Dear High Bridge Families,

Thank you for your patience as we continue to navigate through our new normal. However, you can rest assured that your children are in capable hands. The staff is great and your children’s teachers are absolutely the best teachers in Prince Georges’ County!

As we approach the Thanksgiving Season we have a lot to be thankful for. There are a lot of people less fortunate than we are and need your assistance. We have a canned Food Drive going on until November 19th. Please do what you can to support us in this effort! The fundraiser merchandise will arrive at the school next Thursday, November 18th. Just in time for the holidays! If you ordered items online and requested them to be shipped to the school expect them as well. You will receive a robo call letting you know when to pick up the items.

As always, thank you for your support and Happy Thanksgiving!

~ William J. Kelly

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The Community Referenced Instruction program continues to be actively engaged in our Universal Design for Learning. Students continue to work on real life related content such as elections and Native American History, as we prepare for Thanksgiving celebration this month. As we delve into our math curriculum, students are enjoying their explorations in mathematical reasoning. There is a link to home and school relations as students and parents use mathematical tools around the home to integrate in their academic journey. Additionally, students are engaged in the Scholastic reading program as they work on improving their reading performance.

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Technology

Now you can follow us on twitter@highbridge

www1.pgcps.org/highbridge – great place to find the school calendar, frequently asked questions, current events, and websites for enrichment and intervention!

www.iready.com – grades K-5 can practice lessons set up by their teacher to reinforce what is taught in the classroom!

SchoolMax Family portal – allows parents to track the grades of their child/children. If you do not have a logon, please email nancy.barboza@pgcps.org and request one today!
Kindergarten Highlights!!!!!

The school year is flying by! The first quarter will end on November 16th! Your children have settled into their classrooms and are busy exploring and learning new things every week. In **Reading**, we will blend words with short a, t, p, m, and s sounds. We will also learn about how tools can help us explore. In **Writing**, we are working on drawing pictures with details and adding sentences or labels. In **Math**, we will work with putting together (composing) and taking apart (decomposing) numbers up to 10. In **Science**, we will begin learning about weather patterns and forecasts. In **Social Studies**, we are learning about different cultures and how they have changed over time. We are looking forward to our Friendsgiving Celebration on Tuesday, November 23rd! Please remember to dress your child in layers due to the changing classroom temperatures.

We are also continuing to encourage independence and proficiency in kindergarten with the self-help skills listed below:

- Putting on and taking off jackets
- Zipping, buttoning, snapping
- Tying shoes
- Managing own backpacks, folder, and other personal belongings
- Making requests to use the bathroom without prompting
- Using and properly disposing of facial tissues
- Proper hand washing and sanitizing of hands

Fabulous First Grade!

First grade is off to a chilly start with our second quarter skills! We are "thankful" to be learning our new sight words and we're beginning to read and write using our decoding skills. Keep up the practice at home with our Google Classroom sight word drills and learning games. We are practicing editing skills with writing, so remember to read three times before it is completed. In math, we are practicing missing addends, adding and subtracting on a number line, number bonds, adding doubles, and making equivalent equations. Practice these skills at home with counters and home number lines. Also, our mad minutes are increasing with speed! Keep up the great fluency practice! In science, we are soaring to the moon and planets to learn about our solar system and the sun, which is our Earth's source of light. In social studies, we are ready to learn about our own families and compare them to other cultures around the world. We will celebrate Thanksgiving by sharing what we are thankful for and how we can help others in our community. Let's have a great fall and stay focused with our reading log every day to increase our fluency! Have a safe and wonderful Thanksgiving with your families!

Second Grade News!!!

I can't believe it is already November. It seems like the school year just began. This month will be a busy one academically.

We are finishing our Language Arts module about Citizenship and have learned much about how we can be good citizens. Soon we will begin Module 2: Look Around and Explore! In this module our Essential Question will be How does exploring help us understand the world around us?

