



THE
HAPPY HOLLOW
HOLLER

HAPPY HOLLOW SCHOOL & PTO NEWSLETTER

January 13, 2011

“Nobody can go back and start a new beginning, but anyone can start today and make a new ending.”

~Maria Robinson

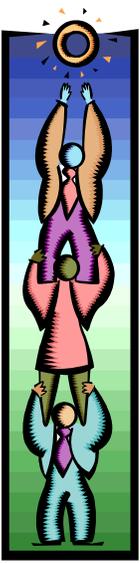
Happy New Year to you all!

Good stories live long and have a lasting impact. During our first week back, I walked into a really good story very unexpectedly. During my morning meetings with the grades, I had one group of dynamic fourth graders who were sharing their exciting upcoming service learning project. ~ It is exciting for many reasons. There are eight boys in their group and they worked as a team to research something about which they could feel passionate, created a PowerPoint presentation and a script that they shared at all the grade level meetings from Wednesday to Friday. ~ Although that alone is a great story and may develop into a bigger one, at the moment it is all part of the bigger story that I want to share.

I decided that after the fourth graders shared, I would begin a short talk on New Year’s resolutions. I showed a silly clip of children dressed as adults ~ portraying grown-ups sharing unrealistic resolutions. Then I followed it with a clip of young people who were communicating their resolutions from Children’s Hospital where they were infirmed or working as out-patients to overcome an illness or related situation. Their resolutions were clear, concise and realistic. ~ I believe each will be able to achieve his or her goal. Many of theirs were academic in nature ~ wanting to learn about building something, to read better ~ centered on self-improvement in the manner that one does after working around an illness or disability. I thought the children at Happy Hollow could model after them in some way.



Research tells us that real sustainable change often happens in small incremental steps. There is no big onset or finish and often it is work that goes on for years. This is where my story lay. I believe that there has been a significant growth in the way our students are responding to the affective aspects of their schooling. I don’t have scientific data to prove my point, just the knowledge that as we have increased awareness around anti-bullying, we are working on service learning projects as a whole school, adding responsive classroom to our Open Circle endeavors and earning gold stars for being kind and thoughtful class communities. While we will never create a perfect world ~ it is apparent in my story that students are thinking seriously about the kind of community they want to build in their work place ~ in their school.



When we finished watching the clips, I took ideas from students on the things that we could do that would be realistic ~ goals that would matter ~ ones we could bring to realization in some small way. I told them they could be things that would be ongoing. I did not give them a category about which to speak. In fact, I just said, “What are things we could do that would be realistic and help us to always be setting goals to be better?” From Wednesday morning to Friday morning, this is what your children said:

“We should work to be nice to each other.” ; “We should try to make new friends.” ; “We can do projects that help others.” ; “We can share things.” ; “We can try hard.” ; “We can try not to be mean.” ; “We can work at being fair in games at recess.” ; “We can be happy and laugh.” ; “We can listen better.” ; “We can stop making fun of people and tell others to do that too.” , etc.

At first, I thought the responses were nice and I was pleased, but didn’t think about them beyond the moment. I reinforced them with verbal praise and we all moved on with our days. ~ However, as the week progressed, I quickly came to realize that it was a pattern across our school. ~ Each morning, students said almost the exact same things. Their ideas were steeped in the principles that collectively bring about change. Their first thoughts were focused, concise and reasonable for goals they could work to bring to fruition. ~ I’ve been thinking about their responses all weekend. In fact, on Saturday evening, I attended the concert dedicated to the remnants of the Holiday Season. It was reflective in nature and its format was the adult version of what the children had been saying all week. I couldn’t stop thinking about what the children had to say and how powerful their messages really were. The beautiful goals and ideas from the students ~ across the grades ~ were all aimed at continuing to bring about a school culture that cares for one another. Not a perfect world where the wishes implied we would do it all at once; rather a one that would come about with practice and work in a specific direction ~ words including “try, work to, can do” and the like.

