

Goosehill Primary School

HOMESCHOOL Connection

Weekly Notes-January 13, 2017

Dear Parents,

One of the primary goals of instruction in kindergarten and first grade is to develop our students' literacy skills. The ability to **read and express ideas in writing** is integral to their success in all areas. The NYS Common Core Learning Standards represent high expectations for achievement in K-12 English Language Arts and our teachers provide enriching instruction every day to ensure that our students achieve at high levels.

In order to support your efforts to help your child grow as a reader, I will be conducting a workshop for parents on **Wednesday** (1/18) at 9:30 on how specific literacy skills can be fostered at home. (This workshop was scheduled for this past week's GPFA meeting, but had to be rescheduled.) I will share simple ways to develop the foundational skills for decoding words, how to enhance vocabulary and reading comprehension skills by reading aloud to your child, and how to help your child develop a love of reading. Here are some of the ideas we will discuss:

- > Children need to develop the ability to <u>hear</u> and <u>manipulate</u> the sounds in spoken words in order to be able to read and write. Parents can support their children's ability to do this by reading **nursery rhymes** and poetry to them. Rhyming games and tongue twisters also help children hear the sounds in words.
- Beginning readers are not able to "sound out" many of the words they encounter in grade level books. Kindergarten and first grade readers need to learn a variety of strategies to be able to read unknown words. For example, they are expected to use the sounds of the first letter (or first few letters) along with the PICTURES to help them when they encounter an unknown word. This is one of many strategies all beginning readers use as they continue to develop strong decoding skills.
- When parents listen to their children read aloud, it is important for them NOT to jump in to correct their mistakes. Instead, parents should simply say, "Did that sound right?" or "Did that make sense?" In this way, parents will help children develop an important reading skill: the ability to self-monitor and self-correct.
- > All children need to derive **pleasure** from reading. When a reader struggles over many words in a text, it becomes a chore to read. Readers need to read lots of "comfortable" books to develop their capacity to read fluently and with comprehension. Pushing readers to read "harder" books may actually cause them to develop bad habits, such as focusing solely on getting the words right without understanding the story or information they're reading.
- > Finally, parents have the power to positively influence their children's development in reading by reading aloud to them on a regular basis. By modeling specific strategies while reading aloud to children, parents can support the development of high level reading comprehension skills.

I look forward to a great discussion on Wednesday morning. I hope you'll join us! Warm regards,

Lynn Herschlein



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

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Important Dates

January 16- MLK, Jr. Day - No school

January 18- Parent Workshop on Reading 9:30-10:30

January 26- Spirit Day- Wear school colors or apparel

- Kindergarten Family Fun Night 6:00

February 2- First Grade Family Fun Night 6:00

Physical Education Facility-BOND VOTE

Please be sure to **vote on January 18**th in the Field House at the Jr/Sr High School, on the Bond Referendum which will provide **ALL** students in Cold Spring Harbor with a New Physical Education Center. The vote will take place from 7am to 9pm. This state-of-the-art facility will be used by **ALL** students in grades 7 through 12 in their Physical Education classes as well as by **ALL** of our athletic programs after school.

GPFA Updates

Boxtops! The Boxtops competition is back on. Clip your boxtops and send them in with your child's name and teacher's name on the envelope. The class that collects the most Boxtops by January 25th will win!

POP! Party SAVE THE DATE: The Cold Spring Harbor Educational Foundation's Annual Power of Partnership (POP!) Party will take place on Friday, March 10, 2017. This year's event promises to be "out of this world!" Stay tuned for more details.

Family Fun Nights

Mark your calendars for our upcoming family fun nights! The Kindergarten Family Fun Night will be held on Thursday, January 26th at 6pm and the kids will be entertained by Magic of



Alexo. The First Grade Family Fun Night will be held on Thursday, February 2nd at 6pm with Bubblemania! Siblings are welcome. \$10 per family will be collected at the door.



Goosehill Yearbook Staff The GPFA is looking for volunteers to help the yearbook team. Volunteers can shadow Amanda O'Grady and Geraldine Ficara this spring and continue on next year. If you are interested, please email Amanda O'Grady at amandaling74@yahoo.com.

Goosehill Yearbook Pictures! Get your pictures in the yearbook! The Yearbook Staff invites parents to submit photos for the yearbook. If you've got great photos of school and community events or your child and his/her friends just having fun, we'd like to see them. Our photographers can't be everywhere. Help us get as many photos as possible to create a terrific book everyone will want to have.

Here is how you can submit photos online:

- Go to: https://images.memoryebooks.com/login
- If it does not automatically log you into the site, enter username: 406163591
- Browse to select the photo(s) you wish to upload.
- Enter information about the photo and provide contact information in case the staff needs additional information.
 - · Click "Save Details".

It's that easy! Submit your photos today! ***The Yearbook Staff will review all photos and determine final yearbook content. We cannot guarantee that all submissions can be used in the book.



VOTE

COLD SPRING HARBOR SCHOOLS

BOND REFERENDUM



BOND REFERENDUM JANUARY 18, 2017

The Board of Education has approved a resolution to present to the district voters a proposed bond to construct a 9,798 sq. foot Physical Education Center at the Jr./Sr. High School.

- The proposal will be a \$4.8 million bond to be funded over 20 years. The annual budgetary impact would be approximately \$98 for the average tax payer.
- This facility will be used primarily for the Jr./Sr. High School physical education program for all students in grades 7 through 12.
- More detailed information is available on the district website (www.csh.k12.ny.us)
- A Bond Brochure will be mailed to the community before the scheduled vote in January with further details.

(Voting will take place in the high school field house from 7 a.m. to 9 p.m. on January 18, 2017.
Residents may vote in person or by absentee ballots)



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

COLD SPRING HARBOR LIBRARY STUDY BUDDIES HOMEWORK CLUB



For students in grades 3-6 Wednesdays, 3:30 p.m.- 6:00 p.m. Thursdays, 4:30 p.m. - 6:30 p.m. January 11 - February 16



Teen volunteers will give support, assistance, and encouragement to students in 3rd through 6th grade.

Register Today!

Register in-person, by phone (631-692-6820) or online @ www.cshlibrary.org



Stuffed Animal Friends: Penauins

Monday, January 16 2:00 p.m. For children in grades K-6

Create an adorable Stuffed animal friend...

Registration required

Snow Measuring Stick

Thursday, January 19, 4:30 p.m. For children in grades K-6

Find out how many inches it snowed with this handy snow measurina stick.

Registration Required



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

Programs and Services from the Information Services Department

Get inspired for the new year, or take a moment to rest & relax! Read your favorite magazines, any time, anywhere!



Visit our website for more information and to start reading!

The **Heckscher Museum** of Art

2 Prime Avenue, Huntington, NY 11743 | 631.351.3250 | Heckscher.org



HECKSCHER FAMILY HOUR Guided Tour & Activities

1:00 pm - 2:00 pm Children ages 5 - 10 years

Sunday, January 22, 2017
Norman Rockwell and Friends
Sunday, March 19, 2017
Long Island's Best

Children and their families are invited to join museum educator Tami Wood for a family-friendly tour of the Museum's exhibitions. Experience the artwork through close looking, lively conversation, and hands-on gallery projects.

Registration is recommended. Space is limited.

Members Free, Non-Members Museum Admission (children free) + \$5 activity fee per child

Norman Rockwell, World of Charles Dickens aka A Merry Christmas to Everybody! A Happy New Year to all the World!, 1937. Mort Künstler Collection. Courtesy Norman Rockwell Family Agency.





UPCOMING AT THE HECKSCHER MUSEUM International Slow Art Day Saturday, April 8, 2017