In **Writing**, we are learning about the writing process as we write our own imaginative narratives. This month in **Social Studies**, we are completing our unit about our community and country. Beginning in Quarter 2, we will learn about culture and traditions around the world.

During November, we will learn about adding two-digit numbers in **Math**. We will learn many strategies to show how to regroup tens and ones. We will also focus on real-life situations this month as we solve word problems with addition.

This month in **Science**, we will discover how the earth’s surface can change quickly as with earthquakes, volcanoes, and floods. This should be an exciting unit of study for all.

In **Health**, during November, we will be learning about how to care for and protect one of our most important organs—our heart.

This November, as in all months, we are very thankful for all of your support and help.
Students will dive into the Writers Workshop by focusing on a narrative writing sequel. Using carefully selected transition words for the sequel students will be enhance their writers’ craft by developing a plot with a problem and solution. Students conclude the essay with a central message or the lesson learned. This will prepare students for their first writing benchmark. Each afternoon students should be using iReady for 30 minutes.

Important components of reading are the understanding context specific vocabulary, and determining the main idea and supporting details. **Math:** Students will be devoted to grasping a conceptual understanding of multiplication. Students will be exposed to multiple ways of representing multiplication such as equal groups, repeated addition, arrays and number lines. As we attain a conceptual understanding we will practice multiplication fluency through games, competitions and repeated practice. In **Social Studies,** we will be celebrating traditions and diversity. Students will learn how people's lives have changed when they move to a new country. Students will also learn the different ways people communicate throughout history. **Health:** Eat an apple a day. Students are studying about nutrition and healthy food choices. **SCIENCE:** Unit #1: Title: Earth and Space Module #1: Title: Weather and Climate. Students who demonstrate understanding can:

Represent data in a pictograph to describe typical wind speeds during seasonal tornadoes. Pictographs help us to display data.

In **Reading** over the next three weeks, our class will build their knowledge about the qualities needed to rise to the occasion, with a focus on the genre of realistic fiction. We will read texts and view videos about what it takes to meet a challenge. Discuss the Topic: Set aside time daily for your child to share with you 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 each week.
- Ask about the texts your child is reading and what he or she has learned from them.

In **Math** Fourth graders are learning how to divide whole numbers of up to 4 digits by 1 digit. They work with division as the inverse operation to multiplication. They work with a wide variety of contexts that lend themselves to division. They develop their understanding of division as rectangles of given areas (dividend) with one known length (divisor) and one unknown length (quotient). They use rectangles to develop an understanding of partial quotients, first with a diagram and then with a partial quotient algorithm. Students learn how to interpret the remainder based on the context of the division problem.

In **Social Studies** the Unit will celebrate culture and diversity this quarter! We will look deeper into how Maryland’s culture has changed over time by examining the various cultures in Maryland’s past and present. We will also remember and share that we are all part of one culture or another, and that there are many different and wonderful ways to celebrate and connect our own cultures and those of others around the world.

**Science** sees some fun this Quarter as we explore changes in the land over time. We will investigate rock layers, Earth’s surface and geologic makeup, and fossils as we look for evidence of change over time...a chance to be real explorers.

With the month of November upon us, we find ourselves wrapping up first quarter concepts and preparing our students for a strong start to quarter two skills. Students will be completing Benchmark Assessments in both reading and math coming very soon. These tests provide data on student progress with objectives and concepts from the first quarter.

For math, the month of November will begin with students working on decimal place value, writing decimals in different forms, rounding decimals, and comparing decimals. Students will move on to work with addition and subtraction of decimals. For science, students will continue exploring Space Science concepts. Students will explore how constellations in the sky change with the seasons and how gravity pulls everything towards the center of the earth. They will then transition into the study of the Earth’s systems.

