Principal's Corner

Dear Hernwood Families,

We are off to a great start in the second quarter! This marking period promises to hold many new academic discoveries for our students. Regarding our daily instruction, I am extremely encouraged by the high levels of academic rigor imparted by our amazing Hernwood staff members. Students are certainly showing great enthusiasm about learning on a consistent basis. This surge of excitement is evidence of the strong partnership between home and school. To that point, we enjoyed seeing so many parents, grandparents, and guardians during our American Education Week open house event! I am very proud of the Hernwood Elementary School community and am grateful for the opportunity to work with our students, staff and families every day.

As we approach the winter months, please be mindful that our school doors open daily at 8:45 A.M. To promote a safe and orderly arrival, staff members are assigned to arrival posts beginning at 8:45 AM. Boys and girls should not report to school prior to our arrival time as there is no adult supervision. Thanks for your support and understanding.

Winter Break begins at the end of the day on Friday, December 20, 2019. We look forward to seeing students when they return to school on Thursday, January 2, 2020. To all our Hernwood families, warmest wishes for a prosperous and safe New Year for all!

Sincerely,

Nashae Bennett
Principal

Contact Our School
Hernwood Elementary School
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Randallstown, MD 21133
410-887-0732 (phone)
410-521-7679 (fax)
Website: http://hernwoodes.bcps.org
Follow us on Twitter @HernwoodES

Current Events - December

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| Winter Break School Closed | Winter Break School Closed | Winter Break School Closed | Winter Break School Closed | Winter Break School Closed |

Upcoming Events - January

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| 20     | 21      | 22        | 23       | 24     |
| Schools closed | Martin Luther King Jr. Day |          |          |        |

| 27     | 28      | 29        | 30       | 31     |
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| 24 |  |  |  |  |
|    |  |  |  |  |
| Schools close 3 hours early - End of 2nd Marking Period | | | | |
Grade Level Spotlight

This month- PRE-KINDERGARTEN... PreK will finish Unit 2, “Why Are We Special?” We will focus on our families. We will review all the letters and sounds we have learned so far. They are Aa, Dd, Mm, Ss, Pp, Ff, Ll, and Oo. In math, we will learn how to use the Shapes Software. We will create patterns using geometric shapes. eflaherty@bcps.org

This month- OGE-3 and OGE-4... The OGE-3 class unit in December is “Day and Night.” Our story is Napping House by Audrey Wood. The OGE-4 class theme is “All About Me.” The students are learning body parts, functions of body parts, and action words. We are exploring our senses and healthy habits. The next unit will be “My Community.” Thanks for remembering to label coats and hats with names or initials. Have a happy December! sbaldwin3@bcps.org

This month- KCALS... As our CLS K/1 class welcomes the month of December, we prepare for hands on learning and seasonal fun! We will explore the approaching season of Winter and all it has to offer. The changing of the weather, animals in the snow, winter patterns (Math) and ice cube creations (Science and Art). For ELA, we will be working on identifying the parts of a book, following text from left to right, and identifying/tracing/writing sight words. December theme songs will provide music and movement to keep our kids moving and grooving (Gross Motor Skills). jmontini@bcps.org

This month- PCLS/ICLS... This month in Ms. Corrieri’s PCLS class, we will talk about holidays all over the world! We will talk about the similarities and differences between all different seasonal holidays. We will write pen pal letters to friends from all over, sharing with them about the customs and traditions we participate in and how we celebrate this time of year. We will also start talking about the seasons changing at the end of the month. There will be lots of learning, fun, and arts and crafts in our room this month! If you have any questions, comments or concerns please don’t hesitate to email me at ncorrieri@bcps.org.

In Ms. Branch’s class, students will work through The Engineering Design Process: Ask, Imagine, Plan, Create, Improve, and Communicate to build ginger bread houses that will stay up on its own. At the end, they will take them home to enjoy. “Learning is not the product of teaching. Learning is the product of the activity of learners.” – John Holt. We wish you a wonderful and safe Winter Holiday filled with a season of gladness and a season of cheer! ebranch@bcps.org

In Ms. Gladney’s class, students are learning “What Makes Day and Night?” Students will learn that the Sun is a star. Students are also beginning to learn about sea creatures in preparation for our trip to the aquarium in February. dgladney@bcps.org

