



IN THIS ISSUE

- MESSAGE FROM A SPECIAL GUEST CONTRIBUTOR
- A NOTE FROM ORCHESTRA
- SPRING PLANTING
- READING SPIRIT WEEK
- LITERACY NIGHT
- HARLEM WIZARDS GAME & CHALLENGE
- DIVERSITY, EQUALITY, INCLUSION
- TESTING DATES
- 5th GRADE: SIMULATED CONGRESSIONAL HEARINGS
- GIRLS ON THE RUN
- BULLYING PREVENTION
- OUTDOOR RECESS
- IMPORTANT DATES

MESSAGE FROM ADMINISTRATION

Hello HES family and a big THANK YOU to Mrs. Moraff for allowing me to be a guest contributor in this week's Tiger Tales!

My name is Lauren White and my son, Blake, is a kindergartener this year at Hammond. I wanted to take a moment to introduce myself and share that Blake has Down syndrome. For those that don't know what that is, it simply means that he was born with an extra copy (3 instead of just 2) of this 21st chromosome. What does that truly mean? It means that Blake may have some physical differences from other kids, his development (physical & mental) may be a little slower to catch up to his peers similar in age, and he may be prone to more health issues as he grows. For those of you that know Blake or may have met him in passing, you know that he is not his diagnosis. If anything, the little extra chromosome only adds to the awesomeness that is Blake.

Why am I sharing this? Because next Thursday, March 21st, is World Down Syndrome Day (WDSB). On this day, families and friends across the WORLD celebrate individuals, like Blake, who rock their extra chromosome proudly. **In honor of WDSB, our family would like to encourage you & your Hammond student(s) to wear the CRAZIEST socks you've got to help us spread kindness, awareness, & inclusion.** Why socks, you ask? Under a microscope, socks look very similar to chromosomes. Also, socks are a metaphor to symbolize that while all of our socks may be different, they are inevitably all the same.

To everyone that has been so welcoming to Blake and our family this year, THANK YOU! As a mom of a special needs kiddo, it is a relief to know that Blake is in such an inclusive environment here at HES and I'm so proud we're a part of this Tiger tribe!

We can't wait to see everyone's CRAZY socks!

Heather Moraff, Principal

Nykia Mapson, Assistant Principal

A NOTE FROM ORCHESTRA

Please join me in congratulating 5th Grade Orchestra students **Teni Onijala** (violin) and **Harrison Price** (bass) on their participation in the Elementary School Honors Orchestra (ESHO)! The concert was held on Saturday, March 2 at Guilford Park HS.

SPRING PLANTING

The installation of the Hammond Elementary garden is scheduled for Saturday, April 6, from 9:30 to 11:30. We'll be resizing and relocating the current beds to create more pathway room for students, ensuring they're filled with soil, and starting the planting process. Volunteers are encouraged to join in on any or all aspects of the project, so don't forget to bring your gardening gloves!

GET INTO THE SPIRIT! CATCH THE READING WAVE!

Get into the Spirit and Catch Hammond's Reading Wave!!

MARCH 18-22

MONDAY, MARCH 18

HATS OFF TO READING!
WEAR YOUR FAVORITE HAT!

TUESDAY, MARCH 19

WE ARE WILD ABOUT BOOKS!
WEAR YOUR FAVORITE ANIMAL PRINT!



WEDNESDAY, MARCH 20

READ AROUND HAMMOND DAY!
WEAR A SHIRT THAT SOMEONE ELSE CAN READ!

THURSDAY, MARCH 21

CRAZY SOCK DAY
WEAR YOUR CRAZIEST SOCKS AND CELEBRATE YOUR UNIQUE SELF! READ "JUST ASK" BY SONYA SOTOMAYOR

FRIDAY, MARCH 22

SURF'S UP!
WEAR YOUR FAVORITE SUNGLASSES AND/OR BEACHWEAR (NO BATHING SUITS, PLEASE!) RELAX AND READ!

LITERACY NIGHT FOR GRADES KINDERGARTEN - 2ND

SPRING INTO READING AT



PRIMARY GRADES K-2

JOIN US FOR A FUN-FILLED FAMILY NIGHT

SAVE THE DATE

APRIL 16

6-7:30PM



SPECIAL PRESENTATION FROM AUTHOR
MIRANDA MIDDLEMAN

HARLEM WIZARDS GAME! WIZFIT CHALLENGE!

