



Hanover Herald

2020-2021 SCHOOL YEAR, VOL. 6



From the Principal's Desk...

MARCH 2021

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Class Assignments for 2021-2022

It's hard to believe, but we will soon begin the process of making classroom assignments for the next school year. Like you, we are hopeful that next school year will see us begin to return to a more "normal" school year. As we begin the process of classroom assignments, I wanted to take the opportunity to explain the process at HES. First, it is our goal to place students in a classroom that will best meet their needs. To do so, there are several factors we look at when making class lists. We want each class to have a wide range of ability levels. Balancing class sizes as well as the number of boys and girls in a class are goals. Behavior and other special needs are also considered. Finally, social needs and learning styles are also taken into account.

Even though class assignments are the responsibility of the teachers and principal, we recognize that parent input is also an important factor. Because of all the factors we must consider when making class lists, we will not be accepting specific teacher requests. However, we still welcome parent input on your child's learning style, academic and social/emotional needs, and personality traits that will help us find the best possible fit for your child. If you would like to provide us with this input, you can complete the Classroom Placement Form, which is available on our school website or in the front office.

Requesting a specific teacher that an older sibling previously had is one exception that we will take teacher requests for. We don't keep track of who older siblings had for teachers, so if this is something you want us to consider, you will need to note it on the Classroom Placement Form.

Our rationale for not taking specific teacher requests are the following:

- Children will have many teachers throughout their educational careers and need to learn how to adjust to different personalities and environments.
- We can't accept teacher requests so that children can be with their friends. Each year provides new opportunities to make new friends. Besides, grade levels do have lunch and recess together each day so they have plenty of time to see their friends.
- Requesting a certain teacher just because someone recommends them is often not the appropriate fit for your child. You really need to experience a school year with a teacher before you make any judgments.
- We can't ensure that all teacher requests will be able to be honored. We want to create equity for all of our students and maintain balanced classrooms that are optimal for learning.
- Our grade level teachers collaborate with one another constantly and are always sharing ideas, strategies, and supporting students as a team. This means that each child is benefiting from the knowledge and ideas of all of our teachers, not just one.

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Class Assignments (continued)

I am very confident in all of our teachers here at HES and would feel fortunate having any of my own children in their classrooms. If you have any questions or want to talk more about the classroom placement process, please feel free to contact me at bkoltes@bhmschools.org or call at 763-682-0823. The deadline for turning Classroom Placement Forms into the office is Friday, March 26th. Again, thank you for all of your support. Your partnership ensures that our students at Hanover Elementary School find success!

~~ Brad Koltes, Principal ~~

Fitness Focus

Spring **should** be right around the corner.

I would like to remind parents and students that Fitnessgram testing will begin in April. **The test items include:**

- Push-ups (upper body strength and endurance)
- Back-Saver Sit and Reach (flexibility of the hamstrings and lower back)
- Trunk lift (muscular strength)
- Curl-ups (abdominal strength and endurance)
- Mile Run (heart/lung endurance)
- Pacer (heart/lung endurance)
- Kindergarten - half-mile run



Regular physical activity can make a tremendous difference in people's lives. While each class does receive some P.E. during the week, additional practice and encouragement from home are necessary to help students reach lifetime fitness goals.

Activities for the Month of March will include: Bowling and games using the Wii system and an obstacle course activity.



Remember... "Seven days without EXERCISE makes one weak!"

Enjoy an active Spring Break!

Ms. Peters
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Media Musings

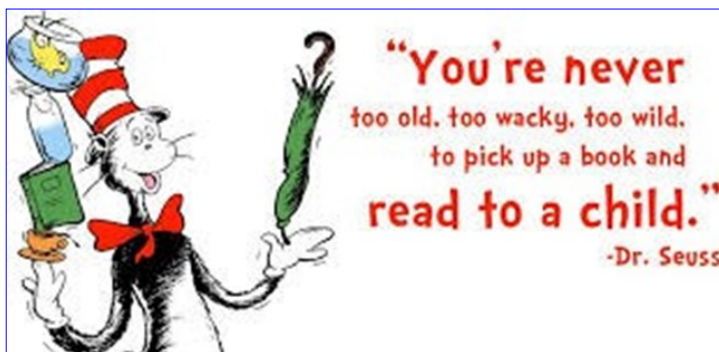
So many minutes and minutes of reading have taken place during I LOVE TO READ month! The final week of reading logs are to be turned in this Friday, March 5th, and prizes for all the voracious readers will be coming soon! Congrats to the Hanover students who have participated in the READING IS OUR THING Reading Challenge!

