



Horizon Elementary School

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Principal's Post

April/May 2018

Dear Horizon Families,

Well, we made it to May - and we're so thankful the sun has arrived and brought us warmer weather. In other good news, today we officially marked the end of ISTEP+ testing for this school year! Thank you for your patience, cooperation, and support of the kids & staff during ISTEP+. We all appreciate it!

Our Kindergarten & 1st graders are still finishing End of Year DIBELS testing, and will wrap that up next week. In addition, our resource teachers are administering ISTAR tests to their students as well. This testing will be complete by May 18th.

I have some staffing news to share with you. Horizon 3rd grade teacher, Mrs. Erin Neufelder, has announced her retirement at the end of this school year. Mrs. Neufelder has been a PHM teacher for 30+ years and has made a difference in the lives of many along the way. We wish her all the best as she and her husband relocate to Florida - far away from 'Old Man Winter'. We will also say goodbye to 2nd grade teacher, Mrs. Karin Logan, who will be transferring to Moran Elementary next year. Both Mrs. Neufelder and Mrs. Logan have been very special members of our Horizon Family, and we will miss them both!

As we head into the home stretch of the 17-18 school year, I want to encourage you to keep checking your child's agenda, keep signing those reading calendars and all-done slips, keep packing those healthy lunches, and please keep encouraging your child to give it their very best until June 5th. They're such great kids... and we are blessed to work with them each day.

With joy,

Mrs. Tressa Decker, Principal

Congratulations to Horizon's Running Club Kids!

Horizon's 4th & 5th grade running club celebrated their hard work and effort by participating in the annual PHM Running is Elementary Race at Elm Road School on 4/30. Our kids did a GREAT job...with every runner crossing the finish line with the cheers and encouragement of their teammates and families. *We are so proud of you all!*

Special recognition goes to our 1st place race winners:



4th grade girls winner: **Finley Cox**

4th grade boys winner: **Hunter Modlin**

5th grade girls winner: **Ella Bailey**

5th grade boys winner: **Ben Pechous**

***Ella Bailey** took 1st place overall for PHM 5th grade girls. Her mile time was approx. 6:46...wow! Great job, Ella, a PHM Champion!

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FOUR STAR SCHOOL



Indiana Department of Education

Testing Update:

MARK YOUR CALENDARS for NEXT YEAR!

IREAD-3 - (grade 3 only) will still be in mid-March (1 week)

ILEARN (grades 3, 4 & 5) - next year's standardized testing window will be DIFFERENT than in the past several years. The new state assessment (formerly called ISTEP, now called ILEARN) will be administered in one session in late April/early May. Specific dates are TBA, but we would ask that you plan for your child(ren) to be IN SCHOOL during April/May for this mandatory test.

As you begin planning family vacations, please always do your best to avoid vacationing while school is in session. Next school year, student attendance will factor in to our School Accountability Grade with the Dept. of Education, so all absences will be closely monitored.

We appreciate your attention in making sure your child is at school every day - and on time. Every missed minute of school makes a difference!



Reminder: Students should not bring cell phones or electronic devices to school (or on the bus) without the prior approval of the principal.

Our May "Lifeline of the Month" is..... **Perseverance!**
Perseverance means to "keep on trying and don't give up."

Did you know...

Kindergarten and Preschool Registrations are STILL happening!

If you have a child (or know of someone who has one) who is ready for kindergarten, please encourage them to register NOW in the Horizon office (between 7:00am - 3:30pm).

Age requirements:

Kindergarten - must be 5 years old before Sept. 1, 2018

PreSchool - must be 4 years old before Sept. 1, 2018

Immunizations are REQUIRED for Kindergarten admission & also for kids going into 6th grade.

Check with our health office if you have any questions about required immunizations.

ENROLL NOW!

