



The Hawk Highlights.....



Volume 10 Issue 1

September 1, 2023

Principal's Greetings.....

Hello Parents,

Well we've just completed the first few days of learning for the 2023-2024 school year and the students are off to a great start! It was great to see many parents out for our Orientation as well as the First Day of School. What a great crowd! We have so much in store this school year and I am excited about the direction we are taking here at the school. The teachers as well as the students are on their way through another school year of teaching and learning. We have to stay in tune to what our children are learning on a daily basis. I encourage you to stay in constant contact with your child's teachers. We must exhibit patience when it comes to afternoon dismissal, particularly parent pick up. We want to make sure each child is accounted for and gets home safely. We are in this together. On another note, when dropping your child off in the morning after the 7:45 late bell, it is imperative that you escort your child inside the building to ensure they are safely in the building. Oftentimes some parents let their child out of the car and drive off without knowing whether they made it inside the building. This is unacceptable and we have to do a better job. I need your cooperation to ensure safety.

Our teachers are doing a wonderful job with the students here at High Bridge. We need you!

Remember: "It takes a village to raise a child."

~ William J. Kelly Ed. D

CRI NEWS

Theme: Unit 1 (Government)- "I Can Follow the Rules"

Stories: "Follow the Rules" by Amy Bihn/ "Jill Learns the Rules" by Emily Weinberger/ "No, David" by David Shannon

Reading: Letters and sounds: /a/, /m/, /t/, /p/, /s/, /c/, /ch/ Rimes: "-ap" and "-at"

Words to Know: Word List 1: *at, can, why, your, we, his* Word List 2: *walk, to, school, hand, that, does*

Math: Graphing: favorite school activities

Money: shopping for school

Telling Time: time to follow the rules

Science: Experiment called "Wash Your Hands!"

Use senses to learn about the natural environment

Make observations and participate in simple investigation

Social Studies: Rules in other places: Identify purposes for rules in various situations and the consequences for not following them.



The Hawk Highlights.....

Page 2

Kindergarten Highlights!!!!

The 2023-2024 school year has started off with a bang! The kindergartners are excited to be here and our Kindergarten Team is so happy to have them as we embark on this year's journey of learning together. Already we have explored our school, practiced many of our classroom procedures, learned our school and classroom expectations, and made new friends. The learning has already begun and we're not stopping any time soon! In **Reading** we are naming letters and their corresponding sounds, identifying the beginning sounds of words and words and words that rhyme, and developing emergent reading behaviors. We are practicing our handwriting, as well as, learning to speak to our peers and teachers in academic and more social settings. In **Math** we are developing our understanding of numbers and learning about two- and three-dimensional shapes. Our mathematicians are exploring our math norms and how to express the math thinking in different ways. In **Science** we are learning about what scientists do, how they stay safe, and the tools they use. These little scientists are using their five senses to make observations about the natural environment around us. Lastly, in **Social Studies** we are studying what rules are and why we have them, as well as how to be a good school and community citizen. Please be sure to connect to your child's ClassDojo if you have not already. Feel free to inquire with your child's teacher, if needed. This is going to be a great school year!!

First Grade Fun!

First grade is ready to begin our amazing 2023-24 school year with new friends and activities in order to become life-long learners! Parents can assist their children each day by reviewing classwork and completing practice assignments inside Clever. We are preparing for unit 1 in order to read new sight words, retell events, practice rhymes, building cvc words with Blast phonics, sequencing stories, sharing ideas and much more!. In **Math**, we are learning numbers 1-20 and preparing to practice addition of tens and ones. In **Social Studies**, we are discussing how to be good citizens, which ties in with how we follow school, community and home rules. Lastly, in **Science** we are observing parts of plants and how they grow and change. Please check your child's Canvas courses for extra games and resources and stay organized in your home learning space. **Please return homework inside the journal on Fridays!** We appreciate the time you will take to work with your child each day! Be sure to read a book each evening for our monthly book log and return it at the end of each month. Let's have a super start together and be on time for school each day at 7:30 am, ready to learn by choice!

Second Grade News!!!

We are excited to welcome our students and their families to Second Grade!

