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January Core Value

January 2020

Hawks Fly!

Knowledge

Learning something new so you can be better at whatever you do

PGCPS
Great By Choice
Pre-Kindergarten News

Happy New Year to the Prekindergarten Parents. We are in the process of assessing the students on alphabet recognition, number recognition 1-10, phonological awareness and recalling information from story time. Students are also working on writing their name. Students are on Theme 5 which is Stories and Rhymes. We have practiced our strengthening rhyming skills by singing Nursery Rhymes. Please join us for a four-part series of Learning Parties so you can learn best how best to prepare your child for Kindergarten Math. Students will take home books and will be served dinner. The dates are Wednesdays 1/22, 1/29, 2/5, and 2/12 at 2:30pm immediately after dismissal. Hope to see you there!!

The Pre-K Team

Kindergarten News

**Literacy**
Unit 4
Sight Words:
*Review of all Kindergarten Sight Words*

**Science**
Living Things and Their Habitats

**Writing**
List and Label

**Personal/Social**
I Can Help

**Math**
Unit 5: Addition

**Health.**
Families

**Social Studies**
Celebrating Traditions in Diversity

**Reminders**
Help us go on field trips! Get fingerprinted to be a chaperone at the Sasscer Building, 14201 School Lane Upper Marlboro, MD. Ask your child’s teacher for details.

**Important Dates**
- No School-MLK Day 1/20
- End of 2nd Quarter 1/24
- 3 Hour Early Dismissal 1/27
First Grade News

We are fast approaching the beginning of the 3rd quarter.

In Reading, we will study Cycle 5...How Can You Find Your Way Around? In Math, we will be working on Measuring: Time and Length. In Science, we will begin the Unit on Vibrations/Sounds. In Social Studies, we will study Geography-As The World Turns.

Parents, please continue to LISTEN TO YOUR CHILD READ TO YOU every night.

After-School Chats

“What’s in your backpack?” Greet your child with this question and you’ll discover a lot about what they do in class.

• Set aside time each day to go through their papers. Try to do it first thing after school while the day is still fresh in their mind.
• Look over your youngster’s work together. Help them feel proud by making a specific comment about something they have done. For instance, if they show you a picture drawn in art class, you might say, “The gray sky and big waves look just like our raining day at the beach.”
• Have them talk through math problems or science experiments to show you what they have learned. They might explain how they find the perimeter of a triangle or why ants dig tunnels, for example.
Second Grade News

The Second Grade Team is full of joy, prosperity, optimism, and thankfulness for all of our prospering, intelligent, dynamic scholars! Parents, we wanted to convey to you that our students are ready and eager to embark upon all of the rigorous academic activities that this Second Quarter will offer!

The primary outcomes and indicators for each academic content area include the following:

I. Reading: Students will engage in collaborative conversations about animals in their natural habitats.

II. Math: Students will engage in 3-digit addition with regrouping, 3-digit subtraction with regrouping, 4-digit place value identification, 3-digit word problems, telling time, measurement, and monetary values.

III. Science: Students will engage in introductory Physical Science [claim, evidence, and reasoning] activities in order to learn about the different states of matter and forcible movement.

IV. Social Studies: Students will complete an African American and Spanish Project during the month of February.

V. Project: The students completed an animal project during their Winter Break that explained all of the unique behaviors and characteristics of their favorite animal.

Lastly, please review basic foundational skills with your child daily: varied reading genres, alphabet letter sounds, vowel clusters, number words, basic addition and subtraction facts, multiplication facts, etc.

Parents, you are to be honored for all of your continuous support. The Second Grade Team is grateful for all of your positive investments in your child! Happy 2020!!

Mark Your Calendars...School is CLOSED

Professional Day for Teachers: 3-Hour Early Dismissal for Students
Monday, January 27, 2020

President’s Day: School Closed
Monday, February 17, 2020
Third Grade News

Science

Happy New Year Hillcrest Heights Family!!

In this month of January, your child is continuing to question the Cause and Effect Relationship of Electric or Magnetic Interactions between two objects and finalize out the month by solving problems applying scientific ideas about magnets. Also, Parents this is a gentle reminder that Stem Fair Project homework is due every Thursday. If you have any questions or concerns I can be reached through ClassDojo.

