

From Us to You

York Haven Elementary Newsletter

October 2012

Dates to Remember

Monday	Oct. 1	Wolfgang Fundraiser starts
Monday	Oct. 8	No School - Holiday
Tuesday	Oct. 9	PTO Meeting, 6:00 PM Scarecrow Night, 7:00 PM
Monday	Oct. 15	Wolfgang Fundraiser due
Wednesday	Oct. 17	Early Dismissal, 1:25 PM
Monday	Oct. 29	AR Night, 6:00-7:00 PM
Thursday	Oct. 31	Fall Festival 1:30, Parent Approved Volunteers 1:15
Thursday	Nov. 1	No School
Friday	Nov. 2	No School

From the desk of
Mr. March

We have had a great start to the year. The students have adjusted well to the new routines and expectations. This is what we would like to continue. Please attempt to keep in contact with your child's teacher. Being a positive force at home and a teammate with the school will pay dividends for your child's future. A way to do that would be phone calls, letters or emails. Keeping your contact information up to date will also allow the teachers to keep you up dated. Together we can make a difference.

Mr. March, Principal

ATTENDANCE INFORMATION

The school district is responsible for monitoring and maintaining records of attendance for all students. **All absences are treated as unexcused until we receive a written excuse explaining the reason for an absence. Parents should submit a written explanation within three (3) calendar days of the absence.** You may fax your written explanation to school or send in with your child. If we do not receive a written excuse the absence will be counted as unexcused. If your child accumulates three unexcused absences during their years at York Haven Elementary you will receive a warning letter. Any additional unexcused absences will then be sent to citation. **Any absence of three or more consecutive days will require a doctor's note. Please include all dates of absence on the doctor's note.**

PTO Happenings

The PTO sponsored the Back to School Night in September and we had a good turnout. In October they will be seeking volunteers for Scarecrow Night (Oct. 9) and Fall Festival Activities (Oct. 31). Remember due to the new district policy volunteers will need to have completed the Volunteer Packet to be eligible to help us for those activities.

If you are interested in becoming a part of the PTO or would like to learn more about it to help enhance your child's education please see www.yorkhavenpto.com for more information.



Pick Up and Drop Off

Students are to be in class by **8:40** each day. They will be allowed in the building at **8:30** unless they are getting breakfast at which time they can enter at **8:20**. If they are not on time they are tardy and this time is accumulated to become an Unlawful Absence so please make sure your child is on time.

If you plan to pick up your child who rides a bus or have other arrangements for them after school the school needs to be notified in writing that there is a change or we will proceed as we always do. The same will be true for any Kindergartener being picked up as a walker after school.

Please also be aware that the driving lane closest to the school is for buses only. Finally please adhere to correct driving procedures while on school property for everyone's safety.

Lunch Payment

You are now able to pay for your child's lunch online. To find more information out about this service please refer to the district web site <http://nesd.schoolwires.net/nesd/site/default.asp>. Follow the prompts from Our District at the top of the page to Child Nutrition Services to Online Payment Services (MySchoolBucks). There is a fee for the service that goes to the company that provides this for the district.

To Register On-line:

Visit the website at www.mySchoolBucks.com. Follow the instructions on the screen and provide the required information in order to register. You can register each child using their date of birth and/or student identification number and be sure to enter your child's name exactly as you did when you registered them at school. You will receive notification by email of successful registration. For this reason, a valid email address is required when you sign up for the service.

We are excited to be able to offer this new service to our families in the school district. We hope you will find it to be not only convenient, but a great timesaver!

Volunteering in school

Also starting this year, any volunteer to help in class have been asked to fill out a packet that will be sent to the administrative office for review and then sent to the school when approved. Volunteers must fill out this packet and meet all of its requirements if a person desires to volunteer in a classroom, one time or multiple times. The information for this can be located at the school office, administrative office in Manchester or at the district web site <http://www.nesd.k12.pa.us/Domain/1> under the Community link. The clearances involved take time to process by the agencies they go to so you will want to do this early so you can help in class.

A Plus Rewards

EARN MONEY FOR YOUR SCHOOL

Please help our school by signing up for Giant A+ Rewards. It is easy and helps support our school.

Giant Food Stores is again offering a convenient way of raising funds for your local school or schools.

- Register your Giant BONUSCARD and earn one point for each dollar spent between October 10, 2012 and March 19, 2013.
- Your school will receive 1 % of all participating customers BONUSCARD purchases.
- Participating customers will be able to designate 2 schools per each BONUSCARD number.
- Even if you enrolled last year, you will need to re-register for the 2012-2013 school year.
- Please visit the [A+ REWARD PROGRAM](#) website for more information.
- You can also visit the school's Express Mail link to get the paperwork to sign up.