In reading, students will continue to read, analyze, and evaluate characters in realistic fiction texts. We will be cycling through the reading skills of making inferences, comparing and contrasting characters actions and words and how these impact the plot of the story, analyzing plot structure, and summarizing text. Students are expected to annotate texts as we read to record their thinking and questions about the stories. We will continue to build our vocabulary with new terms and practice spelling patterns with new word lists. Finally, we will wrap up our learning before Thanksgiving Break by completing a formal written assignment in the Writing Workshop. Students will be researching an invention and an inventor who worked hard to develop something new to positively impact the lives of others. For social studies, students will continue to explore the impacts of exploration on indigenous peoples in the Americas which led to the development of European colonies in America. As we discuss these colonies, we will also question the impacts of decisions made on all people living in the new lands.

The Fifth Grade Team
Study Smarts

From a Social Studies test at the end of the month to a spelling test every Friday, studying is a skill scholars will need throughout their academic careers. Help your child study with these tips. **Start a habit** - Encourage your student to treat studying as a daily assignment, not just something he/she does the evening before a test. For example, he might study 15 minutes every night for a spelling test on Friday. After he/she finishes their regular homework, spend a little time reviewing notes and handouts. **Tackle textbooks** - When your scholar has to study a chapter, have him to "preview" it to increase understanding. Try glancing at the graphics, headings and photos. Tip: If your student finds a section hard to grasp, he could read a picture book look up the words in the glossary. **Mix it up**. If your student reviews information in several ways, he’ll be more likely to remember it. He might use colored pencils to copy each spelling word or math fact onto a separate index card. Then, shuffle the cards and study them in a different order each time. For extra reinforcement, suggest that he spells each word or recite each fact aloud.

**Conflict Resolution Strategies**

- Personal Educational Plans
- Communication
- Gratitude

**A Parent’s Guide To Dealing with Stress**

1. Get enough sleep
2. Exercise
3. Think Positively
4. Treat yourself now and then. You deserve it!!
5. Divide house hold chores
6. Eat well.

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**Important Dates To Remember:**

November 16, 2021
End of the 1st Quarter

November 17, 2021
2 Hour Early Dismissal (Teacher Grading Time)

November 24-26, 2021 Thanksgiving Break
Hello parents/guardians!

Welcome to Music!

The Music Notes Newsletter will update you on musical happenings during the current month in all General and Special Education Music classes.

Please note that if your child is missing a music assignment, the assignment will be located in the Classwork tab of their homeroom teacher’s Google Classroom. A “0” will be entered into SchoolMax for the assignment until your child turns it in.

Be sure to watch for additional notes in upcoming HBES Newsletters!

Musically yours,
Mrs. Clarke

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

5th Grade: Students will be able to:

- Describe the four different voices that are used in SATB music.
- Define Descant Singing.
- Recognize that traditional Chinese music uses string instruments.

4th Grade: Students will be able to:

- Aurally identify melodies based on ascending and descending scales.
- Describe a minor melody as sad, serious, or reflective and a major melody as happy, upbeat, or triumphant.
- Define Melodic Ostinato.

3rd Grade: Students will be able to:

- Name the lines and spaces of the treble clef staff.
- Describe how melodies move by steps, skips, and repeated notes.
- Perform a four measure improvisation using the extended pentatonic scale.

2nd Grade: Students will be able to:

- Describe how meters help us count beats and play rhythms by organizing them into measures.
- Recall that strong and weak beats help us feel rhythms and keep a steady tempo.
- Improvise over a simple ostinato within a song.

1st Grade: Students will be able to:

- Listen and imitate patterns on rhythm instruments.
- Perform simple rhythms to a song.
- Define Ostinato.

Kindergarten: Students will be able to:

- Chant rhythmic syllables.
- Identify same vs. different rhythm patterns in a game.
- Sing, play, and move to rhythm patterns.

Adaptive Music

Students in CSEP and CRI classes will learn many of the same concepts in ways that are meaningful to them. Students in CRI will do more movement activities and instrument playing.