

NHE News

New Hampton Elementary School April, 2013 Publication
Linda Kennedy, Elementary Principal



Mission Statement: The mission of the New Hampton Elementary School is to empower all students to succeed emotionally, socially, intellectually, and behaviorally in a changing world.

Guidelines For Success at New Hampton Elementary: The Six Pillars of Character Counts! Trustworthiness, Respect, Responsibility, Fairness, Caring and Citizenship

Pillar for April: Review of All Six Pillars

Our Big Bucket Motto:
Bucket Fillers Rock!

Dear NHE Families:

April is always a busy month and this year is no exception. The first two weeks of April, we will be scurrying around getting ready for the carnival. This year, Carnival funds paid for *The Boy Who Cried Wolf*, a Gallagher Bluedorn Production. It funded two quality field trips and a science trip to Twin Ponds for each grade level, the cost of conducting the Reading Rocks initiative, and incentives for each grade level. At last year's Carnival, I remember looking around to a sea of children and adults having a good time together. I couldn't help but think about what a great event the Carnival is each year. It is a great community event and always fun to see the joy in each child's face as they experience all of the activities. Mrs. Kennedy

Thank You!!!

A huge thank you to all of the businesses, parents, grandparents, and friends of New Hampton Elementary who are donating raffle items, money, candy, food, cakes, cookies, bars, and hours to make **Carnival 2013** a huge success. It will truly be a community event.

Field Trips: Parents this time of year there are many field trips planned for our students. Please watch and return field trip permission slips promptly. You will also want to take note of when students need to bring a sack lunch or other items to school for a special activity.

Preschool Registration



A Family Affair: It is often a family affair when families come in with their three and four-year-old children to register them for The Learning Center.



I am ready! You can see by this happy face that he is ready for The Learning Center. In fact, after he visited the classrooms, he didn't want to go home!

Preschool and Kindergarten Registrations for Next Year

Please stop by and register your preschool and/or kindergarten children for the 2013 - 14 school year. **We need to get your child's name on the roster for next year in order to begin making plans for his/her entry.**

If you have already taken registration papers out for your child for either preschool or kindergarten, please get them into us as soon as possible. Your response to this request will be greatly appreciated, as it will enable us to prepare for each child's entry in August.

Also, please be advised that documents showing that physicals and all immunizations must be turned in prior to the beginning of the school year so that each child can begin the year in a timely fashion.

Security System



This is what the security system looks like. It is true gift to NHE and is easy for the visitor to operate on the outside.

NHE's Security System

To enter the building after 8:25 on school days, go to the north office doors. After

There is a camera/video system located to the right of the doors. A visitor will need to press the button. A call will immediately go to either the middle school or elementary office. You will need to provide your name and whom it is that you need to see. The visitor will then be allowed to enter and be prompted to check-in at the appropriate office to receive a visitor's badge. During school hours, parents should accompany young children to the front door when bringing them to school as they may not know what to do when confronted with a locked door. They may not be able to reach the security system. All doors will be locked throughout the school day.



Everyday Use of Technology at NHE

Technology use by teachers and students is an everyday thing. It is growing as common as the use of chalk and chalkboard once was.

Third grade teacher, Mrs. Shelly Reicks, recently called me up to come and see how the students were using graphic organizers on their laptop to check for their understanding of a social studies lesson. The picture above demonstrates how students collaborate to assist each other's successful use of technology. The picture below shows how engaged a student is in this activity.



Chickasaw Open Funds Purchase iPads for Student Use

New Hampton Elementary used their Chickasaw Open funds to purchase five iPads and covers for student use in grades 2, 3, and 4. With additional grant funding they were able to purchase three more iPads and covers bringing the total to eight. Teachers use the iPads in centers as another engaging resource for students to use to reinforce and practice math and literacy skills. In addition, students put their inquiry strategies to work and conduct research through the use of the iPads.



This fourth grader is practicing a literacy skill on an iPad.



These two students compare progress as they use an iPad app to boost their literacy skills. Students are intuitive with iPads and know just what to do to get where they need to go.

Our Own Shining Star



Congratulations to Linda Schwickerath, our own Shining Star. Linda is the secretary at New Hampton Elementary and has served in that position for 25 years. We were so pleased when the Chamber chose to honor her for this reward. She was nominated by one of our parents who frequents the office and knows just how busy she can be. Congratulations, Linda! We are so proud of you!