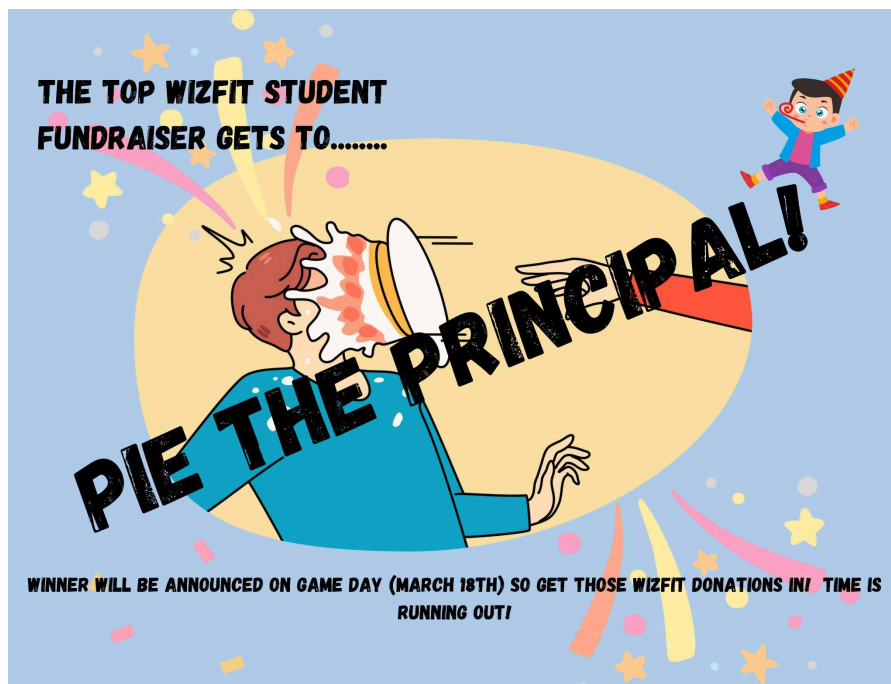


As you know by now, the students of **Hammond Elementary School** are teaming up with the **World Famous Harlem Wizards** to help raise funds for the **HES PTA** with their new **WizFit Challenge** On **03-18-2024** there will be a **Graduation Celebration** where every student will participate and win free prizes.

On **03-18-24** at **Hammond High School**, the party continues with the **Harlem Wizards Vs the Teachers** basketball game. The game begins at **7 pm** and the doors will open at **6 pm**. Be sure to purchase your tickets for the game in advance.

Your generous donations to the **WizFit Challenge** support all of the **PTA's** programs all year long. These include community events (like the **Ice Cream Social**, **Trunk or Treat**, **Talent Show**, **Spring Carnival**, and **Multicultural Night**); staff appreciation events; grants for large projects (such as replacing the fence around the school garden); reimbursement to staff for classroom supplies; field trips; special assemblies; and grade-specific events like the **5th-grade dance** and **moving up ceremonies**. Our goal is to raise **\$10,000**. Students can request donations from friends and family to support them participating in the **WizFit Challenge**. We're excited to see our school come together for this fundraising program.

[REGISTER NOW](#)



DIVERSITY, EQUALITY, & INCLUSION

Women's History Month

Events

Women's History Month Festival
Saturday, March 9, 11:30 am - 3:00 pm
National Portrait Gallery
800 G Street Northwest
Washington, DC 20001

Women Rising: Strength, Courage and Resistance
Thursday, March 7th from 7:00-8:00 pm
Virtual - Zoom link will be shared upon registration

Fascinating Women Buried in Baltimore's Historic Cemeteries
Wednesday, March 13th, 1:00-2:30 pm
Attend live or virtually.

Forgotten Women: A Portrait Exhibit by Jennifer Kohn Murtha
March 16-17
Miller Branch Library
9421 Frederick Rd
Ellicott City, MD 21042

Don't Let History Be a Mystery: Women's History Month, Ages 6-10
Wednesday March 20th, 6:30-7:15 pm
Miller Branch Library

Resources

Becoming Visible: Bringing American Women's History Into Focus
Virtual Exhibit from Smithsonian American Women's History Museum

Insist on Persistent Women: Women's History in the K-8 Classroom
from Learning for Justice

Latinas Talk Latinas
video series from National Museum of American History

Teach About Native American Women Leaders
from Learning for Justice

Countering PUSHOUT: Skills to Support Black Girls
On-demand webinar from Share My Lesson

A Proclamation on Women's History Month, 2024
from The White House



The National Women's History Month's theme for 2024 celebrates "Women Who Advocate for Equity, Diversity and Inclusion." The theme recognizes women throughout the country who understand that, for a positive future, we need to eliminate bias and discrimination entirely from our lives and institutions.

