

HAMMOND TIGER TALES

October 17, 2019



Hammond Elementary School provides a safe, nurturing learning environment that fosters individual success through academic excellence, and appreciation of diversity, to ensure lifelong learners.

October 18

October 23

October 30

November 1

November 4

November 5

November 6

November 6

November 11

November 12

November 20

November 25 & 26

November 27

November 28 & 29

December 6

December 11

December 13

December 18

December 23-January 1

January 9

January 9

January 14

January 20

January 27

January 28

Schools Closed for Students, Professional Work Day

Fall Fun Run

Fall Fun Run *Rain Date*

Schools Close 3 Hours Early (12:30 dismissal), Professional Work Day

4th Grade Field Trip to Smithsonian American Art Museum

Visiting Author - Hena Khan

Picture Retake Day

Screenagers Viewing, HMS gym 6:30 p.m.

Report cards issued

3rd Grade Field Trip to Ellicott City

Hearing/Vision Clinic

Schools Close 3 Hours Early (12:30 dismissal), Parent/Teacher Conferences

Schools Closed for Students, Parent/Teacher Conferences

Schools and Offices Closed (State mandated holiday)

1st and 2nd Grade Field Trip to Toby's Theater

Advanced Band and Orchestra and Chorus Performance 7:00 p.m.

Quarter 2 interim progress reports issued

Advanced Band and Orchestra and Chorus Performance *Snow Date*

Winter Break (Schools closed for students)

Dental Clinic

Family Fit Night

Beginning Band and Strings Performance 7:00 p.m. HMS Gym

Schools and Offices Closed (State mandated holiday)

Schools Closed for Students, Professional Work Day

Beginning Band and Strings Performance *Snow Date*



We Like You Just The Way You Are!

Dear Parents,

At Hammond Elementary, we are committed to the Core Value of Communication as we believe that good communication helps us to solve problems successfully and maintain good interpersonal relationships. With that in mind, I would like to highlight some communication processes.

*If you have a question that does not require an urgent response, you can call the school to leave a message for your child's teacher, send a note to the teacher, or e-mail the teacher. Staff will respond **within 48 hours** of receipt of your message. If you have an urgent matter, please call the school directly rather than sending an e-mail as this will assure that the information is passed in a timely manner to appropriate staff.*

Additionally, our school website hes.hcpss.org provides information for school events, highlights of activities, volunteer training information, and staff contact information. It is updated on a regular basis.

On Thursday, October 31 all students are invited to participate in our Halloween parade and party. Students who do not wish to participate will participate in an alternate activity. Parents and special guests are invited to join us for the parade beginning at 2:15 p.m. on the blacktop. Please refer to the Halloween permission form that came home with your student for more information.

If you have any questions, please contact the HES front office or your child's teacher.

Sincerely,

Kimberlyn S. Pratesi

Principal

Hammond Elementary School

kimberlyn_pratesi@hcpss.org

NEW ANNOUNCEMENTS AND IMPORTANT REMINDERS

Congratulations

Congratulations to 4th Grader Rebecca Du on her acceptance into the Howard County Elementary School Gifted and Talented Orchestra (ESGTO)! Students in the ESGTO learn and perform music three or more levels above the curricular standard. This prestigious orchestra will rehearse on Thursdays throughout the school year in preparation for their Winter and Spring Concerts at Marriotts Ridge High School. We hope you can join us on Saturday, December 7 and Saturday, May 2 as we celebrate Rebecca and the rest of the ESGTO!

Fall Fun Run

It's FALL! Time for FUN, so let's RUN! HES is having their annual PE Fall Fun Run! Come help be Course Marshals, Water Helpers, Hand Markers, and/or Finish Line Helpers. Volunteer spots are needed for each grade. This sign-up has spots for the rain date as well. If you can make either date, please sign up for both!

DATE: Wednesday, October 23

RAIN DATE: Wednesday, October 30

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20f0448aba929a7fc1-pehes>



Picture Retake Day

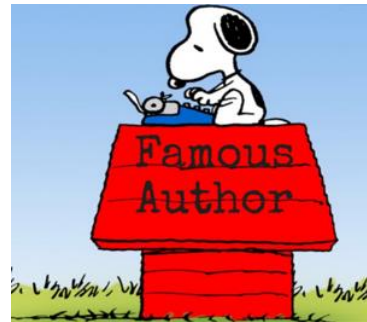
Picture Day Retakes will be held on Wednesday, November 6. If you would like your child to have their portraits retaken on this day, the entire portrait package must be returned. Please have your child bring the portrait package to the photographer on retake day. Parents of students who were absent should contact the main office for an order envelope if they wish to order portraits. Please visit www.schoolpix.com to order additional portraits.

