Dear High Bridge Families,
Welcome to March, the month that Spring Begins! I want to thank all the families who joined us last week for our Parent Town Hall meeting. It was a huge success with over 130 participants! The session was informative and we answered all of the questions you asked about our return to the Hybrid Learning Model for the 4th Quarter. When we return from Spring Break and Hybrid Learning begins on April 8, 2021 students whose last names ending in letters K-Z will only be permitted to attend school in-person. Only those families who chose that option will be allowed in the building. If you elected to keep your child home for the remainder of the school year you cannot change your mind. NO EXCEPTIONS! Whatever YOU DECIDED TO DO RELATED TO THE Hybrid Model or to continue to keep your child home for the remainder of the school year remain with Distance Learning, just know…….We will get through this TOGETHER!

The teachers are working diligently towards moving the students in the direction of becoming more critical thinkers. Although we are Elementary School, we want to prepare our students for College and Careers NOW! This takes a team effort to accomplish and together we can and will succeed!

Well that’s all for now...Remember, it takes a village to raise a child.

William J. Kelly

---

CRI NEWS……..

Hello Families!
With all of your support and assistance, we have successfully made it to the third quarter of the school year. As our students prepare to transition to in-person learning, the staff is anxiously preparing for their arrival. We started our weekly Bring your own lunch/snack (BYOL/S) social mealtime. Thank you to the parents who actively engage with our students during this time. If your child did not receive an IPAD last spring or at the beginning of this school year, and you would like for them to have one please contact Ms. Dempsey via email.

We are also preparing for our students in grades 3-5 to participate in the state assessments. More information will be forthcoming about testing in the near future. Our students in the CRI program participate in the alternate state assessments; we need to remind parents who opted to remain in distance learning that their children will not participate in the state assessments. Only students who return to in-person learning will participate in the state assessments. Parents cannot drop off students only for testing.

Parents of fifth graders transitioning to middle school in the fall, please be on the lookout for information about transitioning from the school district and High Bridge. You will need to complete a new application for the school your child will be attending in the Fall. The application can be found on the PGCPS website under “Enroll your child.” In addition to completing the application, you will need to upload your proof of residency and a copy of your ID. If you are unsure about the school location for your child for next year, please contact Ms. Dempsey via email at Tynetta.dempsey@pgcps.org. Students in the CRI program may not be assigned to their residence schools and will be placed in a service school where they will continue to receive their educational services.
We are halfway through our third quarter of the school year. In Reading, we are finishing our unit about rules at school and in our community. We are starting a new unit about why people tell stories. We will work with blending words with o, c, h and b and the word family -at. Students will focus on learning the following high frequency words; he, has, little, play, do, very, out, said, and, you, are. In Math, we are focusing on numbers 11-20. Students will learn different ways to represent each number. In Social Studies, we are learning about maps. Students will learn the different features of a map and how to read a map. In Science, we are focusing on forces and motion. We are looking forward to beginning Hybrid Learning and being able to have some of our students in our classrooms again soon.

March is blowing in, and first grade is ready to write amazing stories! We will continue to read and write using adjectives, retelling stories using first, next, then and last and using text evidence to explain answers. We will also continue to practice drafting, editing and publishing of our stories and sharing them with an audience. In math, we will visit tens and ones through addition and subtraction and practice a variety of strategies to make number sentences, fact families, balancing equations, determining missing numbers in word problems and graphing to understand data. In science, we will investigate plant and animal structures and how they interact, grow and change with their environment. For social studies, we will explore directions and map skills. Please continue to support us by reading sight words lists, reading chapter books or books on your child’s reading ability level, reading and retelling events and expressing ideas found in stories or pictures. Let’s have a fabulous spring and keep up the great reading for our monthly book logs. Your help with editing classwork and reading with your child is appreciated.

Language Arts: Students are reading different Biographies. Our essential question is, how do our experiences shape our lives? Students are learning how authors use text features to help the reader understand the text. Please encourage your child to read for 15 minutes every night. There is a great selection of books your child can read with their Scholastics account on clever.

Math: Students are still exploring place value. Now they are learning how to use expanded form, and base ten models to add, subtract, and compare numbers. They are also continuing to learn how to solve story problems using different strategies to model their thinking.

