



HOWARD LAKE
WAVERLY · WINSTED

Elementary Laker News-April 2021
www.hlww.k12.mn.us

Jen Olson
Elementary Principal

Humphrey Elementary - 320-543-4680
Winsted Elementary - 320-543-4690

School Hours 7:55 AM - 2:30 PM

Dear Elementary Families,

Welcome back from break and happy spring! It's nice to see the snow disappear, and I'm hopeful we'll soon see the green grass and spring flowers take the place of the brown and drab leftovers from winter. It's hard to believe we're already a week into April. The school year has simply flown by, and looking ahead, there are no signs of slowing...ready...set...here we go!

Now that we're back (and hopefully rested) from spring break, it's time to get everyone moving forward. In two weeks, we will start our "big test" assessments, the Minnesota Comprehensive Assessments (MCAs). Students throughout Minnesota in grades 3-11 are tested in various content areas. At the elementary level, we complete both Reading and Math MCA tests for third and fourth graders. We will take the MCA tests mid-April. This experience will be new for both third and fourth graders this year, since we were functioning under distance learning experiences last year and our MCAs were canceled. Our primary testing will take place in the morning during the weeks of April 19 and April 26. More details will be coming soon, but mark your calendars. Parents, we can use your help—please avoid appointments that might take students out of school during this time, and see that your son or daughter is well-rested, eats a good breakfast, and has your encouragement to take their time in order to do their best on each of the tests! We know they're going to do fantastic.

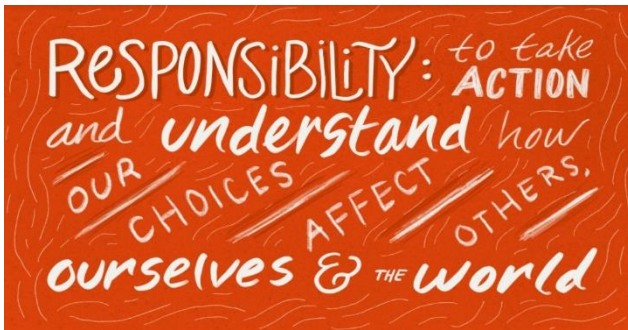
Thank you for your continued support in our schools through homework help, volunteering in and out of the school day in non-traditional fashion, and for your communication. We certainly appreciate and rely on you being an active part of our school community. We look forward to reopening our doors more broadly in the future and the ability to welcome back your hands-on, in-person opportunities for support. We miss you!

Have a great spring!

Yours Educationally,
Jen Olson



April Student of the Month Theme



Click on the links below to find our Student of the Month honorees.

Humphrey

<https://www.hlww.k12.mn.us/page/3579>

Winsted

<https://www.hlww.k12.mn.us/page/3654>

Attendance

When your child is going to be absent, you need to make sure you are letting the office know. It is the responsibility of the parent/guardian to communicate absences and/or late arrivals to the office by 9:00 AM on the day of the absence.

If you are going on vacation or have planned appointments (doctor, dentist, wedding, funeral, sports, etc.), you will need to notify the office 24 hours prior to when your child is going to be absent.

As a school, we are required to report unexcused absences after 3 days to the county and then again at 5 days and 7 days. We would prefer to not have to do this. It is very important that you contact the school office before 9:00 AM so the absences are excused.

If you have any attendance questions, please contact Breanne Adickes at badickes@hlww.k12.mn.us.

2021-22 Kindergarten Registration

You and your child are invited to join us at Winsted Elementary or Humphrey Elementary. This “in person” time is a chance for you to meet the staff, visit classrooms, participate in child-friendly activities, ask questions, capture a “class of 2034” photo of your child and finalize the remaining registration paperwork. Please plan to attend at the times listed below based on your child’s last name.



