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MESSAGE FROM ADMINISTRATION

Greetings HES Families and School Community,

At Hammond Elementary School, our mission is always to provide a safe and nurturing environment that fosters individual success through academic excellence and appreciation of diversity, to ensure lifelong learners. As stated in our School Climate Improvement plan, the staff at HES commit to deepening our understanding of trauma-informed practices in order to make sure every student is best supported in their learning. We value and prioritize the staff and students' social, emotional, and physical needs each and every day. We firmly believe that nurturing and promoting students' social and emotional needs will empower them with strategies and tools for lifelong success!

We continue to make steady gains in our academic goals as a school community! As stated in our School Improvement plan, we have committed to implementing number routines with fidelity in our daily math instruction, while learning and utilizing the most updated strategies. Also as stated in our School Improvement plan, we have committed to using data to plan for literacy instruction that is individualized for each of our learners.

Please remember that if you'd ever like to review our [School Improvement plan](#) for this school year, it can always be found on our website, under the "About" section.

As Ms. Mapson and I walk through classrooms, we are pleased to see that students are engaged in learning, participating in discourse and practicing autonomy in their classrooms. At the midway point of our school year, we are incredibly proud of the social emotional and academic growth of all our Tuffy Tigers!

Thank you for your continued support and partnership in your child's education!

Warmly,

Mrs. Heather Moraff, Principal
Mrs. Nykia Mapson, Assistant Principal

NEXT WEEK'S SCHEDULE

Please note the changes in next week's schedule for students

Wed. Feb. 7 **Schools close 3 hours early** for parent/teacher conferences. Dismissal begins at 12:15.

Thu. Feb. 8 **Schools close 3 hours early** for parent/teacher conferences. Dismissal begins at 12:15.

Fri. Feb. 9 **Schools closed for students** - Countywide Professional Learning Day

REPORT CARDS

Report cards will be available at 4pm on Monday, February 5.

To access the report card, follow these steps:

- Log in to HCPSS Connect Synergy using parent/guardian credentials
- Select More Options from the left panel
- Select Report Cards from the middle
- Select the report card you wish to access

Understanding your child's Report Card

A [reference sheet](#) has been developed to support families in understanding the Elementary School Report Card

PARENT-TEACHER CONFERENCES FOR MATH

The parent-teacher conference scheduling window closes tomorrow, February 2nd.

This year's winter conferences will be held on February 7th and February 8th. We will be holding 20-minute conferences. All conferences will be held with your child's math teacher. Below are the details of how they will be held based on the date and time of your conference.

-Wednesday, February 7th- All conferences will be held **in person** until **3:30 pm**.

After 3:30 pm, all conferences will be held **virtually only**.

-Thursday, February 8th- All conferences will be held **virtually**.

MATH NIGHT

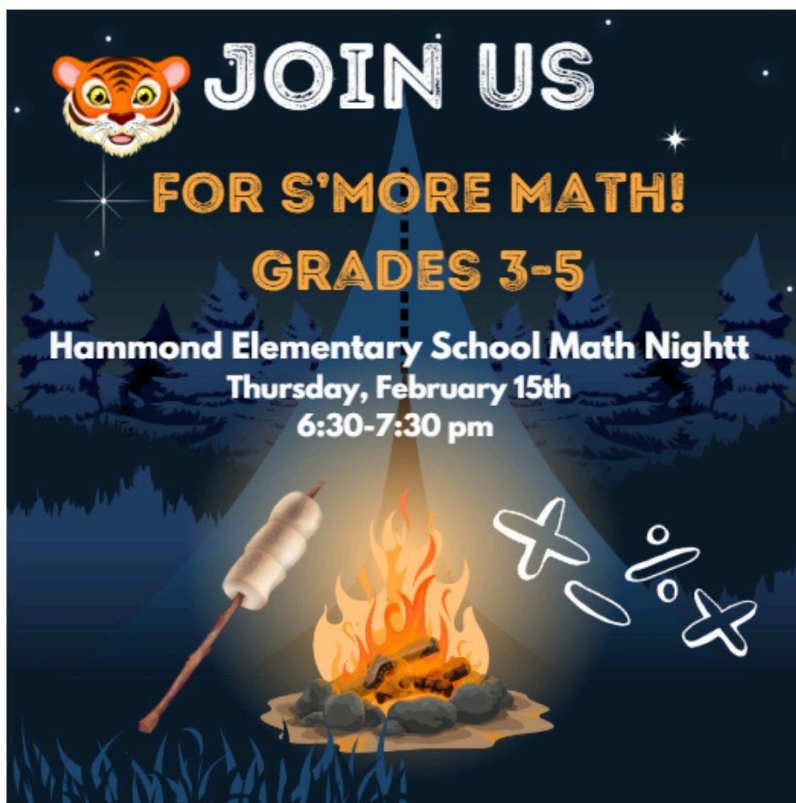
Attention all **grade 3-5** mathematicians and families!

Save the date for our **MATH NIGHT on Thursday, February 15th**.

Join us for **S'MORE** math!! Our amazing staff and math experts will host math learning and tasks during this fun-filled night!

