A Note from Principal Jones

Our 2018-2019 School year is soon coming to its end and what year it has been. We survived six school day cancellations due to cold weather and heavy snow fall. These same cold weather days and the flooding of our entire first floor contributed to having low attendance to a few of our family events this year. Because of these unfortunate events and our limited time to plan our Multicultural Family Night and school carnival have been cancelled and will be scheduled for next year. “Thank You” to you, our Heights families for being patient with and along-side us.

We will host our 4th Annual “Year in Review” Parent Forum on Tuesday, May 14. It is my hope that we will take what we’ve learned from previous conversations to create action plans that can be carried out in partnership with you. Please come prepared to take an active role in helping to make future family events at our school meaningful and a community success.

As always, your presence, participation and your voice are needed. There will be two sessions held on this evening. The meeting will include a light meal and child care will be provided. Please look for more information that shares which session you are invited to attend. Mr. Pham, and I look forward to reviewing the successes of our current year and planning for the future with you!

PreK and K Registration & Orientation

Save the date!
Thursday, May 16 is PreK and Kindergarten 2019-20 Registration

PreK Registration is 5-6:00 pm.
Kindergarten Registration is 6-7:00 pm.
The next PTA meeting is scheduled for:

Thursday, May 9
5:00-7pm

Please join us! We'll be final ideas for the PTA budget and school budget for 2019-20.

2018-19 PTA meetings
10/10, 1/10, 3/7, 5/9

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Saints North
Family Skate Center
1818 Gervais Ct, Maplewood
(651) 770-3848

Tues, Sept 25 6:00-8 pm
Thurs, Dec 6 6:00-8 pm
Fri, Feb 8 5:15-7:15 pm
Tues, April 16 6:00-8 pm

Chuck E Cheese
445 Commerce Dr, Woodbury, MN
Wed, Oct 17 3:00-9 pm
Fri, Jan 18 3:00-9 pm
Fri, March 15 3:00-9 pm
Fri, May 10 3:00-9 pm

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PTA is working with Avenue Shirt Works for Heights gear.

A flyer is available now! Call Avenue Shirt Works at 651-771-5744 to place your order.

Look online for additional colors and size chart!

No deadline! Order all year round!

Samples sizes available in the Parent Resource Room.

May is the last date to submit a background check release form

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.

Friday, May 3 is the last day of this school year to submit a background check release form with $15 cash to process a background check.

Parents can still volunteer in the building and in classrooms by filling out a volunteer form.

Box Tops

Student Council will be counting and sending in our Box Tops for Education. Please send in your Box Tops by Friday, May 10. Thanks!

PTA Chocolate Bar Sales

The Candy Bars sale ended Thursday, April 11.
Please turn in all money asap.
Thanks for selling!

Conversation Corner

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. Tell me who you enjoyed playing with the most today?
2. Tell me about something that scares you?
3. If you could be a teacher for a day, what subject would you want to teach?
4. What was the easiest part of your day?
5. What qualities do you think make a good friend and why?

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.
**Specialists’ News**

**Science-Ms. Saunders-Pearce**
Greetings from the science room. It has been an honor to teach your scholars this year! Here is what we will be doing for the remainder of the year:
- Kindergarten- Categorizing different types of animals
- 1st Grade: Air and weather.
- 2nd Grade: Properties of matter
- 3rd Grade: Physics of light
- 4th Grade: Water Cycle
- 5th Grade- Landforms

If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me.
Becky Saunders-Pearce  651-293-8815  becky.saunders-pearce@spps.org

**Physical Education-Mr. Guthrie**
For the month of May, second through fifth grade will be doing fitness stations, and kickball. We will spend 45 seconds at each station, doing beam jump, squats, jump rope, shoulder taps, and crunches. During kickball, we will be outside playing on the kickball field, so please have your student come to school with shoes that you don’t mind getting dirty. Kindergarten and first grade will be focusing on how to do jumping jacks, and squats. We will also play tag games that will involve those two exercises.

**Music-Mr. Claver**
This unit, scholars worked on musical performance, expression, and creation. Grades 3-5 are continued to improvise on xylophones. Scholars were able to create and perform melodies without any planning or preparation! Ask your scholar to define improvise for you. For grades k-2, scholars have continue exploring dynamics. Scholars are able to describe what they hear, and can name and perform crescendo and decrescendo. All scholars continue to reinforce basic music skills such as keeping a steady beat and pitch matching.

All scholars are working towards their end of the year music performance! We invite you to join us for our Spring Music Concerts are Friday, May 17, 2019.
- K-2 – 9:45am
- 3-5 – 2:10pm

Talent Show information has been given to interest 4th and 5th Grade Scholars. Our Talent Show this year will be outside on Wednesday, June 5th at 10am. In case of rain, it’ll be inside at 10am (PreK, 3-5 audience) and 2:10pm (PreK, K-2 audience).

