

# Hemlock Creek

## Newsletter

1900 WILLIAMS GRANT DR

(920) 425-1900

FEBRUARY 2025

### A Note From Mrs. Held

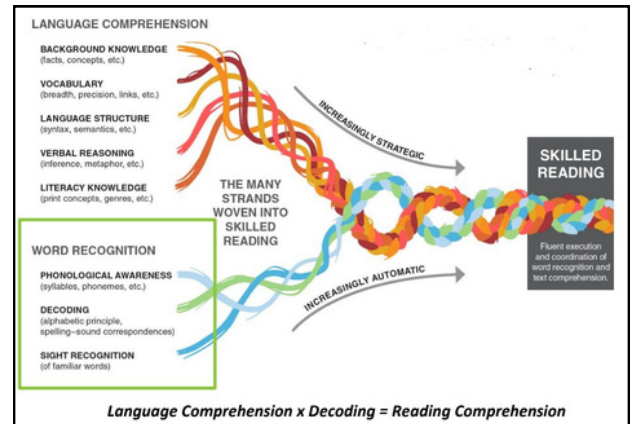
- Our February conference time will be held on Thursday, Feb. 20 from 4-8 PM. These conferences will be in person at Hemlock Creek. Since there is a limited number of available time slots, we encourage families who are new or who were unable to attend the fall conferences to sign up right away.
- For Valentine's Day celebrations, most classrooms will be sending home information. We ask that you include everyone in the classroom for any treats or celebration items rather than leaving anyone out. Please be aware of any classroom food allergies. We want everyone to feel included. Please reach out to your child's teacher with any questions.
- Act 20 Reading Information letters will be sent home to Kindergarten/Grade 1 families on January 29, 2025 and Grade 2/3 families on February 5.

*Kathleen Held, Proud Principal*

#### Did You Know?

When we encounter any type of print our goal is to be a skilled reader. A skilled reader is fluent, has word recognition and can comprehend the print. In the "brain of a reader" we have two strands that are intertwined to help us become skilled readers. One is the language comprehension strand that includes background knowledge, vocabulary, language structure, verbal reasoning, and literacy knowledge. The other strand is word recognition which includes phonological awareness, decoding and sign recognition. Learning to read is very complex and has many strands. Did you know that

reading aloud is the single most important factor to help children become proficient, avid readers? Reading aloud introduces new vocabulary, builds background knowledge and exposes children to language and text structures and gives them a positive interaction with books. When you have conversations about what you are reading aloud together (interactive reading), that helps to build vocabulary and verbal fluency skills. What was your favorite book as a child? What is your favorite book to read to your children now?



### Upcoming Events

- **February 11** – STEAM Night @ 6:00 PM
- **February 20** – Parent/Teacher Conferences, 4:00–8:00 PM
- **February 21** – Early Dismissal @ 11:50 AM

No 4K and no lunch served





Parent-Teacher Conferences will be held on **Thursday, February 20th** 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 **Wednesday, February 12th** beginning at **6:00 a.m.** The online schedule link will close on **Wednesday, February 19th at noon**. There will be a link on the Hemlock Creek website.



**LOCATIONS:**  
Hemlock Creek  
Westwood  
West De Pere Middle School



**DATES:**  
**JUNE 11TH - JULY 1ST**  
Most classes will run between the hours of:  
**8:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.**



**Registration Opens:**  
**Thursday, April 3 2:30pm**  
**Registration Closes:**  
**Thursday, April 17 4:00pm**

**Course offerings information will be available on the District website starting March 18th.**

All registrations and payments will be processed online. Go to [www.wdpsd.com](http://www.wdpsd.com), click on About the District, then the Summer School tab for additional information and registration.

**Questions?**  
Please email [summerschool@wdpsd.com](mailto:summerschool@wdpsd.com) or call 920-425-1900 ext. 3320

## KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS FREE THROW CONTEST

A big congratulations to **Jonah, Sage, Allison, and Kennedy** for scoring the highest number of made free throws during the 4th Grade Knights of Columbus Free Throw Contest at Hemlock Creek Elementary!



