

Hemlock Creek

Newsletter

1900 WILLIAMS GRANT DR

(920) 425-1900

NOVEMBER 2024

A Note From Mrs. Held

In November, we celebrate math with NUMBERS IN NOVEMBER. There are math activities and related celebration days planned for school and home during the entire month. Check out the HC monthly calendar for events and watch for the Family Math Cake Challenge going home to families on Friday, November 1st.

Brrr! Winter weather will be here soon. Please be sure your child has winter gear (boots, jacket, hat, gloves/mittens) for recess. Students are outside unless the weather is below zero. If there is snow, students are expected to wear boots. For our younger students, practicing getting on that snow gear may be helpful. If you need assistance with access to winter gear, please contact the office, your child's teacher, or our school social worker Sabrina Esala at sesala@wdpsd.com

Thank you to the PTO who provided a meal to staff during conferences and to the volunteers helping with the Book Fair. The book fair was a huge success and will provide birthday books for every student in the school. Students select a free book during their birthday month that has been purchased by the PTO.

Wisconsin Act 20 is a law that aims to ensure that all public school students are proficient readers by the end of third grade. The law requires schools to provide science based early literacy instruction and interventions, and to monitor students' early literacy skills. Science based early literacy instruction is defined as instruction that is systematic and explicit and includes phonological awareness, phonemic awareness, phonics, building background knowledge, oral language development, vocabulary building, instruction in writing, instruction in comprehension and reading fluency. West De Pere is currently working on our reading plan to be submitted to the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction. You will be seeing more information on this coming in the future.

Kathleen Held, Proud Principal



Upcoming Events

NOV

5

PTO Meeting, **6:30 p.m.**
Hemlock Creek Library

8

Early Release, **11:50am Dismissal**
No 4K, No lunch served

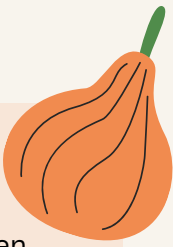
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Early Release, **11:50am Dismissal**
No 4K, No lunch served

28 &
29

No School





Read-a-thon

Once again, the Read-a-thon was a HUGE success!! Our students crushed their reading goals and together we raised over \$61,000 for our school! We have been communicating with our teachers and will be discussing best ways to spend those funds at our next meeting. This fundraiser wouldn't have been possible without the help from many, but I'd like to especially thank Kelly Sturgill, Jess Budek, and all the teachers who volunteered to record one of the read-a-louds and support in the classroom. You're the best!

Book Fair

Thanks to all who stopped by and shopped at the book fair! We had over \$16,000 in sales!! Those profits go directly to the school's "Birthday Book" program, which ensures every student at Hemlock Creek gets to pick out a special book for their birthday each year. What a positive way to support literacy! Another thank you goes to all those who volunteered their time during the event and a huge thank you to Jackie VerBruggen for organizing and running the fair.

PTO sponsored teacher dinner

One of the ways we like to show appreciation to our staff is to feed them! On conference day we had Vintage Rose catered for our teachers and office staff. Thank you to Caitie Maurer and Casey Vandervest for organizing!

Next meeting

Thank you to everyone who attended our October meeting! We had the privilege of welcoming our superintendent Dr. Lau as our guest. Our next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, November 5th at 6:30 pm in the Hemlock Creek library. This time we will be welcoming Officer Sarah Manning and Arlo as our guests! Officer Manning will be talking about the school's ALICE program and answering any questions parents might have. Hope to see you there!

PTO contact

For questions, information, or inquiries about ways to get involved, please contact Sarah Lisowe at slisowe@gmail.com. You can also follow us on Facebook and view information on our website, <https://www.hemlockcreekelementarypto.com>.

- Sarah Lisowe, PTO President

FOOD DRIVE WRAP-UP

Thank you to all who participated in the food drive. All grade levels reached their goal and have earned an extra recess in October:

K - 292 items

1 - 300 items

2 - 201 items

3 - 328 items

4 - 414 items

GRAND TOTAL: 1535



COLD WEATHER REMINDERS

With the winter months quickly approaching, 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.



