



# Hanover Herald

2022-2023 SCHOOL YEAR, VOL. 6



## From the Principal's Desk...

**MARCH  
2023**

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## Class Assignments for 2023-2024

It's hard to believe, but we will soon begin the process of making classroom assignments for the next 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.

(continued on next page)



## 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](mailto:bkoltes@bhmschools.org) or call at 763-682-0823. The deadline for turning Classroom Placement Forms into the office is Thursday, March 30th. 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

This February in grades 3-5 we focused on striking skills by using long handled implements in floor hockey. In grades K-2, the skills we focused on were: collaboration, striking, and overhand throwing skills. As always, we are continuing to focus on personal responsibility and kindness.



Looking forward to March, we will finish our striking unit, play Table Ball and Badminton, and bowling. In grades K-2 we will use the parachute, practice our overhand throwing skills, and continue spatial awareness practice (tag games), followed by bowling. I am looking forward to a great month of fun in PE!

March is the month where we focus on the importance of Honesty at HES. This is a perfect time of year to have this focus. We will be talking about the importance of being honest and how that directly translates to being trustworthy. As always our focus remains on our practice of being a good sport in all activities, treating each other and the equipment with respect, and working hard in PE! Thank you to all as we look forward to having a great March in HES PE.

Please help your child remember their gym shoes for PE class. Last week we had quite a few boots make it to PE class. Have a great March! Thank you.



Mr. Turner

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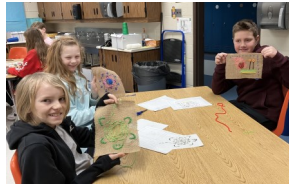
# Artistic Expressions

Greetings from the Art Room!

It has been another busy stretch in the art room....stitching, weaving, sculpting...it seems we're always trying something new and I really appreciate the students' energy and enthusiasm. Recently 5th graders designed a plan and stitched it on burlap with yarn. They learned the running stitch, backstitch, cross stitch, and the satin stitch. This project required perseverance, as it was a commitment in time! 3rd graders are working on a project that involves painting an English countryside for the background and then weaving a tree in the foreground. This project is a great connection to some art space vocabulary we've been studying; foreground, middle ground, background, and horizon line. The excitement level has been high as first graders have been sculpting their very own clay donuts. Students practiced with play dough and then moved on to air dry clay. Their donuts will be painted and coming home in the near future. Kindergarteners have been creating patterns in their art and they have been sculpting too. They have sculpted with play dough and paper thus far. It's wonderful to see the students' creativity! Be sure to check out the photos that show the kids in action!

Until next time - keep creating,

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Art Integration  
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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 the recorder.



Kindergarteners, 1st and 2nd graders have been exploring rhythms and melody using their classroom instrument bags as well as musical stations. They will now 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 and May by making a keyboard paper project and practicing on our card-board keyboard practice instruments.



2nd graders are preparing for their Spring Musical, "Go Fish" that they will perform on Tuesday, March 21st.

In March, our 3rd, 4th and 5th graders will also prepare for the guitar unit by practicing note names with activities and assessments on our Quaver Online curriculum as well as revisiting the ukulele.



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 6th through the 10th, 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.



# Media Musings

Every school year, the Minnesota Youth Reading Awards nominate 10 picture books for grades K-2 for the STAR OF THE NORTH PICTURE BOOK Award and 10 books for grades 3-5 for the MAUD HART LOVE-  
LACE Award. The following are this year's nominees in case your kids are looking for something to read!

