



Hanover Herald

2023 - 2024 SCHOOL YEAR, VOL. 5



**FEBRUARY
2024**

From the Principal's Desk...

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**Hanover
Elementary**
BHM SCHOOLS

It is hard to believe that we have completed half of a school year already. It's been a great year so far and we are excited to see all the growth and learning that will continue to take place the remainder of the year.

The month of February is "I Love to Read Month". A love of reading is something we encourage throughout the year, but this month allows us to shine a light on the power of reading. We talk with our students about the importance of reading and how it is a skill they will use for the rest of their lives. I encourage you to share with your children your own love of reading and the role it plays in your life. The best thing you can do to help support them in this area is to have a nightly routine of reading. They can read to themselves, another family member, or listen to you read. The more students practice reading, the more fluent they will become. You can help increase their reading comprehension by asking questions about what they read or have them make connections to their own lives. Again, anything you can do to encourage reading will benefit your child.

The theme for the month of February is: *Honesty*. Being honest means to be truthful in our words and actions. Practicing honesty can strengthen our relationships by building trust and it can even reduce our stress levels. We remind students all the time that it's okay to make mistakes. All we ask is that they are honest and "own" their mistake, fix it if possible, and learn from the mistake so they don't keep making it. Included in this newsletter is a handout on honesty that you can use to have a family discussion.

The middle of winter can be a challenge with the cold temperatures and snow, but it can also be difficult in terms of illness and school attendance. Illnesses seem to spike more during this time of year and we also know that some families will elect to take vacation in late winter to escape the cold. That being said, I wanted to give you a couple reminders on attendance. Our goal is to avoid having students miss any days of school, but there are some circumstances when we know they will need to miss. In regards to illness, here are some examples of when students should remain home:

- Temperature of 100.4 degrees or higher, vomiting or diarrhea, chicken pox, head lice, pink eye, undiagnosed rashes, and strep throat.

Students who become ill during the day should report to the health office. If needed, they will be sent home after contact is made with parents or guardians. If your child is going to miss school, please remember to call the attendance line at 763.682.0822.

(continued on next page)

From the Principal's Desk... (continued)

In regards to family vacations, we strongly encourage taking those during school holidays, such as winter and spring break whenever possible. In the event this is not possible, we do ask that you contact the school ahead of time for the absence to be excused. Please note that teachers are not expected to provide students with all the schoolwork that will be missed prior to leaving for the vacation and instead will work with the student to catch up on essential learning when they return. The rationale behind this practice is the following:

- Homework is meant to reinforce learning after instruction and since students will be missing instruction, we don't want them to reinforce poor habits.
- Teachers are constantly adjusting their lesson plans to meet student needs, so homework and instruction can change on a daily/weekly basis.
- Lastly, we want you and your family to enjoy the vacation while you are on it!

If you do want your child to keep up on school work during a vacation, the best thing you can have them do is read!

Thanks again for all of your support and efforts!

Brad Kottes, Principal

Music Notes

It's hard to believe February is here! In January, students in all grades have been busy learning and remembering how to play their piano keyboards. This is an exciting performance opportunity for the kids. We will conclude our unit with students sharing a song on their keyboard. We will come back for a short unit in the spring to revisit the keyboards.



Our second graders have been working hard on their musical, "Dinostars". They will perform for students and staff on Tuesday, March 19th during the school day, and for family and friends that evening at 6:30 p.m. The Hanover PTO donated the "Dinostars" props and costumes. We are so grateful for this musical opportunity! Thank you so much Hanover PTO!

Next month our 3rd , 4th and 5th graders will begin their recorder unit.



Have a fantastic February!

Mrs. Bolton
763-682-0855 / mbolton@bhmschools.org



Artistic Expressions

Hello from the HES art room! Hard to believe we are pretty much half way through the school year. Here's a little bit of what will be going on in February in the art room:

5th grade : In the month of February, 5th grade students will start creating magazine bowls. This project is great to reinforce repurposing things and turning them into something new. With magazines, tape and tagboard strips we construct a bowl that will soon hopefully make its way home to be shown off by your 5th grader.



4th grade : February brings 4th grade's clay project: carved wooden animals inspired by the Oaxaca region in Mexico. Instead of using wood, students get clay to create an animal of their choice. Once dry, bright neon paint is used to give our sculptures a Oaxacan look. Thanks to a generous donation from the PTO, all classes who attend art class get to do a clay project this year! Thanks HES PTO!