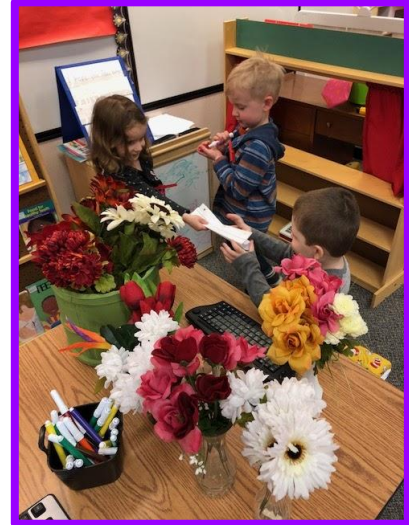
Preschool & Kindergarten
Registration



Pre-K News

Doctor! Doctor! Preschool is learning all about being **doctors**, **nurses** and **patients**!

We were so fortunate to have two of our "Mom Drs." visit our classroom! Mrs. Stoehr is a dentist and talked to us about keeping our teeth clean and what happens in her office. Mrs. Szymarek is an eye doctor and she talked to us about her office, her job and eye safety. We LOVED having our guests in to talk to us!



Kindergarten News

Throughout the month of April, Mrs. Cussen's class did an **author study** on Mo Willems. We read many books in the Gerald and Piggie series, as well as the Pigeon series. He is a fantastic storyteller! He has helped all of the students find joy in reading books! In addition to **reading**, we **compared** two different Gerald and Piggie stories, wrote our own speech bubbles that went with pictures, and studied **author's craft**. We learned that Mo Willems uses thinking bubbles, speech bubbles, movement/motion lines, all capital letters in some words, and big words to help readers understand the stories that he writes. "Can we read another Gerald and Piggie story?" are the words that we hear often in Mrs. Cussen's class now!

Mrs. Moore and Mrs. Curry's Kindergarten classes enjoyed some time reading in the dark with flashlights! Flashlight Friday has become one of our favorite "must do" activities. This time of year is filled with so much joy as we watch and listen to students share their love for reading!



Good News from First Grade

Our first graders participated in Swoop and Stu's Reading Club. They had to read at least 20 minutes each day for 5 out of 7 days. As part of our celebration, we took a tour of Four Winds Field. Some of our first graders hit a "homerun" with the reading program and earned a free ticket to a South Bend Cubs game!



Second Grade News

Rum Village Naturalist, **Gary Harrington**, involved the second graders as they identified and compared amphibians and reptiles. The students listened and participated by focusing their thinking on how these creatures were the same and different. This presentation supports our second grade reading and writing curriculum. Our young readers and writers will continue to read a variety of nonfiction material and write paragraphs providing facts and details.



Third Grade News

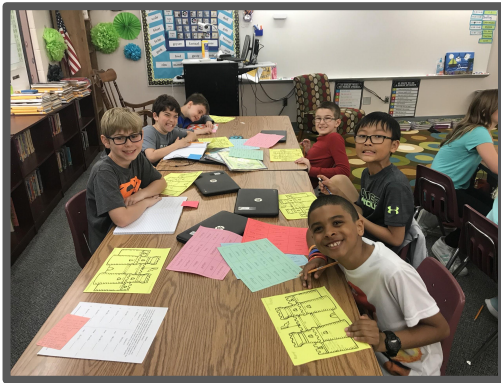
April has been a busy month for third grade students at Horizon.

Students have completed ISTEP+ (hooray!) and continued working on curriculum to become stronger **problem solvers**.

Students are showing great growth in their abilities to **solve complex real world problems** through the use of **addition, subtraction, multiplication, division, and measurement**.

As we move through the final quarter of the academic year, students will be participating in novel studies (fiction), drafting & publishing their own fairy tales, along with other third grade standards.

In Horizon smART this month, students created projects that mimicked the surrealism traits of Salvador Dali's famous works. Thank you to all the volunteers that helped to facilitate the great lessons for our students.



IMC News you can Use!

Ideas for summer reading fun.