Every intention implied that our students were saying that it was of the utmost importance to them to be in a process of trying to be kinder, trying to be helpful, trying to be productive and trying to put forth effective effort ~ It all mattered to them. I believe that the story I found in the early days of 2012 was one of a hopeful future. Out of the mouths of our grade school students came the ideas that, if fostered over time, will ensure the kind of future that makes the world a better place.



They translate to ethical reasoning and true leadership. We are so fortunate in Wayland because we have many students with excellent leadership potential. ~ They are participating in a first-rate educational program and most often come from homes that support academic challenge and dreams of highly successful adult achievement. Isn’t it a comfort to know that our future leaders are also thinking about ways to bring alive the principles of the famous benevolent people of our time? It is the month of Martin Luther King Day ~ We honor his memory as one of the most famous benevolent activists when our young speak out for what is right, just and for what brings about peace between people. Our students at Happy Hollow clearly demonstrated that they were decisively in that mindset as they thought about the upcoming new year.

As always, it is the partnership between home and school that creates the most powerful learning. Together, we must be on the right track. My story is perhaps what I hope to be the first of many that evidence that as truth. May the New Year bring you all ~ all of life’s best, always!

Most sincerely,
Jim Lee



This and that from the principal's office:

Service Projects completed since our last newsletter ~
Service Learning Projects:

Retiring the “R” word ~ Tamira English, Laura Foley, Kya Freeman and Elissa Perez, Grade 4, Project: Retiring the “R” Word ~ After Just Like Me study, the girls became concerned about how many people used the word “retarded” in an inappropriate way. They researched it and found an organization that “retires” the use. They started a campaign at our school to ensure that we are a community that will not tolerate the abuse of the term.

Good hand washing to prevent illness ~ Casey Zhang and Jasmin Wong, Grade 3, Project: Promoting hand-washing to combat illness ~ learning and teaching about the importance of good hygiene ~



Performance-based service learning ~ Michael Liu, Grade 4, Project: extensive piano study and performance skill study ~ sharing and inspiring the school community ~



Global Learners in action! ~ Christos Belibasakis, CJ Brown, Quinn Fay, Aidan Fennelly, Kuran Freeman and Dante Parseghian, Grade 4, Project: Raising funds in a variety of ways for bringing animals for a food source and medicine to the people in Zimbabwe ~

Much more to come!

As always, remember to visit the Happy Hollow and District Calendars for upcoming events.

Wednesday, January 11 and Thursday, January 12	Just Like Me Grade 4	Special in-school work
Thursday, January 12	K-12 Parent Meeting in Boston	7 p.m.
Monday, January 16	MLK Day ~ School not in session	
Monday, January 23	School Assembly/Meeting	9 a.m. in the gym
Thursday, January 26	Report Cards Sent Home	
Monday, January 30	PTO – Coffee with Mr. Lee	
Friday, February 3	WMS tour Music performs @Happy Hollow	

On the Bus: Please remind your child to sit in the proper grade level section ~ even if the bus driver does not have time to remind him/her. Also, remind them to have polite and cooperative behavior ~ fun conversations that don't begin or end a day in conflict.



Dress for the Weather: We go outside on most days ~ unless it is too rainy, too snowy or too cold (wind chill and/or temperature moves to unsafe levels). Because of this, we ask that you send your child to school with proper cold weather attire. Coats, hats or hoods, gloves or mittens, snowpants and boots are all necessary. We cannot let students who do not wear snowpants and boots play in the snow. In these cases, students have to play in restricted areas that are cleared of any snow and their freedom to play is limited.



Remember to check the lost and found: We still have many items in our lost pile. We hope many will be found. Please take a moment to check the bins and claim your lost items. To get to our lost and found area, go down the main hallway and take your first left toward the exit ramp. You'll see the bins and hangers there. Thanks.

Green Team Tips and Announcement

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

We continue supporting the recycling efforts at Loker, Happy Hollow, Claypit and MS, and are looking forward to getting the new HS on track.

The Green Team's next monthly meeting is Monday January 9th from 4:00-5:30 at Happy Hollow.