2-K : All students in Kindergarten through 2nd grade take some time in February to learn about two artists : Chris Uphues and Romero Britto. These artists are perfect for February, as their artwork features fun heart designs. We will be creating art-work inspired by those artists, using some new art materials we haven't used yet.



During conferences, I'd love to have you stop by if you have the time! I'll be available in the art room or around HES if you'd like to have a conversation.

Take Care,

Mrs. Rausch

Art Integration

763-682-0867 / krausch@bhmschools.org



4th Grade Color Theory

Remember this stuff???



Fitness Focus

This January in grades K-5 we focused on jump roping, striking skills, hand-eye coordination and have started some hockey skills. The students worked hard on getting to each level in the jump rope ninja challenge! I am proud of their effort, endurance and perseverance!



Looking forward to February, in grades 3-5 we are going to dive into more long handled implement skills. We do that through covering stickhandling, passing, scoring, defense and offense in hockey. In the middle of the month we will be starting basketball.



Basketball skills will be covered in all the grades. We will focus on the skills of triple threat position, dribbling, passing, chest and bounce passes, shooting, offense and defense. Test your 2nd-5th grade child what BEEF stands for. Balance, Eyes, Elbows and Follow through. These four mechanical reminders of the basketball shot help students become more successful at making their shots! We will focus more on dribbling, passing and attempting a basketball shot in kindergarten and 1st grade.



At some point winter might start. If we get some good snow we will shift gears in grades 2-5 and go snowshoeing. I will give the students and teachers notice if this happens. We will snowshoe in the yard out back of the school and through the trail. This will only happen if the weather is warm enough to be out. Students will need to have their snow gear ready.



As always we are working towards treating one another with respect and practicing our good sportsmanship skills.

This month's focus at HES is *Honesty* and we will talk about how we use Honesty in PE and in life. I ask that you help your child remember their tennis shoes for PE class. Thank you to all as we look forward to having a great February in HES PE.



Sincerely,

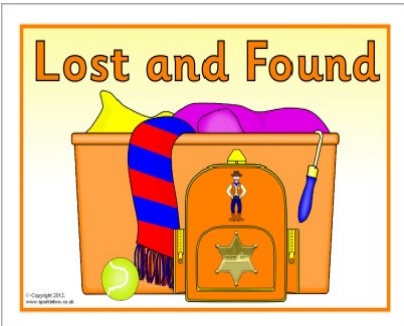
Mr. Turner

Physical Education Specialist

763-682-0865/joeturner@bhmschools.org

"The game is never more important than the people you play with."

Lost and Found



Make sure you have your kids check out the "lost and found" boxes located in the hallway across from the health office. There's lots of good stuff in there. They might find the matching mitten or boot to the single one that's at home... or find that piece of clothing that they have no idea where it is!

Health Headlines

Greetings from the health office!

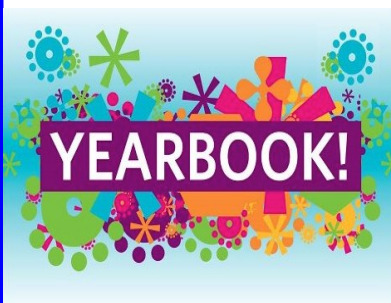
We want to make you aware that we are continuing to see increased absences due to illness throughout the district. Please remember to encourage your child to wash their hands (preferably with soap and water), cover their cough, eat well and get plenty of rest. **Also, please remember to call the attendance line for every day your child is going to be absent.** This helps us make sure your child's absence is coded correctly, but more importantly, it helps us assure your child is safe and accounted for. Students are welcome to **return to school 24 hours after their last symptom (fever, vomiting, diarrhea) with no fever-reducing medications.** We appreciate your cooperation.

Reminder: Parents of Kindergarten students starting the '24-'25 school year - If you have a child beginning kindergarten in September, please consider taking care of their immunization needs now. It is the law that all students must submit an updated immunization status before starting kindergarten. Please submit one of the following: immunization record, notarized non-medical exemption form or physician signed medical exemption form.