PTO Read-a-thon Wrap up



Outstanding! Thank you to all for participating in our PTO Read a Thon fundraiser! Our goal was \$50,000 and raised over \$61, 029.30 which includes sponsor and community share donations. Thank you for your participation with pledges and reading minutes. Schoolwide students read 246,666 minutes, well over the goal of 150,000 minutes. Currently the PTO is working on scheduling classroom parties that were earned and we are finalizing a plan for the schoolwide assembly that was earned for reaching the school reading goal.

The top classroom donation leaderboard is as follows:

- 1 - Brossard's Book Lovers, Gr 4 with \$3,420 raised.
- 2 - Fietzer's Phantoms!, Gr 4 with \$2,810 raised
- 3 - Mrs. Sampe's Booksnatchers, Gr 4 with \$2430.
- 4 - Ribarchek's Rebel Readers. Gr 3 with \$2,285.
- 5 - Mrs. Pierce's Room, Kdg with \$2,230.

The PTO is also working on final prizes for students at each grade level for the top 5 in monies raised and the top 5 in reading minutes. Stay Tuned! Thank you to our Business Sponsors: LegitClick Media, Rainbow of Northeast WI, Mulberry Lane Farm, Badger Sports Park, Wisconsin Timber Rattlers, Mini Blues Boutique LLC, Vintage Rose Bakery and Sandwich Shop, Green Bay Rockers Baseball, Great HARvets Bread Co of De Pere, St. Norbert College Athletic Department, Green Bay Gamblers, Kwik Trip, and The Driveway.

A few interesting facts:

- 50 out of 50 states were represented.
- 9 countries were represented with donations from the USA, Australia, Canada, Spain, United Kingdom, India, Philippines, Taiwan, and the US Minor Outlying Islands.
- There were 1.103 web pages shared.
- 82 students reached Superstar status by raising over \$250.
- \$1,360 was raised through employer matches.
- 85.31%(639 students of 749 registered online)
- 62.48% of our students participated with at least 1 donation!



Student Council

Students in 3rd and 4th grade elected fellow students to represent our school in Student Council. To run for Student Council, students had to create a poster to promote themselves and give one minute speeches telling us about themselves and their leadership abilities. Students that were elected are: (3rd grade) Marcus N., Jovie H., Norah P., Addie P., Megan H., Natalie S., Sawyer V., Mia C., Graham K., Reese B., Bennett D., Kline K., Vince V., and Emmalyn E. (4th grade) Preston K., Emma S., Colton R., Lucy F., Logan L., Scarlet B., Adelyn W., Lauren B., Laurel G., Marie K., Bennett M., and Carter C. Advisors for student council are Mrs. Gossen and Mr. Prebelski.

Each month, Student Council participates or leads in activities and events that help our school or give back to our community. Some examples are placing flags in a local cemetery for Veteran's Day or ringing bells for the Salvation Army. Student Council members also work hard promoting a variety of activities at our school by being a part of Hemlock Creek Happenings, a news show that showcases special announcements or events in the upcoming month.

The enthusiasm of the Student Council members is always contagious. They enjoy working with teachers, staff and their peers on school-wide projects.

PBIS NEWS

PBIS focus for the month of October was Safety. A few of the topics that were covered were: Am I safe on the bus and am I making a safe choice on the playground. Discussion starters like the following ones were talked about here at school, but please feel free to have them with your child at home. What are some ways you can show that you are making a safe choice on the bus? And/or You are playing a game at recess (i.e. football, 4-square, etc.) and someone does something you don't like: What do you do? Who can you ask for help?

Next month the PBIS focus for November will be respect. The learning target for the focus will be: I am respectful to myself and/or others. Some of the discussion starters will be: What does respect look like in the classroom? At home? In the community? Talk about a time when you were honest. How did it make you feel?

Also over the past few weeks we were able to recognize three classrooms at each grade level for their outstanding work of being Phantastic Phantoms with the Phantastic Phantom Traveling Trophy; In Kindergarten - Mrs. Loch's Class, Mrs. Sands' Class and Mrs. Pierce's Class. In First Grade - Mrs. Erdmann's Class, Mrs. Dunathan's Class and Mrs. Hopkins' Class. In Second Grade - Mrs. Schoenwalder's Class, Mrs. Linssen's Class and Ms. Legois' Class. In Third Grade - Ms. Seidl's Class, Mr. Prebelski's Class and Mrs. Krahn's Class. In Fourth Grade - Mrs. Sampe's Class, Mr. Fietzer's Class and Ms. Ford's Class.



