

# Hemlock Creek Elementary School Headlines

January 2017

Mrs. Kathleen Held, Principal  
Mr. Michael Kowalczyk, Associate Principal



## Principal's News

**SCHOOL RESUMES ON TUESDAY, JANUARY 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2017**

I wish all Hemlock Creek families a New Year filled with health and happiness. As we head into January, we will begin our winter session of NWEA MAP testing for grades 1-5. Fifth grade will also take the reading section as they will transition to the middle school. MAP will be a mid-year check for student growth and help teachers to plan for instruction. Please encourage your child to do their very best by reading carefully, reminding them not to rush, and to get a good night's sleep. When all testing is completed in the building, you will receive a graph displaying your child's results.

I hope that January finds you well, warm and enjoying your children over the holiday break.

*Kathleen Held, Proud Principal*

## Artist in Residence Donations

Hemlock Creek will be having an Artist in Residence the week of February 27th. The artists are from Green Bay and have a studio in Green Bay called Proto. During students' art class, they will be building and creating something out of cardboard. We need your help please! We are in need of donations of the following items for this project:

- Plastic jewels (arts and crafts- any color)
- Pipe cleaners (any colors)
- Puff balls (any colors)

If you would like to donate any of these items, please send them to school to your child's teacher.

Thank you so much for your help! We appreciate it.

If you have any questions, please contact Sara Lang ([slang@wdpsd.com](mailto:slang@wdpsd.com)) or Steph Clarke ([sclarke@wdpsd.com](mailto:sclarke@wdpsd.com))

## Cold Weather Reminders

With the winter months here, please make sure your child comes to school with appropriate outdoor wear. Remind your child to wear boots, hat, gloves, warm clothing, etc. when the weather calls for this type of apparel. Dress for the weather! .... It is our Phantom Style.



## Family Math Night

Do you want to know more about how your child is learning math? Hemlock Creek will be having a Family Math Night on January 24<sup>th</sup> from 6:00-7:30 PM. Look for the invitation in your Tuesday notes. You will be asked to sign and return the bottom portion of the invitation. The evening will include break-out sessions for each grade level for you to attend with your child. These sessions will be both interactive and informational. We will dive deeper into the content your child will be learning this year and show you how to best help your child at home. We are excited to show you how interactive and fun learning math can be!

**NO SCHOOL - Monday, January 2<sup>nd</sup>**  
**Early Dismissal @ 11:40 on Monday, January 16<sup>th</sup> - No Lunch or 4K**

## PTO News

The PTO would like to thank everyone who participated in the Marcus Theater and Seroogy's fundraisers. The Marcus Ticket sale was great. Seroogy's Sale raised \$3,424.70 for the school. The next PTO meeting will take place Tuesday Jan 3rd, in Hemlock Creek's library from 6:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m. Free child care for attendees' children. Hope to see you there.

### Family Technology Night

On February 6<sup>th</sup>, Hemlock Creek will be putting on a Technology Night for families of students in grades K-5. Parents will be able to attend different sections to learn about technologies that are being used in school.

Students will also be given the chance to use technology that night and win raffle prizes! Mark your calendars and watch future Tuesday notes for more details! Hope to see you there!

### Parent Teacher Conferences

Parent-Teacher Conferences will be held on Thursday, February 2<sup>nd</sup> from 4:00-8:00 pm. These conferences will be scheduled first by teachers for students who may have missed the October conference date or for students where an update of progress needs to occur. Teachers will be contacting some families and then there will be limited time slots available for other conferences. Online scheduling will be open on Monday, January 23rd beginning at 5:00 a.m. The online schedule link will close on Wednesday, February 1st at noon. There will be a link on the Hemlock Creek website.

### Adopt-A-Family Giving Tree

Student Council would like to say a huge thank you to everyone who helped make our Hemlock Creek Giving Tree a huge success this year. We were able to give many great gifts to families in our area. These gifts were sorted and delivered to the Salvation Army on December 19th. We really appreciate your holiday spirit and generosity!

### Want To Follow Our Tweets via Text Messages?

If you would like non-tweeting parents to follow you via text message, Text **Follow** (insert your Twitter username here) to 40404

They will receive a confirmation message from Twitter. If they DO NOT have a Twitter account, they will be prompted to set up an account to complete the process.

Once they follow you via text, they will receive all of your tweets on their phone.

If they want to STOP receiving your tweets, text **OFF** (insert your Twitter username here) to 40404.

### Request from the Gym

It is expected that all students wear clean and dry gym shoes when they attend their Physical Education classes. If possible, please have your child keep a pair in their school locker during the week so that they are prepared for class (now that many students are wearing their winter boots to school).

Students should **not** be wearing their gym shoes outdoors on the playground during the school day. Many students are getting mud, wood chips, and rocks impacted in the treads of their shoes and then when they participate in PE class, they are leaving a muddy trail on our gymnasium floor. If you could please help make sure their gym shoes are clean and dry for class each week that would be a great help! Thanks so much for your cooperation with this.