These talented athletes have earned an invitation to compete at the next level of competition on **March 15, 2025**, at West De Pere High School.

We are so proud of their hard work and dedication—best of luck in the next round!



Congratulations to **Nathaniel, Vince, Colton, Hurley, Keyana, Aubree, Lauren, and Emma** for earning second-place recognition in the 4th Grade Knights of Columbus Free Throw Contest at Hemlock Creek Elementary!

Your hard work and skill have made us all proud. Keep up the great effort—you're all champions in our eyes

## SPELLING BEE FINALIST

Congratulations to Miriam, Abhi, Teddy and Arianna for competing at the grade 3-8 district Spelling Bee on January 10th. Arianna will be moving on to represent Hemlock Creek at the regional Spelling Bee.

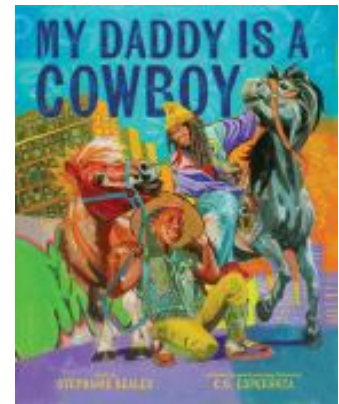


# LIBRARY NEWS

## Mock Caldecott

Students learned about the Caldecott Medal during their library time and will be participating in a Mock Caldecott Award. They are listening to several books in the library during the next few weeks and then will be voting on which of these books they think has the best illustrations.

The books the Hemlock Creek kids will be voting on are: Solar Bear, Being Home, My Daddy is a Cowboy, Two Together, and Home in a Lunchbox.



## Family Book Club

Our Family Book Club starts in February! This year we are reading The BFG. If you are participating we look forward to reading and discussing this book with your family!

## Reading Month

Watch for more information to come out soon as we look forward to celebrating March is Reading Month! We will be celebrating the whole month with special reading activities.

# PHANTASTIC PHANTOM NEWS

The PBIS focus for February is kindness. The learning target for this focus is:

I can show kindness by...

- Listening to others.
- Checking in and asking, "Are you okay?"
- Spending time with someone.
- Using positive words.
- Putting others before yourself.



Some starter questions to consider:

- "What is something kind you can do at home?"
- "You see your friend looking sad. What can you do?"

Highlights for February:

- Random Acts of Kindness Day (February 17th): Expect banners, posters, cards, and thoughtful acts of kindness that are sure to bring smiles and warm feelings throughout the day.
- The Kindness Wall: A dedicated wall for kindness messages will be available for students to contribute to before February 14th.

Thank you to everyone who participates. We hope these activities inspire ongoing kindness throughout the year!

Classrooms earning the Phantastic Phantom Trophy for the month were:

K: Mrs. Pierce's Class and Mrs. Sands' Class

1st: Mrs. Roth's Class and Mrs. Lambrecht's Class

2nd: Mrs. Schoenwalder's Class and Ms. Legois' Class

3rd: Ms. Ribarchek's Class and Mrs. Krahn's Class

4th: Mrs. Brossard's Class and Ms. Glaeser's Class



# School Counselor Corner

*Mrs. Hettmann & Mrs. Crozier*

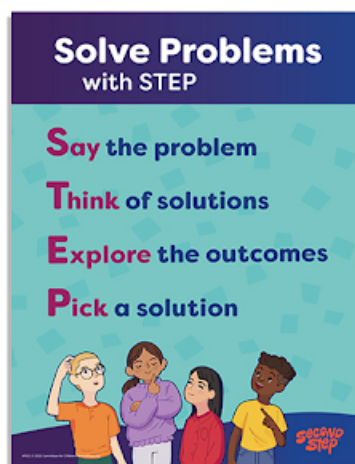
National School Counseling Week is February 3rd-7th! The purpose of this week is to highlight the unique and integral role school counselors play in student success. School counselors work with all students to remove barriers to learning by addressing students' academic concerns, teaching social/emotional skills, and helping students plan for careers.



