

Highland Park's Newsletter



Principal's Message

As we step into the month of February, we continue to reflect on the importance of connection, kindness, and community. February is often seen as a time to celebrate love and gratitude, and here at our school, we are reminded daily of the incredible support, encouragement, and care we receive from our families.



-Dr. Blanks

Important Dates:

February 13

Winter Concert 3rd-5th grade; 6pm Patrick Henry High School. Families attending the concert, please be mindful of safety and bring in clear bags only, please.

February 14

No School for students
Professional Learning Day

February 24

No school
Parent Teacher Conferences

February 24-28

HPES PTA Readathon

From the PTA

Hello Readers! The PTA's annual Readathon event will happen February 24-28. More information will be sent home but plan those library visits now!

Upcoming Character Lessons

- Week 23: Mistakes help me learn and grow.
- Week 24: My happiness is up to me.
- Week 25: I am smart and capable of learning anything I want to.
- Week 26: I can be anything I want to be.



Grade Level Updates



Preschool

Preschool is learning about how creativity helps us make things. From tall buildings to toys, our minds can help shape the world around us! In small groups, the three year old class is learning to count with one to one correspondence and the four year old class is practicing guided writing.

Kindergarten

We are using letter knowledge to read words and write sentences. We will learn digraphs and begin spelling and reading words with them too. Please practice heart words at home! We count to 100 and work with numbers to 30. We will explore properties of water, shadows and light.

First

First grade will finish our Module on Creature Features by writing an informative paragraph. We will start a new module on wind. We will celebrate Black History month by learning about Arthur Ashe and Maggie L. Walker.

Second

In Math we finish measurement and move into fractions. We are exploring American Indians and Famous Americans in Social Studies. In Wit & Wisdom we dig into tall tales; First, Johnny Appleseed and then John Henry.

Third STARS

In math, we will focus on fractions, telling time to the minute on an analog clock, and counting money up to \$5.00 and making change. In social studies, we'll dive into Rome and ecosystems. In language arts, we're reading about Space.

Third PLATO

In math we are exploring money and time. We continue to practice our multiplication facts. We began our unit on ancient Rome. In science we will continue investigating, building, and testing simple machines. In literacy we will include a focus on the theme of change.

Fourth STARS

In Va. Studies, we are learning about the American Revolution. In Language Arts, we study perspectives. In Math, we focus on decimals and fractions. Please continue reading with your student.

Fourth PLATO

The Genre Cafe experience is coming soon. It will be followed by a 20 Book Challenge covering eight genres. The month will end with an in-class Poetry Recitation as we prepare to share our self-selected poems with our parents in March.

Fifth STARS

Our foci in Math are decimal operations and measurement. In Science are studying light and electricity. We will study "Word Play" and "Theme" in Language Arts. Students should continue to read at home and to complete their weekly homework in both Math and Language Arts.

Fifth PLATO

In math, we will be working with fractions to solve problems and see patterns. We will move on to narrative writing after we finish up our opinion essays.

Conversation Starter



This month we usually have the coldest days of the year. Is the sun closer or farther from the earth in winter? What adaptations allow plants and animals to live in such cold temperatures? How do you adapt to the cold?

Fire

Riddle Me This!

What gets wetter the more it dries?

Answer in next month's edition