

Goosehill Primary School Weekly Notes- January 24, 2014



Dear Parents,

As you know, our students write for many purposes in school. They write to share their ideas, experiences, and what they are learning. They write to entertain others with their imaginative stories and poems. Our teachers provide opportunities for them to write in math, social studies, and science. Over the course of the year, they will learn to write to inform and persuade an audience.

Studies show that children who write both at school and at home feel more confident in their abilities. In order for children to develop and strengthen their skills in any area, they need many opportunities for practice. The teachers and I encourage you to find ways to engage your child in writing at home. Here are some ideas gleaned from Your Child's Writing Life: How to Inspire Confidence, Creativity, and Skill at Any Age, by Pam Allyn (2011):

Engage your child in real-world writing: grocery lists, emails, letters...

- ✓ Writing a list is a perfect way to engage a child in writing for a purpose without the pressure of having to think of what to say. Writing lists for you will also make your child feel that she is helping you.
- ✓ Buy some stationery, envelopes, and stamps and invite your child to write a card or letter to someone. It is very exciting for children to receive mail! With Valentine's Day approaching, writing notes to classmates is another way to engage your child in writing for a purpose. Try having him write a couple of notes a day so it is not an overwhelming task. ***Please remember, candy cannot be distributed in school, even if it is attached to a Valentine!
- ✓ Consider setting up an email account for your child and arrange for her to correspond with a family member or friend. Alert the person to whom your child will be writing so that there will be a speedy response (for your impatient 6-year-old!). Of course, a child's use of email requires supervision.

Another way to support your child's writing is to engage him in storytelling. By telling a story, your child is actually *rehearsing* for writing. Teach him to use *First*, *Next*, and *Last* when sharing a sequence of events. Tell stories yourself and share with your child how you choose the most important parts to tell. Eventually add dialogue to your story and help your child do the same. Storytelling has the power to enhance both your child's writing and speaking abilities.

Remember that your child is only beginning to use conventional spelling and grammar. If she asks how to spell a word, you can help stretch the sounds out for her. Accept her approximations for now. (ie: *hape* for happy) If your child insists on knowing the correct spelling of a word, provide it for her. You can also provide a list of words she uses frequently. Spelling is important, but it is a skill that develops in stages. If your child gets the message that her current spelling ability defines her as a writer, there is the real possibility that she will learn to choose the simplest words when she writes, so as not to make a mistake.

You can guide your child to success as a writer by providing time at home for writing and responding to his/her work with enthusiasm and support. Remember, you are your child's most important audience!

Warm regards,

Lynn Herschlein

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(notices you can access at our website and read/print from home)

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Save the Children Project

During indoor recess, the children were given the opportunity to draw pictures and write notes of friendship to children in the Philippines as part of a fundraising effort to help the rebuilding efforts there. We elected not to talk about the losses suffered as a result of Typhoon Haiyan. Instead, we emphasized that it makes children happy to hear from friends all over the world and that for every letter received, a grown-up would give their school \$1 to buy them new books and games. If you would like to invite your child write a note or draw a picture at home, please send it in to school on Monday morning. (flyer is posted online in today's NOTES)

Valentine's Day

If you plan to purchase Valentines for your child to give to his/her friends, please remember that candy cannot be distributed in school, even if it is attached to a card. Thank you for your cooperation.

School Calendar for 2014-15

The Board of Education adopted the school calendar for next year. A copy is posted online in today's NOTES. It can also be accessed on the school district website.

Kindergarten Registration

If your preschool child will be 5 years old on or before December 1, 2014, s/he is eligible for kindergarten in September 2014. Please contact the District Registrar, Gloria Albert (631-367-5910) to ensure that your child's name appears on the District census. Only those families whose child's name appears on the census will receive a registration packet from the Superintendent. Registration begins in February.

DATES TO REMEMBER

January 29th- Spirit Day- Wear School Colors!

January 30th- Kindergarten Family Fun Night – 6 p.m.

January 31st- Pajama Day!

February 6th- First Grade Family Fun Night – 6 p.m.