TESTING DATES

Grade 5 Maryland Integrated Science Assessment (MISA)

Students in 5th grade will take the Maryland Integrated Science Assessment (MISA) assessment on March 4th, March 5th, March 7th and March 8th. Students who are absent on the testing dates will participate in a makeup session during the March 4th-22nd testing window. MISA measures student achievement on the Maryland Content Standards in Science in Grade 5 (testing content from Grades 3, 4 and 5). To learn more about MISA, please visit the [HCPSS Testing](#) page. **Students are encouraged to bring corded headphones (if possible). Wireless or bluetooth headphones are not compatible with the testing platform.**

UPCOMING: Maryland Comprehensive Assessment Program (MCAP)

Students in grades 3-5 will take the Maryland Comprehensive Assessment Program (MCAP) during the month of April and/or May. The MCAP assessments measure student achievement on the Maryland College and Career Ready Standards in English language arts and math. To learn more about MCAP, please visit [HCPSS Maryland Comprehensive Assessment](#) page.

Students in grades 3-5 are encouraged to bring in their own corded headphones (if possible). Wireless or bluetooth headphones are not permitted during the MCAP Assessments.

Before testing, make sure your child gets a good night's rest and eats a hearty and filling meal before testing.

MCAP Testing Dates		
Grade	ELA	Math
5th	4/4, 4/5, 4/8, 4/9	4/29, 4/30
4th	4/11, 4/12, 4/15, 4/16	5/1, 5/2, 5/6, 5/7
3rd	4/22, 4/23, 4/24, 4/26	5/8, 5/9, 5/15, 5/16

***Makeup testing will take place during the testing window.

5th Grade Simulated Congressional Hearings: Your Help Needed!

The Simulated Congressional Hearings are an exciting rite of passage for our 5th graders. We are busy preparing already for this event on May 31.



Howard County
Public School System

**CALL FOR SIMULATED
CONGRESSIONAL HEARING
(SCH) JUDGES**

HELP SHAPE THE FUTURE OF OUR NATION.

JUDGES WILL:

- Listen to 5th graders testify
- Ask questions
- Provide feedback

Register to Judge at:
<http://tinyurl.com/2024-SCH-RSVP>

Register Here: <http://tinyurl.com/2024-SCH-RSVP>

GIRLS ON THE RUN



Girls on the Run® 

SO MUCH MORE THAN RUNNING

Afterschool programming
for **EVERY girl.**

LOCATION: Hammond Elementary
DAYS/TIMES: Mon & Wed 3:15-4:30pm
FIRST PRACTICE: Wednesday, April 3rd

3rd-5th
grade girls

LEARN MORE



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

Mon. Mar. 18-22 Literacy Spirit Week

Mon. Mar. 18 Harlem Wizards Game at Hammond High School (pm)

Wed. Mar. 20 Restaurant Night at The Charmery

Mon. Mar. 25- SPRING BREAK – Schools Closed

Mon. Apr. 1

Thu. Apr. 4 5th Grade MCAP testing for ELA

Fri. Apr. 5 5th Grade MCAP testing for ELA

Sat. Apr. 6 Spring Gardening

Mon. Apr. 8 5th Grade MCAP testing for ELA

Tues. Apr. 9 5th Grade MCAP testing for ELA

Wed. Apr. 10 Professional Work Day Schools closed for students

Thu. Apr. 11 4th Grade MCAP testing for ELA

Fri. Apr. 12 4th Grade MCAP testing for ELA

Sat. Apr. 13 PTA Spring Carnival

Mon. Apr. 15 4th Grade MCAP testing for ELA

Tue. Apr. 16 4th Grade MCAP testing for ELA

Tue. Apr. 16 Literacy Night for Grades K-2

Wed. Apr. 17 Report Cards issued

Mon. Apr. 22 3rd Grade MCAP testing for ELA

Tue. Apr. 23 3rd Grade MCAP testing for ELA

Wed. Apr. 24 3rd Grade MCAP testing for ELA,

Wed. Apr. 24 Spring Concert

Fri.. Apr. 26 3rd Grade MCAP testing for ELA

Mon. Apr. 29 5th Grade MCAP testing for Math

Tue. Apr. 30 5th Grade MCAP testing for Math

Wed. May 1 4th Grade MCAP testing for Math

Thu. May 2 4th Grade MCAP testing for Math

Mon. May 6 4th Grade MCAP testing for Math

Tue. May 7 4th Grade MCAP testing for Math

Wed. May 8 3rd Grade MCAP testing for Math

Thu. May 9 3rd Grade MCAP testing for Math

Wed. May 15 3rd Grade MCAP testing for Math

Thur. May 16 3rd Grade MCAP testing for Math