MARCH

Friday, March 1, 2019
NO SCHOOL Conference Prep Day

Thursday, March 7, 2019
5:00-7pm PTA & 2019-20 Budget Mtg

Sunday, March 10, 2019
Daylight Saving Time Starts
Spring ahead 1 hr
Monday, March 11, 2019
6:00pm Plaza Movie Night No Fundraiser
Due to District 622 Spring Break
Movie Night Fundraisers Resume April 8

Wednesday, March 13, 2019
5:30-7pm Multicultural Family Night
Friday, March 15, 2019
3:00-9pm Chuck E Cheese Fundraiser

Thursday, March 21, 2019
PreK NO SCHOOL - Conferences
8:00am-3:00pm PreK Conferences
4:00-8:00pm Evening Conferences
Friday, March 22, 2019
NO SCHOOL 8:00am-12:00pm Conferences

Tuesday, March 26, 2019
4:00-8:00pm Evening Conferences
Thursday, March 28, 2019
9:45am CARES Program AM PreK, K-2
2:10pm CARES Program PM PreK, 3-5

APRIL

Monday, April 1-5, 2019
NO SCHOOL Spring Break

Monday, April 8-12, 2019
National Assistant Principal Week

Monday, April 8, 2019
Classes Resume
6:00pm Plaza Movie Night

Tuesday, April 16, 2019
6:00-8pm Saints North Roller Skating

Wednesday, April 10, 2019
5:30-7:45pm Parent Academy & Dinner

Thursday, April 18, 2019
5:00-7:00pm Student Council Dance & Classroom Basket Raffle

Friday, April 19, 2019
NO SCHOOL Prof Dev Day

Monday, April 22 – Friday April 26, 2019
Administrative Professional (Secretary’s) Week & National Volunteer Week

Wednesday, April 24, 2019
AM/PM PreK
Take Your Parent to School Day

Thursday, April 25, 2019
8:45pm Chat w/the Principal
9:45am CARES Program AM PreK, 3-5
2:10pm CARES Program PM PreK, K-2

Friday, April 26, 2019
8:30-10am Volunteer Appreciation Brunch

Find the complete 2018-19 Family Calendar and Handbook on The Heights’ website.

Greetings Heights Families,

Can you believe it’s already March? It’s hard to tell by the type of weather we’ve had these last weeks.

Attendance counts! Scholars with chronic absenteeism and/or tardiness are struggling in our classrooms both academically and behaviorally. Sleep is a basic human need for us all and without it your child’s learning and progress can be negatively impacted. Please help us help your child be successful by setting an early enough bedtime for him/her to get plenty of rest and an early enough wake up time to ensure that s/he has the time needed to be at school on time every day. Thank you!

I’m so excited to announce that our 5th graders will participate in Dancing Classrooms again this year. During this 10-week dance residency scholars will be taught the art of ballroom dancing and learn dances: The Merengue, Tango, Rumba, Foxtrot, Waltz and Swing. Not only will they learn partner dances, but this experience is sure to help shape and develop our scholars’ Self-confidence, Self-expression, Joyful movement, Elegance, Mental Focus and Physical exercise. 5th graders began their first session on Monday, February 25 with their teaching artists, Ms. Danielle and Ms. Esther. Their culminating assembly will be held Thursday, May 16th for their families and selected grade level classes in our cafeteria.

We are rethinking how we approach and celebrate holidays at The Heights, but it will take us some time and we need your help. This year’s “Year in Review” family meetings is May 14 and each year I continue to ask the questions, “What holidays do you and your family celebrate/observe during the school year and how can we celebrate/observe them as a school community?”. Yes, we generated a few ideas, but the ideas need your support in partnership with our staff behind them to make them a reality at our school. When we plan for celebrations we must plan ahead with the idea of teaching our scholars, families and staff about the culture of which the holiday represents, be authentic and respectful, and the celebration/holiday should be kept from low to no cost to our families. (For example, handmade valentines not store bought) Will you help us plan holiday observances by bringing your ideas to our PTA meetings? Our next meeting is March 7 at 5:00pm. Please contact Ms. Julie Wellman at julie.wellman@spps.org

One of my vision for our community is that we continue to learn about each other’s culture and CELEBRATE each other TOGETHER!

