

Family Newsletter

April 2018

The Heights

Community School

APRIL

Monday, April 2-6, 2018

NO SCHOOL Spring Break

Monday, April 9, 2018

Classes Resume

6:00pm **Plaza Movie Night**

Monday, April 16, 2018

5:30-7:45pm **Parent Academy Seminar**

Tuesday, April 17, 2018

6:00-8pm **Saints North Roller Skating**

Thursday, April 19, 2018

5:00-7pm **PTA & 18-19 School Budget Mtg**

Monday, April 23, 2018

**Administrative Professional (Secretary's) Week
& National Volunteer Week April 23-28)**

Wednesday, April 25, 2018

9:45am **CARES Program AM PreK, 3-5**

1:30pm **Chat w/the Principal**

2:10pm **CARES Program PM PreK, K-2**

Friday, April 27, 2018

8:15-10am **Volunteer Appreciation Bkfst**

Monday, April 30, 2018

Teacher Appreciation Week 4/30-5/4

MAY

Friday, May 4, 2018

5:00pm **Student Council Dance & Carnival**

Monday, May 7, 2018

6:00pm **Plaza Movie Night**

Tuesday, May 8, 2018

Teacher Appreciation Day

5:30-7:30pm **Parent Forum**

Thursday, May 10, 2018

5:00-7pm **PTA Mtg**

Friday, May 11, 2018

3:00-9pm **Chuck E Cheese Fundraiser**

Tuesday, May 15, 2017

5:30-7:30pm **Parent Forum**

Thursday, May 17, 2018

5:00pm **PreK Registration**

6:00pm **K Registration**

Friday, May 18, 2018

Spring Concerts

9:45am **Grades K, 1 & 2**

2:10pm **Grades 3, 4 & 5**

Monday, May 28, 2018

NO SCHOOL Memorial Day

Wednesday, May 30, 2018

9:45am **CARES Program All Grades**

Find the complete 17-18 Family Calendar and Handbook on The Heights' website.

Principal Chreese Jones

1863 E. Clear Ave.

St. Paul, MN, 55119

Phone 651-293-8815 Fax 651-293-8977

Attendance Line 651-744-2273

Website: spps.org/heights



A Note from Assistant Principal Mr. B

Principal Jones and I would like to thank all of the families for your participation in your child's Parent(Guardian)/ Teacher Conference in March. It was so great to see so many families in attendance throughout the 3 days of conferences. It is great that the partnership between home and school is continuing to strengthen as you discuss ways to support our scholars in their education. If you missed your child's conference please reschedule with the classroom teacher as soon as possible. There are many ways that this could be done. Our goal is to always have 100% participation.

April is the month we began our MCA testing in grades 3-5. Teachers will send out the testing times for their classes in their newsletters.

MCA results will be mailed to families. Connect with your scholar's teacher if you have any questions.

No matter how many years you have been out of school, the thought of taking a test probably still makes your heart race. Now think about what it is like for your child however, as a parent or guardian, you can help. The following are some suggestions that were provided by the National Association of Elementary School Principals.

THE PHYSICAL

- Get them fed.
- Get them moving.
- Get them breathing.
- Get them to bed on time.

THE MENTAL

- Practice their confidence.
- Put piecework into action.
- Unplug already.

THE EMOTIONAL

- Offer super support.
- Review results together.

Have a wonderful and safe Spring Break!



The Heights Community School
651-293-8815

Morning Schedule

- 8:15 Cafeteria opens for FREE Breakfast to Go
- 8:30 All students must be in their classrooms or they will be marked tardy.

Reminder:

Call the attendance line before 7:30 am when your child(ren) will not be in school.

(651)-744-2273

The attendance line is available 24/7!

Reminder!

All volunteers who wish to chaperone field trips are required to have completed a background check. The cost is **\$15 (cash only)**. The background check is good for one year only.

Please allow 2 weeks for processing.

PTA Chocolate Bar Sales

The Hebert Candy Bars sale ends **Wednesday, April 11.**

Please turn in all money after Spring Break.

Thanks for selling!



Order T-Shirts Online!

stores.inksoft.com/heightscommunityschool

PreK and K News

PreK Take Your Parent to School Day is Thursday, April 26th. Learn how PreK students transition to Kindergarten. Parents will be given the opportunity to visit the kindergarten rooms and ask the teachers questions. See you there!

Save the date!

Thursday, May 17 is PreK and Kindergarten 2018-19 Registration

PreK Registration is 5-6:30 pm.

Kindergarten Registration is 6-7:30 pm.

Information will be mailed to families after Student Placement assigns students to schools.

Conversation Corner #6

A conversation with your child is a great way to encourage children to increase vocabulary and gain confidence with speaking. Mrs. Galowitz and Mrs. Johansen have worked together to give you some ideas to help you get more than a "yes", "ok", or "no" answer when asking your child about their school day. On the way home, at dinner or even bedtime is a great time for these simple questions.

1. Who did you share your snacks with at lunch?
2. What made your teacher smile? What made her frown?
3. What kind of person were you today?
4. What made you feel happy?
5. What made you feel proud?

As answers develop using a phrase such as, "tell me more" will help your child make more connections to school. It is a busy day full of learning and we hope children begin to talk more about the wonders of their school day.

Stay tuned! Soon we'll be moving toward a paperless newsletter delivered electronically to email addresses. Please make sure your email address is up to date!