Did you know that Barnes and Noble has a summer Reading Program? Here is the information from their website:

The Barnes & Noble Summer Reading Program is here to help you on your way, encouraging you to read books of your own choosing and earn a **FREE** book, simply by following these three easy steps:

1. Read any eight books this summer and record them in your Summer Reading Journal (**English** or **Español**). Tell us which part of the book is your favorite, and why.
2. Bring your completed journal to a Barnes & Noble store between **May 15th** and **September 3rd, 2018**. **[Find a Store](#)**
3. Choose your **FREE** reading adventure from the book list featured on the back of the journal.



4th Grade News

4th grade language arts classes have been busy reading **fiction** and/or **biographies**. Ms. Rehlander's Block 1 and Mrs. Roberts' classes are doing a **biography book report** with a pop bottle look-alike. Students in Ms. Rehlander's block 2 class are creating a scrapbook that focuses on the **main character** of their book! Each student will have an opportunity to share their finished products with their classmates! Wow, reading is fun!



5th grade News:

Poetry prodigies are in the making in 5th grade! Students are learning about the many ways poetry shows up in everyday life. It's in the music they listen to, it's prevalent in children's literature and it helps teach fluency, vocabulary and figurative language! Students will be working on **reading, memorizing** and **presenting poems** in order to strengthen their skills in the **speaking** and **listening** standards, all while having fun with their classmates!

Poetry



Horizon Music In May!

In music class, all students have been working on the song "Somewhere Over the Rainbow" to perform in a ukulele flash mob at the Silver Mile on May 5th! To honor the PHM Educational Foundation and the Silver Mile, we are striving to be 100 ukuleles strong at this performance. Students in kindergarten through second grade will be singing while students in third through fifth grade will play the ukulele.

You won't want to miss this outstanding Horizon event! Students can bring their own ukuleles from home, too! Even parents and siblings can join us!



Additionally, the Horizon Show Choir will perform a few numbers from last week's outstanding concert. This all happens at Penn High School in the gym at 10:30am on May 5th.

Email me now to reserve a ukulele for the May 5th performance.

They're going fast! (jwest@phm.k12.in.us)



See you at the race!
--Mr. West

Student Dress Code

As the weather warms up, please remember:

- Shorts & skirts should come closer to the knee (no short-shorts or short-skirts)
- Shoulders should be covered (no tank tops)
- No flip flops or high heels - all shoes should be secured to the foot
- No hats inside the building
- Leggings must be worn with a shirt or skirt that completely covers the bottom (fingertip length)



Students OF THE MONTH

Congratulations to our APRIL Students of the Month, who were recognized for demonstrating the Lifeline of **"EFFORT"**.

Kindergarten: Hunter Dorton, Luca Pagano, Maria Anthony, Taylor Schramski

1st Grade: Akira Bernardo, Amelia Steele, Sophia Carper, Brodie Useton, Braxton Mayer, Kinsey Harbison, Ava Farmer

2nd Grade: Bella Campbell, Paige Williams, Arleigh Bella, Bree Curtis, Sophia Drake

3rd Grade: Emmanuel Singleton, Jamison Infante, Landon Maxey, Leah Wagner, Leah Pyfer

4th Grade: Clare Hunter, Ruby Reed, Kaevon Johnson, Leon Milcherska, Kaiden Lindley

5th Grade: Jack Ryan, Raygan Pyfer, Makayla Foulks, Chloe Hayes, Nick Hardman, Ella Bailey
Justin Meachem, Luke Mueller



Kindergarten



1st grade



2nd Grade



3rd grade



4th grade



5th grade

Upcoming Events

- May 7-11: Scholastic Book Fair 7am-3:00 M,T,Th,F--Extended Night: Wednesday 7am-6pm
- BOGO (Buy One, Get One Free)
- May 7-11: TEACHER APPRECIATION WEEK!!!
- May 14-18: smART Week
- May 17: Kindergarten Screening (for our incoming Kindergarten kiddos!)
- May 24: 5th grade Celebration trip to the S. B. Cubs!
- May 31: Kindergarten Graduation Day @ 12:00pm----*NOTE DATE CHANGE***
- June 1: Field Day
- June 5: Preschool End of Year Celebration
- June 5: Awards Ceremony & STUDENT'S LAST DAY!

