Hickory Woods Elementary Weekly Reminders

Dear HWE Families,

One of our Kindergarten classrooms put up a bulletin board this last few weeks asking, “What brings you JOY?” Staff, students, and families have added a note onto the bulletin board to share those things that bring them joy during this holiday season and throughout the year. I would encourage you to do the same at home over this vacation; talk as a family about those things that bring you joy and why.

For me, friends and family are at the top of my joy list, but when it comes to HWE, it’s hard to decide. Our HWE top 10 is listed below:

- Morning hugs at the door
- The “ah ha” moments when a reader finally gets that tricky word or reads the story smoothly
- When a teacher tries out something new and shares with a colleague
- Watching friends play together on the playground
- Seeing teams work together to problem solve in math and science
- PTA events that bring together the community like Fall Festival and Family Bingo
- Working with an amazing staff and community of families
- Brag Walks - when a kid comes to share with us something about which they feel successful
- Sharpened Pencils from the PTA
- When we can help out families here in our community during the holiday season. In partnership with E & E Manufacturing, The Student Pantry, and our very own Holiday Care program, we have helped 31 families this year! Thank you to our PTA and to each of you that sent in support to help out this season.

To me, these moments are full of joy, excitement, and lasting positive energy!

Please remember that there is no school for a full 2 weeks this winter vacation. I hope that you find some time to rest, relax, and share your joy this holiday season. We will see everyone back here on January 6, 2020!

Have a wonderful winter vacation,

Patricia

Visit our HWE website
Follow us on Twitter: @HWE_Hawks
“Like” our PTA on Facebook and follow @HWEPTA on Twitter

Parking Lot Reminders: This is a busy time of year and we are often rushing to get last minute things done before the vacation. Please remember these few safety items when driving through the parking lot:

- Always use a designated crosswalk when walking from the parking lot to the building.
- If you need to exit your vehicle, use a parking spot to stop. Stopping in a throughway prevents the flow of traffic and is a safety issue as your child exits the car where other cars are driving.
- We have a drop off lane around the back of the building available at 8:50 for you to let your child out of the car and into the building safely at door 18. Please have them exit the driver’s side of the car.
Reminder: Trading cards (Pokemon, etc) and other toys are not allowed at school unless specifically requested by the teacher for a special award day. Additionally, selling or trading items is not permitted at school. Thank you for helping your child to keep these items at home to prevent any sad feelings should they go missing.

Important Dates:

- December
  - 12/23-1/3 – No School for all students

- January
  - 6 – Back to School
  - 7 – PTA Meeting @ 7:00 p.m.
  - 10 – All Pro Dads @ 8:00 a.m., PTA Popcorn Day (pre-paid only)
  - 13 – Spelling Bee @ 9:30 a.m.
  - 16 – Nest
  - 17 – PTA Bagel Day (pre-paid only)
  - 20 – No School, District-wide MLK Day Event @ WL Northern High School (evening)
  - 21 – Bonaventure Night 6:00-8:30 p.m.
  - 24 – PTA Popcorn Day (pre-paid only), Club/Activity Pictures for the Yearbook (no retakes will be available for absences)
  - 27 – Geography Bee @ 9:30 a.m.
  - 29 – Half Day (12:25 dismissal)
  - 31 – HAWK PRIDE, PTA Family Bingo Night @ 6:30-8:00 p.m.

Please click here: [2019-20 calendar](#) to view this year’s district calendar.

**PTA NEWS**

**Community Rewards:** Help support HWE by signing up for no cost fundraising.

- It only takes a minute!
- Please share with family, friends and neighbors!
- Contact Kristie Rust ([kkprust@mi.rr.com](mailto:kkprust@mi.rr.com)) if you have questions!

**AMAZON SMILE:** When you shop at Amazon Smile, Amazon donates 0.5% of the purchase price to Hickory Woods Elementary PTA. This works if you are a Prime member as well. With the holiday season fast approaching please considering using this link when you shop at Amazon - Share it with everyone you know that shops at Amazon. Bookmark the [link](#) and support us every time you shop.

**KROGER:** Kroger Community Rewards Program gives back a percentage of all purchases made using a registered Kroger Plus Card. The profits are sent to the school. Annual enrollment required. What to Do: Go to the [Kroger Community Rewards Site](http://www.krogercommunityrewards.com), click on “create an account” (if you have never signed up) or “sign in” (if you have signed up in the past). Type SR276 or Hickory Woods Elementary PTA when asked to find organization. Currently we have 101 households signed up- from August 1-October 31 we earned $385.64 for Hickory Woods. The goal for the next quarter is to have 125 households signed up so please pass this information on to everyone you know!
News from the Novi PD:

- **Child Car Seat Inspection:** At Fire Station #4 on Saturday the 21st from 9am-noon. The fire station is located at 49375 Ten Mile Road in Novi.
- **Out of Town for the Winter Break?** Fill out a [home watch request](#) online. This way, Novi police personnel can check on the homes to make sure they are safe while the residents are gone.

**Chance to win BIG & support WL classrooms! 15th Annual Tuition Expedition 50/50 Scholarship Raffle:**
Purchase your [Tuition Expedition 50/50 Scholarship Raffle tickets](#) today! Raffle's proceeds are channeled into Walled Lake Schools' classrooms through Foundation’s annual mini-grant program (see [list of grant awards](#) per school). Tickets are $50 each or 3 for $100 (plus $2 convenience fee per $50). Only a 1,000 tickets are available for sale. Great Odds! Grand prize winner will receive scholarship funds for postsecondary education (40% lump sum option available). Plus, ticket purchasers have the chance to win a FREE raffle ticket courtesy of the WL School Emp. Fed. Credit Union and opportunity to win secondary prize; HP Sprocket 200 Bundle Media printer donated by the FFE. Grand Prize drawing is March 30, 2020 at District’s Reflections Celebration; need not be present to win. Visit the [FFE’s TE raffle website](#) for details or contact the Foundation for more info. and to purchase tickets with check or credit card: phone ext. 62116 or email michellebianco@wlcsd.org. MI Raffle License# R55190

**Reading Challenge:** From January 1 to January 31, Novi Public Library will participate in Beanstack's Third Annual Winter Reading Challenge, sponsored by Penguin Random House (RPH). We challenge our guests to read at least 10,000 books during the month and keep track of their reading on our Beanstack site, [https://novilibrary.beanstack.org/reader365](https://novilibrary.beanstack.org/reader365). Hundreds of libraries and schools across the nation will encourage their communities to read a target number of minutes and books. Top-performing libraries and schools will earn the Golden Penguin and Random House awards. PRH pledges to donate $50,000 in prizes, including author visits and new books, to be shared among the winners. Let's light up the mind this winter! Happy reading, Novi!

**Commerce Little League:** [Sign Up](#) is here to play baseball!