

Highland Happenings

397 Porter Street Manchester, CT 06040

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Dear Highland Families,

Spring is in the air at Highland Park. As the seasons change, so have some things at HPS. We are excited to welcome two new staff members. Mr. David Moore is an instructional tutor in Mrs. Blume's second grade classroom and Mr. Gregory Scott who will start as our Behavior Technician after April vacation. I will be sending home more information about our Behavior Tech later on this month.

There was a lot to celebrate this past month. The Art Show at the Lutz, put on by Mrs. Beyer, was an incredible success. At our annual Family Math Night, hosted by Ms. DeAngelis, once again demonstrated how strong our community involvement is. We appreciate families taking part in this event to learn and play together.

Make sure to keep an eye out for notices of upcoming events and announcements that come home with your students. Also, remember to look online at our updated calendar and Henry's Scrapbook.

Fondly,

Dr. Joanna Ali

Happy Birthday Dr. Seuss!

On March 2nd, HPS celebrated Read Across America in honor of Dr. Seuss' birthday. Students and staff dressed as their favorite Dr. Seuss characters. Teachers celebrated in various ways all over the school. Kindergarteners enjoyed guest speakers (their parents) who read books to the classes. Second and fourth grade teachers invited Board of Education members to read to their students. There was reading and fun everywhere!



March 2016



Important Contacts

Dr. Joanna Ali

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Mr. Sean Webster

Family Resource Center
Coordinator

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Attendance Hot Line

860-647-3337

Kindergarten Play



Speaking of Dr. Seuss, Kindergarten will be holding their play on April 6th on Dr. Seuss classics in the gym. Mrs. Chenette will be at 9:15 am, Mrs. Kilgus will be at 10 am, and Miss Pont will be at 12 pm.

What's Happening at Highland Park

Wacky Tacky

To show off their spirit, students dressed wacky and tacky. The outfits worn were fantastic.



Milk Jug Bunnies

Kindergarten classes created milk jug bunnies out of cotton balls and old milk jugs. Thank you to the parent volunteers for helping make these adorable creations.



Art Show at Lutz

The Lutz Children's Museum displayed 50 students' artwork. Adela, a fourth grader at Highland Park, was selected for the Art Show. This piece of work focuses on using warm and cool colors.



Crazy Sock Day

To celebrate World Down Syndrome Day, HPS participated in Crazy Sock Day. For a donation of \$1, students and staff could wear silly socks and even 3 socks to represent 3 chromosomes. This event was to raise awareness and understanding of Down Syndrome.



Shoe Tying Olympics

This year was the fourth annual Shoe Tying Olympics. First and Second grade students showed off their tying skills. Our winners were Averi, Kaylee, Krish, Savanna, and Merick for first grade and Cadie, Violet, Sienna, and Madigan for second grade. The Olympics not only showed off their skills but taught students about sportsmanship. Finn Moylan, second grader, said, "This day was all about building our skills and having fun." He felt the day was about support for his friends rather than who was the fastest.



Student Council

The HPS Student Council is in full swing. Fifth grade students have had the opportunity to participate in doing the AM announcements and helping kindergarteners get on the correct buses in the afternoon. What a BIG help!



Family Math Night

Families had a great time learning the math curriculum and playing together under Ms. DeAngelis.



What's Happening continued

Moms Love Muffins

Dr. Ali invited moms for muffins on March 24th. The muffins were delicious and made by Manchester's own Cheney Tech. Dr. Ali was joined by Christa Perkins. Ms. Perkins has been a school social worker in the MPS community since 1998 and currently works as the Social Emotional Learning Coordinator for the district. Mothers enjoyed a presentation by Dr. Ali and Ms. Perkins in the gym about Social Emotional Learning and the Social Thinking curriculum. Thank you to the fathers who volunteered, Cheney Tech. students and staff, and the HPS staff who made this event possible.



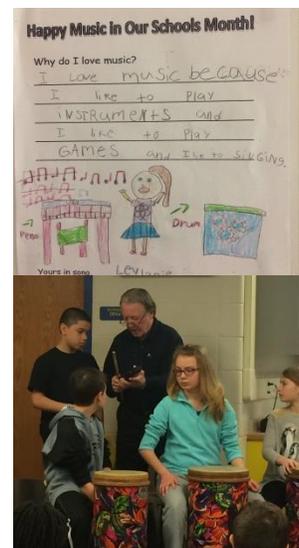
Highlighting Our Huskies



We would like to welcome two new second grade staff members. Mr. David Moore is a new addition to Mrs. Blume's classroom. He is the instructional tutor so he will be helping students with classwork and other classroom tasks. Ms. Allison Kostek has been working in Mrs. Gillis' classroom for the last few months. She works individually with students on classwork and helps manage the classroom rules and structure. Both are major assets to our community.

Music in Our Schools Month

During the month of March, district-wide, we celebrated Music in our Schools. Highland Park students have many musical talents whether in band, orchestra, or chorus. Mr. Hayden has been dedicated to creating an impressive fifth grade choir. They are currently working on pieces for the Spring concert by learning various songs and instruments. The fifth graders are also preparing for the Yard Goats game where they will sing the National Anthem. This is an exciting moment for Mr. Hayden because our HPS students will be one of the first choirs to sing the Anthem in the new stadium. Students in first grade wrote about why they love music and how it has affected them. We can all admit that in some way music has touched our lives.



More Important News

<p>District-Wide Science Fair</p> <p>Saturday, April 23rd is the district-wide Science Fair. HPS is excited that 10 of our scientists will be participating in this event. The fair will be held at Illing so come by and show your HPS pride.</p> 	<p>Me and My Guy Dance</p> <p>On April 22nd, HPS is holding an "Under the Sea" themed dance for HPS girls and their favorite guy. This can be their father, grandfather, uncle, or neighbor. So grab your best pair of shoes and dance the night away in the HPS cafeteria starting at 6:30 pm.</p> 
<p>What Will You Be When You Grow Up?</p>  <p>On April 22nd HPS students can dress up as what they want to be when they grow up. So come in as a firefighter, teacher, ninja, superhero or whatever you want to be.</p>	<p>Beach Day</p>  <p>Are you dreaming of warm weather, sunny days, and some radical waves? On April 8th, students can dress up in beach gear to show off their excitement for summer.</p>
<p>PTA Adult Social</p>  <p>Mark your calendars. The PTA is hosting a parent social for HPS parents and guardians on April 7th at 21 Hickory Lane in Manchester from 6-8 pm. We hope to see you there! RSVP by April 1st by emailing cbeitman@meridenct.gov.</p>	<p>Literacy Chat</p> <p>Parents are welcome to join a literacy chat on April 29th from 9:15-10am in Mr. Pearce's office. This will allow parents a chance to ask questions about the literacy curriculum. The event will provide information on how to support students in literacy.</p> 

Save the Dates

April 1

Autism Awareness Day/
Wear Blue Day

April 5

PTA Meeting @6:30pm

April 6

Kindergarten Play

April 7

Adult Social @6-9pm

April 8

Beach Day

April 11-15

Spring Vacation (No School)

April 22

What Will You Be When You Grow Up?

Me and My Guy Dance @6:30pm

April 29

Literacy Chat @9:15-10am