Social Studies: We are learning all about maps. This month students will explore why maps are important, key parts of a map, how to use them, and create a simple map.

Science: We are exploring the properties of matter and how it changes. Students will also learn how we can use smaller objects to build larger objects.
**Third Grade Happenings…..**

**READING-** Happy Springtime! Watch as our land awakens. Student will continue to focus on non-fiction or informational text. We will address the Essential Question: What lessons can we learn from animals and nature? We will be analyzing how the author uses “Text Features” (graphic sources) and “Text Structure”: Main Idea+ details, sequence of events, compare & contrasts, problem & solution, cause & effect to aid reading comprehension. Students are developing their “Text Detective” skills by using different types of Context Clues such as definitions, examples, synonyms & antonyms, prefixes and suffixes. In preparation for MCAP™ and 4th grade skills, in writing we will continue to identify the essentials of biographies, identifying character traits, and developing opinion and informational essays. Also, I will be guiding students through Edulastic™ in preparation for MCAP™ and 4th grade skills. 1-Ready™ is mandatory 3 times a week 30 minutes each day: Wed. Thur. Fri. while Scholastic Lit Pro™ is on Mon. & Tue., 20 minutes each day. **MATH-** Third graders will continue to develop a deeper understanding of dissecting word problems through the Three Read Protocol strategy. Additionally, we will dive into fractions and explore fractional parts of a whole. Multiplication fluency is a requirement for third grade so please assist your child with practicing daily through games, random questioning and family competitions with siblings and parents. In **Science,** this month, third grade students will be learning about the life cycles and traits of plants and animals. They will also learn about how various characteristics of plants and animals to help improve their survival rate. In **Social Studies** students will continue to learn about weather patterns in the 5 U.S. Regions. Students will continue to use the main Informational Text Features: headings, photos captions and vocabulary to compose biographies and other informational text essays.

---

**Fourth Grade Happenings!!!!!**

**ELA HELLO FAMILY!** Welcome to the 3rd Quarter! Over the next three weeks we will continue our unit on the informational text genre. **Explore the Genre** Discuss with your child the characteristics of this genre, such as it gives facts and information about a topic. Ask your child to read to you each day and make time to read together. Look for texts that: • spark your child’s curiosity • tie to the module topic • provide interesting facts and details • have unique formats and graphic features. **Discuss the Topic** Set aside time daily for your child to share what he or she is learning. Use these ideas to discuss the topic: • Talk about the ideas your child has added to the Knowledge Map. • Ask about the texts your child is reading and what he or she has learned. In **Math** students will work on 3 main components. They will find all factor pairs for a whole number in the range of 1-100. They will recognize that a whole number is a multiple of each of its factors. And they will be able to determine whether a given whole number in the range 1-100 is prime. This unit builds on the work in multiplication and division done in both 3rd and 4th grades. Understanding factors and multiples will help students operate more proficiently with fractions in later grades and with proportions and ratios in middle school. **Count On Us Math** tutoring hotline (301) 772-0080 or cou@pgcps.org. Monday & Wednesday 5-6pm. Comcast channel-96 Verizon channel 38. **Science**- We will continue to explore the world of light and sound! We will explore how light and sound travel through literature, virtual experiments, vocabulary, and concept building. **Social Studies**- We will continue to explore geography by examining maps and globes, and discover how geography can affect how people live. **Health**- We will learn about ways to stay healthy and process emotions and

