

Highland Park's Newsletter



Principal's Message

Dear Highland Park Families,

November is a time of gratitude, and we are so thankful for our wonderful school community. This month, as we continue to focus on meaningful learning, we'll also be celebrating kindness, compassion, and teamwork. Together, let's encourage our students to show gratitude and make a positive impact—both in school and at home.

Thank you for your continued support and for sharing in our mission to help each child thrive. Wishing you and your family a month filled with warmth and gratitude!



Warmly,

-Dr. Blanks

Important Dates:

November 1

No school - PD Day for teachers

November 4

Parent/Teacher Conferences - No school

November 5

Holiday - No school

November 26

HPES Turkey Bowl for students

November 27, 28, 29

Holiday - No school

From the PTA

The Walkathon was a great success! Students had a great time with their friends at the event. Thank you to all who donated, volunteered, or joined us for the event! Our school community raised \$13,980.31 which will support our students and teachers in a number of ways. Our next PTA meeting will be November 21st at 4:30pm and all are welcome.

Upcoming Character Lessons

Week 12: I haven't figured it out, YET

Week 13: I make a positive difference in our community

Week 14: I settle my differences with each other peacefully

Week 15: I choose to be grateful.



Grade Level Updates



Preschool

Preschool is learning all about how to keep a healthy and safe body. We are talking about healthy eating, exercise, and the people in our communities who keep us safe like doctors, crossing guards, and firefighters!

Kindergarten

In reading we are beginning to use our letter knowledge to read and spell words. We are also learning new heart words and encourage families to practice these at home. In math we are focusing on counting to 100 and writing/identifying teen numbers. In science and social studies, we will be exploring our five senses and learning about Thanksgiving.

First

First grade will be digging into living systems, geometry and data. We will use the unit, "Am I Alive?" to learn about living and non-living things. We will finish up our module on Book Around the World and understanding how books change our lives.

Second

In 2nd grade we are beginning to work on vowel teams when reading multi-syllable words. In science we are exploring all things magnetic in our force's unit. We are extending our addition and subtraction skills along with learning about equivalent values in math. As a reminder, please focus on reading for at least 15 minutes in the evening with your child.

Third STARS

We are working on Multiplication and Division and in Reading we are continuing our Ocean Unit and we will start be starting Space Unit and we are finishing Ancient China and then moving on to Ancient Egypt.



Third PLATO

Third graders have begun their multiplication unit. Flashcards are a great way for families to get involved. Start slowly with the 1s, 5s & 10s then move onto the 2s. We will begin our study of Ancient Egypt in November. Parents, be on the lookout for a study guide to come home soon.

Fourth STARS

We have started our amazing journey into poetry by writing some of our own poems, as well as reading a variety of poems in class. In Virginia Studies, we are beginning our study of the Native American Language Groups and State Recognized Tribes. For math, we are tackling estimation, multiplication, and problem solving - continue to work on multiplication facts at home with your student to build their fluency!

Fourth PLATO

The 4th grade PLATO group will return from our Jamestown trip to discuss the historic developments of English colonization. Students will have an eyewitness perspective of the setting for *Blood on the River*.

Fifth STARS

In Language Arts, our 5th grade Stars are continuing to learn about reading elements, how to develop a well written response, and how to apply background knowledge to articles that coincide with our novel. In Science, we have begun our unit on Virginia Resources, and in Math, we are focusing on numerical patterns and will move on to fraction, decimal relations. Please keep up the good work of completing the homework!

Fifth PLATO

In 5P, we'll be comparing and ordering fractions and decimals. In writing, we're shifting our focus from state research projects to writing opinion essays.

Conversation Starter

This month we often focus on being thankful. What are some examples of your habitat that make you especially thankful and why? What about your habitat helps you be successful?



Riddle Me This!

I grow down as I grow up. What am I?

Answer in next month's edition

A clock