This month- KINDERGARTEN... In reading, we have just started Unit 3: Going Places! In this unit, students listen to and read a variety of literary and informational texts in order to make connections, visualize, and identify the main topic and key details. Over the course of the unit, students will identify the character and setting in order to retell the facts or events of a text. In phonics, we will be identifying sounds for letters, and we will be learning sight words. In math, we just started Unit 4: Measurement, Counting, and the Number System. In this unit, students gain a deeper understanding of numbers and number relationships as they engage in activities in which they count, combine, and compare amounts. Students develop visual images of numbers and solve problems in which they find different combinations of the same number. Students are introduced to addition and subtraction situations through story problem contexts. Students measure the length of an object by lining up multiple units and count a set of up to 15 objects. Special Announcement! On 12/20 we will have “Pancakes in Pajamas.”

smorgan@bcps.org  ileslie@bcps.org
Grade Level Spotlight

This month—FIRST GRADE... In Reading, we are finishing up finding the main topic and key details of nonfiction texts. We will study Folktales in Unit 3. In math, we are continuing in Unit 3 by finding at least 5 combinations of numbers. We are strengthening our strategies for finding missing parts. tfeeney@bcps.org smorten@bcps.org

This month—SECOND GRADE... Happy December Second Grade Families! As we enter into December students will begin writing their own pourquoi tales. Students will be busy reading various pourquoi tales in preparation for constructing their own. Please continue to read nightly with your child! In math, we have begun to revisit addition and subtraction strategies to solve story problems with numbers through 100. We also began introducing Number Corners, part of our new Math curriculum. Second grade is lucky enough to have the Zoo Mobile visit us this month with different animals right at school before winter break! If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to reach out. jpile@bcps.org chill3@bcps.org acharikofsky@bcps.org

This month—THIRD GRADE... In math, students make connections between division and multiplication. They represent and solve multiplication and division situations by using pictures, words, and number sentences. They apply patterns, structure, and properties of operations to solve real-world problems, including problems involving area. In ELA, students read informational texts, along with several poems, related to the theme of invention to develop proficiencies for reading, writing, and speaking. They read short biographies and informational texts about inventors and their inventions to gain knowledge about the creation, innovation, and continuing development of inventions. tbenhke@bcps.org rgoodwin@bcps.org ksaunders@bcps.org

This month—FOURTH GRADE... In math this month, we are finishing unit two. Starting the first week of January, we will begin unit three. In unit three, students will focus on properties of division. In this unit, students will make the connection between multiplication and division as inverse operations. They will assess the reasonableness of answers using estimation strategies. They will also use various place value strategies to solve division problems. At home, students can practice their multiplication and division facts. This month in reading, we are also finishing unit two. Students are working on theme and character traits. Students should be reading 20 minutes a night to help with reading comprehension. amulvey@bcps.org ssstevens@bcps.org

This month—FIFTH GRADE... In 5th grade ELA, students are finishing the Unit 2A on Revolutionary War Perspectives. We will begin Unit 2B, Historical Fiction Genre Study, in which students will apply their background knowledge about the American Revolution while exploring the historical fiction genre. Students will read and discuss historical fiction novels in a literature circle format in order to learn and apply various speaking, listening, and literary reading standards. In 5th grade math, we begin Unit 3, Dividing Whole Numbers and Decimals, in which students will apply place value strategies to solve division problems with two-digit divisors using equations, arrays, and area models. The advanced math class will continue working in Unit 2, Expressions, Equations and Inequalities, in which students write and evaluate expressions, write and solve equations, and write and represent inequalities. The 5th grade will visit National Aquarium on December 16. The content related lessons for December will explore the lives of animals in the Chesapeake Bay, as well as plants and animals in the Atlantic Ocean. ljordan@bcps.org kphillips3@bcps.org kmhyotte@bcps.org
In December, all students will continue our Table Tennis unit. It is a structured activity where cooperative learning strategies can be applied. Students have begun understanding the basic rules/point system of Table Tennis. The students will use their knowledge to referee their games with a partner. Primary grades will continue their table tennis experience through the use of a variety of tabletop games using the forehand stroke.

Please remember to have your child wear sneakers on the day they have P.E. class!