PTA News

The next PTA meeting is Thursday, April 19, 2018 from 5:00-7pm.

Please join us!

Saints North Family Skate Center

1818 Gervais Ct, Maplewood
(651) 770-3848
Tues, April 17 6:00-8 pm

Chuck E Cheese

445 Commerce Dr, Woodbury
Fri, May 11 3:00-9 pm

Keep collecting:



Box Tops Competition!

!!Available Now!!

PTA is working with Avenue Shirt Works.

Look online for additional colors and size chart!

No deadline!
Order all year round!

Samples sizes available in the Parent Resource Room.

Use the order form on The Heights website at spps.org/heights (please send exact change with order form) or shop online!



Specialists' News

Science-Ms. Rhoads

K- Being Scientists with Seasons
1st – Learning about Balance and Motion
2nd - Learning about Habitats
3rd - Learning about different types of Energy.
4th - Learning about the Human Body
5th - Learning about the scientific process using boats

Physical Education-Mr. Guthrie

For the month of April, third through fifth grade will be playing Floor Hockey. We will spend two days working on stick handling, two days on passing, and two days learning how to shoot and defend a goal. Once we put all four skills together, we will play a game of Sideline Hockey. Kindergarten through second grade will be doing fitness stations. There will be a line jump station, a squat station, a jump rope station, beam jump station, and a crunches station. Students will be broken up into groups, and they will spend two minute at each station.

Music-Mr. Claver

My name is Mr. Claver, and I am so excited to join the heights family as our new music teacher. Over the month of March, our scholars have had a new introduction to music class. Grades K-2 have focused on different music games that encourages growth in singing, playing instruments, and movement. Grades 3-5 were able to share their individual creativity by creating original songs using "Garage Band" Additionally, these songs were given lyrics by the scholars' own creation. As we look forward, I wanted to provide a quick reminder for our May performances. On May 18th at 9:30am, Grades K-2 will perform in a music concert. That same day, at 2:10pm, Grades 3-5 will perform. More information will be provided during the month of April.

Enrichment News-Mrs Allal

Ms. Allal's Enrichment Groups:

Kindergarten- We are learning about spring using literature and art. I am continuing to teach the Second Steps program on Problem- Solving and Fair Ways to Play. Ask your child to sing the song!

Third Grade- We are learning the seven continents and five oceans through song, group work, learning centers, iPad research and books.

GT Fridays!

Grades 1-2 We are writing a play that takes place in Australia. Fifth graders are also teaching us chess! We alternate activities.

4th and 5th grade GT students are playing the Stockmarket Game until May 4. They are working in teams to research, buy and trade stocks using a virtual portfolio.

Student Council- Pennies for Patients will be starting later this year after spring break. Look for a note of fun activities to help bring in the change!

Parent Reminder

Parents please remember that if your child has had a fever (over 100), diarrhea or vomiting; please wait

24 hours

of symptoms free before you send your child back to school.



Health Office News

5th grade students have been receiving training that provides tools and educational methods for asthma self-management. Students have been learning about asthma disease, triggers, treatment and how to understand an asthma action plan on March 16, 23 & April 13 from 8:50-9:40am.

Save the date!

On May 2 from 8:50-9:40am, parents who have students with asthma are invited to attend an additional training at The Heights with their students to come and observe what their students have learned.

Please look for a flyer with more details the 3rd week of April or contact the health office at The Heights. We will appreciate it if you can make it.

Fifth Grade Students Transition to Middle School

We are excited for our fifth grade students as they finish their elementary education at The Heights Community School and transition on to middle school. When we return from our Spring Break on April 9, we will start focusing on middle school expectations. That being said, your child will participate in a variety of lessons, activities and discussions focusing on what is expected from a middle school student.

The topics covered include:

Facts and Myths about Middle School
How to read a schedule and make it to class on time
How to open a combination lock
Organization with many different classes
Walking through the hallways freely
Seeking support from adults



Each student will make their own "High Trust" button that they will wear and act as a pass. It will allow them to move through the halls without their teacher. It is the understanding that students can lose that privilege if they are not following the expectations. They can earn it back by fixing their behavior.

For more information, contact our school counselor, Kathy Drinkwine at 651-325-2415

Minnesota Reading Corps Tutors Needed

The Heights Community School is looking for Minnesota Reading Corps tutors for the school year 2018-2019! If you or someone you know is interested please see the information below:

Minnesota Reading Corps is looking for more than 1,200 literacy tutors in 800+ schools across Minnesota. There are both full- and part-time positions available. Earn a living allowance and an educational award for your year of service.

Apply today at ReadingAndMath.net.

Questions?

Contact recruitment@servetogrow.org

or

866.859.2825



Save the Date: Parent Academy Seminar

Seminar #2 - offered in English & Spanish

Date: Monday, April 16, 2018

Understanding Student Data

Standards, assessments, progress reports, grades, and rubrics can all be confusing. This seminar will provide tips to help parents understand the information about their child's work in SPSS.

Topics and Key Activities

- Relationship between standards, assessments, and curriculum
- Tips for monitoring student progress
- Information to help navigate the system and communicate with educators
- EL and SpEd supplemental info

Objectives: Families will...

- Receive and review a copy of the parent guide to grade level standards
- Understand what different types of student data are describing
- Practice communication skills for discussing progress with teachers
- Recognize SPSS supports available