

NHE News

New Hampton Elementary School May, 2014 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 May: Review of All Six Pillars

Our Big Bucket Motto:

Bucket filling is an everyday thing at NHE!

Dear NHE Families:

We will celebrate Character Counts Week the first week in May and we have several activities planned. The agenda has been printed in this newsletter so you can keep up with all of our activities. Please help your child be ready for each day. We are especially excited about joining the community on May 9th for a Jeans Day to raise funds for two Character Counts scholarships. All adults in the workplaces of New Hampton are asked to pay \$5 to wear jeans to work that day. Everyone likes to dress down on Fridays so we hope everyone will join us in this effort to pay for two \$300 scholarships for a worthy graduate to receive from the Character Counts Task Force. Mrs. K.

Carnival Update: Thank you!! Thank you!!

A huge thank you to all of the parents, grandparents, and friends of New Hampton Elementary who donated raffle items, money, candy, food, cakes, cookies, bars, and hours to make Carnival 2014 a huge success. It was truly a community event! This year's grand total was \$12,794.32.

This year's Carnival funding paid for two quality field trips per grade level, the Reading Rocks initiative, the Gallagher Bluedorn Production (Stone Soup), a Science field trip to Twin Ponds for each grade level, and incentive funding for each grade level and preschool.

There is a mutual servant culture between the school and the communities of the district. The school participates in community activities, whenever possible, and the communities are so supportive of the many activities of the school district. We are thankful for this bond and we will do everything we can to strengthen it.

Iowa Assessment Results

Our Iowa Assessment results are back. The following table shows the percentage in each of the following achievement levels at grades 2, 3, and 4 in reading and math for the students who were here a full academic year (FAY) before testing: non-proficient, proficient, and advanced.

Reading	% NProf	% Prof.	% Adv.	Total % Proficient
Grade				
2	25%	11%	64%	75%
3	15%	70%	15%	85%
4	16%	54%	30%	84%
Math	% NProf	% Prof.	% Adv.	Total % Proficient
2	19%	59%	22%	81%
3	12%	63%	25%	88%
4	14%	60%	26%	86%

We did not make the targets set out by No Child Left Behind for third and fourth grade. But the federal government has many filters through which they view these scores. We hope to make it

through at least one or more filters. We will know for sure in July.

Prior to the test, staff worked hard to teach students the proper test taking behaviors. Those behaviors were: attending to all test items, engaging and focusing on the test, taking their time, trying to do their best, not engaging in speed dotting, and not acting in ways that would distract others.

On Friday, April 25th, second, third, and fourth grade students who displayed good test taking behaviors were invited to a movie entitled *Nim's Island* in the cafeteria as a reward for their efforts.

Movie Reward



Nim's Island: Second, third, and fourth grade students enjoyed watching a movie in the cafeteria on April 25th. They armed themselves with blankets, pillows, and snacks and enjoyed a great story. The students were rewarded for using good test-taking behaviors while taking the Iowa Assessments.

Character Counts Week

Theme: Jumping for Good Character
May 5th – May 12th

May 5th – 12th: Sometime during the week

*Each class will experience jump stations on the playground, such as: hopscotch, jump rope, agility ladder, hoola hoop jump, jump over obstacles, high jump (please schedule with Mrs. Kriener)

*Canned Food Drive Begins

Monday, May 5th: Tie into Trustworthiness, wear a tie or the color blue

*Trustworthiness Paragraph Writing Activity (see attached) Share with the class.

Tuesday, May 6th: Turn your back on disrespect – wear your shirt backwards or the color yellow

*Mix-It Up at Lunch Day. Be respectful to everyone. Sit wherever you want to sit at lunch within your grade level tables.

Wednesday, May 7th: My future is bright: I am responsible – wear sunglasses or the color green

* Go Green Day – Protect your bright future by protecting the earth and the environment. Do a Go Green project for the school, community, or your PIE partner (pick up trash, recycle, sweep wood chips, etc.)

