

Hemlock Creek

Newsletter

1900 WILLIAMS GRANT DR

(920) 425-1900

JANUARY 2025

A Note From Mrs. Held

Dear Hemlock Creek Families -

It is hard to believe it will soon be 2025! January is a wonderful time to refocus our energies, set goals, and embrace new opportunities, and our school community is no exception.

As we dive into the second half of the school year, I want to take a moment to celebrate the growth and accomplishments of our students. Their curiosity, resilience, and hard work continue to inspire us daily. I'd also like to extend my heartfelt gratitude to our teachers and staff for their unwavering commitment to creating a nurturing and engaging learning environment. Together with your support, we are helping our students reach their fullest potential.

You may have seen information coming home about our state's required Act 20 legislation. Be on the lookout for continued communication that impacts our K-3 students. This is something new for us. Although there has been lots of hours put into preparing for these requirements, we continue to learn as we go as modifications/communications are being made at the state level.

As always, we encourage all families to participate and stay connected. Be sure to check our website, Tuesday notes and classroom Seesaw posts.

As always, communication is key to our partnership. If you have any questions, concerns, or feedback, please don't hesitate to reach out to me directly at kheld@wdpsd.com. Your input is invaluable as we work together to create the best possible experience for your children.

Thank you for being an integral part of our Hemlock Creek family. Here's to a fantastic start to 2025 filled with learning, growth, and joy!

Kathleen Held, Proud Principal

Upcoming Events

- **January 2** - School Resumes
- **January 7** - PTO Meeting @ 6:30
- **January 20** - No School
- **January 23** - Literacy Night

Attendance Reminders

To ensure accurate attendance records, please follow these guidelines:

Reporting Absences:

If your child will be absent due to illness, arriving late due to an appointment, or leaving school early, please notify the school office by calling the attendance line at **(920) 425-1900 (select option 2)** or emailing **Jamie Schnurer** at **jschnurer@wdpsd.com**.

Unexcused Absences:

If the school does not receive notification regarding your child's absence, the office will contact you for the confirmation. Absences without parent or guardian notification will be marked as "unexcused."

Vacation Notification:

For planned absences of two or more days due to vacation, please inform both the office and your child's teacher in advance via email.

Half-Day Absences:

Students arriving after **9:00 AM** or leaving before

3:15 PM will receive a half-day absence on their attendance record. Note that early release days are treated as **FULL DAYS** for attendance purposes.

Medical Notes:

Absences supported by medical documentation will not be counted towards truancy.

SPELLING BEE FINALIST

Students in grades 3 and 4, participated in classroom spelling bees. Three students from each classroom moved on to compete in a grade level spelling bee on December 6th.

3rd Grade: Aspen B, Abhinav B, Joey B, Mia C, Jace C, Miriam D, Boyd E, Finnegan H, Charlotte J, Evelyn K, Eminence KV, Isabelle L, Charley L, Reina L, Marcus N, Aaron N, Jason P, Ethan S, Sawyer V, Hattie V, and Jackson Y.

4th Grade: Camden B, Hudson B, Leo B, Malikai B, Owen B, Pearse H, Lilah J, Laycee K, Chase M, Kali P, Jessalyn R, Solon RH, Krew S, Teddy S, Arianna U, Maddox V, Kya W, and Oliver W.

Congratulations to the following two students from each grade level that will be moving forward in the district Spelling Bee on Friday, January 10th, at the middle school:

3rd Grade: Miriam D and Abhi B

4th Grade: Arianna U and Teddy S.

This will include students in grades 3-8.



STUDENT COUNCIL BELL RINGING

Student council rang bells at Festival Foods for the Salvation Army. Thank you to all those who stopped by and donated.



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!



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. 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.

PTO NEWS

Our next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, January 7th at 6:30 pm. If you haven't been able to attend a meeting yet, we'd love to have you! We will meet in the HC library and as always, childcare will be available.

- Sarah Lisowe, PTO President

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 our Facebook page [here](#) or check out our website [here](#).

LIBRARY NEWS

Library Centers

During December, 3rd graders had several different centers they explored in the library. They had the opportunity to grow in their creativity, critical thinking, cooperation, and communication skills. The students loved coding Dash Robots, putting together puzzles, building with Brain Flakes and Keva Blocks, coloring bookmarks, and playing with giant Uno cards, Genius Square, Marble Maze, and Pixel Art Challenge.



Therapy Dog

Tucker is a therapy dog who comes to school about once a month to listen to kids read. He is a five-year-old Cavalier King Charles Spaniel owned by Mrs. Gossen. So far this year he has visited with 3rd and 4th graders. In January he will be visiting with some 2nd grade students.