**Enrichment News-Ms. Clardy**
March lessons–students learned about the history of Brown V. The Board of Education through the us and discussion of the Ruby Bridges biography. Students studied the branches of government last month so reviewing this reinforced their understanding of the Supreme court. In addition, to support the schoolwide discussion on culture, we identified a working definition of culture and students were encouraged to identify the richness of their own culture.

- **Lesson 1** The history of the monetary system. Where does it come from? Why do we need it?
- **Lesson 2** Who is Ruby Bridges in history? What is integration and segregation?
- **Lesson 3** Defining culture
- **Lesson 4** Identifying family’s culture around food

**GT classes** Grades K-1 are exploring biographies as a group. We are identifying facts and prioritizing the importance of the information. We reviewed Hellen Keller, Jane Goodahl, Mae Jemison and Gandhi. Students from grades 2-5 continue working on researching and creating a biography. Many students have begun creating a slide show to show case their work.

On Fridays, students work on thinking skills that emphasizing problem solving. Students have the opportunity to explore Science, Technology, Engineering and Math games (STEM) or logic and strategy probes through the use of educational games.

**Student Council** Is planning for a fifth-grade field trip. They also made posters for School spirit week. They will be hosting during the school author visit.

**Dominoes Club** 5th grade students began teaching 4th grade students the game strategies.

**Chess Club** is offered to 4th and 5th grade. They meet on Fridays.

**Art Club** – is offered to 4th and 5th grade. The club is student initiated and led.

**Hmong dance** - It includes 4th and 5th grade students. They will have a performance in May.

Feel free to contact me with any questions or comments. Mary.frances.clardy@spps.org

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**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.
The Heights Community School
651-293-8815

Library News

Attention!
All library books are due by Friday, May 24th!

Yearbooks 2018-19

The 2018-19 Full color YEARBOOK is scheduled to arrive 5/24/2019.
Don’t miss out on keeping memories! The online order option has closed. You may still order a yearbook by sending $19.50 in with your students as soon as possible. They are being sold on a first come first serve basis. Only 75 will be ordered for the Heights.

School Counselor News

Hello Families and Community Members.
As part of our Counseling Program at The Heights, all of our students participate in a Child Protection Unit.
Students are taught:
1. Ways to stay safe by first Recognizing when things are not safe, Refusing unsafe behaviors and Reporting to an adult.
2. The Always Ask First Rule which is always ask a parent or the person in charge first.
3. Safe and Unsafe Touches which states that safe touches help you feel cared for and loved. Unsafe touches hurt your body and feelings.
4. The Touching Rule which is a person should never touch your private body parts except to keep you healthy.

If you have any questions about this unit, please feel free to call me at 651-325-2415.

Kathy Drinkwine, Licensed School Counselor

Health Office News

It is my pleasure to extend warm thanks to all our parents for working hard and collaborating with us as we take care of our scholars this school year. It has been a year full of fun and hard work. I am excited to inform you that for our school immunization exclusion this year, we only excluded one student. I am very optimistic next school year will be a zero exclusion.

There is measles outbreak, so please continue to have your children immunized when they are due. Flu is still around, continue to observe good hand hygiene. Finally, we are getting into the season when threes are blooming and pollen will soon be filling the air. Those with asthma, please make sure to take your asthma medication as directed by your healthcare provider. Always have your inhalers with you all the time.

I wish you all happy summer.
Thanks.
Dr. Chinyere C.Obasi RNC, PHN, MSN, LSN

Student Support

Hello Heights Families,
Just another reminder that Mr. Thao will be providing services to our students to address a variety of obstacles that stand in the way of learning.
If you feel your child is struggling with issues such as hyperactivity, impulsiveness, peer relationships, or anything else that is preventing them from reaching their full potential, please call the school and ask for Ms. Kathy Drinkwine or Ms. Julie Dums. Mr. Thao is able to see students with any type of insurance except Blue Cross/Blue Shield.
For more information about Mr. Thao, please go to www.truethaocounseling.com

Save The Date!

Join us on the last day of school Friday, June 8 for our annual All School Lunch from 11:30-1:00.
Hot dog lunches cost $4.10/person. Look for the flyer the first week of May for the lunch schedule and to sign up. Please RSVP by May 10 so we can order the correct amount of extra lunches.

Minnesota Reading Corps Tutors Needed

The Heights Community School is looking for Minnesota Reading Corps tutors for the school year 2019-2020! 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

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