Required shots for vaccinated students include:

- 5 DTP
- 4 Polio (IPV or OVP)
- 3 Hepatitis B (HBV - not to be confused with Hib, which is the Haemophilus Influenza)
- 2 MMR (Measles, Mumps and Rubella)
- 2 Varicella (Chicken Pox) – If your child has had the chicken pox illness, the school will need a statement from your health care provider indicating the date of the child's varicella illness.

If you have questions, please contact Heidi Gallart, RN, at hgallart@bhmschools.org or 763-682-8818.



This year, we are again working with Zahler Photography to create our 36-page, all color yearbooks. Please pre-order yours by February 24th at www.buytheyearbook.com using school code 716737. Yearbooks are \$16.00 each and will be distributed at the end of the school year. If you have questions, contact Jill Mischke at jmischke@bhmschools.org. If you prefer to pay by check, order forms are coming home soon!

PTO Page



FRIDAY, FEB. 9TH

HANOVER ELEMENTARY CAFETERIA
6:00-8:00 (1ST GAME @ 6:30)

\$3.00 PER CARD

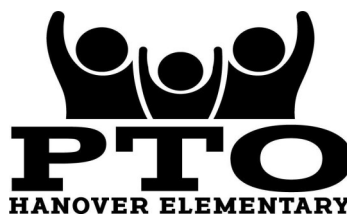
- All students must be accompanied by adult
- Kindly fill out the form below and return it along with cash/check/online payment by Wednesday, Feb. 7th
- Playing cards will be given at the door-no receipts necessary
- This event sells out fast-don't wait!



The mission of the Hanover PTO (Parent/Teacher Organization) is to promote an open line of communication between parents, teachers and administration to give our students extra educational opportunities, what we call the "Hanover Experience".

This experience provides our students with opportunities in the classroom and family focused events that make their time at HES both more enjoyable and a better atmosphere for learning. This support demonstrates to our children that education is important and we are behind them in every way.

The next meeting is Monday, February 5, 2024, 6:00 pm in the Staff Lounge.



Calendar Reading: New this year, students will be encouraged to read, participate, and complete the in-school and at-home reading activities listed on the calendar that was sent home. Completed calendars need to be returned no later than March 2. Prizes will be awarded to all participants and EXTRA prizes will be drawn as well! Thank you for encouraging your child to be an active participant and making reading fun!

[illegible]



Library of Congress
National Digital Library of the American Revolution

I Love to Read Martin

February 2014

Read Here, There, ANYWHERE!



| Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| First & Last Name Grade Teacher | | | As I have enjoyed it so far I will continue to read it. | I have enjoyed it so far I will continue to read it. |
| 1. I have enjoyed it so far I will continue to read it. | 2. I have enjoyed it so far I will continue to read it. | 3. I have enjoyed it so far I will continue to read it. | 4. I have enjoyed it so far I will continue to read it. | 5. I have enjoyed it so far I will continue to read it. |
| 6. I have enjoyed it so far I will continue to read it. | 7. I have enjoyed it so far I will continue to read it. | 8. I have enjoyed it so far I will continue to read it. | 9. I have enjoyed it so far I will continue to read it. | 10. I have enjoyed it so far I will continue to read it. |
| 11. I have enjoyed it so far I will continue to read it. | 12. I have enjoyed it so far I will continue to read it. | 13. I have enjoyed it so far I will continue to read it. | 14. I have enjoyed it so far I will continue to read it. | 15. I have enjoyed it so far I will continue to read it. |
| 16. I have enjoyed it so far I will continue to read it. | 17. I have enjoyed it so far I will continue to read it. | 18. I have enjoyed it so far I will continue to read it. | 19. I have enjoyed it so far I will continue to read it. | 20. I have enjoyed it so far I will continue to read it. |
| 21. I have enjoyed it so far I will continue to read it. | 22. I have enjoyed it so far I will continue to read it. | 23. I have enjoyed it so far I will continue to read it. | 24. I have enjoyed it so far I will continue to read it. | 25. I have enjoyed it so far I will continue to read it. |
| 26. I have enjoyed it so far I will continue to read it. | 27. I have enjoyed it so far I will continue to read it. | 28. I have enjoyed it so far I will continue to read it. | 29. I have enjoyed it so far I will continue to read it. | 30. I have enjoyed it so far I will continue to read it. |