The first week of school was very unique, productive, and fun. Students are eager to learn and engaged in mastering our classroom rules, routines and completing assignments both in person and in Google Classroom. Thank you for all of your support and patience. What a wonderful start to the new school year! Below is a snapshot of what our students will learn this month.

Reading: Students will learn how to Visualize and identify Story Elements (character, setting and events) in order to help them understand the text and retell the story. They will also review and practice how to blend and read words with short vowels. Students will review the following grammar skills: how to identify and write a complete sentence, when to use capitalization and punctuation. Students will learn about writers and what it means to be an author. They will have many opportunities to write about different topics, and share ideas with their friends.

Math: We are practicing our addition and subtraction facts. We will continue working on the mastery of these facts during the year as we explore other topics in Math. By the end of Second Grade students are expected to know these facts by memory. We will begin to explore money and skip counting by 2s, 5s, and 10s.

Social Studies: Our 2nd graders are engaged in learning about the world around them. We have a hardback book that we are using in class. In addition, they will soon receive access to our textbook online. This will enable them to explore many on-line features including videos and educational games. Our first unit is: Citizenship - Our Roles and Responsibilities. We will learn how to be good citizens and about how our government works.

Science: During the first week of school, we learned about what Science is and what scientists do. Now we are exploring the tools than Scientists use and what engineers do. We are also learning about safety in our Science class as we prepare to conduct observations and experiments.

We are looking forward to a wonderful learning adventure in 2nd Grade!!!

Third Grade Happenings.....

Third Grade: What an amazing first week Back to School! And did we labor hard. Two sets of third grade classes are moving out with the "We Can Do Anything Together" spirit. All students are adjusting smoothly to the rotation schedules for Reading English Language Arts, Math, Science and Social Studies aside from a few hiccups. In **RELA**, students are engaging in the Essential Question: How do you build a Literacy Community? Rich discussions are being led on what makes a story character interesting through accountable active listening and speaking opportunities. Students are dabbling into centers and small groups to explore selected genres and appropriate "just right" reading materials or text. Routine Writing scholars are beginning to patrol their writing by answering the question using text based evidence. Homework begins on Tuesday, 9/5/23! In **Math**, this month the 3rd graders will begin with a review of the base-10 place-value system to the thousands. The students will be introduced to rounding and use rounding throughout the unit as an estimation strategy, to predict and validate addition and subtraction problems. Students will solve addition and subtraction problems using strategies and algorithms based on place value, extending their understanding from 2nd grade to the thousands. **Science** - 3rd Graders will begin the school year discovering the steps of scientific observation and the phenomena of nature such as weather patterns. **Social Studies**-3rd Graders will discuss the focus question: How do leaders motivate citizens of communities? Students will be able explain and identify the American symbols and documents as it relates to the role of U.S. government. People better cooperate when they respect authority and follow rules and laws.

Fourth Grade Happenings!

The fourth-grade team welcomes our new students to the 2023-24 school year. We look forward to an exciting and enriching year of learning.

HELLO, FAMILY! Over the next three weeks, our class will build their knowledge about identity, with a focus on a variety of story types. We will read texts and view videos about how our experiences help shape our identity. AT HOME-Make learning fun for the whole family! Set aside time daily for your child to share with you what he or she is learning. Use these ideas to help build your child's knowledge about the topic: • Talk about the ideas your child has added to the knowledge map each week. • Ask about the texts your child is reading and what he or she has learned from them. • Share with your child your own questions about the topic, and work together to find the answers. Parents please join my Remind by going to <https://www.remind.com/join/89dek3>. **Math**- In Grade 4 Unit 1, students build their understanding of the relationship between place value and the standard algorithms for addition and subtraction. Students express, order, compare, add, and subtract whole digit numbers up to a million. Students apply strategies to solve word problems using various aspects of measurement such as distance, time, etc. Math Tip for Home: Try real world evaluations with your child. When riding in the car or watching TV play "I Spy" as you look for certain numbers in certain place values. (You say: "I Spy a 3 in the tens place." Your child finds the number and reads the entire number aloud, correctly or visa versa.) *** Note: When reading whole numbers without a decimal, there should never be an "and". {EX: 432=Four hundred thirty-two; It should not be read Four hundred AND thirty-two} Please make a mental note to gently correct your child each time AND is said in a number without a decimal. **Science**-In Students are learning what it means to be a scientist. We will revisit units from Third grade. As we move into Fourth Grade, students will establish an understanding of the Scientific Method and explore weather systems and patterns. **Social Studies**- In Social Studies, students will be bridging the gap between where we left off in Third grade and where we start in Fourth. We will be examining various sources and documents to see how these sources teach us about the past. Students will then be learning about how the government works. We will focus on Maryland state and local governments.