Young Authors' Contest

The Howard County Literacy Association is launching the annual State of Maryland Young Authors' Contest! This year we are excited to announce that first graders are eligible to enter the contest.

Students in Grades 1-5 are encouraged to submit a short story and/or poem by Monday, December 2 using the following guidelines:

- Entries must be original work.
- All entries must use no smaller than 12 point font in Times New Roman.
- Short story entry must range between 100-400 words (gr. 1-2) and 300-800 words (gr. 3-5).
- Poem entry will consist of a single poem, any style, and must range between 25-150 words (all grade levels).
- Entries must not include graphics.
- Each entry must include a completed cover sheet signed by the student author's parent.



View the flier for more information and be sure to include the contest coversheet.



Author Visit

Author Hena Khan will be visiting Hammond Elementary on Tuesday, November 5! She will speak with our students about the writing process and finding one's voice through writing. Ms. Khan is the author of several award-winning chapter and picture books. As part of the visit, she has offered to autograph books for our students.

For more information, please look for an informational flier that came home in students' Thursday folders on October 10.

Please direct any questions about this event to Mrs. Davis or Mrs. Lee.

Fall Weather is Here

As the weather gets colder, please make sure that your child has a coat and appropriate clothing to keep warm during outdoor recess.



Caring School Community Corner



Did you know that HES has a school-based Crisis Team? Our role is to provide assistance to students, parents, and staff in the event of a crisis occurring in our school community, such as the death of a student, or a car accident involving a teacher, for example. Our Crisis Team meets quarterly (or more often if needed) and is comprised of teachers and support staff that can assist with a variety of tasks should a crisis occur. Our Crisis Team will be providing more information throughout the school year about what we can do to support our school in the event of a crisis.

National Bullying Prevention Month

October is National Bullying Prevention Month. The goal of this month is to increase awareness, understand potential impacts, identify protective factors, and work together to stop bullying and cyberbullying. Please check out the links below for more information.

<https://www.stopbullying.gov/>

<https://www.stompoutbullying.org/>

<https://www.pacer.org/bullying/>

From the Health Room

Dispose of unwanted or expired medications and sharps at HC DrugFree's convenient drive-thru collection on Saturday, October 26 from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at the Wilde Lake Village Center. View the flier for more information.

CONTINUING ANNOUNCEMENTS

Text Alerts

If you are interested in receiving school text alerts, please subscribe by texting the word "YES" to 67587 from the cell phone number on file in HCPSS Connect.

Birthday Celebrations

In order to avoid disappointment for our students and to maintain an environment conducive to learning, please understand that birthday party invitations should be distributed outside of school. A student directory is now available on Family File. On the special day, if you choose to bring lunch for your child, please remember only your child is allowed to enjoy the meal and/or snack as we have to assure safety for students with allergies, and dietary needs.



Absence Reporting and Change in Dismissal Reporting

In an effort to go green and reduce interruptions to the classroom instruction, we ask that you use the following Google Forms for reporting absences or if there are any changes in your child's dismissal routine: HES-Reporting Absence(s) Form and HES-Change in Dismissal Routine Form. These forms are available on Hammond Elementary School's website: hes.hcpss.org

Please be advised: You will need your photo ID any time you are entering the building.

Volunteers Welcome!

The old proverb is right! It takes a village to raise a child and we need your support. Volunteering is easy and fun!

Each year HCPSS/HES requires you to take 2 short trainings online before volunteering in the school or on field trips. Visit the HES website, click on Get Involved and scroll down to "Volunteer" section. The link will take you to the HCPSS Parent Volunteer Information page. *Due to liability and safety concerns, Hammond Elementary requests that small children do not accompany parent volunteers.* Questions or Concerns? Email: volunteer@hespta.org

Please be advised you will need to turn in your volunteer certificates to Mrs. Bajwa or Mrs. Hawkes if you are planning on volunteering in the classroom or attending your child's field trip(s).