



Highland Happenings

397 Porter Street Manchester, CT 06040
(860)647-3430

Dear Highland Families,

Thankfully, February was an extra day long this month. With the snow days and days off it was amazing that we packed so much in. We celebrated 100 days of school as well as a month long celebration of Black History. We had a phenomenally successful Science Fair with Invention Convention. Thank you to all of the parents and students who participated as well as the volunteer judges and Mrs. Delissio and Mrs. Klemonski, our fabulous STEM teachers.

Our month ended with an incredible Variety Show at Manchester High School. I sadly was unable to attend but the video was incredible. Thank you to the parents and staff who worked so hard to make it a successful event.

I am certainly enjoying getting to know everyone in our community. Thank you to all our parents who came out for a "Second Cup of Coffee." It was so nice to have the chance to get to know each other better. I look forward to more of these days in the coming month. Our first Muffins for Moms will be on March 24th at 9:30 am. More information will be coming your way soon. Please be sure to check our website for updates – there is a parent suggestion box there. We look forward to a great month ahead.

Fondly,
Dr. Ali

Important Contacts

Dr. Joanna Ali

Principal

jali@mpspride.org

Mrs. Francine Harrell

Secretary

b21fharr@mpspride.org

Mrs. Mary Cohen

Nurse

Mary.Cohen@mpspride.org

Mrs. Alicia Dignazio-Drost

School Psychologist

Alicia.dignazio-drost@mpspride.org

Mr. Sean Webster

Family Resource Center
Coordinator

860-647-3337 x70258
swebster@mpspride.org

Attendance Hot Line

860-647-3337

HPS Has Talent

Come one, come all! Highland students showed off their talents at this year's Variety Show held in the MHS auditorium. Along with our very talented students, the HPS staff put on a wonderful performance. Those dancing grannies and grumpy were showing off their impressive dance moves! HPS is so proud to have such talented and wonderful students. Pictured are our fabulous fifth grade jump rope girls.



What's Happening at Highland Park

Fancy Nancy Day

Kindergarteners dressed up in their finest to celebrate reading Fancy Nancy by Jane O'Connor. They dressed in their best with handsome ties and beautiful dresses.



Jump for Joy

This month grades K-2 expanded their jump roping techniques during Physical Education classes. Students worked on leaping skills and using the long ropes. Parent volunteers joined these classes to help Mrs. Larson turn ropes and participate in the fun. Thank you to our parent volunteers!



Out of this World

5th graders created some STELLAR pieces of art in February. STEM and Art classes united by using information they learned about the planets and shading techniques to answer the question "How does light affect the planets?" If you want to see more artwork like this from your students, Mrs. Beyer

recommends going on Artsonia.com to check it out. You have the ability to comment on the creations to let your child know how great their work looks.



100 Days of FUN

In order to celebrate being in school 100 days, the HPS community dressed as though they were 100 years old.



Popcorn Day!

The 5th grade teachers have begun selling popcorn on Thursdays at HPS. Your child can purchase popcorn for \$1. Please put the money in a bag indicating it is for popcorn.



PJ Fundraiser

During January, students and staff were asked to wear PJs and donate \$1 in order to raise money for Children's Medical Center. Students came in dressed in their best sleep apparel. HPS made a significant contribution to a town wide total of \$8,099.73!



What's Happening continued

Science Fair with Invention Convention

This year, 77 Highland Park students participated in the Science Fair. The HPS community gathered in the gym to see various projects that students worked countless hours on. All participants received spirit sticks. First, second, and third place awards were given for Kindergarten/First, Second/Third, and Fourth/Fifth graders in 3 categories: model, experiment, and invention. Congratulations to those awarded and awesome job to everyone who participated!



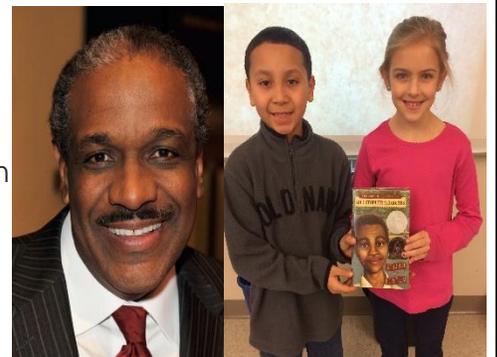
Highlighting Our Huskies



Highland Park believes in showing off their excellent staff. This month we would like to highlight Kim Churchill, the MELC site coordinator and noon aide supervisor. She believes "a noon aide is a vital part of the HPS community. They are nutritionists, nurses, behavior managers, and confidants. They see our students daily in large groups and in various atmospheres and situations." Kim is a huge asset to our community this year. She works diligently with students both in the classroom and on the playground.

Black History Month

In order to celebrate African American History, Mrs. Thieling's third grade class is working on biography projects on famous African Americans in history. Mrs. Thieling has shown her students a video interview on Christopher Paul Curtis, an African American author who wrote the book Elijah of Buxton. This story is a Newbury Award winner on slavery in the United States. Mr. Curtis is also the author of the book Bud, Not Buddy.



More Important News

<p>Read Across America</p> <p>March 2nd is Read Across America in honor of Dr. Seuss. This day is to encourage students to read. Students will participate in fun activities all about Dr. Seuss's books and dress as their favorite Dr. Seuss character.</p> 	<p>Muffins for Moms</p> <p>On March 24th, Dr. Ali would like to invite moms for muffins. There will be a presentation on social thinking and a special speaker will be joining us. More information will be coming soon.</p> 
<p>Wacky and Tacky</p>  <p>On March 24th our fabulous students and staff will be dressing their wackiest and tackiest for this spirit day. We cannot wait to see the crazy attire everyone wears!</p>	 <p>Luck of the Irish</p> <p>On March 17th, students can show off their spirit by wearing green, white, or orange.</p>
<p>Conferences</p> <p>Mark your calendars. Parent-teacher conferences will be from Tuesday, March 15th to Thursday, March 17th. These will be early dismissal days therefore students will be dismissed at 1:17pm.</p> 	<p>Math Chat</p>  <p>Parents are welcome to join a math chat on March 7th from 9:15-10am in Ms. DeAngelis' office. This will allow parents a chance to ask questions about the math curriculum. The event will provide information on how to support students in mathematics.</p>

Save the Dates

March 3

Read Across America/Spirit Day
PTA Meeting @6:30pm

March 7

Math Chat @9:15am

March 15-17

Conferences (Dismissal @1:17pm)
17th – Wear Green, White, or Orange

March 23

Early Dismissal (Dismiss @1:17pm)

March 24

Wacky Tacky Day
Muffins for Moms @9:30am

March 25

Good Friday (No School)

March 30

Family Math Night