If you'd like to find out more, volunteer, or join the Green Team, check out our website and contact us at www.waylandgreenteam.org.

TIPS:

Additional ways to conserve energy this winter (first four tips appeared in last month's entry):

- 1- Take shorter showers, turn on the water only partway, and/or install water saving shower heads.
- 2- Hang your clothes on drying racks (dryers are among your most energy intensive appliances). Clothes dry quickly in winter and help humidify your indoor air.
- 3- Install programmable thermostats if you haven't already. Try setting them for 60 degrees at night and as needed by day.
- 4- Look for the Energy Star label when replacing home appliances.
- 5- Make sure you have at least 14 inches of insulation in your attic, the most important location for insulation. This is recommended to achieve a high R value of 49. You can add blown-in cellulose insulation (which fills nooks and crannies) on top of your existing insulation. This is relatively inexpensive.

Thank you. -Wayland Schools Green Team

CURRICULUM CORNER



Happy January!
From Mrs. Calkins

Grade 1

January's music classes will revolve around singing, both ensemble and solo, and rhythmic literacy. We will work on refining vocal intonation and projection as we practice a song about Martin Luther King. We will also practice reading rhythms. Some of the patterns we will learn to read as musical notation will then be transferred to body percussion and/or instruments through a variety of songs and performance activities.

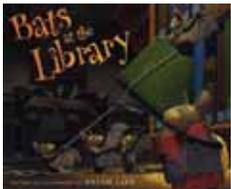
Grade 2

January's second grade music classes will focus on vocal technique and rhythmic literacy. Students will have an opportunity to perform as soloists on "Sing About Martin," a favorite song about Martin Luther King. We'll be challenged by 'Rockin' Rhythm Raps' activities, designed to foster skills in rhythmic reading, and have fun building original rhythmic patterns and sequences with our classmates. Other activities will include percussion performance and movement.

Please feel free to contact me with any questions or concerns at: susan_calkins@wayland.k12.ma.us

MRS. BRYANT'S LIBRARY NEWS !!!!

A Visit From Author Brian Lies !



We are currently planning for a visit from author and illustrator Brian Lies on Monday, February 13, 2012. Brian Lies is an illustrator of over 25 books and an author and illustrator of five books including *Hamlet and the Enormous Chinese Dragon Kite*, and *Hamlet and the Magnificent Sandcastle* as well as his award-winning "bats series", *Bats at the Ball game*, *Bats at the Beach* and *Bats at the Library*.

Bats at the Library spent 12 weeks on the New York Times best seller list in 2008 and Publisher's Weekly had the following to say about *Bats at the Ball game* :

"Baseball stadiums have an innate magic, never more so than in the hands of Lies, whose latest has the winged creatures gathering for an epic game, complete with "beenuts and Cricket Jack," and an upside down audience. Smooth, unhurried rhymes illuminate a hidden world where bats, like humans, "feel a magic shift,/ and ride the currents of the game/ as time is set adrift." Each gleaming page is thick with detail, from the bats' first arrival ("We wing from dark to dazzling bright,/ startled by the stunning sight") to the final play. Fans of the other baseball bats will certainly enjoy these ones."



While at Happy Hollow School, Brian will share the writing and research process with the children. In his talks, Brian emphasizes the importance of details, word choice and revisions in creating a story while doing drawing demonstrations. As part of his visit to the school, Brian will autograph books for students who wish to bring them to school on that day. They are available through local bookstores or online.