Every school year, the Minnesota Youth Reading Awards nominate 10 picture books for the STAR OF THE NORTH PICTURE BOOK Award. The primary students have been reading the nominees. When we complete reading every selection, the students will vote for their favorite book. Then all the votes across the state of Minnesota are tallied, and the winners are announced in April. Here are the nominees:

- **Be Kind** by Pat Zietlow Miller; illustrated by Jen Hill
- **Bear Came Along** by Richard T. Morris; illustrated by LeUyen Pham
- **A Dog Named Doug** by Karma Wilson; illustrated by Matt Myers
- **Fry Bread: A Native American Family Story** by Kevin Noble Maillard; illustrated by Juana Martinez-Neal
- **Going Down Home with Daddy** by Kelly Starling Lyons; illustrated by Daniel Minter
- **A Map into the World** by Kao Kalia Yang; illustrated by Seo Kim
- **Misunderstood Shark** by Ame Dyckman; illustrated by Scott Magoon
- **Potato Pants** written and illustrated by Laurie Keller
- **Snowman - Cold = Puddle: Spring Equations** by Laura Purdie Salas; illustrated by Micha Archer
- **Under My Hijab** by Hena Khan; illustrated by Aaliya Jaleel



In technology classes, the 3rd, 4th, and 5th graders have started our keyboarding unit. They've been practicing on Dance Mat Typing and will begin the keyboardingonline.com program this week! We've been stressing correct posture and finger position. Their speed and accuracy rates are improving every day with continued practice!



Happy reading!

Mrs. Lenzmeier
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Music Notes

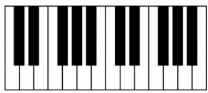
It's hard to believe that March is here already!



Students in grades 3, 4 and 5 are finishing up units with ukuleles and our new bell xylophones. Thanks again to the Hanover PTO for the instrument donations!



Kindergarten, 1st and 2nd graders have been exploring rhythms and melody using their classroom instrument bags as well as bell xylophones and bucket drumming. Kindergarten, 1st and 2nd graders will begin discovering the instruments of the band and orchestra by listening to "Carnival of the Animals". Students will also be preparing for a short keyboard unit in April by making a keyboard paper project and practicing on our cardboard keyboard practice instruments. Our second graders created those "practice keyboards" along with a lot of help from Mrs. Brainerd in the office. Thank you, Mrs. Brainerd!



Kindergarten, 1st and 2nd graders will begin discovering the instruments of the band and orchestra by listening to "Carnival of the Animals". Students will also be preparing for a short keyboard unit in April by making a keyboard paper project and practicing on our cardboard keyboard practice instruments. Our second graders created those "practice keyboards" along with a lot of help from Mrs. Brainerd in the office. Thank you, Mrs. Brainerd!



In March, our 3rd, 4th and 5th graders will also prepare for the keyboard unit by practicing note names with activities and assessments on our Quaver Online curriculum and rhythms with more bucket drumming.

March is *Music in our Schools Month*. Looking forward to another wonderful month of music making!

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Kitchen Korner

March is a great time for your child to try school breakfast!

From March 8th through the 12th, schools throughout the country will celebrate National School Breakfast Week. School breakfast is an awesome opportunity to get a fuss-free nutritious start to your child's day. It also provides students with social interaction before the start of class time.

Remember breakfast is free for all students.

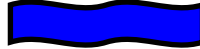


PTO Page



We are in the beginning phase of planning an at-home Spring Event for students and their families. Stay tuned for more details!

Our meetings are held virtual for the time being. Our next meeting is Monday, March 8th at 6:00 pm. We would love to have you join us to share any ideas you may have. E-mail us at hespto2020@gmail.com if you'd like to join in and we'll share the Google Meet link with you.



The best ideas come when we work together!



2021-2022 Kindergarten Registration

We are already in the early planning stages for next year and need to know how many kindergarteners we will have. If you have an incoming kindergartener or know of someone who does, please go to bhmschools.org/hanover and click on forms at the top. You can then scroll down to find the BHM Registration form, print and mail to Hanover or download and fill out digitally and email to msteward@bhmschools.org. If you have any questions, please call the Hanover Office at 763.682.0800.