Reading/English/Language Arts

Happy New Year Hillcrest Heights Hawks! As we approach the end of Quarter 2, we will read several genres, a legend, “When The Giant Stirred”, a Nigerian Folktale, “Why The Sky Is Far Away”, and an informational text, “Frozen Alive.” Please continue to provide extra support for your child’s reading growth and development through the use of i-Ready reading in the PGCPS Clever Portal. Check your email on Friday for an invitation to view the writing and reading lessons and assessments your child has been working on in Google classroom. Continue to reach out through Classroom Dojo if needed. Remember, Hawks Fly High!

Math

Happy New Year!!!

In third grade math, we are having a blast learning multiplication!! We just wrapped up Unit 5: Expanding Multiplication when students learned patterns in multiplication facts. Now, we have started Unit 6: Extending Multiplication. In Unit 6, students are learning properties of operations as strategies to solve double and single-digit multiplication equations as well as strategies based on place value.

We don’t CRY!! We MULTIPLY!!!!

Be there!

Regular attendance in elementary school sets up a good pattern for your child’s entire school career. Show him/her that school comes first by trying to keep days off for illnesses and family emergencies. Also, schedule routine doctor and dentist appointments for after school or over school breaks.
Fourth Grade News

Math
We are halfway done the year and I must say that I am proud of our improvement. Right now, we are working on our fractions unit. Please be sure to help your child practice their multiplication facts and encourage them to do their best on all assignments. Please make sure you are signed up for class dojo so that you can receive our weekly math newsletter.

As stated before, we now have Dreambox which is a helpful tool to practice their skills. I ask that you encourage your child to use the website for at least 20 minutes each week. Thanks for all that you do!

Reading
So far in reading, we have been focusing on informational text (nonfiction). Students had their first 4th grade experiences with synthesizing, text features, text structure, and main idea. If you should have any questions, comments and/or concerns, do not hesitate to reach me at ajacooelperlane@pgcps.org. Thank you for your continued support.

Science
In the next quarter, our 4th grade students will continue to learn about Energy transformation by sound, light, heat, and electric currents. They will also define a simple design problem, generate and compare solutions the use patterns to transfer information using engineering design model.
Fifth Grade News

**Reading/Writing/Social Studies**

MAP-R Testing: 1/15 & 1/16

READING/Writing: Module 9: Unexpected, Unexplained (cont’d.)
Analytic Writing Focus: Informational Performance Task for Informational Video
“Loch Ness Monster” & Informational Text “Bigfoot”
“The Secret Keepers” (Mystery) & Literary Performance Task

SOCIAL STUDIES:
Content Focus: History-Celebrating Diversity & Traditions
Overarching Question: How has America’s colonial past shaped history?
Theme: Exploring Colonial United States History
Class Project & Presentation

**Math**

**STUDENTS USE THE GROCERY STORE**

USE CIRCULARS TO CREATE COMPUTATIONS OF DECIMAL (MULTIPLICATION AND DIVISION) PROBLEMS OF SHOPPING PRICES, CREATE AREA MODELS THROUGH COMPUTATIONS, MONITOR SMP’S WHILE LEARNING NEW VOCABULARY.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Core Math</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Multiplication of decimals can be represented with an area model in which the two factors are the dimensions of a rectangle and the product is the area. Area is additive. The area of a composite figure is the sum of the areas of each of its parts. There are patterns in the placement of the decimal point in the product when multiplying decimals.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Students solve decimal multiplication problems using an area model and their understanding of placement of the decimal point in whole number multiplication problems.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Science/Health**

Science: Unit 2 Module 1 continued... Students will measure and graph quantities to provide evidence that regardless of the type of change that occurs when heating, cooling, or mixing substances, the total weight of matter is conserved. Students will measure matter on a triple beam balance to find the precise mass. Students will be reviewing for the Unit 2 Post Test FAST 2.