## Be Safe! Parking Reminders

The front circle area must remain moving before and after school. IT IS AN EMERGENCY LANE and there is NO PARKING OR WAITING. It provides access to the building in case of an emergency and must remain clear for everyone's safety. If you are waiting for your child at the end of the day, please park in the designated parking areas. To the north of the building, there is a bus lane. There is no parking in this lane as well. Thank you for helping us keep our children safe.

- Please drop children off at curbside only in the semi circle drive.
- Do not park OR WAIT in the semi circle drive area - it is a FIRE LANE.
- Always pull as far forward as you can and drive slowly and cautiously at all times.
- **For safety reasons, please cross at crosswalks.**



Please be patient and extend courtesy to other drivers. Your cooperation is appreciated for the safety of all children.

## St. Baldrick's Event Coming To West De Pere!!!!

Since 2010 Hemlock Creek has supported St. Baldrick's through raising money and having students shave their heads. The support over the last seven years has been so tremendous, and our event has gotten so big, that the district has agreed to host its first St. Baldrick's event right here at West De Pere High School!

On March 11, 2017, students and staff will once again have the opportunity to shave their head at the high school in support of the St. Baldrick's Foundation, which funds research to find a cure for childhood cancer. For the past seven years, students and staff shaved their heads at Hemlock Creek and accepted donations to support the battle against childhood cancer. We are participating in this event again this year since we have students and families in our community who are affected by childhood cancer.

Cancer is the number one disease killer of children in the U.S. and Canada, and the St. Baldrick's Foundation funds childhood cancer research grants to find a cure.

There will also be an opportunity for students to donate a minimum of eight inches of their hair to Children With Hair Loss, an organization that gives human hair replacements to children at no cost. Their mission and goals surround never changing a family at a time when they need help the most.

Also, if you cut hair or know someone from a local salon who would be interested in helping shave and cut at this event, please email at [JMiller@bsagb.com](mailto:JMiller@bsagb.com) Permission forms and will be available closer to the event date!

## Inclement Weather

Please remember to listen to local radio or television stations for school delays, early closing, and cancellations. Please do not call the school unless it is an emergency. Calling the schools hinder our efforts to communicate the news effectively. Parents are asked to have alternate plans for their children's supervision and care in the event school is closed early due to inclement weather or other emergencies. Remember that buses will probably run a little late when the roads are in poor condition.

## Detroit Bound Books

Corrine Justice and Bryanna Baumann, two students attending St. Norbert College, started a charity call Detroit Bound Books after visiting an elementary school in Detroit that didn't have books for their students to read. They partnered up with Wayne Elementary School and are in the process of providing a second round of books for students there. Our school, Hemlock Creek decided to donate to this charity. We found good books to package and send to Corinne and Bryanna.





## 4-Year-Old Kindergarten Registration

The School District of West De Pere has scheduled 4-Year-Old Kindergarten registration dates for children who would be 4 years of age before September 1, 2017 and are planning to attend 4-Year Old Kindergarten in the fall of 2017. Registration will take place on Thursday, January 12<sup>th</sup> from 4:30-7:30 p.m. **The registration will be held at the Phantom Knight School of Opportunity. The address is 400 Reid St. and it is located on the second floor of the building. For registration you need to bring your child's birth certificate, their immunization record, and proof of residency such as a utility bill or lease agreement.** If you have any questions concerning registration, please call Westwood Elementary at 337-1087 ext. 1322; Hemlock Creek Elementary at 425-1900 ext. 3320, or Scott Marsden, 4K Director at 337-1087 ext. 1323.

Our 4-Year-Old Kindergarten program is half days, five days a week. Depending on space availability at each site, children may be served at a location (either school or partnering child care facility) outside of their home school attendance area. If this occurs, transportation will be provided. Four-Year-Old Kindergarten is a voluntary program and no child will be required to attend. The 4-Year-Old Kindergarten program is developmentally appropriate and may include but is not limited to: readiness skills, language development, social development, emotional development, physical development, and self-help skills.

If you are not enrolled in our 4-Year-Old Kindergarten program, parents with children of kindergarten age (5 years old) will be contacted via our school census report. If you are new to the area and have not completed a census form, please contact the district office at 337-1393 ext. 8010 to have your child counted on the school census. If you know a neighbor with small children, please share this information with them.

## 5 Year Old Kindergarten Registration Information

If you know of any students who are not enrolled in our 4K program but will be 5 years old on or before Sept. 1, 2017, please attend registration on Thursday, January 12<sup>th</sup> from 4:30-7:30 p.m. The registration will be held at the Phantom Knight School of Opportunity. The address is 400 Reid St. and it is located on the second floor of the building.

**For registration you need to bring your child's birth certificate, their immunization record, and proof of residency such as a utility bill or lease agreement.**

## District Resident Request for School Transfer (Policy # 5007)

District residents who request to transfer schools within the School District of West De Pere for the 2017-2018 school year are due January 31, 2017. Guidelines to the West De Pere policy #5007 are:

- Only written requests will be considered.
- Requests by district residents for school transfer shall be made in writing during the month of January. Requests received after January 31<sup>st</sup> may be considered if space is available. Applicants should submit their written request by completing the "District Residents Request for School Transfer" form. Written requests should be submitted to the school office. Final decisions will be made by the building principals. Parents/guardians have the right to appeal decisions to the district office.