New Student Registration for 2021-2022

If you know anyone new to the area with school-age children, please encourage them to register asap. They can contact Melissa Steward at msteward@bhmschools.org or call (763) 682-0824. Thanks!



Order your YEARBOOK !

Yearbook orders are due by March 31st! The full color yearbook is \$15. Order online at ybpay.lifetouch.com and use ID code 12653721. As always, the 5th grade class is featured on the cover!



HES received the following donations:

From the PTO -

For school forest & CD players \$396.04

Health Headlines

Greetings everyone! As we begin to inch toward spring, many families look forward to getting outside to play, garden or exercise. It is often a time when we tell ourselves that we are going to “get healthy”. The health and well being of young people depends on several factors. What do young people need? An hour of physical activity daily, at least 9 -11 hours of sleep each night, and an adequate diet which consists of daily intake from all the food groups. Over the next few months we will explore how each of these needs can be accomplished. This month, let’s talk about activity levels. Below are a few tips to begin an appropriate, long term exercise plan:

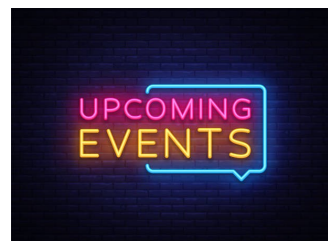
- Ease into a routine - begin exercising every other day and work up to five days per week. Set realistic goals.
- If you begin with walking - start by walking 15 minutes at a comfortable pace. Gradually increase to 30-60 minutes per session.
- If jogging or running - run just a few minutes at a time, then walk. Gradually add minutes to your running time and decrease your walking. Take a walking break as needed.
- Be patient - you might not see results right away. Keep at it, but don’t overdo. Eventually, you will see positive changes in attitude, motivation and energy levels. Don’t give up....experts say it takes 3-4 weeks of acting on something daily for it to become a habit.
- Make it fun - the biggest motivator for kids is to run or walk in a group. Understanding this is incredibly difficult in this time of COVID, consider talking with your child to determine what would be fun and motivational for them.

Next month, we will look at the benefits of adequate sleep.



Upcoming Events

March 3	Distance learning material pick-up, 8am-2pm
March 5	Kindergarten, 1st & 2nd grades: PJ Read Day - wear pajamas
March 5	Grades 3-5: Curl Up with a Good Book! - wear comfy clothes
March 8	PTO virtual meeting, 6pm
March 14	Daylight Savings Time begins
March 17	St. Patrick’s Day
March 17	Distance learning material pick-up, 8am-2pm
March 20	Spring begins
April 1	Dress up day—Sports jersey
April 2	No school, teacher workshop
April 5-9	No school, spring break
April 12	School resumes





Parent Articles

Give your child the time and space to think critically

Critical 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 critically, the more deeply they will grasp new concepts and ideas.

To promote these skills:

- Let your child figure things out. Resist the urge to solve every problem. Instead, give her time to work through problems herself. If she’s forgotten how to do an assignment, don’t offer to email the teacher. Instead, ask, “How could you find out?” Can she call a classmate? Look over at a previous assignment for clues? Give her space to come up with a plan.
- Discuss current events. Is there a news story that might interest her? Print out an article and chat about it over dinner. Find out what she thinks about the issue, but don’t stop there. Once she’s shared her opinion, press her a bit. “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 her, “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 her hone her critical-thinking skills.

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Teach your child to follow four steps to achieve any goal

Children feel good about themselves when they set goals and succeed in reaching them. Having goals also helps children overcome difficulties. When they're frustrated or upset, they can keep a "picture" in mind of what they're aiming for.

When your child sets a goal, encourage her to choose one she can reach in a short time frame. Then, help her follow four steps for making that happen:

1. State the goal. Make sure your child's goal is specific: "My goal is to learn my multiplication facts." She should write it down and post it where she will see it.
2. Plan how to meet the goal. "I will make flash cards and study them for 15 minutes every night. I will ask Dad to quiz me on Fridays."
3. Talk about the goal with others. This builds commitment. Encourage your child to tell her teacher what she plans to do.
4. Do each step in the plan, one at a time. If problems come up, talk about possible solutions. Perhaps she is too tired after school each night to review her flash cards. Maybe she could study them in the mornings while she eats breakfast instead.

