

Hemlock Creek Elementary School Headlines

April
2019



Mrs. Kathleen Held, Principal
Mr. Michael Kowalczyk, Associate Principal

April 7-13 is National Volunteer Week. Our volunteers at Hemlock Creek are worth their weight in gold and an essential part of our success. As a volunteer, you help our events be successful and go smoother. Your **CHOICE** to work with us is the most expensive and priceless gift of kindness. You are very special to Hemlock Creek, giving us your time and energy. Whether you work in a classroom, attend a field trip, clip box tops, attend a PTO meeting or any of the other countless opportunities of giving and sharing, know that it is very much appreciated.

A special thank you goes to our PTO officers Sarah Lisowe, Zee Abbott, Katie Weihbrecht, Hilary O'Brien, and Emily Brossard and to those of you who serve as PTO committee chairs. We may not say it as often as we should, but your efforts and more importantly the time you have given are extremely appreciated and do not go unnoticed!

Thank you to all our Hemlock Creek volunteers. You are the "Super Heroes" behind the scenes for Hemlock Creek.

Kathleen Held, Proud Principal

Tornado and Severe Weather Awareness Week

In Wisconsin, the week of April 8-12, is Tornado and Severe Weather Awareness Week. Did you know that Wisconsin averages 23 tornadoes annually? Some tips to remember are: If a tornado were to strike, move to the lowest room or an interior room if possible. Try to cover yourself with blankets, towels, pillows, etc. If possible, put yourself under a sturdy desk, counter, or table. Always remember to stay away from windows. A mock statewide tornado drill will occur on April 11th.



SUMMER SCHOOL 2019

June 12th-July 2nd

Course offerings will be available online April 2nd at 3:30 p.m.

Registration will open at 3:30 p.m. Tuesday, April 9th and remain open till 3:30 p.m. Thursday, April 18th.

All registrations and payments will be processed online & no late registrations will be accepted.

Go to www.wdpsd.com click on About the District, then Summer School tab for additional information.

Summer Assessment

Once again, West De Pere will be assessing elementary students' reading development during the summer of 2019. This year, each student in grades 1-5 can expect to meet with the same teacher she/he will see in the fall for this 45 minute assessment. This change will allow students to feel more comfortable when the first day of school arrives and will provide teachers with valuable insight into each student's progress. Parents can expect a letter with an explanation of how to sign up online to come in the mail during the middle to end of July. Families without an internet connection will be given options for signing up for a time slot. The deadline to sign up will be August 15th and student teacher conferences will take place from August 19-22. Students unable to attend will be assessed upon return to the classroom, but we appreciate parents' efforts to make this sneak peak into student growth possible. Parents should also know that this move will force schools to create class rosters earlier than in the past. Changes to rosters will only be made in rare circumstances. If you have questions or concerns about the change to having students meet with their own teachers for summer assessment, please feel free to contact your child's building principal.

Early Dismissal: Friday, March 22nd @ 11:50 a.m.

SPRING BREAK: March 25th - March 29th

School Resumes on Monday, April 1st

Hemlock Creek PTO

Thank you to everyone who attended our March meeting, and a special thank you to Mrs. Kathy Held for her presentation! Mrs. Held shared the staff beliefs on homework here at Hemlock Creek. If you were unable to attend, she will be putting these belief statements into the parent handbook next school year.

Our next meeting is scheduled for **Tuesday, April 2nd** at 6:30 pm. As always, we will meet upstairs in the school library. There is free babysitting provided at all of our meetings.

Lastly, if you have not "liked" the Hemlock Creek Elementary PTO page, please do so! It's a great place for up to date information on meetings, school events, and fun ways to get involved!

- Sarah Lisowe, PTO President

SCRIP: SCRIP is a great easy way to earn money for the PTO. By purchasing gift cards (SCRIP) to places you already shop, a percentage comes back to your school! You should have received an order form recently in your child's take-home folder. You may also place an order any time by emailing Dee Dee Zwicky at ddzwicky@yahoo.com. Cards are also available at PTO meetings.