Student Bankers for 2013 - 14

Every year about this time, the third graders have the chance to apply to be student bankers at the Giant Piggy Bank during their fourth grade year. On April 16th Mrs. Kennedy will be meeting with the third graders about the opportunity for them to apply for what might be their very first job. Student bankers work at the Giant Piggy Bank every Tuesday morning, greeting customers and helping them with their

deposits. Third grade student applications are due on April 23rd and interviews will take place on April 24th. Student bankers for the 2013 – 14 school year will be announced soon.

Giant Piggy Bank – Over \$115,000

As of the first of April, the Giant Piggy Bank has 199 regular depositors. The current value of the bank is \$116,484.62.

The Giant Piggy Bank is open every Tuesday morning at 8:05 in the preschool/kindergarten/first grade hallway of the south wing.

During the month of April, third grade students will be able to apply and interview for a student banker position for next year.

Partners in Education: On the Job Training for Fourth Graders



On the Job Training

Mr. Pagel and Super 8 have been Partners in Education for 17 years. The on-the-job training experience gives students a hands-on experience of what happens at Super 8 on a daily basis including an opportunity to talk about how the Character Counts Pillars are implemented. The students meet in a classroom before the training begins to fill out a job application and discuss the various jobs they will be observing during their visit. While at the motel, students make keycards, look over the Front Desk program, sort and fold laundry, vacuum, dust, check the pool chemical levels, and at the same time talk about the character traits they look for in their employees. Students enjoy this experience.

STEM - 21st Century Learning Project



Unpacking the STEM Materials

The fourth grade teachers have received a STEM Scale-Up Project from the Governor's STEM Advisory Council, which is being implemented this year. The Governor's STEM Advisory Council was created last year to power up and fund science, technology, engineering, and math initiatives for students across Iowa.



Nancy Kriener, school counselor and member of the STEM team, recently hosted a booth at the STEM Festival in Calmar.

NHE 4th graders are participating in a project called, A World In Motion. SAE International's A World In Motion® (AWIM) program is a teacher-administered, industry volunteer-assisted program that brings science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) education to life in the classroom for students. Benchmarked to the national standards, the AWIM program incorporates the laws of physics, motion, flight and electronics into age-Appropriate hands-on activities.



On Wednesday, March 20th, the three fourth grade teachers assumed their roles as co-directors of the Earth Toy Design Incorporated. They had their first meeting with their engineers to launch the STEM Project. Students listened attentively as they explained the three roles that each would have an opportunity to play throughout this project. They are: Project Engineer, Facilities Engineer, and Test Engineer.



Through this project, 4th grade students will design, build, test, and collect and display data from skimmers during the fourth quarter.

NHE Students:

**Don't allow anyone to
remove your lid.**

Keep it on!

"Being a parent is the greatest trust that has been given to human beings." David O. McKay

Perfect Attendance Through the End of the Third Quarter

The following K – 4 students have perfect attendance through the end of the third quarter. Congratulations to each of the following students:

Kindergarten: Olivia Hoy, Xander Meyerhoff, Lauren Nuss, Ryan Willadsen, Tristin Willadsen, and Jayden Worple

First Grade: Katie Brincks, Jenna Heeren, Baylee Rapenske, Taylor Shekleton, and Ava Thronson

Second Grade: Jackson Brincks, Taylor Hoffman, Lydia Olson, Benjamin Tenge, Ethan Wilson, and Lane Winter

Third Grade: Andrew Mace, Sheila Nolt, and Morgan Riah

Fourth Grade; Sabre Anderson, Sydney Anderson, Kara Crooks, Erik Heeren, Joshua Holschlag, Stephen Holschlag, Cael Leistikow, Ashton McShane, Ryan Pickar, Claire Quirk, Katrina Ritter, Dwight Schwickerath, Kyle Scribner, Andrea Sobolik, and Gabriel Zweibohmer

Kennedy's Korner

I have created a blog to keep students, staff, and parents informed of the happenings at New Hampton Elementary. Check it out!

<http://nhetimes.blogspot.com>

Kindergarten Zoo



The kindergarten students spent their time at the Kindergarten Zoo looking for their parents and friends so they could show off their animal habitat.

The kindergarten students have been studying animals for the past few weeks. Each student chose an animal and created its habitat for the Kindergarten Zoo that was on exhibit in the cafeteria on Friday afternoon, March 22nd. We were so pleased with the number of guests that showed up to see the creative projects of our very proud young students.