**Humphrey
Elementary**

803 Elm Ave, Waverly

April 15, 5:30-7:00 p.m.
5:30-6:15 p.m. A-E
6:15-7:00 p.m. F-K

April 20, 5:30-7:00 p.m.
5:30-6:15 p.m. L-P
6:15-7:00 p.m. Q-Z

**Winsted
Elementary**

431 4th St N, Winsted

April 17, 9:00-11:00 a.m.
9:00-9:30 a.m. A-E
9:30-10:00 a.m. F-K
10:00-10:30 a.m. L-P
10:30-11:00 a.m. Q-Z

Detailed information was mailed to families in late February for this in-person experience. Please send back the requested information as soon as possible to get the enrollment process started.

APRIL

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

Winsted Elementary

Logan Erickson 4/1
Hadley Richter 4/1
Carter Cluff 4/3
Brandon Dowling 4/5
Heidi Nino-Espitia 4/8
Dennis McCarthy 4/9
Conor Brooks 4/12
Weston Wegner 4/13
Kole Schumacher 4/18
Mason Radtke Pfeffer 4/22
Alex Williams 4/22
Henry Reynolds 4/30



Humphrey Elementary

Dakota Boltz 4/3
Autumn Lundgren 4/10
Gianna Herda 4/11
Amyiah Hafften 4/13
Danielle Foley 4/14
Tate Schauer 4/15
Elayna Marketon 4/24
Jasin Hanson 4/25
Brenden Koschade 4/25
Brecken Long 4/25
Jack Swartzter 4/26
Cyrus Karels 4/27
Aveline Buskey 4/28
Anastasia Rasmussen 4/30

2021-2022 Classroom Placements

Jen Olson, Principal

Have you ever wondered how your child's classroom teacher for next year is decided? The process takes lots of teacher time and thought. As an example, if your child is in second grade, the teacher meets with the other second grade teachers and other teaching staff representatives. The team considers each child's learning style, academic achievement, special behavioral or learning needs, gender, as well as the combination of student energy levels and personalities. Their job is to balance all of these factors so that the classrooms have a rich diversity of talents, skills and needs. Together they spend many hours "building" the third-grade classrooms for next year. When teachers are given the opportunity to "build" classrooms based on their professional judgment, there is the greatest opportunity for all students to be successful.

So where does the parent's input fit in? Parents may indicate their preference with the understanding that the school will do its best to accommodate this preference along with our professional judgment. While your preferences are important, balanced classrooms at each grade level will always be a priority. In the event that a teacher leaves the district after the classrooms are "built" your child will remain in the assigned classroom grouping.

We are not suggesting parents should indicate preferences. However, if you want to state your preference, please follow the procedure below.

1. All requests must be mailed to Jennifer Olson and will be accepted between now and Friday, May 7. Phone requests will not be accepted.
2. Please use the following format so it is easier to sort the requests: child's name, current teacher and current grade. State your preference and the reasoning behind your request. Sign and date your request.
3. Please make a separate request for each child so the request can be considered at the appropriate grade level meeting.
4. Due to the extensive time needed by teachers to "build" classrooms, no late or incomplete requests will be honored.

We Are Bucket Fillers

Ms. Entinger, First Grade Humphrey Elementary



In March we learned about empathy; the ability to understand and connect to the feelings of another. We read the story "Have You Filled a Bucket Today?" Each student got to create their own bucket. As a class we worked to fill each other's buckets by showing empathy.

I asked students what they can do to help fill other's buckets and here are a few of their responses:

- Emmett - ask friends to play with me
- Harper - tell someone they have nice shoes
- Maddy - be kind
- Stella - ask someone how they feel and ask if they can help
- Mason - saying sorry
- Luke - if someone has no one to play with, play with them



Orton Gillingham Approach

Heather Struthers, Winsted Elem.

When it comes to learning how to read and write, every student learns differently. Different learning pathways include; visual, auditory, tactile and kinesthetic. Neurologist Dr. Samuel T. Orton, and educator Anna Gillingham developed a program that incorporates all learning pathways to create a multi-sensory approach to learn and capitalize on their strengths while remediating deficits.

This approach has been named the Orton-Gillingham (OG) approach. Based on current research, there is a belief that an explicit, systematic, multi-sensory approach provides success in teaching reading, writing and comprehension. Let's look at the principles that make this approach successful.