During the month of February, our K-4 students will be learning how to be problem-solvers! Students will be learning how to solve common disagreements between two or more people, such as disagreeing with a friend about what to play. Students will practice thinking about what each person wants as a way to say the problem without blame and to help them think of different possible solutions

## Practice at Home

- If problems or disagreements arise between siblings or friends, help your child say the problem respectfully, without blaming others. For example, encourage them to say "I've been waiting for a turn with the basketball" instead of "you never take turns with the basketball."
- Notice and praise your child when they take steps to help solve problems, such as when they ask for what they want or need to solve a problem.
- Help your child practice thinking about pros and cons of different possible solutions to disagreements or problems. Ask, if you choose that solution, what would go well for you? What could go wrong? How would it work out for your friend?
- When reading books or watching a show, help your child recognize problems between characters and talk about ways to solve them.
- Remind your child that they solve problems best when they are calm. It is normal to feel upset when there is a problem. Encourage them to take a break, as needed, before problem-solving.



## SCHOOL CONCERTS

### SAVE THE DATE!

Hemlock Creek will have grade-level concerts this year on the following dates:

#### **Friday, April 11th**

- 2nd Grade, 9:45AM
- 1st Grade, 2:30PM

#### **Friday, May 9th**

- 4th Grade, 9:45AM
- 3rd Grade, 2:30PM

#### **Tuesday, May 13th**

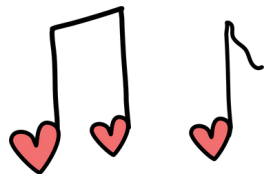
- Kindergarten (Stumpf, Neuens, Loch, Sands), 2:30PM

#### **Thursday, May 15th**

- Kindergarten (Rohr, Walker, Herlache, Pierce), 2:30PM

Concerts will be held at Hemlock Creek in the large gym. More detailed information will be shared as soon as possible.

*Kelsey Allen and Kadin Yach, music teachers*



## 2024-25 Wisconsin Forward Exam Window Open in March

From March 17 through April 25 Wisconsin students will once again be taking the Wisconsin Forward Exam. The Wisconsin Forward is the test that schools are required to give to students in grades 3-8 and 10. Questions on the Forward Exam will measure each student's achievement relative to grade level expectations in two areas: English language arts and mathematics. In addition, a science test will be given to fourth and eighth grade students and a social studies test will be administered to fourth, eighth and tenth grade students. All testing sessions are online and untimed, so students can take breaks without their score being impacted.

*Joe Feldhausen, Teaching & Learning Coordinator*

## OPEN ENROLLMENT

Wisconsin's public school enrollment program allows parents to apply for their children to attend school districts other than the one in which they live. Open enrollment application dates for the 2025-2026 school year are February 3 - April 30, 2025 at 4:00 p.m.. If you have moved out of the district, and wish for your child to remain at the West De Pere Schools, please pick up an Open Enrollment Application and Change of Address form at the school office or at the District Office. By state law, the April 30th deadline cannot be extended. The State will not allow any exceptions to this timeline.

For more information, please visit the open enrollment website (below) or pick up a brochure from the school office.

<https://dpi.wi.gov/open-enrollment>



## KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION

Mark your calendars! Kindergarten registration for children not currently enrolled in the WDP 4K program will take place on **Thursday, February 20, 2025, from 4:30 to 7:30 p.m.**

Registration will be held at Hemlock Creek Elementary School for families residing in the Hemlock Creek attendance area.

### **What to Bring:**

- Your child's birth certificate
- Their immunization record or waiver
- Proof of residence (e.g., utility bill or lease agreement)
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We look forward to welcoming your child(ren) to the 2025-2026 school year!