

Weekly Happenings at The Elementary School: *March 9, 2018*

Odyssey of The Mind

Tomorrow, the regional Odyssey of the Mind Tournament will be held at Rensselaer School District. Hoosic Valley has entered a record nine teams between both buildings, including two primary teams, comprised of students between Kindergarten and second grade. Tournament day is a very exciting event, and we hope friends and family members will come to cheer on our teams.

See the link below for more information about Odyssey of the Mind, and about tomorrow's tournament <http://libguides.questar.org/odyssey>

Character Education

Our 6th graders were able to take part in an assembly today, along with students in grades 7 and 8, presented by Sweethearts and Heroes. All students in grades 6-12 attended a presentation by the group.

www.sweetheartsandheroes.com

The program was presented by a former MMA athlete, and a disabled Iraq war veteran who focused on bullying, empathy and the power of hope. I personally found the program very inspiring, and I'm hopeful that the students felt the same way.

Following the presentation, Deputy Manny from the Rensselaer County Sheriff's department and I were able to talk with students in our fifth and sixth grades. We were able to reinforce the messages from the program about treating each other with respect, and what kind of impact our words can have, especially when they're threatening or violent words. We reminded students that all of us have a responsibility to choose our words carefully, even, or maybe especially when we're upset or angry.

Deputy Manny let the students know that all of the deputies at the Sheriff's Department, not just Deputy Russo, are committed to helping the teachers, counseling staff and I to remind students of the power of their words, and the hurt and fear that can be caused by casual threats.

I reminded students that they should also be aware that threats of harm to anyone are a violation of the code of conduct, and consequences are given for students that threaten each other.

I would like to ask that parent have this discussion with your children. Please remind them to choose their words carefully, and to try to work with others to solve conflicts, that threats don't solve problems.

I appreciate the help of parents as we work to help children growing up in this challenging time.

Extra Help Period

Just a reminder that teachers are available to help students after school on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays each week. Let your child's teacher know if you would like them to stay for extra help.

Calendar Amendment

Students in Grades K-6 will be dismissed early (at 11:55) on June 15th. **The last day of school for students in grades K-6 will be Thursday, June 21 and it will be a full day.**

Elementary Musical

The cast has been chosen and rehearsals have begun for the elementary musical, we are looking forward to another great performance by our talented students! The Elementary Play will be High School Musical, with two shows, May 31st and June 1st.

Reminders

If your child was absent please send in a written note indicating the reason for their absence when they return to school. Written notices are accepted until 5 days after the last date of the absence, after that the absence will be marked as unexcused.

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Sign up for the UPK Program at Hoosic Valley will begin on **March 1, 2018** and run until May 11, 2018. To be eligible to register, the student must be a district resident and turn 4 years old by December 1, 2018. Students will be selected for the program by a Lottery Drawing. Register by: Phone 753-4458 ext. 3507 Email avautrin@hoosicvalley.k12.ny.us
Information required: Student name, birthdate, parent's names, phone, address and email address

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children who will be 5 years old by 12/1/18, are eligible to attend kindergarten in September. Call the Elementary office at 518-753-4458, ext 3506 OR email ckinnicutt@hoosicvalley.k12.ny.us to register your child. Screening will take place April 23, 24, 25 by appointment only. Registration packets will be mailed out one month prior.