1. Multisensory -- Visual, auditory, tactile & kinesthetic techniques are incorporated simultaneously throughout all parts of the lesson.
2. Diagnostic -- Teachers assess and create lessons based on where the child is in their current reading ability. Concepts and skills are taught for mastery.
3. Prescriptive -- Teachers make decisions based specifically on the needs of the individual child.
4. Systematic & Sequential -
- Lessons follow a specific order and build on previously taught material.
5. Explicit -- Teachers use direct instruction. Students are taught the rules and structure of the English language.
6. Flexible -- Teachers have the freedom to change the direction of a lesson based on a student's performance.
7. Emotionally Sound -- Since OG is always reviewing previously taught material, students get lots of repeated practice, which in turn builds confidence. Students who experience confidence develop a positive attitude toward the learning process.
8. Language - Based -- OG lessons devote time to learning all aspects of language (it's history, how it works & how it affects learning).

In our District we have a number of staff that have been trained in this approach and use it daily in their classrooms.

What Day Is It?

Jenny Moe, Winsted Elementary

As teachers we use calendars daily in our lessons. At this time of the year, you may be able to find calendars on a clearance rack to use at home. I am including some activities that you can do using a calendar with your preschoolers or older students.

Math -Find the current day. Count up to the date and then count backwards to one.

- Name a number and see if your child can find that number.
- Let your child name a number and have you find it.
- Find the smallest/largest number in each row.
- Write the number of each day in the square.

Literacy -Write the name of each number in the square.

- Name the beginning/ending sound of each number.
- Name the letters in the month and each day.
- Write one thing that you did today in each square.
- Name something that you see outside and write it in each square.

Social-Emotional -Ask your child to name one thing that made them happy today and draw a happy face in the square or write the word of what made them happy.

-If something made them sad talk about it. Is there a way to fix it and be happy again today? It is good for children to know that some days are sad but that sadness won't last forever.

-Write one thing on your calendar that your child can look forward to. It doesn't have to be anything big, maybe you will play outside, order pizza, or watch a movie together.



Enjoy your time with your child and look - it's April - enjoy the warmer weather!

Kindergarten ABC Fashion Show

Steve Boger, Humphrey Elementary

The kindergarten students at Humphrey Elementary recently completed their second and final trip through the alphabet as a part of our "KinderPhonics" curriculum. To celebrate the completion of our study of individual letter names and sounds, each classroom participated in an ABC fashion show. Prior to the show, each child was assigned one or two letters of the alphabet. The students then worked with their families to decorate a paper bag vest with pictures, words, illustrations and more to represent their assigned letter. Students collected pictures from newspapers, magazines, websites, and other resources to help fill their vests with things associated with their letter. After the vests were completed, the kids brought them to school to prepare for the show. After sharing their vests with the class, it was time for the dress rehearsal. When the students had enough practice walking the runway, posing for pictures, and displaying their vests for the crowd--it was time for the show! Although parents were not able to attend the fashion show live and in person this year, each classroom recorded their show and shared it with families for a special at-home premiere night! The kindergarten students did an outstanding job of bravely walking the runway and sharing their vests. Congratulations to all of the kindergartners at Humphrey Elementary for conquering the challenge and doing a great job at the fashion show! Thank you to all of the kindergarten families for your help in preparing for the show, and for your outstanding support throughout the year!



PTA NEWS

Laker Pride Sale

Humphrey and Winsted PTA have partnered with J&J Athletics for a Spring Laker Pride Sale that includes yard signs, lanyards, gaiter masks and mugs. All proceeds will go to Fall Classroom Grants for teachers at both elementary schools.

J&J Athletics did a fantastic job with the designs and we are excited to share this with you. To check out the items, you can use the link below to order.

<https://hlwvpromotionalitems2021.itemorder.com/sale>

Orders will be ready for pick up at Humphrey and Winsted Elementary (depending on the school your student attends) on Tuesday, April 27 from 5:00-6:30 PM. If you have any questions please email us at either humphreypta@pta.com or winstedpta@gmail.com.