Don't forget to praise your child for her effort each step of the way. "I am proud of you for studying your multiplication facts this morning." And when she achieves her goal, celebrate the way her hard work paid off!

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Test-taking strategies boost test success

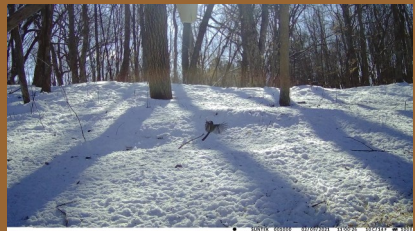
While there are specific ways to approach specific kinds of tests (true-false tests, essay tests and standardized tests, for example) there are some general strategies that will help your elementary schooler do her best on any test.

Remind your child to:

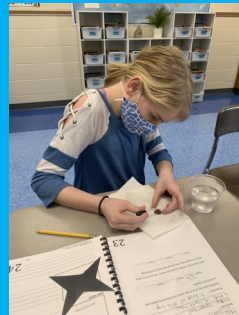
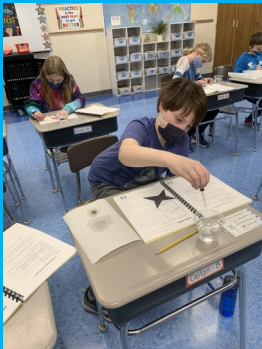
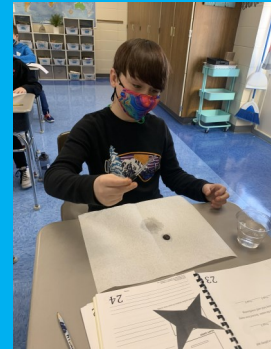
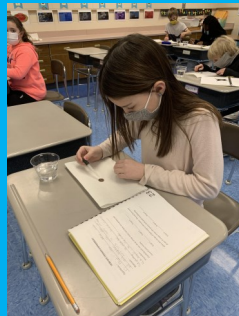
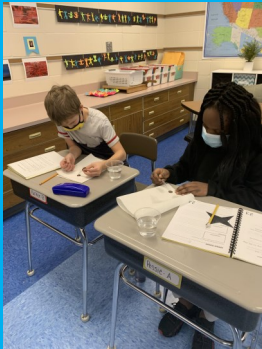
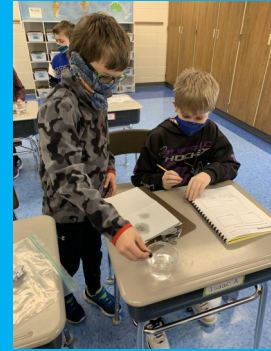
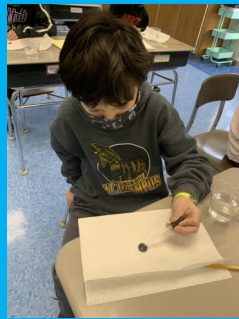
- Read the instructions carefully. Then she should read them again to make sure she knows exactly what she is supposed to do.
- Look for direction words that tell her what she is supposed to do. Direction words are words like compare, list, describe, define and summarize.
- Read through all the questions quickly before she starts. She should think about how much time she has and decide how much time she can spend on each question.
- Read each question carefully as she begins the test. She should understand exactly what the statement or question says. Then she should determine what she thinks the answer is before she reads any choices provided.
- Skip a question if she isn't sure of the answer. She should answer all the questions she knows first. Then she can come back to the others.
- Allow time to go back and check her answers. Do they make sense? Are sentences complete? Did she leave out any key words, such as not, that might change her intended meaning?

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Hanover School Forest



Fourth Grade Science: Fun with Water



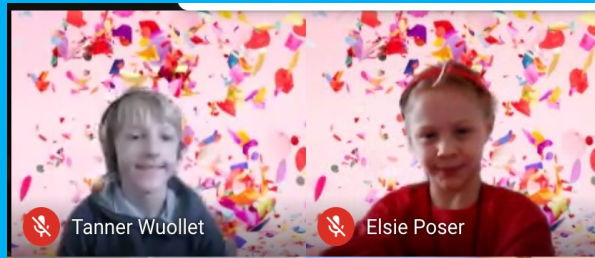
Bird Feeders for the Forest!



Mrs. Gilchrist's Distance Learning Class



Reading Buddy Bunnies



Google Meets

Buffalo Strong - Peace Flags