We look forward to seeing everyone at back to school night.

Fifth Grade News Flash!!!!!!

- Welcome to the 2023-2024 school year! We extend a special welcome to all of our new students and families to High Bridge. We can't wait to learn more about our new students as we establish new routines and expectations for learning in the first few weeks of school. Please mark your calendars for **Back to School Night** which will be held from 6:30 - 8:00 pm on Wednesday, September 13, 2023. During this time together we will give an overview of our classroom environments, important 5th grade events, and expectations for learning. As we are limited on time for our presentations during Back to School Night, we ask that you reserve individualized conversations for our time scheduled in **October** or reach out to your student's homeroom teacher to schedule an after school conference.

The month of September will bring a review of previously applied skills and an introduction to new standards in all subject areas. Skills covered in the first quarter include visualizing ideas while reading new texts, annotating our thoughts and questions in the text as we read, evaluating a story to determine a theme, and writing to express ideas using text evidence as support. We will also be taking the first of three (3) I-Ready assessments that will provide detailed information related to your student's present levels with comprehension of a variety of texts, as well as his /her vocabulary skills. Reports will be sent home to families once testing has concluded in **September**.

In **Social Studies**, students will begin to explore the migration of humans to North America and the development of new cultures across the continent. In science, students will explore concepts in earth and space science. **Math** lessons will guide students to reflect on personal math strengths. They will also focus on inverse properties of multiplication and division. Understanding of these operations, together with place value are essential for solving real-word problems. We are looking forward to an exciting first month!

The Fifth Grade Team

COUNSELOR'S CORNER

High Bridge Elementary School

Ms. Miller School Counselor, lisa2.miller@pgcps.org, 301-805-2690

Meet the Counselor

Short Quiz for You!

1. Have you personally met the school counselor?
2. What services can the counselor provide?

If you answered "no" or "I don't know" to any of the above, call the school office to contact me so that we can talk. You might find it helpful.

Going Back To School

Most teachers begin the school year with getting to know their students. It's a time when your scholar is ecstatic about showing his/her friend that special t-shirt or watch from their vacation. It can also lead to a bad start. Here are some helpful tips for the school year:

- Eat Healthy Breakfast
- Go to bed early
- Turn your homework in on time
- Be on time for school
- Make your appointments after school
- Try your best
- Take your time and ask questions if you don't understand

Encouragement Skills

As Parents/Guardians (or teachers) we never miss the opportunity to build our scholars self-esteem. We build up their resilience with words and support. What if our children learn how to encourage others, they grow into positive leaders, supportive friends, and empathetic adults (their self-esteem grows too)! Let's empower our students to encourage family and friends.

August Guidance Lessons: Coping Skills & Self Control



Hello parents/guardians!

Welcome to Music for the 2023-2024 school year!

The Music Notes Newsletter will update you on musical happenings for the month of September in all General and Special Education Music classes.

Please note that if your child is missing a music assignment, the assignment will be located in the Classwork tab of their homeroom teacher's Google Classroom. **A "0" will be entered into School Max for the assignment until your child turns it in.**

Be sure to watch for additional notes in upcoming HBES Newsletters!

Musically yours,
Mrs. Clarke

Music Notes

The musical concepts that will be covered during the month of September for the following grades are:

5th Grade

Students will be able to:

- Review The Quaver Five.
- Perform a song that utilizes meters of 2, 3, and 4.
- Perform music in a 6/8 meter.

