) NO birthday parties, family outings, playdates or sporting events outside of Happy Hollow School photos will be considered.

STOP AND SHOP LOYALTY CARD



Click on the link, log into your account, select "Rewards & Savings" and choose Happy Hollow as the school you want to support. We earned almost \$2,000 last year! Contact jenpearlman00@gmail.com for any questions.

LINK: <https://stopandshop.com>

NEED TO CONTACT OTHER PARENTS IN THE SCHOOL DISTRICT?



Register your family in MySchoolAnywhere

This is an online directory of families in the Wayland school system. You can search by first name or last, by school, and by grade. If you have questions, contact Jenpearlman00@gmail.com.

For everything you need to know and to get the APP FOR YOUR PHONE:

<http://waylandpto.org/myschoolanywhere-online-districtwide-family-directory/>

JOIN the HAPPY HOLLOW PTO on FACEBOOK



We'll keep you informed about future events and let you know what the PTO has going on around the school. We'll publish photos so you feel like you were there and can talk to your child about their experience.

It's a closed group, so an administrator will add you as a member. We will only add people that we have verified are members of the Happy Hollow PTO community.

PTO Appreciation

Just Like Me - During October, fourth graders completed their first session of Just Like Me. A long-standing program in the Wayland schools, *Just Like Me* teaches children awareness and acceptance of people with differences through a series of learning activities that help them understand what it is like to live with a disability. The students also meet people who have these disabilities. The program is held over several sessions in both third and fourth grade each year.

The success of *Just Like Me* depends on our volunteers. Our deepest thanks to:

Amy Connor

Meg Flatley

Tave McGrath

Christine Walsh

Sara Langan

Debbie Bell

Melissa Poulos

And special thanks to **Julie Surratt and Lauren Alongi**
for overseeing *Just Like Me* this year.

Food Day 10/24 - In honor of October's World Food Day, our students dined on swiss chard, tomatoes, potatoes, corn and carrots from the Happy Hollow garden! Thank you to these volunteers for making it possible:

Erin Mueller

Katya Fonkych

Andrew Wineman

Jen Pearlman

Beth Rothschild

Pamela Wineman

Book Fair 10/25-10/27 - Thank you to all of our Book Fair Volunteers!

Colleen Morneweck

Anice Giuliano

Christine Walsh

Steve Price

Susanne Corbett

Sara Langan

Melissa Ricci

Amy Kawahata

Andrea Winkler

Alyssa Regan

Debbie Collett

Wendy Scoppa

Judi Ngai

Hoa Nguyen

Sophia Zhan

Jennifer Pearlman

Maria Peredna

Florencia Ingwersen

Irene Rideout

Lisa Lavelle

Debbie Sideropoulos-

Adrienne Deranian

Deana Hanna

Bressler

Garima Sheel

Danielle Agyeman

Lauren Alongi

And to our Book Fair Chair, **Brooke Stein**.

Movie Night 10/27 - Thank you to our Movie Night volunteers!

Susan O'Neill

Michelle Donohue

Abigail Buffum

Nate Buffum

Amanda Miles

Nimmi Trapasso

Kara Harrington

Andrea O'Brien

Julia O'Brien

Florencia Ingwerson

Adrienne Deranian

Sherry Grace

Toshi Lam

Jennifer Pearlman

Lost and Found

HUGE Thanks go to **Debbie Collett** for her tireless work on the Lost & Found.

Holiday Gift Drive

Thank you from the bottom of our hearts to **Erin Mueller** and **Beth Rothschild** for chairing the annual Holiday Gift Drive for children in foster care. And thank you to all of the families that donated. This project means so much to the children who receive the gifts.

Visit us online at <http://waylandpto.org/happy-hollow-pto/>

We appreciate your patience as we continue to update the website for 2017-2018.