Fourth Grade Rotary Visit



Rotarians came to visit the fourth grade right before spring break to share a story. Jay Jurrens, superintendent of NHCSD, was one of the presenters.

The Rotarians talked about the service projects Rotary has completed in New Hampton through the years. They also encouraged students to use the four principles outlined in the book when making everyday decisions. The principles align with the Six Pillars of Character Counts. They are: Is it the truth? Is it fair to all concerned? Will it build good will and better friendships? Will it be beneficial to all concerned?



Rotarians Drew Johnson, Suellen Kolbet, and Fr. Mark Osterhaus presented to one of the fourth grade classrooms. Before they left, each student was given a copy of the book that they shared and an apple.

“Parents are never as bad as kids think they are.” Matt Witten

Keep Reading All Summer Long

Nancy Kriener and Mrs. Kennedy are once again designing a summer reading initiative for our students.

Summer Slide:

We want each student to keep reading over the summer so they don't take the summer slide. The summer slide happens when students slide backwards in their reading and writing skills because they haven't engaged in either activity all summer. So, we will be coming up with another summer reading program. We will be sharing this program with students and parents in May.

Kindergarten 101



Making Pudding: Pudding is fun to make if you measure everything just right. It was the task and the snack at the first session of Kindergarten 101.



Where did you find that? Mrs. Nusbisch had fun with the kids attending Kindergarten 101 on March 25th. They were left to explore the kindergarten rooms after pudding and a few activities and they came up with some interesting items and some very good questions.

Kindergarten 101 is a free Learning Connection for all parents and children entering kindergarten in the fall of 2013. The first session was held on Monday, March 25th beginning beginning at 5:15. The next sessions will be held on April 2nd, 15th and 29th beginning at 5:15. For more information, call 394-5858.

“To be in your children’s memories tomorrow, you have to be in their lives today”

- Anonymous

The Bucket Theory: Three Simple Rules

Be a Bucket Filler. Don't Dip into the Bucket of Another. Use your Lid.



We have given away 58 t-shirts to deserving bucket filler students so far this year! Classrooms put names of bucket fillers in their buckets all week long and then draw one name out on Friday. That name is brought down to the elementary office and placed in a bucket for the 3:00 drawing. It is the luck of the draw!

Bank Iowa donated eighty t-shirts to NHE at the beginning of the school year for our Bucket Filler Program. We are very grateful to Rich Kriener for supporting this program through Bank Iowa's generous contribution.

Here are a few reminders as we move towards the end of the school year:

*The school doors are locked throughout the day for the safety and security of your child. We do not want to meet an adult in the hallway that is not wearing a visitor's badge. If you are entering the building during the daytime, expect to come through the front door entry, come into the principal's office, register with the school secretary, and get a visitor's badge before going into the hallways. Our students are precious to us and we will do whatever it takes to keep each child safe and secure.

* School attendance is essential for success in school. Please schedule medical appointments outside of school time, whenever possible.

*If your child is ill, please call the office (394-5858) before 9:00 on that morning to

inform us. Make arrangements to pick up his/her homework later that day, if possible.

* Please check your child's contact information with the office and update, as necessary.

* If you wish to talk with your child's teacher or have a conference with him/her, please call the school and make an appointment at the convenience of each of you.

* The NHE Handbook states that no invitations to a child's birthday party will be handled through the classroom. Please comply with this policy. Also, be advised that due to the privacy laws of both the federal and state government, we are not allowed to pass out the names or any other information concerning students in a classroom.

*Just a reminder that bus students are dismissed at 3:20 and town people are dismissed at 3:25.

* Please contact me at anytime with specific information or questions concerning your child. Call 394-5858 or e-mail me at l_kennedy@new-hampton.k12.ia.us

A partner in your child's education,

Linda Kennedy, Elementary Principal

Spring Break: Friday, March 29th and Monday, April 1st

Kindergarten 101: April 2nd, 15th, and 29th at 5:15

April Dates:

10 – Two Hour Late Start/ Professional Development

19 - 5:30 Dinner 6:00 – 8:30 Carnival

24 - Giant Piggy Bank Interviews @ 1:00 for third grade applicants

"You have to love your children unselfishly. That's hard, but it's the only way" Barbara Bush