Wayland High School's For The Children club is collecting goods for Birthday-In-A-Box, a program run by the Family-To-Family organization. From January 10th to January 27th there will be a collection box in the main lobby. Donations of boxed cake mixes, canned frosting, birthday decorations, birthday candles, birthday wrapping paper, and gently used books and \$5- \$10 presents for children ages 5-10 are greatly need. Thank you for your support! Please contact Caitlyn Pineault at cee.pineault@gmail.com with any questions

HEALTHY HOLLER



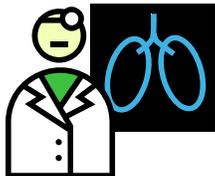
News From the Health Room Jan 2012

All School Head Lice Screening



- A big "Thank you" to all the parents who came and screened for head lice. We could not do it without you! A special thank you to Elizabeth Curtin our Happy Hollow head lice coordinator.
- Our next check will be Tuesday, February 28th, after February vacation.
- Please contact Elizabeth Curtin at escurtin@comcast.net if you are available to help with this very important screening.
- Please continue to check your child's head at home as part of their daily routine.
- Please check the following web pages for educational information: www.cdc.gov/lice/head/factsheet.html and/or www.headlice.org

Increased cases of pneumonia seen in children:



- The Massachusetts Department of Public Health has received a number of reports from pediatric practices in the Boston area of increased levels of pneumonia diagnosed in children. Common symptoms may include: chest pain, chills, cough- usually dry, fever, headache, and sore throat.
- Please observe your children and if you have any concerns, speak to your health care provider.
- Please remember to keep your children home if they are not feeling well.

Other important information:



- Please be sure that your child is appropriately clothed 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.

Please feel free to contact me with any questions and/or concerns.

Jeanne MacDonald RN

508-358-6051

Jeanne_MacDonald@wayland.k12.ma.us

2011-2012 PTO Events: Happy Hollow Save the Date

Together We Can Make It Happen!

Dates subject to change

EVENT	DATE/TIME	CONTACT
Gift Your Child: Part 1	August – December 1	Amy Simmons
Cultural Enrichment	Ongoing	Alexia Obar and Seta Abrahamian
Just Like Me	Throughout the year	Jennifer Bonner and Susan Green
PTO Board Meeting	1 st Friday of the month 9:15 am at Loker library	Stephanie Leong
Town-wide PTO Meeting: Presentation by the Brain Injury Association	Jan. 26 (TH) at 7:00 pm Loker School	Niki Duffy
Fitness Challenge	Week of January 30th	Jeanne Brown
Gift Your Child: Part 2, Backpack Auction	January 23-February 2, 2012	Amy Simmons
Lice Checks	Feb. 28 (T) at 8:45 am	Elizabeth Curtin
Talent Show	Mar. 2 (F)	Karen Wuerfl
Town-wide Bingo at WMS cafeteria	Mar. 16 (F) at 6:00 pm	Alexia Obar
World Fair at Loker	Mar. 31 (Sa) 1:00 – 4:00 pm	Amy Simmons
Lice Checks	Apr. 24 (T) at 8:45 am	Elizabeth Curtin
Earth Day Events	Apr. 28 & 29 (Sa & Su)	Christina Veal and Katrien Vander Staeten
Book Fair	Jun. 6 & 7 (W & Th)	Lynne Cribben and Val Erdekian
End of Year Picnic	Jun. 6 (W) at 5:30 pm Rain Date: Jun. 11 (M)	Nell Getz
Annual PTO Meeting & Thank you Breakfast	Jun. 7 (TH) at 9:15 am HH Cafeteria	Stephanie Leong
Teacher & Staff Appreciation Event	Jun. 15 (F)	Loconzolo/Thompkins

PTO Events



THE NEW CONCUSSION LAW: A PRESENTATION BY THE BRAIN INJURY ASSOCIATION Thursday, January 26, at 7 p.m. Loker School

The Claypit Hill and Happy Hollow/Loker PTOs invite you to a presentation by the Brain Injury Association of Massachusetts. Massachusetts recently passed a new concussion law. It pertains to middle and high-school activities, but younger children can sustain brain injuries as well. This presentation by the Brain Injury Association will cover the new concussion law, its implementation, the role of parents, coaches and teachers, and the effects of brain injuries on children. An expert will be available to answer questions.

We hope you will join us in gathering more information about this important topic. For more information or questions, contact Niki Duffy at president@claypithillpto.org.