Thursday, May 8th: It's No Sweat To Be Fair – wear sweats or the color orange

*Fairness: Choose an Activity from the Fairness Pillar Activities (attached)

*Fourth Grade Track and Field Activity @ 12:30

Friday, May 9th: Count on Caring – Six Pillar Shuffle Activity and \$5 Jeans Day for NHE Staff

All PK – 2 students gather in the cafeteria at 1:15 and do the Six-Pillar Shuffle together. Grades 3 and 4 will gather at 2:30 and do the same. A person on top of a ladder will take a picture (and create a video) of this session.

Monday, May 12th: Hats off to citizenship – wear a hat or the color purple

*Canned Food Drive ends

Tuesday, May 13th: NHE Spirit Day – wear the color of your favorite pillar. Students will be asked to explain to their class why the pillar chosen is their favorite in a short presentation.

I got to grow up with a mother who taught me to believe in me.

Antonio Villaraigosa

Ready for Kindergarten



Kindergarten Initiation: On April 24th, the TLC 4's and the TK students spent an hour in the kindergarten classroom just to see what it was like.



The hour in kindergarten was great fun!



MAP Test: This spring, second graders are taking the Measures of Academic (MAP) test for the very first time. Second, third, and fourth grade students take the reading, mathematics and language arts test. Third graders also take the science test.

Student Bankers for 2014 - 15



Student bankers work at the Giant Piggy Bank every Tuesday morning, greeting customers, and helping them deposit their money. Every year about this time, the third graders have the chance to apply to be student bankers at the Giant Piggy Bank. Recently, Mrs. Kennedy talked to the third graders about the opportunity for them to apply for what might be their very first job. Third grade student applications were due on April 30th and interviews will take place on May 1st.

Giant Piggy Bank Deposits

As of the first of May the Giant Piggy Bank has 177 regular depositors. The current value of the bank is \$114,075.55

The Giant Piggy Bank is open every Tuesday morning at 8:05 in the lower hallway of the south wing.

Tornado and Fire Drills

Sometime during these last weeks of school, the PK – 8 building will have both a fire drill and a tornado drill. The district practices each of these drills once a quarter so by the last one, everyone knows exactly what to do and can do it quickly.

Got to' Keep Reading

Did you know students could back slide in their reading abilities by a full month during the summer break? Even worse: A student can lose 2.6 months in math skills in the same time period!

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.

Starting in May: The Summer Reading Initiative will be presented to the students in May. We will start them in May so that by the time those hot summer days have arrived students will be in the habit of reading daily.

Parent Responsibility: Once again this year, each student will be asked to bring back a signed parent permission slip in early May so that he/she can participate in this summer reading program. Parents will also have the responsibility of making sure their child is reading on a daily basis and initialing it after students mark it on their charts. Students who complete the summer reading program and bring back their initialed forms will be treated to a Party in the Park when school starts.

Parents: Get additional ideas to help your child maintain and even boost his/her reading and math skills over the summer. Go to:
<http://goo.gl/pm0ICV>

Being a mother is learning about strengths you didn't know you had, and dealing with fears you didn't know existed. Anonymous

Parents: Check out the NHE Facebook page. Like us!

At the end of the day, the most overwhelming key to a child's success is the positive involvement of parents.
Jane D. Hull

Here are a few reminders as we move to 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, you will need to come in through the security system at 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

The Bucket Theory: Three Simple Rules

***Be Bucket Filler.**

***Don't Dip into the Bucket of Another.**

***Use your Lid.**



Twelve students won bucket-filling t-shirts during the month of April!



**Happy Mother's Day
to all NHE Moms!
You are the best!**

Second Grade STEM Unit



A STEM Study: Second graders have truly enjoyed their study of the life cycle of a butterfly. They were able to observe the process and learn about each stage.

Faces of the Carnival



A brother and sister stopped by the registration table to share the artwork on their faces.



Who is this happy face?



The perfect face for a Chickasaw!

Parents:

Go to the district website/Parent Portal/Elementary to find the Orientation for Families (OFF) schedule for August 20th and the supply lists for each grade level for next year.