4th Grade

Students will be able to:

- Explain the difference between beat and rhythm.
- Recognize and perform rhythm patterns that include triplets.
- Perform rhythmic patterns in a song based on sixteenth notes.

3rd Grade

Students will be able to:

- Explain why we have rules.
- Identify and perform the rhythms from one phrase of a familiar song.
- Play a two-measure improvisation over an ostinato.

2nd Grade

Students will be able to:

- Describe classroom rules and how The Quaver Five is followed in music class.
- Perform steady beat in a song.
- Feel and find the strong and weak beats in a song

1st Grade

Students will be able to:

- Keep the beat to a song.
- Name objects that produce a steady beat.
- Recognize and move to the strong and weak beats in a song

Kindergarten

Students will be able to:

- Name The Quaver Five: Be Safe, Be Polite, Be Responsible, Be Kind, Be Cooperative.
- Describe the difference between beat and no beat.
- Express steady beat through singing and moving to a song

Adaptive Music

Students in CSEP and CRI classes will learn many of the same concepts in ways that are meaningful to them. Students in CRI will do more movement activities and instrument playing.

Terrific TAG News- September 2023

Our program is a pull out TAG program. The students are joined with an instructor two hours per week for enrichment activities following the TAG curriculum. There will be guest speakers and field trips this year as well! Look for more news on our website and in newsletters to catch a glimpse of all the hard work these students are doing.

In our talented and gifted program the students are extending their knowledge in specific areas. In primary the focus of the unit is organized around the broad concept of “structures”. It includes lessons and activities related to physical structures, as well as explorations into the structure of many everyday things, such as words, numbers, brains & bones, games & puzzles, shapes & art, and more. The interdisciplinary curriculum includes opportunities for students to explore connections, discuss, problem solve, reason, inquire, create, and discover using a variety of tools and materials. The program is interdisciplinary, incorporating STEM, arts integration, and literacy activities. In intermediate the focus of the unit is the concept of “perseverance”. The students will develop an understanding of what perseverance is, an exploration of perseverance in images and real-world examples. Students will have opportunities to explore connections, discuss, problem solve, reason, inquire, create, and discover using a variety of tools and materials. Lessons will incorporate STEM, arts integration, and literacy activities.

There will be testing this year for multiple grade levels to determine who else may be eligible for joining our program. Listed below are those dates per grade level. There will be reminders sent home from the teachers to prepare the students and their families for the testing.

1st grade census OLSAT testing- 11/1/23-11/16/23

4th grade census CogAt testing- 12/7/23 - 12/20/23



ESOL/ELD Newsletter

HBES has a New ELD teacher



My name is Irma Hentz, the new ESOL/ELD teacher. It is my 17th year teaching in the Prince George's County Public School system. I am delighted to be part of the HBES Family. I am excited to work alongside other professionals, families, and stakeholders to serve our ELD students better. I aim to help them improve in the four domains: listening, speaking, reading, and writing. Should you have any questions related to ESOL/ELD, please do not hesitate to contact me at irma.hentz@pgcps.org.

Updates:

Name change from English for Speakers of Other Languages (**ESOL**) to English Language Development (**ELD**)

Name change from English Learners (ELs) to Multilingual Learners (MLs)

Our **MLs Language proficiency levels** range from the following:

Proficiency Level 1: Entering

Proficiency Level 2: Emerging

Proficiency Level 3: Developing

Proficiency Level 4: Expanding

Proficiency Level 5: Bridging

Proficiency Level 6: Reaching

What are proficiency levels?

Proficiency levels tell us what kind of language students can process and produce at each stage of language proficiency. They are based on the Performance Definitions set forth by WIDA. Student proficiency level is determined by yearly ACCESS testing.

Save the Date:

ESOL/ELD Family Night - September 20, 2023 @ 6 PM

Important Dates to Remember:

September 4, 2023.....Labor Day (Schools and Offices Closed)

~~~~~

**September 13, 2023.....Back to School Night**

**6:30 p.m.—8:00 p.m.**

**September 25, 2023.....Yom Kippur**

**(Schools and Offices Closed)**

**This High Bridge At WORK!!!!**