A time to Reflect

EVERY child needs at least one adult who is irrationally crazy about him or her.
The Heights Community School
651-293-8815

Office Hours 7:30-3:45

Reporting Absences

Please, always use the Attendance Line to call in an absent student!
(Use even during regular school hours!)

651-744-2273
The Attendance Line is Available 24 Hours a Day! 7 Days a Week!

Early Admit to K & 1st grade

At the request of a parent or guardian, a child whose birthday falls between Sept 2 and Dec 31 may be screened and evaluated to determine readiness for placement in kindergarten or first grade. Screenings led by licensed teachers will be scheduled in May and held at the Office of Early Learning. Families will be contacted by the Office of Early Learning.

Applications will be available at the Student Placement Center.
If you have questions about the Early Admission to kindergarten or first grade process, please call the Student Placement Center at 651-632-3760.

Early Admission to Kindergarten or First Grade

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

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

Box Tops for Education

Order Heights T-shirts and jackets all year round at:
http://stores.inkef.com/heightscommunityschool/shop/home

Many styles, colors and sizes to choose from!
Apparel is delivered to the school and passed out to the student to take home.

PTA will be having a fundraiser for families to sell Hebert Candy Bars. Each box has 60 candy bars. The flavors are: Caramel, Crisp, Almond, Dark Chocolate and Toasted Coconut and sell for $1.00 each.
Fill out the yellow sign-up sheet coming home in Thursday folders by March 14 or call Julie Wellman to pre-order boxes to sell.

Sign Up for Chocolate Bar Sales

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:

What do you do best at school?
Tell me about a time when you felt angry.
What games did you play at recess today?
What is the silliest thing you did today?
Tell me about a book you read at school today.

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.

Calendar Changes for March!
Movie Night: Monday, March 11-No fundraiser for The Heights due to district 622 Spring Break. District 622 doesn’t have a fundraiser when we have Spring Break. Our Movie Nights resume April 8.
Multicultural Family Night: Moved from January 30 to Wednesday, March 13 5:30-7:00.
See you there!
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.

Specialists' News

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<tr>
<th>Science-Ms. Saunders-Pearce</th>
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<tr>
<td>Greetings from the science room! Here is what we are working on:</td>
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<td>Kindergarten - Sorting and describing objects</td>
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<td>1st Grade: Balance and Motion</td>
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<td>2nd Grade: Habitats and Engineering</td>
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<td>3rd Grade: Solar System</td>
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<td>4th Grade: Immune system</td>
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<td>5th Grade: Biomes and Motion</td>
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If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me.
Becky Saunders-Pearce
651-293-8815
becky.saunders-pearce@spps.org

