



Horizon Elementary School

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Principal's Post

June 2019

Dear Horizon Families,

At end of each school year, I try to take extra time for reflection and gratitude. Watching the kids walk in each morning, it is easy to see how they've grown over the course of the year - teeth have fallen out and come in, hairstyles have changed, "baby faces" have thinned out and are starting to look more mature, and of course, they are so much taller! What we can't see by looking at the kids is the growth they've experienced in their brains and in their hearts. Yet we know they've grown there, too. We can look at data and see amazing increases in skills, understanding, and ability to perform. We can easily observe kids who have developed stronger work habits, more perseverance, and greater responsibility for self. Looking around the building, we can see friendships that have blossomed, leadership skills developing, and students' interest in various topics they've discovered this year expanding. How gratifying to bear witness to all of these things with our precious students!

We are living in a day and age where public education and public educators are under fire. We are being challenged more than ever before (with greater demands and salaries that are simply not keeping up). Many young teachers are abandoning the field simply because of the incredible pressure they feel and the salaries that do not match the demands. At Horizon, we are blessed with a fabulous staff - truly FABULOUS, dedicated, caring professionals - and we never want to take that for granted! I am blessed and humbled to be the leader of this team and even more blessed to see the fruits of their labor every day. We truly love your kids - and we work incredibly hard to ensure the very best for them. As the end of this school year approaches, I hope you will let your child's teacher(s) know how much you appreciate them. Thank you for acknowledging their hard work & for being tremendous partners with us this school year. Together we can achieve great things...and we do!

Horizon's tradition of excellence is strong. We celebrate the successes of this school year and look forward to all that lies ahead.

Have a safe and joyful summer,

Mrs. Tressa Decker, Principal



Please join me in saying farewell to these Horizon teachers:

Mr. Eric Kline (going to Prairie Vista to teach P.E.)

Mrs. Kim Pawlowski (going to Northpoint to teach 2nd grade)

Mrs. Meredith Hershberger (going to The Stanley Clark School)

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FOUR STAR SCHOOL



Indiana Department of Education

Pre-K News

Where oh where did time go? It's hard to believe that our Early Learners are ready to begin their Kindergarten adventures! They have learned to count, to read, to be a good friend, and most importantly to love school. We are ending the year with some fun highlights. Our teddy bears visited for some singing and reading time. The best was doing gymnastics on the gymnastics bus! We LOVED the gymnastics bus!



BE
HAPPY



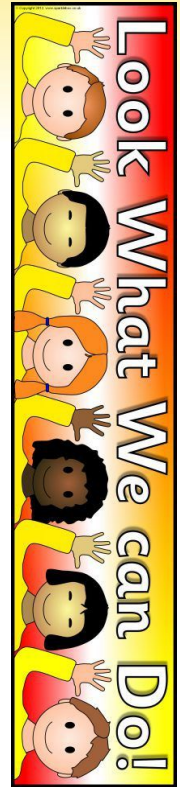
Kindergarten News

Kindergarten had a fun month of learning in May. We celebrated the wedding of the letters Q and U and focused on life science. After learning about plants and animals, we took a field trip to the zoo! At the end of the month, we enjoyed field day as brand new kindergarten graduates!



Good News from First Grade

Our first graders made number scrolls by writing their numbers to 1,000 and beyond! They used their number sense to find patterns and shortcuts to fill in their number grids.



Second Grade News

The 2nd graders enjoyed participating in the "Fine Arts" at Horizon. Students participated in the last Horizon smART and the 2nd Grade Music Showcase.



Students enjoyed using modeling clay to create masterpieces!



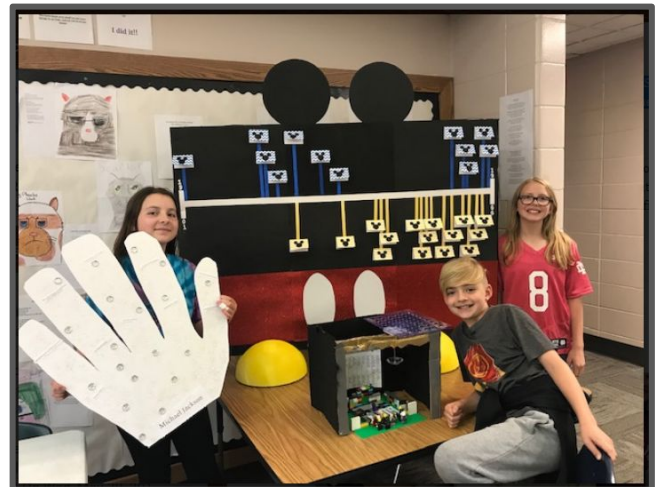
3rd Grade News

Reading, and writing, and celebrating, oh my!! Third grade has had a blast writing and publishing their own adaptations of a Fairy Tale. They have presented them to their own classes, and with some younger grades in the building as well! Charlotte's Web, the well loved children's classic, has been a novel study enjoyed during May. The story was enjoyed together, and a variety of projects coinciding with the story were explored. The projects included various kinds of book reports, character studies, art projects, and a review of strategies good readers use while reading. Finally, we have enjoyed celebrating all of the great accomplishments of the amazing third graders at Horizon. We wish all of our beloved students a happy and safe summer!