BUILDING	CODE
York Haven Elementary	01311

Kindergarten

Coming to kindergarten and getting use to school all day long is an on-going process. As we approach our first full month of school together we are sure you have seen much growth and enthusiasm from your children. Our goal is to keep that love of school going and this comes from both school and home. Please remember to look at your child's newsletter weekly. We do many of the same things in kindergarten, but we could do them on different days. As we prepare for October your students should know the letter, sounds and picture word for the letters t, f, b, m, n, c and a. They should know the sight words, I see, a, like and my. Encourage them to share what they are learning in Social Studies and Science and what they have learned about Johnny Appleseed. Counting to 20 is great and they should be able to identify numbers to 10. If they have mastered those go ahead and move forward.

On the whole we have seen much growth from the students and look forward to many fun-filled learning events in October!

First Grade

First grade is off to a great start! In math, we have been reviewing counting by 1's, 2's and 5's as well as counting and writing tally marks. Our next unit will introduce telling time to the hour as well as counting pennies, nickels, and combinations of pennies and nickels. Our reading theme for the month of September has been main idea. We have been practicing identifying the main idea each day. Our theme for October will be sequencing events. In writing, we have been writing linear stories. Linear stories begin with a main idea sentence but the order of the supporting details does not matter. In social studies, we learned about families and communities. Our first science unit will focus on air and weather. Please continue practicing sight words and reading with your child every night.

Second Grade

Second grade has had a great start to the year! We are currently reading very silly stories in our Silly Stories theme! At the end of this theme, we will be focusing on poetry. Our next reading theme is called Nature Walk. We have just begun working on unit 2 in math where students are exploring addition facts, subtraction facts, number stories, and fact families. In science, some classes have been discovering numerous ways to balance tag board shapes and a pencil on its point, while also exploring counterbalance, counterweight, and stability. Other classes have been

learning about civics and government in social studies. Second grade students have also been working on bonus letters and glued sounds in Foundations. Don't forget to practice the trick words at home! They are: *because, through, should, would, only, been.*

Third Grade

Welcome Fall! We have been busy in third grade this past month. We have been discovering how numbers are used all around us and how important they are in math. Coming up, we will be using different charts and graphs to continue practicing using the numbers around us. Please make sure that your child is completing his or her home link every night. In reading we have been going on adventures of all sorts. Please be sure that your child is reading every night at home. We have been focusing on social studies this marking period. In social studies, we are studying communities and how communities are the same and different. Please remember that we are focusing on specific spelling patterns and trick words in FOUNDATIONS and we will not be giving spelling tests at this time. Have a great month!

Library

Join us on a Reading Safari!

All grades will be getting ready for our upcoming author visit. Matt Novak will be visiting York Haven on October 10 to share his books with us. His book *The Everything Machine* is a nominee for the 2012-2013 Pennsylvania Young Reader's Choice Awards Program.

The AR theme for this year is Reading Safari. We recently had a kick-off assembly to get the students excited. We know they are already wild about reading. You can show them some extra support and encouragement by attending an AR night this school year. Most AR Nights will be the 4th Monday of each month from 6:00 – 7:00 p.m. October's AR Night is Monday, October 29th.

Following the author visit, Kindergarten and First grade will still be focusing on book care and book selection. Second grade will be focusing on selecting just right books. Third grade will spend some time learning to use the library catalog.

Music

The sound of musical instruments and beautiful singing are filling the halls of York Haven Elementary School. The focus for September was learning the history, lyrics, and tune to many of our familiar and popular Patriotic songs. October will be an exciting month as we explore note reading, dynamics, and new rhythms. We will also be learning many fun games and songs that have to do with the season of fall.

Many third graders have decided to take on the challenge of learning a musical instrument this year. If your child is among this group, please take note of what cycle day your child has lessons. They will need to bring their instrument and music to each lesson. I am excited for the new year with my beginning string students!

Art

We are SCREAMING for joy about the new school year! The third graders used Edvard Munch's *The Scream* for inspiration in the art room. We reviewed our hot and cold colors, landscapes, horizon lines, and self-portraits to create our masterpieces.

It is great to be back and see so many familiar faces and meeting new friends. I cannot wait to see what all my students can do this year in art class. Here's to a fantastic start and well wishes for the rest of the school year!

Physical Education

We are “rolling” along in Physical Education. We are looking forward to our juggling unit with second and third grade. Juggling is a great activity for hand-eye coordination as well as ambidexterity, which is the ability to use both hands. We will be using one, two or three juggling scarves to practice juggling with one or two hands. The scarves are great because they float in the air and allow beginning jugglers time to react. A great way to allow your student(s) to practice at home is to substitute used dryer sheets for juggling scarves. Run a few dryer sheets through the dryer several times to make them light and airy. After several cycles they will act just like the juggling scarves!

In Kindergarten and second grades we are kicking off the school year with ball skills. The students are working on dribbling, passing, kicking, throwing, and rolling a ball. Ball skills are a great tool to have for our young students. Many games and youth sports involve a ball or some type of manipulative. Learning different ways to move a ball is a great tool to have, and can lead to a lifetime of athletic enjoyment and fitness.

Reminder: Students are asked to wear sneakers on the days when they have physical education. This is for their safety and the protection of the gymnasium floor. If you could, please try to send your student(s) to school with sneakers on physical education days. Your cooperation is greatly appreciated.