---

**Fifth Grade News Flash!!!!!**

It’s March and spring is right around the corner! Progress reports will soon be prepared and that means students need to revisit work from the end of January to the present in order to complete assignments that are unfinished. Looking ahead, with the news of upcoming hybrid instruction opportunities, we are busy planning and preparing for the return of some of our students. We know many will continue virtually and we will continue to see them grow academically from a distance. The fifth grade team is currently in the process of making arrangements for a special event to celebrate the successes of our students at the end of the year. While a traditional promotion ceremony will not take place, we still want to provide a special celebration for the 5th grade students of HBES in the safest way possible. More details will be available in the coming months. In reading, we will begin to explore the elements of drama and will read a play. Students will analyze the text features of a written play to build an understanding of how these elements help build the plot of the story. We will also examine dialogue and use stage directions to understand characters and their emotions. For math, students will build on previous knowledge of division by learning to express a whole number divided by a whole number as a fraction, increasing their understanding of how division and fractions are connected and how they both connect to multiplication. Students will also build on their understanding of re-partitioning fractions into smaller fractional parts from Grade 4. They will use this knowledge to solve problems involving division of unit fractions by whole numbers. Finally, students will solve problems involving division of whole numbers by unit fractions by thinking about how many times the unit fraction fits in the whole number. As always, if you have any questions or concerns and would like to schedule a time to meet virtually, please reach out to the teacher by email. Mrs. Hamolia - brittany.hamolia@pgcps.org Mr. Quezada - david.quezada@pgcps.org Mrs. Ciocon - lynne.ciocon@pgcps.org
Hello parents/guardians!

Please note that most music assignments will be completed during our scheduled live meeting times. **If your child is missing an assignment, a note will be placed in SchoolMax by the assignment name. Your child must make up the assignment or they will receive a “0” for that assignment.**

The Music Department would like for you to know what is happening for the month of March in all Music classes. Be sure to watch for additional notes from us in upcoming HBES Newsletters!

Musically yours,
Mrs. Clarke and Mrs. Winters

---

**Music Notes**

The musical concepts that will be covered during the month of March for the following grades are:

**5th Grade**

*Students will be able to:*

- Identify pianissimo and fortissimo markings in a piece of music.
- Evaluate a live or recorded performance.
- Listen to and write two measures of rhythm in meters of 3 and 4.

**4th Grade**

*Students will be able to:*

- Define Molto, Allegro, and Andante.
- Identify vocal and instrumental timbres in music.
- Recognize the instrument sections of the concert band (woodwinds, brass, percussion).
3rd Grade
Students will be able to:

- Recognize sixteenth notes beamed in groups of 4.
- Identify and perform whole notes and whole rests.
- Play recorder exercises/songs containing the notes B, A and G.

NOTE: If your child still needs a recorder, please purchase a SOPRANO RECORDER with BAROQUE fingering from any place of your choosing. Recorders are no longer available for purchase from the school.

2nd Grade
Students will be able to:

- Recognize The Baroque Period as a time when music was very fancy.
- Recall that trills, turns, and appoggiaturas were ornaments used to make music fancy in the Baroque period.
- Recognize the most notable Baroque composers as Bach, Vivaldi, and Handel.

1st Grade
Students will be able to:

- Recognize that the treble clef tells us to play or sing higher notes.
- Identify that if sol and mi are on a line, la is in the space above sol.
- Demonstrate melodic direction by singing and moving to a piece of music.

Kindergarten
Students will be able to:

- Perform movements to a song in patterns of three.
- Sing a song in patterns of four.
- Recognize the four main instrument families of the orchestra.

Adaptive Music

Students in CSEP will learn many of the same concepts with focus on one or two of the concepts mentioned above. Students in CRI will do more song games, movement, and instrument playing as they focus on learning high and low pitch.
COUNSELOR'S CORNER

Virtual Career Day Sign Up

Virtual Career Day is approaching fast. We will have live streaming on Tuesday, April 6, 2021 from 8:00 am until 1:00 pm. Virtual Presenters are asked to sign up using the following link:

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1tphD0Dg3Ljkon9a78HytHsu6y_49Wohd54Dwl6vYbs/edit?usp=sharing

The name and photo associated with our Google account will be recorded when uploaded files are submitted. If you have any questions please contact Ms. Miller at lisa2.miller@pgcps.org

Literature & School Counseling

During Large Group Counseling students often learn through prescribed literature. This method of social emotional learning allows scholars to build relationships, school confidence and problem solve. This month our favorite read-a-louds are:

- The Name Jar by Yangsook Choi
- Miles of Smiles by Karen Kaufman
- Officer Buckle & Gloria by Peggy Rathman

To learn more about prescribed literature save the date for next month’s issue on evaluating literature for personal/social development.

Make sure your child takes frequent breaks from the computer at least 10-15 minute intervals

Important Dates

To Remember:
March 29-April 5, 2021
Spring Break

Looking Ahead:
April 8, 2021
Hybrid Learning Begins