Mr. Potts  
P.E. Teacher  
cpotts@bcps.org

All students are learning how to select books according to their Fountas and Pinnell reading level which allows some students to challenge themselves appropriately without getting frustrated. It has been wonderful watching students read new authors, new genres, and take steps out of their comfort zone. To better assist my kindergarteners as they transition from everybody books to chapter books, I have created a beginner reader section which allows all grade levels to enjoy books regardless of their reading level. I look forward to helping your child develop a love of reading as they discover a new world in their books.

Ms. Gauldin  
Media Specialist  
sgauldin@bcps.org

For the month of November, the character value of Kindness was highlighted. Students were encouraged to share acts of kindness and show respect towards others. The mental health matters campaign this month celebrated "Words Matter" and focused on positive thinking and actions. We also focused on the various ways to solve conflicts peacefully, develop and maintain friendships. Students examined, "How can I address conflict in a healthy manner? How can I resolve conflict peacefully?" Some strategies to address conflicts peacefully include to ignore, walk away, use soft/strong words or tell an adult. Students also reviewed how their actions and words impacted their relationships with others.

If you have questions or concerns, please call at 410-887-0732.

Mrs. Mumby  
Guidance Counselor  
smumby@bcps.org
Dear Hernwood families,

It has been an amazing and fun first three months in art class! Here’s a rundown of the art work we are currently making, grade by grade:

Kindergarten- We are starting a new project in kindergarten. We are making pinch-pots, a classic art project for this grade level.

1st Grade- We are still working on our pattern owls in first grade. They are looking colorful and great!

2nd Grade- The watercolor butterflies turned out great. We are beginning a new clay project in second grade called “Creature Creations.” These creatures are bound to look so cool!

3rd Grade- "Hybrid Humans" is the new project we are starting in third grade. We are exploring the steps to creating a self-portrait, and how we can combine the features of a favorite animal to our portrait.

4th Grade- "Galaxy Guardians" is still the fourth grade project. We are working on creating our papier-mache planets, and our clay planet guardians!

5th Grade- Fifth grade is moving on from book-making and beginning a clay unit. We are learning about the concept of attributes, and how attributes can aid our understanding of character design.

CALS- Just two words- "Nature Explorations!" In CALS, we will explore the different ways we can depict bugs, trees, plants, and animals. We will use play-dough, stencils, and much much more!

I’m so excited to continue working on these projects with all my classes!

Mr. Weigle
Art Teacher
tweigle@bcps.org
Hello Parents and Guardians!

Just a brief update to let you know what's happening in the world of Vocal and General Music! The kindergarten-3 grades are continuing with the same content as mentioned in last month's newsletter. Our 4th grade students will be working on reading music notation on the Treble staff to enhance their skills at reading and performing musical compositions on the recorder and or xylophones. Our 5th grade students are working on performances in preparation for our “Black History Month” performances in February. More information will be forthcoming! Finally, Mrs. Mumby our Guidance Counselor and I will be sponsoring our second “Mindset Matters” contest. This school year we will be soliciting 4th, and 5th grade students to participate. The participants will be creating and performing their own original “Rap Song” centered on the concepts of “Mindset Matters!” More information will be available to those students who are interested in showcasing their “Rapping” talents and abilities this month.

Mr. L. W. Weems Jr.
Vocal Music Instructor
lweems@bcps.org

After Winter Break, students in Exploratory Music will begin their violin unit. Band and string students have learned how to assemble and disassemble their instruments, proper playing position, and other instrument basics. We have started working on songs in our lesson book and in December, we will start working on songs for our Winter Concert in February. If you have any questions, please email me at sschucht@bcps.org. Thanks!

Ms. Schucht
Instrumental Music Teacher
sschucht@bcps.org

Vision Statement

Hernwood Elementary School is a learning community focused on literate, respectful, and globally competitive students in a safe and positive environment characterized by equity, access, and excellence for all.
If you can’t seem to keep up with all the numbers to keep your kids healthy, try Healthy Counts. It’s easy and can add up to a lifetime of great health.

Healthy Counts
A health routine kids can count on.

8
More than eight hours of sleep a night

7
Breakfasts a week

6
Home-cooked meals a week

5
Servings of fruits and vegetables a day

4
Positive self messages a day

3
Servings of low-fat dairy a day

2
Hours or less of screen time a day

1
Hour or more of physical activity a day

0
Sugary drinks a day

Counting may be one of the best ways to help a child get in shape. Healthy Counts is a simple, step-by-step routine kids can follow—one that could add up to a lifetime of better health.