

November 7, 2018

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HAROLD D. FAYETTE SCHOOL

PRINCIPAL'S NEWSLETTER FALL 2018

Dear Parents,

Happy Fall Greetings!

November is here and two months of school have passed by. As I visit the classrooms, it is wonderful to see the joy of learning. It is a pleasure to be part of the Fayette Community.

Here are some updates and information:

Literacy

We are fully entrenched in our literacy work. The children have been immersed in their writing, moving from seed ideas, to draft, and building on the piece until it's ready to be published.

Reading is at the core of all that we do. We have used student data from the F & P Benchmark and NWEA (grades 1-6) to provide the teachers with information to drive their instructions.

The children in K-3 have been fully involved in reading mini lessons and interactive read alouds. It's a pleasure when I stop by the classrooms to see the discussions based off the read alouds. Our grade 4-6 classes have started book clubs. We are looking forward to the wonderful conversations that will be coming from those groups.

Parent University

October 23rd was a grand evening with our Fall Parent University. We take pride in our staff who ran all different math stations. A hearty thank you to the Parent University coordinators Maria Castle and Lisa Drewes.

Student Council

On October 19th students in grades 6 and 5 who ran for a Student Council office spoke to the students of grades 3-6. The student body elected the following students: 6th Grade President, Joshua Hammer, 6th Grade Vice President, Ryan Burr, 6th Grade Secretary, Aaron Zacharia, 6th Grade Public Relations, Lucas Porcaro, 5th Grade Vice President, Hailey Schwetz, 5th Grade Historian, Abbie Menninger-Low. Congratulations to all who ran. Good luck to our new officers. I want to thank Student Council supervisor Mrs. Jensen for coordinating.

Upcoming Student Council projects include: The People United Corp. Thanksgiving Food Drive, Kiwanis Toy Drive, Assemblyman McDonough's Coats for Kids Campaign, Festive Sweater Day to benefit Ronald McDonald House and the East Meadow Bristol in December to work on a craft with the seniors.



Fall Festival & Halloween Parade

A hearty thank you to the Fall Festival team. It was a delight to see the smiling faces of the children. The Laser Light Show assembly was a huge hit. Ending the day with our annual Halloween Parade is always a treat.

Chrome Books

The Chromebook initiative has been a huge hit with our 6th graders. There are many attributes, such as teachers being able to see what students are writing in Writers Workshop as it is happening. They have also been used in research such as with Mr. Chan's archeological research project.

This initiative has allowed a lab cart to be brought to 4th grade. Now 3rd grade and 4th grade both have a laptop cart to share.

Million Minutes of Reading

As you know by now, we have tweaked our program. Please make sure your child puts in accurate information and for you to sign at the end of the month. Some classes have set up their own system, which is fine (we want to make sure everyone is reading). If this is the case, the incentives will still be enforced.

Message from Nurse Marquez

With the change in weather approaching, please be sure that your child is dressed appropriately for outdoor recess. In addition, since the cold & flu season will be upon us shortly, please remind your child to wash his/her hands frequently with soap and water, and to cover their nose and mouth when coughing. As always, should you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to call me at anytime.

Absences

Please note that an absence note is needed every time a child is absent from school. We also ask that you call the Nurse's office by 8:45am at 489-3091 to report the absence as well. An absence **without** a note means your child will be marked illegally absent. A letter will be sent home for excessive absences or lateness with a call from the social worker if it continues. Thank you for your cooperation.

Winter Concerts

The district morning rehearsals have begun. They are practicing to ready themselves for the holiday concerts. The Instrumental music concert is scheduled for the evening of December 13 at Brookside at 7:00pm. Our Senior Chorus concert will be held on December 17 in the GPR at 7:00pm. Enjoy!

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Upcoming Events

November

- 12 Veterans Day Commemorated—School Closed
- 13 Picture Re-take Day
Board of Education Meeting—8:00pm
(Recognizing the Board of Education)
- 14 PTA Pie Sale Ends
- 15 HDF PTA Paint Night—Muse in Garden City –7:30
- 19 First Marking Period ends
- 20 HDF PTA Meeting—7:00pm
- 21 PTA Pie Sale Pick up
- 22-23 Thanksgiving Recess
- 27 Grades 5 & 6 Growth & Development
Parent Meeting—7:00pm
- 28 Hempstead Town Clerk Sylvia Cabana to visit
Grades K-2 “*Read & Relax*” program

December

- 1 HDF Winter Breakfast—10:00-12:00
- 3 November Million Minutes of Reading form due
Special Education Week; Hour of Code Week
- 6 Report Card Distribution—Grades 1-6
- 7 Holiday Boutique
- 12 Board Of Education Meeting—8:00pm
- 13 Instrumental Holiday Concert— 7:00pm at Brookside
- 14 Senior Chorus Concert – 2:00pm
- 17 Senior Chorus Concert - 7:00pm
- 12/24-1/1 Winter Recess

Happy New Year!

Wishing you all the best.

Sincerely,

Howard Merims