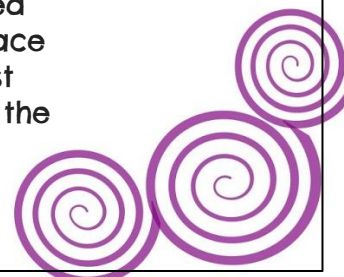


5th grade News:

Reading is one of the best ways to grow and do well in school. Students in Mrs. Hershberger's class have been sharing their biography book talks and sharing their new knowledge with their classmates. They had to give a presentation about their book and show the project they made.



Mrs. Shenk's class recently had a Poetry Slam. Students had to memorize and present a poem and a speech to recite in front of a variety of classes where they were judged for their memorization, voice projection, gestures, and eye contact. After each round, students were eliminated until they ended up with the first and second place winners. Congratulations to first place winner, Riley Farkas, and the runner-up, Jamie Johnson!!



Fourth Grade News

Horizon's fourth graders spent the day in Bristol, Indiana learning about the Native Americans that once lived in the area. They participated in Elkhart County Park's, "Keepers of the Fire Program." Students learned how to make fire using a bow and drill as well as using flint and char paper. They also played agility games that help build stamina and skill. Afterwards, students learned about Bonneyville Mill and how it started over 100 years ago. Touring the grist mill, students learned how the Little Elkhart River powers the mill. It was an amazing learning experience and made us grateful for those that came before us.



How do we...P.E.?

During the month of May, PE students were very busy! When the weather cooperated with us we spend some time outside running on the track, playing an activity called Steal the Bacon and we even completed the Pacer test outside! It was a long, wet month but we worked with what we had.

Also in May we challenged the students with a team building activity called Cross the River. Students were given a scooter, jump rope and 3 islands to use to get their entire team across the gym floor. Without touching it! It was wonderful to see students work cooperatively and efficiently to get their teams across.

We wish all families a safe and fun summer break and we can't wait to see all of you at Back to School night in August!



Musical Notes

May was a very busy month in the Music Department. We had the school flash mob at the Silver Mile, Grades 1-3 had their "Aesop Adventure" performances, and Show Choir performed at the PHMEF Silver Mile as well. The 5th grade Show Choir was able to go on tour and perform at other P-H-M Schools. What a great way to finish off the year with performances to showcase all that we have been learning!



penn_rhapsody
Penn High School



Liked by pbwestrn and 40 others

penn_rhapsody We were blown away by the Horizon Elementary Show choir today! We especially loved their songs from The Greatest Showman. We hope to see many of them dancing with us in a few years.;

Students OF THE MONTH

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

Kindergarten: Danya Amouri, Josh Pelletier, Kat Morrison, Jorge Navarette, Isabella Ritter, Sylvia Creasy

1st Grade: Hudson Stopczynski, Alex Crabtree, Lilia Goodson, Carter Funk, Norah Keim, Kyle Linsky, Shania Lee

2nd Grade: Sophia Carper, Amelia Steele, Spencer Conley, Christopher Lisenko, Julia Szabo, Akira Bernardo

3rd Grade: Ariana Ealdama, Brady Mrozcek, Kira Cesco, Ella DeDario

4th Grade: Kendall Mitchell, Izzy Risner, Flynn Glotzbach, Gigi Nelson, Will Nicodemus

5th Grade: Victoria Kuznetsov, Hailey Widmar, Isabella Pal, Phoebe Wood



Kindergarten



1st Grade



2nd Grade



3rd Grade



4th Grade



5th Grade

IMC News you can Use!

When school ends and [summer break begins](#), many families find their schedules filling up quickly with activity after activity to keep the kids busy. After a while, all of those summer extracurriculars can start to add up. Here are some easy, every day, and *totally free* activities you can do as a family in those quiet moments between camp, traveling, or catching up on your summer reading.

1. Go on a playdate outside.
2. Have a water fight.
3. Build a fort in the backyard with friends and family.
4. Ride bikes.
5. Play outdoor games like tag, frisbee, or hide and seek.
6. Climb trees.
7. Make "mud pies" or sand castles.
8. Pick flowers.
9. Eat ice cream.
10. Blow bubbles.

Enjoy the summer!



Upcoming Events

June 4--5th grade's annual trip to Chicago!

June 4--"Senior Walk" at Horizon--former Horizon alumni graduating from Penn High School return to Horizon one last time to parade through the halls

June 5--Horizon End-of-Year Awards Ceremony (outside if weather permits - on FB live if Mother Nature doesn't cooperate)

August 19--Back to School Night & Book Fair @ Horizon (4pm - 6pm)

August 21--First day of school for 1st through 5th grade students

August 21--Kindergarten & Preschool Parent Orientation Meetings

August 22--First day of school for Kindergarten & Preschool students



"Don't try to be perfect.

Life isn't; no one is. Use mistakes and mishaps as opportunities to grow tolerance and to teach. There is such a thing as happy accidents. And ***love, love, love and listen, listen, listen."***

—Teri Hatcher