WI Act 20 State Legislation

What is Act 20 testing?

Act 20 refers to legislation passed by Wisconsin lawmakers that requires schools to test all students for reading readiness in grades 4K-3.

What kind of test is being used?

The state has entered into a contract with Pearson to provide the aimswebPlus test to all districts and schools. The screener will check important literacy skills including alphabet knowledge, letter sound knowledge, phonemic awareness, decoding, and oral vocabulary. The skills are tested differently based on your child's grade level.

When will this start?

Per state guidance, West De Pere will be screening K-3 students in January, 2025. All students, including those in 4K, will be screened again in Spring.

Why?

The assessment data will be used to help your teacher understand your child's reading readiness. Students scoring in the lowest 25% may have individual plans written for them following additional diagnostic testing.

Can I opt my child out of the test?

No. State law does not allow this.

What can I do to prepare?

Read to (or with) your child regularly, and encourage them to make it a daily habit.



Did you know that every student at Hemlock Creek gets a birthday book each year? Sometime during the month of their birthday, Mrs. Gossen will visit their classroom to let them pick a book. Birthday books are theirs to keep! Thank you to the PTO for their generous donation of the book fair profits each year to provide each student with a birthday book!

October was “Keeping Kids Safe Online” month. Schools, families, and communities have all been impacted by the increased use of technology. Visit www.wdpsd.com, then click on family resources, then digital safety night. There you will find the presentation shared at the digital safety night from a couple of years ago, as well as several resources. Included in those resources are links for several free and paid technology monitoring services, website resources, and app resources. The app resources include things parents need to know about these apps and how to use the parental controls built into the apps.

Watch for information about the next two Screenagers showings if you are interested in learning more about helping your child navigate technology use!

Author, Mat Heagerty, visited Hemlock Creek on October 22nd. He talked to the kids about how graphic novels are created and published. They learned how authors and illustrators work together to tell the story. The kids were surprised to find out that authors and illustrators take years to finish a book! They loved working together with Mat to create characters and then come up with a story for those characters!



HEMLOCK CREEK FUN RUN/WALK FOLLOW-UP

The 8th Annual Hemlock Creek Phantom Fun Run/Walk took place on Saturday, October 5th, 2024. Over 480 participants took part in the 2-mile run/walk. With approximately \$8,000 raised for new playground equipment at Hemlock Creek Elementary School, we plan to install a new piece of playground equipment this school year! After the run/walk, families enjoyed snacks and chocolate milk donated by area businesses followed by a variety of activities including: exploring a Town of Lawrence fire truck and Hobart/Lawrence police car, WDPMS Dance Team and WDPHS Drumline performances, PTO Plinko, hula hooping, music, and raffle prizes. We would like to thank everyone who came out to support the event including all participants and volunteers.

In addition, thank you to the following businesses and families who sponsored the event: Advanced Roofing & Siding, Ambrosius Studios, Bellin Health, CrossFire Fitness, Dental Studio 920, De Pere Smiles S.C., Green Bay Packers Give Back, Haworth Family, Hendricks Concrete Construction, Impact Sports Academy, Kaspar Family, Kiddie College, Logos & Promos, Me Time Salon, Michelson Family, Music Caterer, Nicolet Restaurant, Orthodontic Specialists of GB, Patel Family, Pink Flamingo Classic, Pool Works, Schlatter Family, Schmidt Family, She Runs This Town, Green Bay, WI Chapter, Sidekicks Bar & Grill, Tailwaggers Doggy Daycare, Van's Heating and Cooling, Wagg Inn Pet Hotel