## Star of the North Award Nominees

- **Begin with a Bee** by Liza Ketchum, Jacqueline Briggs Martin & Phyllis Root; Illustrated by Claudia McGehee
- **The Box Turtle** written and illustrated by Vanessa Roeder
- **The Electric Slide and Kai** by Kelly J. Baptist; illustrated by Darnell Johnson
- **Federico and the Wolf** by Rebecca J. Gomez; illustrated by Elisa Chavarri
- **Jayden's Impossible Garden** by Mélina Mangal; illustrated by Ken Daley
- **Josie Dances** by Denise Lajimodiere; illustrated by Angela Erdrich
- **Laxmi's Mooch** by Shelly Anand; illustrated by Nabi H. Ali
- **Old Truck** by Jarrett Pumphrey; illustrated by Jerome Pumphrey
- **The Paper Kingdom** by Helena Ku Rhee; illustrated by Pascal Campion
- **What Color is My Hijab?** by Hudda Ibrahim; illustrated by Meenal Patel



## Maud Hart Lovelace Award Nominees

- **The Best of Iggy** by Annie Barrows
- **Coop Knows the Scoop** by Taryn Souders
- **The Lion of Mars** by Jennifer L. Holm
- **The Littlest Voyageur** by Margi Preus; illustrated by Cheryl Pilgrim
- **Measuring Up** by Lily Lamotte; illustrated Ann Xu
- **Ways to Make Sunshine** by Renée Watson
- **Brave Like That** by Lindsey Stoddard
- **City Spies** by James Ponti
- **Count Me In** by Varsha Bajaj
- **Song for a Whale** by Lynne Kelly



# PTO Page

Thank you to all the HES students and adults who came out for BINGO night. 250 people attended making it another memorable night for families at Hanover Elementary.

We are in the planning stages for our Spring Event which will be held in May. There is plenty of time for anyone interested, to come to our next meeting Monday March 6th, 2023, 6:00 P.M. in the Teacher's Lounge.

Any questions? we can be reached at [hespto2020@gmail.com](mailto:hespto2020@gmail.com)

*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*



## Student Registration for 2023-2024



If you plan to send your child to kindergarten at HES this fall, please be sure to get your forms turned in to the school office.

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](mailto:msteward@bhmschools.org) or call (763) 682-0824. Thanks!

## Order your YEARBOOK !

Deadline extended! If you haven't ordered your yearbook, you still have time! Be sure to order by March 24th at [www.buytheyearbook.com](http://www.buytheyearbook.com), using school code 711908. Yearbooks are \$15.50 each and will be distributed at the end of the school year. If you have questions, contact Melissa Steward at [msteward@bhmschools.org](mailto:msteward@bhmschools.org)

## Upcoming Events

March 3	Curl Up with a Good Book! – wear comfy clothes
March 3	Early Release, 12:25 pm
March 6	PTO Meeting, 6 pm in staff lounge
March 12	Daylight Savings Time begins
March 17	St. Patrick's Day
March 20	1st Day of Spring
March 21	2nd grade musical; 6:30 pm in cafeteria
March 24	5th Grade Field Trip, River City Extreme
March 30	Dress up day—Twins Day – wear Twins apparel
March 31	No school, teacher workshop
April 3-7	No school, spring break
April 10	School resumes



Opening day is March 30th at Kansas City! Go Twins!

## Parent Articles

### Teach your child how to recognize and manage feelings

All children feel worried or upset sometimes. Being aware of these feelings and thoughts is the first step toward managing them in healthy ways. Here's how:

- Talk about thoughts. When your child seems sad or anxious, ask, "What are you thinking about right now?" Your child might say, for example, "I'm worried no one will sit with me in the cafeteria at lunch tomorrow."
- Show understanding. Put your child's feelings into words. "I know you're worried about finding someone to eat with at lunch tomorrow."
- "Flip" thinking. Tell your child to make negative thoughts do a "flip" so they're more positive or helpful. Your child might think, "I can ask my reading buddy to have lunch with me" or "I can tell my teacher I'm worried about sitting alone."

If your child often seems worried or upset, talk to your child's teacher, school counselor or pediatrician.

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## Offer support when your child has a writing assignment

A writing assignment can seem like a tough challenge for many students. Good writing involves everything from understanding a subject to knowing how to organize thoughts to checking spelling and punctuation.