February 28th - 100th Day of School (morning program for Kindergarten parents-more info to follow)

NOTES FROM THE GPFA

The Nominating Committee is now forming to help elect the Executive Board for the 2014-2015 school year. We are asking for 6-8 volunteers and one Chair person to organize the meetings and present the new Board members to the current Board and to the entire GPFA. If you are interested in volunteering please contact Christiane Franzese @christianefranzese@gamil.com by January 31st.

Couple of other REMINDERs: The upcoming Islander Game is <u>Jan 25 @ 1:00PM</u>. The children an go on ice after game and take a shot on the goal. Tickets are \$38

Family fun nights are science programs this year! (\$10 per family)

January 30th @ 6PM (K) - the theme is Bubble Mania

February 6th @6PM (1st) - the theme is Slaptick Science



Every Picture/Note = \$1.00

Typhoon Haiyan Challenge Will You Join Us? It is easy to help

You and your child can draw pictures or write notes of hope and healing for children in the Philippines.

Bring your letter or picture to the main office of your school by Monday, January 27
Save The Children Long Island Junior Council will take care of the rest.

Typhoon Haiyan made landfall on November 8, 2013 and destroyed homes, schools—and forever changed the lives of millions.

The Bezos Family Foundation, through Students Rebuild, will match each letter and drawing with \$1.00

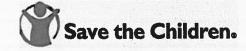
Each picture/note is worth \$1.00

Submit as many as you want!

Save the Children will use these funds to provide children and teachers with safe, temporary learning spaces, educational materials and other support.

In addition to this educational assistance, the goal is to deliver thousands of letters and pictures of support to survivors of the storm.





COLD SPRING HARBOR CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT 75 Goose Hill Road, Cold Spring Harbor, NY 11724

** PLEASE POST **

Please be advised that a regular meeting of the Board of Education will take place on February 11, 2014, at 6:00 p.m. at The Francis Roberts Community Center, at which time the Board of Education may consider a motion to adjourn to Executive Session to discuss matters appropriate for Executive Session. If no such motion is adopted, the meeting will recess until 8:00 p.m.

At 8:00 p.m., the Board of Education will reconvene its public meeting to discuss Board Agenda items appropriate for Public Session, pursuant to the Open Meetings Law. The Board of Education will also conduct public hearings as follows:

- Hearing to be held on the anticipated proposed resolution adopting a veterans' property tax exemption
- Hearing to be held on the anticipated proposed resolution adopting a Gold Star Parent property tax exemption

William Bernhard, District Clerk

Cold Spring Harbor Central School District School/Office Calendar 2014-2015

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ADOPTED: January 14, 2014

TOTAL 181+2

This Calendar is subject to change in the event of unforeseen emergency closings.

For Kids & Teens! Programs from Cold Spring Harbor
Library's Youth Services Department. Registration Required!

TAKE YOUR CHILD TO THE LIBRARY DAY

Saturday February 1 @ 2:00 pm
For Children with their Families
Come in with your family to make a cozy fleece no-sew tie pillow.

YOGA

For children in grades K-3 Starting January 29 Wednesdays @ 5:00

Join Miss Alie form Yoga Rocks! For a 8 week session.

In-person registration must be accompanied with at check for \$120 made payable to the Cold Spriong Harbor Library.

For Teens!

TEEN PIZZA & a MOVIE

For students in grades 7-12, Saturday, January 25 @ 1:30 pm

Hang out with your friends for a special matinee movie screening just for TEENS. Pizza will be provided. Movie: Beautiful Creatures (PG-13, 124 min.)

For more information about any Kids or Teen Programs, contact a Youth Services Librarian at the Cold Spring Harbor Library - 631-692-6820

For Adults! Programs for Grown-Ups from Cold Spring Harbor
Library's Information Services Department

Affordable Care Act for Individuals & Small Businesses

Thursday, January 30, 2014 at 6:30pm

Healthcare navigators will present the latest developments in the Affordable Care Act for both individuals and small businesses. Tax credits, and the employer and individual mandates will be explained. Learn what to have ready when preparing to apply for health insurance. Q& A session follows the lecture.



For more information about any Adult Program, contact a Information Services Librarian at the Cold Spring Harbor Library at 631-692-6820.