The complete policy #5007 and request form can be found on the West De Pere School District web site [www.wdpsd.com](http://www.wdpsd.com)

## Jump Rope for Heart

The 10th annual Hemlock Creek Elementary Jump Rope for Heart event will be held the week of February 13-17, 2017, during your child's regularly scheduled physical education classes. Fundraising is completely optional! All students will participate in the event regardless if they fund-raise or not. However, if you decide that you wish to raise money for the American Heart Association, be on the lookout for information in Tuesday notes after the holiday break (in early January) with information about how to donate.



Got time to volunteer? Help is always appreciated either turning the long rope for the kids or running the stopwatches for the Hula Hoop contest, supervising and cheering students on at a station, we can use your assistance. Parents who are interested in volunteering for our event need to have a completed background check on file.

Interested in volunteering? Have questions about our event? Contact Mrs. Luebke at [kluebke@wdpsd.com](mailto:kluebke@wdpsd.com) or by phone at 920-425-1900 ext 3224

## Spelling Bee

Students in grades 3,4, and 5 participated in classroom spelling bees. Three students from each classroom moved on to compete in a grade level spelling bee on December 16<sup>th</sup>. 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade -Brooke Shoemaker, Alyssa Frank, Emma Hanke, Morgan Sinkula, Bailey Bartlett, Logan Werner, Michael Crandall, Allie Schnurer, Justin Briggs, Emily Piepkorn, Gavin Young, Dezirae Fisher, Samuel Rottier, Katelyn Sinclair, Netra Kolli, Erik Bouchard, Emerson Marsden, Adirenne Schmidt, Justice Doxtator, Sophie Garrity, and Avani Kirkitar. 4<sup>th</sup> Grade: Kate Schmoll, Reid Corcoran, Emily Venden, Braelyn Brazeau, Katie Neuens, Alex Charpata, Drew Fredrickson, Eddy Horkman, Karan Mandepudi, Katherine Pahl, Anna Rattray, Lillian Bukoske, Cody Gevers, Natalie Nielsen, Kemuel Rivera-Moro. 5<sup>th</sup> Grade: Nathan Darrow, Jahanlis Reyes, Autumn Delebreau, Langden Deschane, Andrew Kroll, Kendra Dorow, Aarav Gupta, Isabella Farias, Jon Romatowski, Nick Bostedt, Alaina Cook, Skye Skenadore, Brady Long, Will McMorrow, Lily Spry, Dylan Ladwig, Isaac Sinkula. And Laina Pamanet. Congratulations to the following two students from each grade level that will be moving forward in the district Spelling Bee on Monday, January, 16<sup>th</sup> at the middle school: Nathan Darrow, Aarav Gupta, Bailey Bartlett, Avani Kirkitar, Eddy Horkman, and Katie Neuens. This will include students in grades 3-8.

### 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade Winners



### 4<sup>th</sup> Grade Winners



### 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Winners



## The Art Spot

### Art Room Updates:

Artwork will be sent home with students once it is finished, graded, and photographed for Artsonia. We apologize for the delay as there is a lot to do before sending it home. Some artwork does stay at school if the work is going to be entered into the Brown County Fair this summer. In that case, students that get their work in the fair will get information sent home in the spring and will get their work back in the fall.





## Library News

Battle of the Books battles will be starting in January! Many 4th and 5th graders have been busy reading the books so they are ready for the battles! Teams will answer questions about the books to compete in a March Madness style bracket. The winning team from Hemlock Creek will go on to the state competition to compete online against teams from all over Wisconsin!

In December, 3rd graders experienced makerspaces in the library. Makerspaces are places where people create, invent, and learn. Our makerspace included centers with bookmarks to color, StickTogether (a collaborative poster building creation), MakeyMakeys, Osmo, BeeBots, Ozobot, and Spheros.



### A Note from the Literacy Coach

You may have experienced it: sitting down next to your child to read when they turn and say, "I don't want to read with you." It hurts, and it leaves you wondering "Why? What am I doing that makes my child prefer to read alone? I think about it and consider a new approach. Does my approach make a difference? Am I going into the situation like a judgemental mom or am I sitting next to them as a fellow reader?"

The answer is yes, it makes a difference. Be a fellow reader! Try to approach the idea of reading with your child as a fellow reader, not as judgmental mom or dad. When your child views the experience as equals, just two readers sitting down to enjoy a book together, your child feels less judged and their thinking is more valued. It doesn't mean you need to pretend to be someone you aren't; children will see through that in a heartbeat. Be real. Bring your reading experience to the table. Model your reading voice and share your honest thinking about the text rather than trying to instruct your child on how to read. By sitting by your child as a fellow reader, you can keep the interactions positive and productive and you'll still get reading growth as an additional outcome.



5<sup>th</sup> graders collected over 100 pairs of pajamas as part of the Scholastic Books pajama drive. The pajamas will be distributed to a local organization. Fifth grade students also had their own pajama day to end the collection drive.

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