Screenagers

The second showing in the Screenagers film series will be on January 15th at 6:00pm in the West De Pere High School auditorium. This second film is called Screenagers in the Next Chapter: Youth Mental Health in the Digital Age. High stress, anxiety and depression are experience by millions of young people. The film follows physician and filmmaker, Delaney Ruston, as she discovers solutions for improved adolescent well-being in the digital age. We hope to see you there! For more information please visit this website:

<https://sites.google.com/wdpsd.com/digitalsafetynight/home>

School Counselor Corner

During Phantom Skills in the month of January, our Kindergarten, 1st, 2nd, 3rd, and 4th graders students will learn how to show empathy and kindness in friendships. Here are a few ways to teach kindness and empathy to your child at home:

- **Be kind to yourself.** It's hard to be kind to others if we do not take care of ourselves.
- **Try starting a gratitude practice.** This can be as simple as having each family member talk about what they are grateful for during dinner. You can also encourage your child to make a card for someone special to express gratitude towards that special someone.
- **Show empathy when you read a book or watch a movie together.** If you see a character experiencing an intense emotion, ask your child, "How do you think they feel? Tell your child to look at the character's face to give them clues.

Grief Support Opportunity

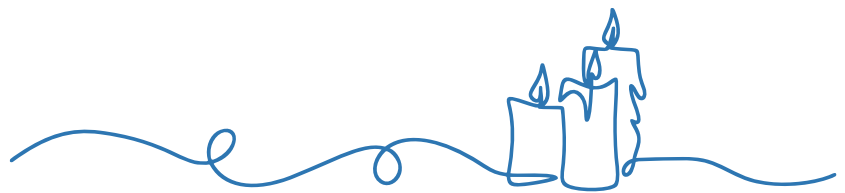
To better meet the needs of our students, Hemlock Creek Elementary School is pleased to offer our students the opportunity to participate in a Grief Support Group in collaboration with Unity Grief and Education Center.

One of our Hemlock Creek School Counselors Cheryl Crozier, and a Unity Grief Counselor will be leading a **six-week grief support group** designed to provide students the opportunity to explore their grief through activities and conversation while learning about grief and developing coping skills. This group will meet during the school day.

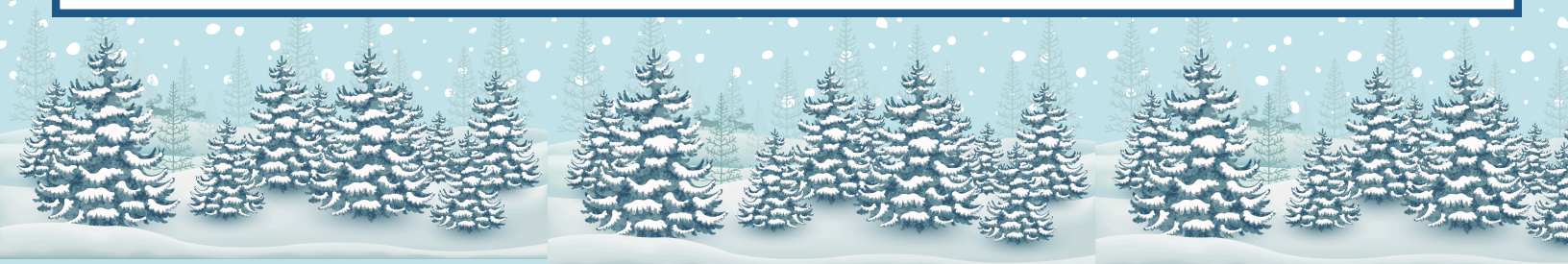
Through participating in this group, we hope students gain insights into their own grief experience as well as make connections with peers who have also experienced a loss while in a safe, supportive environment.

The dates for the Grief Group will be:

- Thursday, January 16, 2025
- Thursday, January 23, 2025
- Thursday, January 30, 2025
- Thursday, February 6, 2025
- Thursday, February 13, 2025
- Thursday, February 20, 2025



Please call or email Cheryl Crozier at: 920-425-1900 x 3307 or ccrozier@wdpsd.com if you would like your child to participate!



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

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 2025-2026 school year are due January 31, 2025.

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 31st 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

Phantasic Phantom News

The PBIS focus for the month of January will be self control. The learning target for the focus will be: "I can recognize my own emotions". A few of the strategies discussed during the month will be: breathing, counting, self talk, checking our own thoughts, and asking for help. Some of the discussion starters will be: When was a time that you haven't gotten your way? What did you do? What can a break look like? In the classroom? On the playground? At home?

Students were recognized for being Phantastic Phantoms in problem solving. We topped the month off with a recognition day of PJ and Movie day.

Classrooms earning the Phantastic Phantom Trophy for the month were:

K: Mrs. Neuens' and Mrs. Loch's classes.

1st: Mrs. Hopkins' and Mrs. Kussow's classes.

2nd: Ms. Ellenbecker's and Mrs. Adler's classes.

3rd: Mrs. Raschke's and Ms. Seidl's classes.

4th: Mrs. Sampe's and Ms. Ford's classes.



LOST AND FOUND

Many items have accumulated in our Lost and Found area over the past couple months. Parents, please mark your child's items/clothes so that when they lose something, it will be easier to find the rightful owner. We also ask that you remind your child that if they lose something, to check out our Lost & Found area in the main hallway.

happy holidays



from our families to yours.

THE HEMLOCK CREEK STAFF