Volunteer Night

Winsted's Volunteer Work Night will be Monday, April 12 from 6:00-8:00 PM. Humphrey will be hosting a Volunteer Work Night on Tuesday, April 13 from 6:00-7:30 PM. This is a perfect opportunity to be involved in the school and help teachers accomplish some projects in their room. If you are interested in joining, please email us at humphreypta@gmail.com or winstedpta@gmail.com as we need to stay within COVID regulation and limit the numbers in the school the best we can. If you're interested please reach out, we would love to see you there!

Teacher Appreciation Week

The week of May 3-7 we will be celebrating our teaching staff in the HLWW district. Stay tuned for ways you can get involved! Details will be coming out by email the couple weeks before, if you would like to be added to the email list please send us an email at humphreypta@gmail.com or winstedpta@gmail.com.

April

- 8 Humphrey PTA Meeting 6:30 PM
- 12 Winsted Volunteer Work Night 6-8 PM
- 13 Humphrey Volunteer Work Night 6-7:30 PM
- 19 Winsted PTA meeting 6:00 PM

May

- 3-7 Teacher Appreciation Week
- 6 Humphrey PTA Meeting 6:30 PM
- 17 Winsted PTA meeting 6:00 PM



What Makes You Grow in First Grade?

Mrs. Ohlemacher-Lonetti, First Grade Winsted Elementary
They say “April Showers Bring May Flowers”, and we are ready to see Spring “spring”! We are also hoping there isn’t any more snow! With Spring in full bloom, my class and I wanted to investigate what has made us grow this year. So, what makes us smarter in Mrs. OL’s First Grade? Let’s find out!

Alex C: Playing with my brother and sister; we have fun together!



Aubrey: Sleeping will help me grow! But I have a certain pillow – really, I have too many and I also have too many blankets. Did you know that my favorite blanket is a Vikings one? Oh, and my sound machine has calm sounds. It helps.

Bryer: Reading with Maggie! She is a good listener. Remember, Maggie, don’t touch a dinosaur!

Dakota: I’ve been eating eggs and carrots. They make me strong. I think that helps me to be a better student. Oh, yeah, and I eat hot dish too.

Errol: I eat fruit to grown and get smarter. Like pineapple, kiwi and really blueberries are my favorite. In fact, I ate a whole ton of them in one night!

Haley: We have to wait until our birthday to grow! But if I eat a lot, I will get taller.



Isaac: Learning subtraction! I can totally take away 100 from 100! Watch!

Kaydence: Eating healthy foods like vegetables helps me grow. I really like honey carrots and my step mom makes it for me. They are really good.

Lucille: Reading with my mom. We read in our chair in the living room. She helps me learn new words and we laugh. It is fun.

Nevaeh: Doing our pluses! And I mean the 10 by 10s, not the 1 by 1s.

Vayda: Practicing my sight words. When I do that and get better at it, then I get better at my reading. Then I can beat my brother at reading. And that is smarter.

We are hoping for warm, dry days to get outside for recess and extra recess! But these First Graders are soaking up learning like sponges. Now if they could just stop showing me those loosey goosey, wiggly teeth – yuck! ☺



Lucky In Kindergarten

Ms. Ready, Humphrey Elementary

The month of March brought thoughts of spring and leprechauns to kindergarten! Families enjoyed decorating rainbows and designing leprechaun traps in hopes of catching a leprechaun and getting his gold. While we were unsuccessful in catching any leprechauns, we are still very lucky!

I feel lucky when.....

I am roller skating. (Evelyn)
Roller skating. (Stella)
I am with my family. (Emerson)
I have friends. (Zeke)
I go to the movie theatre. (Jaxon)
I go to my garden and beach. (Ben)
We go to zone 2. (Eric)
I eat ice cream. (Emma)
Roller skating. (Emily)
I jump in puddles. (Jackson)
Ms. Ready is teaching. (Quinn)
My dog plays with me. (Paul)
I have my family. (Harleigh)
Baby cousin and roller skating. (Judy)
I eat pig meat. (Noah)
We go bowling on Tuesdays. (Alonso)
I play ball. (Graysen)