Box Tops: A very big thank you to Crystal Natzke and Nicole Frank for organizing yet another great fundraiser for our school with the box top competition! Thank you to all the families that took part in the clipping challenge as well.

Conference Dinner: A very big thank you to Zee Abbott for organizing the delivery of Scott's Subs to staff on our last conference night. It is a very long day for our teachers and having dinner delivered is definitely appreciated!

Seroogy Sale: Reminder that the pick up for the Seroogy's sale is April 11th. Thank you Wendy Schaub for organizing this yummy fundraiser!

Amazon Smile: Do you shop Amazon? If so, you can be giving back to our school just by shopping! If you choose to support Hemlock Creek Elementary PTO your eligible purchases will give back a percentage to the school. Visit smile.amazon.com for details or email Wendy Schaub at wjschaub@yahoo.com for questions. You will see instructions to shop through both Apple and Android devices in Tuesday notes.

PTO contact: For questions, information, or inquiries about ways to get involved, please contact Sarah Lisowe at slisowe@gmail.com.

Box Top Class Winners

Congratulations to the following classrooms that earned a fun day of their choice for earning the most Box Tops!

K - Herlache 2 - Catlin 4 - Janquart
1 - Kussow 3 - Krahn 5 - Melichar



Report Cards

Trimester 2 report cards went out via SchoolMessenger on Tuesday, March 19th.

4th Grade Instrument Fitting

On **Tuesday, April 22nd**, current 4th grade students will have the opportunity to try out band instruments in preparation for 5th grade band. Band is an optional class 5th grade students have the opportunity to enroll in, but we start preparing for this at the end of 4th grade. There will be a short mandatory parent meeting at **6:00 pm** with information regarding this optional class as well as representatives from Heid Music and Jim's Music stores to help get families signed up for an instrument rental plan. Students can report to the music rooms before the meeting beginning at 5:00 pm or stay after the meeting (until 7:30 at the latest) to try out instruments. Please let Ms. Reed know if you are unable to make either date but are still interested in signing up for 5th grade band for the 2019-2020 school year. More information to follow!

Bus Transportation Reminders

Reminder: Students who normally do not ride the school bus, may not "catch" a ride with a friend for the purpose of going to his/her house after school. If you already ride a bus and want to "catch" a ride on another bus, you may only do so if the driver consents and there is room. If your child is going to a friend's home, please make your own arrangements for transportation.

Library News

The month of March was a busy month at Hemlock Creek! Students participated in a March Madness style book bracket to determine the school's favorite picture book. The bracket is currently down the final four books - The Wonkey Donkey, Unplugged, The Magician's Hat and Interrupting Chicken and the Elephant of Surprise.



K-2 students had a visit from Fly Guy and the whole school participated in a teacher reading swap.

At the end of February our winning battle of the books team participated in the state competition. Congratulations to the Hemlock Creek battle of the books team consisting of Kate Schoenwalder, Ella Cutler, Audrey Nanna, and Alexa Rattray! Congrats also to our second place team of Karli Grathen, Bailey Bartlett, Alaina Morehouse, and Grace Johnson!



Hemlock Creek has started a Tech. Club this year for 5th graders! So far the kids have coded with Dash robots, created green screen projects, and used code.org to continue working on coding skills.

The Art Spot

2019 Brown County Fair - Believe it or not, it's already that time of year that we begin selecting artwork to be entered into the Brown County Fair. Artwork that is selected is work that stands out because of the creativity, craftsmanship, and care taken. During the course of the school year, thousands of projects are made in the art rooms at Hemlock Creek. A couple hundred of projects are entered into the fair from Hemlock Creek each year. That puts it into perspective what a great honor it is to have a piece of artwork in the fair.

As we pass back artwork, students will receive a slip of paper informing them if they have something going into the fair. Students can expect to get that work back and any prizes it earned in the fall when school resumes.