PTO BOARD MEETING – All are welcome! Friday, February 3, at 9:15 am Loker Library

The Happy Hollow/Loker Board meets monthly. These meetings are open to the entire membership and everyone is encouraged to attend with any questions, ideas or suggestions. Little ones in tow are always welcome!

PTO News



THE BACKPACK AUCTION IS COMING SOON!

Keep an eye on your child's backpack the week of January 23 for your **Gift Your Child Backpack Auction Booklet**. The Backpack Auction is Part 2 of the PTO's annual fundraising campaign, Gift Your Child, and allows the community the opportunity to "gift our children" with their donations. Families have the opportunity to bid on perennial favorites such as summer camps, time with teachers, police/fire rides to school, etc. This is not an event or live auction. It is a silent-style auction and is an integral part of raising the funds we need to support our annual budget.

This year you'll see an expanded community section, including a birthday party for 8 on George's Island, an insider's peek at the new high school with Dr. Stein and Mr. Crozier, some fantastic opportunities for children to spend time with several Wayland High varsity sports teams, and much more. And it's that time of year when we all start looking ahead to summer plans for our kids – check out the Camps section of the Backpack Auction for inspiration, where we have many favorites returning, including the Cape Cod Sea Camps, Tenacre Day Camp, Champion Soccer, Wayland Park & Rec programs and Frozen Ropes.

When the backpack auction booklet comes home, please take a look and send your best bids in—you just might be a winner! If you have any questions, please contact [Amy Simmons](#).



HELP YOUR CHILD STAY ACTIVE WITH THE FITNESS CHALLENGE

The Fitness Challenge is coming to Happy Hollow during the week of **January 30**. Students will be challenged to stay active--and track their activity--for a full week. Every student who returns their Fitness Challenge form will be eligible for great prizes, such as a family four-pack to the Spectacle Island 5K Road Race and Kids Fun Run, swimming lessons at the Wayland Community Pool, a gift certificate for a yoga session at Roots & Wings Yoga Studio, a day of canoeing or kayaking at Charles River Paddle, and more! Look for the Fitness Challenge form in your child's backpack during the week of January 23. Forms **MUST BE** returned to the office by **February 7**. If you want more information on the Fitness Challenge, or if you would like to donate a prize, please contact Jeanne Brown at jeanne_brown@comcast.net.

5th GRADE NEWS



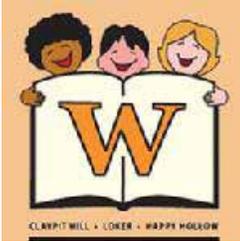
CONGRATULATIONS to **Emma DiIanni**. Emma's colorful artwork was chosen by her classmates to be featured on the back cover of this year's Memory Book. 1st Runner-Up was **Annika Das**, 2nd Runner-Up was **Abby Obar**, and 3rd Runner-Up was submitted by **Sophie Conroy**! Way to go girls!! Thank you to everyone who participated, we will make every attempt to put as many submissions into the yearbook as possible. Until then, look for their wonderful artwork in the newsletters, eBlasts and/or school hallways soon!

PHOTOS NEEDED: This is a **LAST CALL** for all *individual* Kindergarten photographs and any and all candid photos taken K thru 4th grade. There are still a handful of individual Kindergarten photos needed to complete the class collection.

Please submit them ASAP or we run the risk of the space being blank. We have hard deadlines that must be met, so please pull out all photographs from K-4th grade you'd like to see in the yearbook. We will continue accepting 5th grade candid photos of any school-related event up until April 15, so keep on clicking! Forward all pictures to Carla Stafford at HHMemoryBook@gmail.com, your child's teacher, or mail them to 35 Davelin Rd. in Wayland. We promise to return them quickly.

Student Council, Tech Crew, BASE, staff, band, chorus and additional random candid photos will be taken during the next month. If you have any special group suggestions or photograph requests, please forward them to hmemorybook@gmail.com.