To support your child:

- Suggest that your child “talk through” some ideas before starting to write. Clear writing starts with clear thinking.
- Encourage your child to take notes and make an outline before starting to write. Organized thoughts will make the writing clearer.
- Remind your child that first drafts aren’t supposed to be perfect. Students should focus on what to say first—and edit the paper for spelling and grammar later.
- Offer plenty of praise to motivate your child to keep working. Be as specific as you can: “I really like the way you’ve described what led up to this event. I understand it much better now.”
- Don’t over criticize. It’s helpful to point out errors now and then, but if you are always looking for what’s wrong, your child will be less likely to ask for help in the future.
- Be patient. Good writing takes time. Your patience and support can help your child develop into a clear thinker and skilled writer.

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## March weather activities can teach your child science skills

According to the old saying, March comes in like a lion and goes out like a lamb. Is this true where you live?

In many parts of the country, March brings changeable weather—which makes it a great time to enjoy science and other weather-related activities. With your child:

- Keep a temperature graph. Have your child record and graph the temperature each day for a month. Or, use the online weather report for your area. Record whether the day was sunny, cloudy or rainy.
- Measure the rain. You’ll need a plastic jar with straight sides and a flat bottom, a ruler and a marker. On the outside of the jar, use the ruler and marker to mark off each quarter inch. Have your child keep track of the amount of rainfall.
- Make wind chimes. You’ll need four clean, empty cans, some string and a coat hanger. Make sure the edges of the cans are not sharp. Help your child punch a hole in the bottom of each can. Tie a knot in one end of the string and thread the string through a can. Then tie the other end to your hanger. Repeat with each can. Each time the wind blows, the cans will make music!

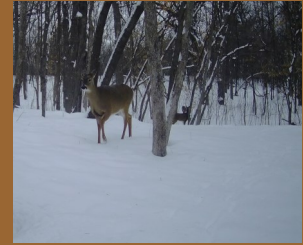
You and your child can also go online to learn more about weather. Check out these fun, age-appropriate websites:

- Weather Wiz Kids, [www.weatherwizkids.com](http://www.weatherwizkids.com).
- The Old Farmer’s Almanac for Kids, [www.almanac4kids.com/weather](http://www.almanac4kids.com/weather).
- NASA’s Climate Kids, [climatekids.nasa.gov/menu/weather-and-climate](http://climatekids.nasa.gov/menu/weather-and-climate).

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# Hanover School Forest



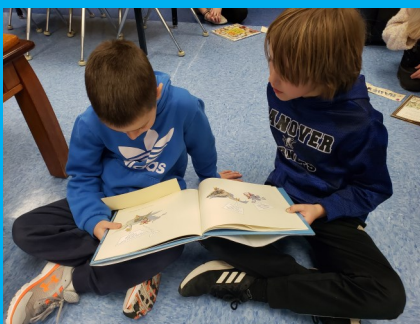


# Celebrating I Love to Read Month!

Mrs. Schaaf's class celebrates reading



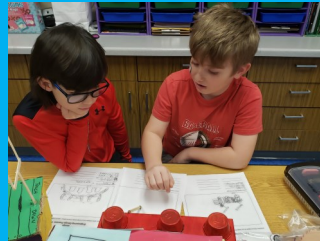
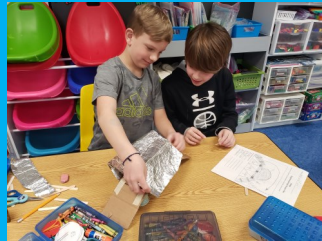
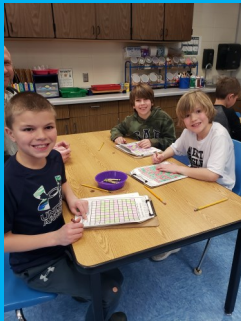
Mrs. Meints' and Mrs. Boldt's classes team up for reading!



# Hanover Royalty Reads to HES!



## Mrs. Meints' class works on bridge building and the 100th day.



## February MakerSpace Challenge

In Mrs. Boldt's room for the month of February. The students were to design a zoetrope strip, which is an old fashioned invention used for animation. Hans Block had the winning animation of a couple of kids throwing a football. Here's a photo of Hans with his trophy.