See back
cover
for
more

- February 2 Team Up to Read - Wear favorite sports team apparel
- February 9 Read My Shirt - Wear a shirt with words on it
- February 16 Curl Up with a Good Book - Wear comfy clothes or pajamas
- February 23 Reading is my Superpower - Wear superhero attire

- DEAR (Drop Everything And Read) - On the four Tuesdays of the month, Mr. Koltes will surprise students with a “drop everything and read” announcement. All students in the grade level will stop what they are doing and pick up a book to read.
- Team Up to Read - On February 2nd, every classroom will “team up” with a classroom from a different grade level to share a book they are reading and/or do a collaborative activity.
- Author Visit - On February 9th, Minnesota author Douglas Wood will visit our school and speak to all of our students about his passions, the writing process and his children’s books.

A row of stylized books in various colors (grey, red, blue, yellow, green) with labels: M. Book, M. Book, I. Asimov, S. Cooper, Pinkerton A. Louis, V.I. Lenin.

Kindergarten Registration for 2024-2025

If you have a child eligible for kindergarten this fall, you should have received registration information in the mail. Kindergarten Registration Night is Thursday, February 15th at 6 p.m. in the Media Center. Don't forget to bring:

- Registration Form (completed)
- Health & Emergency Form (completed)
- Student Immunization Form (filled out to current date) - Please read and sign section 3 on the back side of the student immunization form
- Copy of child's birth certificate/visa or bring the original and we can make a copy (if not provided when child was early childhood screened in Buffalo)
- Copy of Early Childhood Screening results (if not screened in Buffalo)

Hope you can attend!



Your child(ren)'s report card is now available on the Infinite Campus Portal. If you need access, please contact Jill Mischke at jmischke@bhmschools.org.

Instructions to access your child's report card online:

1. Go to the Campus Portal Login page:
<https://bhmmn.infinitecampus.org/campus/portal/buffalo.jsp>
2. Click "Campus Parent."
3. Log in using your user name and password. (If you have not signed up for the portal before, please contact Jill to get your activation key.)
4. Select "Documents" from the left-hand index and the available Report Cards will be listed on the right.
5. To see the report cards for different students, navigate to the top right of your screen and use the arrow to see a list of enrolled students.



HES received the following donations:

- ♦ \$8,438.78 from PTO for PE, activity funds and art residency

DATES TO REMEMBER

Upcoming Events

| | |
|----------------|---|
| February 1 & 6 | Conferences, 2:45-7:45 |
| February 2 | Groundhog Day |
| February 2 | Team Up to Read! Wear sports team apparel |
| February 2 | Early release, 12:25pm |
| February 5 | PTO meeting, 6pm - staff lounge |
| February 7 | 5th grade music roundup, BHS |
| February 7 | Global Day of Play |
| February 9 | Author Douglas Wood visit |
| February 9 | Read My Shirt! Wear a shirt with words on it |
| February 9 | PTO Bingo night, 6-8pm |
| February 14 | Valentine's Day |
| February 14 | 100th Day |
| February 15 | Kindergarten '24/'25 registration, 6pm |
| February 16 | Curl Up with a Good Book! Wear comfy clothes or pajamas |
| February 19 | President's Day - no school |
| February 23 | Reading is My Superpower! Wear superhero attire |
| February 28 | School Bus Driver Appreciation Day |
| February 28 | 4th grade field trip, Bell Museum |
| February 29 | Leap Year Day |

Things to do, places to go...

HONESTY

Family Newsletter

PurposeFULL
People

Honesty Overview

This month's focus is Honesty. One way to think about Honesty is "being truthful in what you say and do." Practicing Honesty helps strengthen our relationships and even reduces stress.

Honesty is 1 of 3 traits we will focus on throughout the year that helps students **Be Well**. Across grade levels, students will be developing skills like emotion regulation, positive self-talk, and stress-management.

Conversation Starters



- Can you share or show what it means to practice Honesty?
- What is 1 way you can be more Honest with others?

PurposeFull Pursuits

Have some fun connecting as a family this month while practicing Honesty. Here are 2 "PurposeFull Pursuits" you can complete together!