5th GRADE ROLLER SKATING FIELD TRIP: As part of the annual 5th grade activities, there will be an after-school event of roller skating, pizza and laser tag for all Happy Hollow and Claypit Hill fifth graders on Friday, Jan. 27, 4-6 p.m., at Roll On America in Lancaster. The cost is \$12 per child in advance/\$13 at the door (includes admission, skate or blade rental, 2 slices of pizza, drink & 1 game of laser tag). Sign up to ride the bus for only \$5 round-trip per child. (Buses will depart after dismissal and return to the schools at approximately 7 pm). **DEADLINE for Bus sign up is January 17th.** Scholarships are available. Additional permission slips can be obtained from your room parents or child's 5th grade teacher. Questions? Contact Caroline Owen Houde at [508-651-7849](tel:508-651-7849) or houdefamily@comcast.net.



A BIG THANK YOU FROM THE PTO

Thank you from the PTO to Happy Hollow families for your generous Gift Your Child donations. Your participation in the first part of our annual fundraiser was critical and enabled us to raise almost \$42,000 town-wide towards our 2011-2012 goal of \$85,000. At Happy Hollow, participation reached 32% this year. Donations are always welcome and every dollar counts towards maintaining the level of programming and funding that our students and families expect and enjoy.

To learn more about the types of programs the PTO sponsors with your Gift Your Child donations, please visit our website at www.happyhollowpto.org. Happy New Year!

PTO Volunteer Needs

JUST LIKE ME- VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Just Like Me is a program for 3rd and 4th graders teaching children to understand what it's like to live with a disability. We are looking for volunteers for the fourth 4th grade unit, Autism Spectrum Disorder. Volunteers are needed on February 29 from 9:00 to 10:30 in Ms. Morrison's class and 10:45 to 12:15 in Mr. Moynihan's class, and on March 1 from 9 to 10:30 in Ms. Devlin's class and 10:45 to 12:15 in Ms. Chan's class. Volunteering is fun and a great way to be with your child. Training is on February 16 from 7 to 8 PM at Claypit Hill School. Please sign up to volunteer through our [webpage](#). For more information, [click here](#) or email Susan Green at susanegreen@hotmail.com. Thank you!



WEB SAVVY? Looking for a way to get involved from home?

The Happy Hollow/Loker PTO is looking for someone who is interested in helping to manage the [PTO website](#). No special technical experience is necessary; just be comfortable on the internet. You would shadow our current Website Manager. The great thing about this opportunity is that it is that it can be done from home, at any hour of the day. Interested in getting involved? Contact Stephanie Leong at

happyhollowpto@gmail.com.

Happy Hollow Hurrah!

Thanks to...

... to **Michele Loconzolo** and **Leslie Thompkins** and their team of volunteers--**Catherine Theobald, Debbie Bell, Elizabeth Jeffery, Jinglei Whitehouse, Julie Potter, Laura Byrne, Lauren Alongi, Lynne Cribben, Nan Li, Nava Almog, Rachel Spooner, Seta Abrahamian, Sharon Desmond, Stephanie Howard-Delman, Susan Green, Daphne Huang, Beth Byrne, Inna Volfson, Julia Silva, Nell Getz, and Alexia Obar**--for their contributions to the Teacher Appreciation Lunch.

... **Elizabeth Curtain** for the Happy Hollow lice check, along with **Leslie Moloney, Kate MacDonald, Jen Dennis, Carrie Greenberg, Catherine Theobald, Jen Bonner, Dave Howe, Ruth Kaplan Murray, Jinglei Whitehouse, Michele Loconzolo, Thaddeus Thompson, Pam Kainz, Lynne Cribben, Ann Marie Aidala, Susan Green, Sarah Sewall, Wei Niu, Sophia Zhan, Parul Patel, Lucy Ding, Vicky Sin, Alexia Obar, Nan Li, Samantha Richter, Jolin Hsu, Maria Martin**, and all the others who popped in at the last minute to help out. Thank you for helping in this very important task, which works to keep all of our children and teachers healthy! And a thank you also goes out to the PTO, who sponsors this event.

If there's anyone who's helped out that you wish to acknowledge, please email: juliesuratt@gmail.com.

Visit us online at happyhollowpto.org