If you have any questions please contact Mrs. Janssen, she is Hemlock Creek's contact person for fair entries. kjanssen2@wdpsd.com



A new table was purchased for the library. The kids have loved using this table to play checkers, color, and put together puzzles!



2019 Bellin Run

Grab your running shoes and join us! It's time for the 2019 Bellin "Kids for Running" program at Hemlock Creek! An informational meeting was held on Tuesday, March 12th for students in grades 3-5 and their parents. Those who attended...

- Met Coach Noskowiak and Coach Wisneski.
- Learned more about the training program and the 2019 Bellin Run 10K on June 8th, 2019.
- Learned about the online registration process and cost (\$15.00 per child).
- Received information on an additional race opportunity during training - The Cellcom 5K through the Prevea LUV2RUN program on Saturday, May 18th, 2019.
- Found out about how parents can be involved and volunteer during training runs.

Training begins on Monday, April 1st after school at Hemlock Creek. Students will train every Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday until the end of the school year.

Destination Imagination

Five Flares placed 2nd and are on to the State Competition at UWGB April 13th. Congratulations Zander Kinjerski, Lucy Kraft, Brooklyn Kelnhofer, Ryan Bostedt, and Dwij Kachole



PBIS News

In the month of March, students worked on being a problem solver and being respectful. For the first week, students needed to use their words and listening skills when confronted with a disagreement at recess. Below are the Phantastic Phantom Traveling Trophy Recipients:

K- Mrs. Spaeth	1- Mrs. Bain	2- Mrs. Clarke	3- Mrs. Budek	4- Mrs. May	5- Mrs. Bildings
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Then students were challenged with listening to and showing respect for their specials teachers. The teachers looked for the rooms that listened and followed directions consistently. The following six rooms were recognized.

K- Mrs. Spaeth	1- Mrs. Erdman	2- Mrs. Adler	3- Mr. Prebelski	4- Mr. Janquart	5- Mrs. VanBoxel
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Phantastic Phantom March Madness Info

- PBIS March Madness seeding's were based on last week's percentages of slips turned in.
 - **Kindergarten Kid Cavaliers** and **Second Grade Super Sabercats** earned first round byes
- First Round Match Ups: March 11-15
 - The grade level with the higher percentage of slips turned in and signed would advance.
 - **First Grade Fire Falcons vs Fifth Grade Fierce Frogs**
 - **Third Grade Thunder Thrashers vs Fourth Grade Future Force**
- March 18 - 22 will be the Final Four
 - The grade level with the higher percentage of slips will advance.
- April 5 a champion will be named
- **What do students need to do:**
 - **Earn Phantastic Phantom slips, sign them, and turn them in.**



Belief Statements to Help Guide Homework at Hemlock Creek

In the past couple of months, our staff has worked on belief statements to help guide the topic of homework. Homework can be a hot topic in education and there can be varying views with the very opposite viewpoints. Here are our guiding belief statements for Hemlock Creek.

- We believe it is important to have a **growth mindset** in learning. Through hard work and effort, you can get better. This takes persistence, stamina and a desire to embrace challenges rather than giving up.
- Teachers at Hemlock Creek provide homework that is **purposeful, manageable and meaningful**.
- We believe that homework should be about the **practice** of something the kids understand and not about a new skill.
- We believe that homework or "practice" may be **different** depending on the child, subject area and developmental level.
- We know there may be times when students and parents have **questions and concerns** regarding homework/practice. With this in mind, we remind families of the importance of **reaching out to teachers**.
- We believe that communication about what your **child is doing in school** is shared through teacher communications such as emails, newsletters, Seesaw or letters home. Check your child's take-home folder or student agenda book.
- We believe in addition to any night's homework, children should be reading at **minimum 15 minutes** nightly. We encourage them to read at home, books they have selected. **Nightly reading** will help to build a love of reading while increasing fluency, comprehension, and stamina. Did you know that the volume of reading is the single most important factor to increase reading achievement? We encourage our students to make individual **reading choices**, read a variety of material and participate in independent and family shared reading.