#1

Review Honesty as a family! Honesty is being truthful in what you say and do. Discuss the importance of being Honest and work together to create a family Honesty pledge. Create and decorate a sign together that explains what Honesty means in your family. Have each family member sign the pledge and choose a spot to display it. Refer back to the pledge as a reminder to be Honest and to celebrate when Honesty is practiced!



#2

Set aside some time to gather as a family and check in with each other. Ask each family member, "How are you feeling today?" Practice Honesty when responding and listen carefully as each family member shares. Use the emotion check-in questions to learn more. Challenge yourselves to check in with each other on a regular basis!

Emotion Check-In Questions:

- Tell me more about that feeling.
- Why do you think you are feeling that emotion?
- What do you need right now?

Remember the three keys to discipline

Families and educators agree that discipline helps students learn and contributes to a positive learning environment. The main goal of discipline is to help children learn from poor choices and make better choices in the future—and the best place to learn it is at home.

To help your child learn from discipline:

1. Remain calm. Giving in to an urge to yell at your child teaches that it's OK to lose control when upset.
2. Be consistent. It doesn't take long for your child to learn whether you really intend to enforce rules. Give in just once to letting your child skip chores and you'll have a battle every day. Set rules and consequences you can consistently enforce.
3. Focus on behavior. Instead of criticizing your child, describe your child's behavior: "It was your sister's turn to use the computer and you wouldn't quit playing your game." Then, offer a reminder of the rule and of the consequence.

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Building your child's social skills can give learning a big boost

Students learn much more in school than academics. In every class, kids practice an important skill—getting along with others.

Research shows that problems with social skills can interfere with learning and make it difficult for kids to succeed in school and in life.

To reinforce social skills:

- Be a role model. Children notice how family members interact with others. Do you introduce yourself to new people? Stay connected with friends? Support people you care about? Let your child see you being a good friend.
- Read stories. There are many books about friendship. After reading, talk about the story.
- Role-play. Kids need help practicing manners. With your child, pretend you're meeting new people. "Hi, I'm Charlie. Nice to meet you!" Also focus on sharing and kindness.
- Socialize. Give your child plenty of opportunities to spend time and interact with other kids. Head to a local playground. Participate in children's events at your local library. Sign up for a free class for kids at a community center.
- Relax. Children don't need lots of friends. Just one good buddy is fine, as long as your child co-operates well with others. If you have any concerns, talk with the teacher and work together on solutions.

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Give your elementary schooler the time to think analytically

Analytical thinking—the ability to go beyond basic knowledge and consider “the bigger picture”—is a crucial skill for school success. The better students are able to think analytically, the more deeply they grasp new concepts and ideas.

To support complex thinking:

- Let your child figure things out. Give your child time to work through problems independently. If your child has forgotten how to do an assignment, don't say it's OK not to do it. Instead, ask, “How could you find out?” Could your child call a classmate? Look over at a previous assignment for clues? Give your child space to come up with a plan.
- Discuss current events. Print out an article on a topic with many sides and chat about it over dinner. Find out what your child thinks about the issue, but don't stop there. After listening to your child's opinion, say, “I can see how you feel about this. But why do you think other people might feel differently?”
- Encourage reflection. Once your child completes a big project for school, talk about it. Ask, “How difficult was it to finish? What did you learn about how to do projects? Regardless of how the project went, reflecting on the process will help your child sharpen thinking skills.

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Third
Grade
Fun

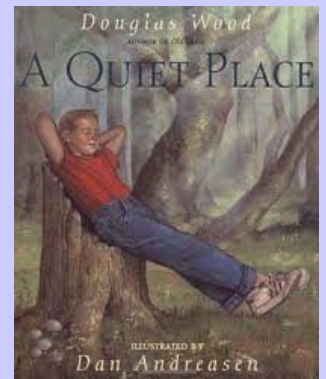


Fourth Grade Engineering Boats



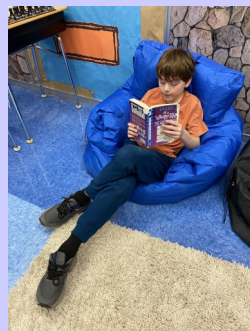
Preparing for the author visit...

A Quiet Place by Douglas Wood



Mrs. Turner's Fourth Grade Class

I Love to Read...
Here, there, anywhere!



Mrs. Boldt's Fourth Grade Class

Hanover's Forest