Health: Those Crazy Mixed-Up Emotions... Describing human emotions and their effects on the body. Express emotions appropriately through communication skills. Identify responsible and irresponsible methods for handling strong emotions.
Counselor’s Corner

Happy New Year Parents,

I hope everyone had an enjoyable and restful break. As we end the 2nd quarter, and begin the next half of the school year, I would like to share a few helpful tips to assist you and your child in having a successful year.

- Check SchoolMax regularly to stay abreast of your child's grades and assignments
- Be sure your child reads nightly and completes their homework
- If you have not had a conference with your child's teacher, it would be a good idea to schedule one soon
- Ask your child about their day at school
- Replenish school supplies, if necessary
- Be sure your child is dressed in their uniform and appropriately for the cold weather

If you need assistance, please contact me and I can assist you.

Mrs. Wright

Music – Harmony Highway News

Happy New Year! The Winter Concert was a HUGE success! Each and every performer did an exceptional job! I’m very proud of all of the students at HHES! Thank you Hawk families and friends for supporting this event and each performer by ensuring they were fully prepared to perform at the show!

Harmony Hawks after-school rehearsals will resume on Thursday, January 30, 2020 from 2:00-4:00pm.

If you have any questions, comments, and/or concerns feel free to contact me.
Contact Information: (301) 702 – 3800 ext. 54510 / erika.plater@pgcps.org

Mrs. Plater
Vocal & General Music Teacher
Harmony Hawks, Director

** Remind App for all HHES Music Information! **
Use the link to join the HHES Vocal & General Music Group. 
https://www.remind.com/join/hawksmusic
STEM NEWS

The primary and intermediate grade levels are learning Physical Science for the second quarter. Students in intermediate classes have started submitting their questions (problems) which should be approved by the teacher for their STEM Fair Project. The submission of each Science procedure was listed on the timeline provided to the student. Third and fourth grades will be using the backboard to present their projects. The 5th graders will be doing a DIGITAL STEM Fair project. The primary grades will have a class project. The STEM Fair journal was distributed to each student on the third week of November 2019. Guidelines are provided in the journal. Below is the time line for the STEM Fair Project 2019-2020.

**STEM Fair Project Timeline 2019-2020**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Due Date</th>
<th>Teacher Initials</th>
<th>Student Initials</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Project Title</strong></td>
<td>12.02.19</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Choosing a Topic</strong></td>
<td>12.06.19</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Question (T. MUST approve the Q)</strong></td>
<td>12.09.19</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Prediction/Hypothesis</strong></td>
<td>12.20.19</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Variables</strong></td>
<td>01.03.20</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Materials</strong></td>
<td>01.10.20</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Procedures</strong></td>
<td>01.22.20</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Data Collection Tool</strong></td>
<td>02.07.20</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Results:</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Actual/Investigation-Collected Data</td>
<td>02.21.20</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Results:</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Graph of Data</td>
<td>02.21.20</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Results:</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Written Explanation</td>
<td>02.24.20</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Conclusion</strong></td>
<td>02.28.20</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Research Paper:</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>3rd Grade: Summary of the project; 4th-5th: Refer to the format provided in CIM-Science</td>
<td>03.02.20</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Classroom Presentation:</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 day for each class; 3rd &amp; 4th- Traditional; 5th- Digital</td>
<td>03.3-5.20</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Display Board to School:</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>There will be 18 projects to be displayed in the cafeteria. 3 class projects from each PRIMARY grade (K-2) and 9 from Intermediate (3-5)—The Best 3 projects from each grade level.</td>
<td>03.11.20</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Hawks Special Event

Hillcrest Heights Elementary

Class Dojo & SchoolMax Parent Cafe

27 de Enero, 2020
6:00 PM
Hillcrest Heights Elementary

#Como utilizar SchoolMax
#Revisar calificaciones
#Uso de Class Dojo

RSVP by 1/22/2020
eyhvy.osorio@pgcps.org
301.702.3800

January 27, 2020
6:00 PM
Hillcrest Heights Elementary

#Navigate SchoolMax
#View your child’s academics
#Become an expert with Class Dojo

RSVP by 1/22/2020
eyhvy.osorio@pgcps.org
301.702.3800

JOIN US!
ESOL NEWS

Dear Parents,

Beginning January 8th through February 12th, ESOL students in kindergarten through grade twelve in the state of Maryland will participate in ACCESS for English Language Learners, an English Language Proficiency Test.