Thank you to the following businesses who made donations to help at our event: Ashwaubenon Bowling Alley, Badger Sports Park, Bellin Health, Big Apple Bagels, Brickhouse, Brown County Dairy Promotions, Cherrydale, Crest & Oral B, CrossFire Fitness, Dalke Family, De Pere Greenhouse, Festival Foods, Fusion Athletics, Get Air, Green Bay Gamblers Hockey, Green Bay Rockers, Gyro & Kabobs, Infinity, Irish Waters Golf Club, Kayak Wisconsin, Khayla Kanitz Photography, Kowalczyk Family, Kwik Trip, Lange Family, Luna Coffee, Me Time Salon, Mid Vallee Golf Club, Nicolet Restaurant, Oak Street Cafe, Pool Works, Potter House Macarons, Sam's Club, Schreiber Foods, Scott's Subs, Seroogy's, Texas Roadhouse, The Abbey, The Children's Museum of Green Bay, The Driveway, Two Birds Bakery, Vintage Rose Bakery, Wal-Mart, Western Racquet Wisconsin Timber Rattlers Baseball

Congratulations to the top 3 Fun Run adults and kids finishers:

Adults:

1. Matt Lisowe
2. John Thurlow
3. Tom Krahn

Kids:

1. Maddox V. (6th grade)
2. Gavin L. (7th grade)
3. Callum S. (7th grade)

Be on the lookout for our 9th annual event date coming out later this school year!



SCHOOL COUNSELOR CORNER

Social Skills Groups

Mrs. Crozier and Mrs. Hettmann will be running social skills groups this fall. Social skills groups are opportunities for groups of students to learn positive friendship skills and the skills necessary to help them be successful in school. Each group session meets approximately 6-8 times weekly for 20 minutes.

Small group topics include:

- School Success Skills (following directions, taking turns, making transitions, etc.)
- Making friends
- Positive friendship skills
- Self-control
- Managing strong feelings (anger, anxiety, etc)

If you would like your child to participate in one of these groups this fall, please email the school counselors (ccrozier@wdpsd.com and dhettmann@wdpsd.com).

Phantom Skills

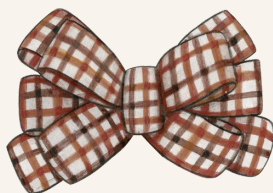
This month in Phantom Skills, students are learning how to understand their own emotions and they will begin to develop tools for coping with strong feelings.

Here is the breakdown of November Lesson topics by grade level:

- **Kindergarten:** Emotion Management: Happy, Sad, and Mad
- **1st Grade:** Noticing Feelings and Managing Feeling Frustrated and Worried
- **2nd Grade:** Feeling Proud, Feeling Disappointed, and Help Yourself Feel Better
- **3rd Grade:** Making a Learning Goal and Why We Have Emotions.
- **4th Grade:** Reflecting on our Goal-Setting Journey and Emotions And The Brain

Here are some ways you can help your child practice these skills at home:

- Model helpful coping skills when you're dealing with your own feelings. Tell your student which strategy you used to calm down when you were upset.
- Help them learn relaxation or calming skills like deep breathing exercises by doing them together!
- Notice and encourage your child when they use these skills to cope with big feelings. "I like how you calmed your brain and body down by counting to 10. I am so proud of you!"



Upcoming Events

FAMILY MATH NIGHT

Please join us for our annual **Family Math Night** at Hemlock Creek Elementary on **Tuesday, November 19** from **6:00–7:00 PM**.

This is for all students in Kindergarten through Grade 4. Please come with your school age children to this exciting event to experience games and activities that build math skills and incorporate math at home.

Please register using the link provided as it will help in planning for the evening. We look forward to seeing you!

[Family Math Night Sign-up](#)

NUMBERS IN November

Hemlock Creek will be participating in Numbers in November for the month of November to celebrate math in our daily lives. We have fun activities planned for school and optional activities for you at home to participate in. Numbers in November will officially begin on Tuesday, November 1st. Please consider taking some time as a family to focus in on math and numbers at home.

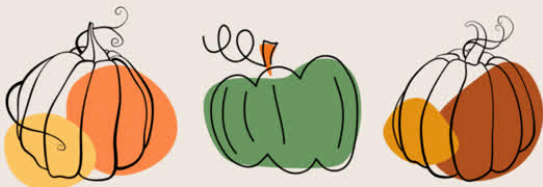
NOVEMBER 27

EARLY RELEASE

- Dismissal at 11:50 a.m.
- No 4K
- No Lunch Served

NOVEMBER 28 & 29

NO SCHOOL



Early Release

November 8, 2024

Dismissal at 11:50 a.m.

NO 4K

No Lunch Served



hello
FALL