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<tr>
<th>Physical Education-Mr. Guthrie</th>
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<td>During the month of March in physical education, we will be focusing on the human body. Grades Kindergarten through second will learn about the five food groups, what foods go in them, and how they affect our bodies. We will also put together a meal plan that incorporate all five-food groups. In grades third through fifth, we will be doing a unit called health and fitness. In this unit, we will learn about different muscles, their locations, and how to exercise them. We will perform different exercises and stretches that incorporate the new muscles that we learned about. We will also talk about calories, what they are, and how they affect our bodies. Finally, we will discuss the importance of a healthy diet, and some of the benefits of having one.</td>
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<th>Music Mr. Claver</th>
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<td>This unit, scholars worked on musical performance, expression, and creation. Grades 3-5 are working tirelessly on their Garageband composition unit. Scholars did indepth work on loops, arranging, and composing full length songs. For grades k-2, scholars have started exploring dynamics. Scholars are not able to name and perform Piano and Forte. This month, we will begin to explore Crescendo and Decrescendo. All scholars continue to reinforce basic music skills such as keeping a steady beat and pitch matching.</td>
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<td>Our Spring Music Concerts are Friday, May 17, 2019.</td>
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<td>K-2 – 9:45am</td>
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<td>3-5 – 2:10pm</td>
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<tr>
<th>Enrichment News-Ms. Clardy</th>
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<td>February lessons – in honor of Black history month, we studied the Harlem Renaissance period and its impact on today’s society.</td>
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<td>Lesson 1 Music—Jazz from 1922 1930s Count Basie and Calloway</td>
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<td>Lesson 2 Art history of Go to Romare Bearden</td>
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<td>Lesson 3 Poetry—Langston Hughes</td>
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<td>Lesson 4 Marcus Garvey and W.B. Dubuis</td>
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<th>GT classes</th>
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<td>On Monday’s students continue working on researching and creating a biography. On Friday’s students work on thinking skills and emphasizing problem solving.</td>
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<th>Student Council</th>
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<td>is taking pictures for this year’s yearbook. Planning School spirit days and writing letters to local “celebrities” to invite them to the Heights.</td>
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<th>Dominoes Club</th>
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<td>5th grade students will be beginning teaching 4th grade students the game strategies.</td>
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<th>Chess Club</th>
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<td>is offered to 4th and 5th grade. They meet on Fridays.</td>
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<th>Art Club</th>
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<td>– has begun at the 5th grade level and will be expanding soon to 4th grade.</td>
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<th>Hmong dance</th>
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<td>We have grown our program to include 4th and 5th grade students. Their first performance will be at the Multicultural Night on March 13.</td>
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Feel free to contact me with any questions or comments. Mary.frances.clardy@spps.org

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<tr>
<th>2018-19 YEARBOOK will be ready in May.</th>
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<td>Please order your yearbook by visiting:<a href="https://ybpay.lifetouch.com">https://ybpay.lifetouch.com</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>School ID code: 11770519</td>
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<td>The cost is $19.50. Orders due by April 8, 2019</td>
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News from the Health Office

Please keep sick children home a full \textbf{24 hours} after their last symptom of fever, vomiting or diarrhea before letting them attend school. Kids are still contagious and this will cut down on spreading illness to other students.

Please consider sending extra clothes on the days with melting snow especially if your child is drawn to puddles! The health office has a limited selection of clothes that is used for emergencies.

Finally, the health office could use more clothing especially for the older students. If you have extras, we’d love to have them!

Thank you!

Welcome New Staff

Hello Heights Family
We would like to welcome Mr. True Thao to our building. 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 www.truethaocounseling.com

Scholastic Book Fair

The Scholastic Book Fair will be in the library during conference times

March 21\textsuperscript{st}, 22\textsuperscript{nd} and 26\textsuperscript{th}

Our Fall Scholastic Book Fair theme is: Dino-Mite Book Fair: Stomp, Chomp, and Read!

Watch for a flyer to come home that will show some of the items that will be coming to our book fair.
(The flyer cannot be used to place an order, but you can visit the book fair online at scholastic.com/fair.)

Volunteers are needed! Please contact Julie Wellman (651-293-8815).

Save the Date: Parent Academy Seminar

\textbf{Date: Wednesday, April 10 2019}

Introducing PBIS: Building a bridge between home and school
Offered in English & Spanish

5:30-6:00pm Dinner
6:00-8:00pm Seminar
FREE Child Care Provided

Learn what Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports (PBIS) is and why schools use PBIS to create caring, supportive, learning environments for all students.

\textbf{Objectives: Families will...}

- Learn about PBIS and the school-wide expectations at The Heights
- Practice easy ways to use positive language to improve behavior and build stronger relationships.
- Create a family matrix to take home