The ACCESS for ELLs Assessment consists of four subtests: speaking, listening, reading and writing. Students will be scheduled to take different subtests on different days, spread over this testing window. Students must complete all four tests to earn an Overall Proficiency score.

WE NEED YOUR HELP TO MAKE SURE YOUR STUDENT DOES HIS OR HER BEST JOB. PLEASE...MAKE SURE...

1. Your child arrives at school on time.
2. Your child eats a substantial breakfast in the morning that will give him/her the necessary energy and alertness for participation in the testing.
3. Your child gets a good night’s sleep the night before each testing day.
4. Your child is in school every testing day. Children absent on a testing day will participate in make-up testing.
5. Please encourage your child to do his/her best!

Thank you for your help. We know our students will do their best! Should you have any questions, please call the school or email Mrs. Hayden. teresa.hayden@pgcps.org

Estimados padres:

Entre el 8 de enero y el 12 de febrero, los alumnos del programa de inglés para alumnos que hablan otros idiomas (ESOL) de jardín de infantes hasta el 12 grado del estado de Maryland participarán en ACCESS for ELLs, una prueba del nivel competencia en idioma inglés.

La Evaluación ACCESS for ELLs consta de cuatro partes: expresión oral, comprensión auditiva, lectura y escritura. Las diversas pruebas se programarán para que los alumnos puedan rendirlas en distintos días, durante el transcurso del período de evaluación.

NECESITAMOS SU AYUDA PARA QUE EL ALUMNO RINDA AL MÁXIMO. POR FAVOR, ASEGÚRESE DE QUE OCURRA LO SIGUIENTE:

1. Su hijo debe llegar a la escuela puntualmente.
2. Es importante que su hijo desayune bien por la mañana para que tenga energías y esté alerta para participar en las evaluaciones.
3. Su hijo debe descansar bien la noche anterior a cada prueba.
4. Su hijo debe asistir a la escuela todos los días de pruebas. Los alumnos ausentes durante un día de pruebas tendrán una fecha de recuperación.
5. ¡Aliente a su hijo a rendir al máximo!

Muchas gracias por su colaboración. ¡Sabemos que nuestros alumnos rendirán al máximo! Si tiene alguna pregunta, por favor, comuníquese con el personal escolar. teresa.hayden@pgcps.org
Special Education Department

Research shows that children are more successful in school when their families are involved in their children’s development and education. For a child who has a disability, the importance of parental involvement can be even greater. Very often, parents are the sole or best source of information about a child’s strengths and how a disability impacts their child’s development or ability to learn. Parents play an important role in the education of their children. The law requires that parents and school personnel work together to provide children with appropriate educational services. As a parent of a child with a disability, you should ask questions and request help when you feel that you need it.

Please reach out to the Special Education staff here at Hillcrest Heights Elementary any time you have questions, concerns, comments, or you would like to celebrate a recent success. We are here to support you.

Data Coach/ Testing Coordinator

MAP Growth (2nd - 5th): January 15 & 16, 2020

Math Benchmark #2 (K- 5th): January 28 – 30, 2020; February 5, 2020 (5th Grade Only)

Science FAST #2 (5th): January 28 & 29, 2020

The art of teaching is the art of assisting discovery.
-Mark Vandoren
Hillcrest Heights Elementary School Pledge

We are the Hawks
Each day we soar so high
We come to school to learn
Parents and teachers are filled with pride
Reading, writing, math, we’re getting in the groove
Science, specials, art, we continue to improve
When we leave Hillcrest Heights
We’ve made friends and have a bond
Our teachers helped us grow
Ready for college and beyond

Go Hawks!

Hillcrest Heights Elementary School
4305 22nd Place
Temple Hills, MD 20748
Phone: (301) 702 – 3800
Fax: (301) 702 – 3807
School Hours: 7:45am – 1:55pm
Office Hours: 7:15am – 3:30pm

David Brown, Principal
Sharon McNeil, Assistant Principal