To help us prepare, please RSVP using [this link](#). Please note that Math Night is geared towards our **3rd, 4th, and 5th grade students only**.

(Don't worry, our upcoming Literacy Night will be geared towards our Kindergarten, 1st, and 2nd grade students. More information to come!)



AUTHOR VISITS

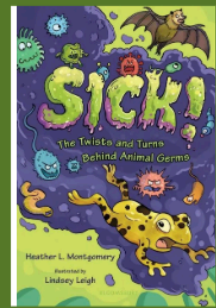
Our media specialist, Caroline Haavik, has worked hard to bring two exciting author visits to HES in the month of February. The first visit with Heather L. Montgomery is for grades 4 and 5 on February 20. Sudipta Barhan-Quallan will be visiting all grade levels on February 29.

HES AUTHOR VISIT - 2/20/24 4TH AND 5TH GRADES

Heather L. Montgomery



Keep an eye out for a PERMISSION SLIP and informational flier in your student's TAKE HOME FOLDER.



Website: <https://heatherlmontgomery.com/>

HES AUTHOR VISIT - 2/29/24



**Sudipta
Bardhan-Quallan**

Keep an eye out for a PERMISSION SLIP and informational flier in your student's TAKE HOME FOLDER.

Website: www.sudipta.com

KINDNESS WEEK begins February 12

HES KINDNESS WEEK

**FEB
12**

KICKING OFF KINDNESS MONDAY

wear mismatched socks and/or shoes



TEAM KINDNESS TUESDAY

wear gear from your favorite sports team

**FEB
13**

**FEB
14**

FRIENDSHIP WEDNESDAY

wear red or pink or hearts



PEACE, LOVE, KINDNESS, THURSDAY

wear tie dye or groovy 70's attire

**FEB
15**

**FEB
16**

DREAMING OF KINDNESS FRIDAY

wear pajamas / comfy clothing



SPIRIT WEAR orders due tomorrow

Friendly Reminder! This is our last school wide spirit wear order, so if you want to grab some HES clothing, this is your chance! [Click here](#) to check out the offerings. Delivery will be mid-March.

BULLYING PREVENTION

As we approach the second half of the school year, we wanted to remind you that HCPSS is dedicated to providing a safe and supportive environment that focuses on student well-being. We are taking this time to uplift the importance of reporting any type of bullying that has occurred. We will be reviewing this with our students and staff as we start the second half of the school year, and hope that you too can uplift this at home.

For children facing the emotional toll of bullying, a supportive individual can make all the difference. Please encourage your children to reach out to a trusted staff member at school should they need to report anything. As parents and guardians, you will use the same reporting form as students by following the steps outlined below.

How do I report bullying?

1. When you believe bullying has taken place, you should report it through the Bullying, Cyberbullying, Harassment and Intimidation (BCHI) reporting form. Reporting can take place in one of three ways:
 - a. Complete a [BCHI online reporting form](#)
 - b. BCHI paper reporting form (available in the main office, staff workroom, school counseling office, media center, and health services office)
 - c. An oral report to a staff member
2. It is important to note that policy states “in the event the reporting party does not complete a BCHI Reporting Form, school administrators/supervisors will take the appropriate steps to address and document the incident.” Therefore, if you or someone else makes an oral report, it then must be documented (i.e. through a BCHI reporting form) by the administrator.

OUTDOOR RECESS

Cold weather has arrived!!! We wanted to remind you that students will still be going outside for recess each day. Please make sure you send your child to school with warm clothes. **All clothing needs to be labeled with your child's name.** Below you will find the HCPSS criteria we consider when having outdoor activities.

- Temperature and humidity
- Wind chill
- Heat index and air quality
- Age of students
- Length of time outdoors
- Adequacy of the children’s clothing
- Condition of the playground
- Falling precipitation (more than a sprinkle or mist)

- Thunder and lightning

Generally, it is assumed that students will be outside for recess, physical education, or any other outdoor activity when the temperature combined with the wind chill is not less than 20 degrees Fahrenheit or the heat index is less than 95.

IMPORTANT DATES

- Fri. Feb. 2 Parent-teacher conference scheduling closes
- Mon. Feb. 5 Report cards available at 4pm
- Wed. Feb. 7 Math conferences. Schools close 3 hours early for parent/teacher conferences.
- Thu. Feb. 8 Math conferences. Schools close 3 hours early for parent/teacher conferences.
- Fri. Feb. 9 Countywide Professional Learning Day Schools closed for students
- Mon. Feb. 12 Kindness Week begins
- Thu. Feb. 15 Math Night for grades 3-5 at 6:30-7:30pm
- Mon. Feb. 19 Presidents Day Schools and offices closed
- Thu. Feb. 29 Talent Show
- Mon. Mar. 4 New Kindergarten registration begins
- Wed. Mar. 13 Professional Work and Wellness Day Schools close 3 hours early.
- Mon. Mar. 25- SPRING BREAK – Schools Closed
- Mon. Apr. 1
- Wed. Apr. 10 Professional Work Day Schools closed for students
- Wed. Apr. 17 Report Cards issued