

New Horizons Country Day School

Elementary News

February 2012

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DATELINE

Wednesday	Feb. 1	Celebrating the 100th Day of School
Thursday	Feb. 9	Multi-age Field Trip to Cracker Country
Monday	Feb. 13	“Jump for your Heart” during Fitness!
Tuesday	Feb. 14	Valentine Card Exchange! <i>(first thing in the morning)</i>
Elementary Valentine’s Day Program <i>Love you forever!</i> 10 AM in the great room		
Thursday	Feb 16	Skating K & Pizza K-5th
Friday	Feb. 24	Professional Ed. Day– Fun Day available
Monday	Feb. 27– March 2	Scholastic Book Fair



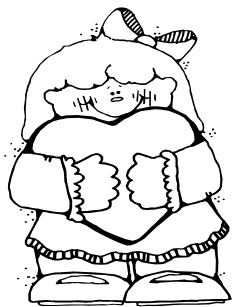
Register Now for the 2012-2013 School Year!



Stop in and view classrooms, take a tour and talk with teachers!

It’s registration time for the 2012-2013 school year for all Elementary students Kindergarten through Fifth Grade. You should soon receive a personalized letter of invitation to register and a parent contract welcoming your child to return to New Horizons for the next grade. There is no need to fill out an application or complete paperwork at this time.

Contracts will be mailed out to our presently enrolled families this week. Please return the completed signed parent contract, accompanied by a **nonrefundable** registration (\$125) and tuition deposit (\$500) fee of \$625.00 to secure your child’s position for the 2012-2013 school year. Write on your contract if you wish the office to use Tuition Express for registration/deposit fees. **Please note that the registration fee and tuition deposit are necessary to secure your child’s position in classes limited to 15 students.** Registration fees will increase periodically as of February 20th. Registration in our classrooms is on a first come first serve basis and **space is limited to 15 student per classroom.** We hope again to offer a Kindergarten/First combination class and Multi-age class consisting of Second/Third/Fourth/Fifth grades. On Thursday, March 1st registration will open to the community.



We invite you to join us for

Love You Forever

Presently by
NHCDS
Elementary Students

February 14th
At 10 AM in our great room



We Live By Choices

*We are free to choose
Our character
Our values
How to treat other people
How to handle adversity
How much we will
learn
What we will accom-
plish in life
Our own belief system
Our own purpose
Our own attitude*

Life Skills

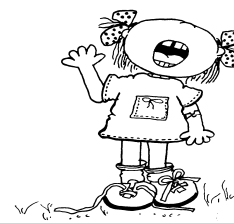
Being able to interact and get along with others will be your child's most necessary skill for their future!



The socialization of children has become a needed part of every school curriculum. Typical life skills once taught at home or by family members are now being addressed in school.

We, as a school, will not tolerate or work with families with rude, unruly children who hurt others with their hands, words or actions. We ask you to work on these skills daily at home in hopes that your child or children learn the expected responsible and respectful behaviors when interacting with others.

Children who are successful as they grow and learn most easily are those who know how to: respond to adults, make eye contact when being spoken to, congratulate others, respect other's opinions and ideas, win without bragging, converse in a conversation answering and asking questions, have basic good manners (health/hygiene), practice always using "please and thank you", know that making negative comments insults others, follow directions, complete daily responsibilities and activities be at home or school, learn to be organized, learn to accept doing things without complaints or whining, follow the basic rules of society and/or school, clean up after oneself, use appropriate table manners, share, assist others when they see assistance needed, use phrases such as "excuse me", never cut in line, stand up for oneself, believe in oneself, be positive, enjoy life and be honest.



At all other times as you leave the playground to go out to your car in the back parking lot, please close the gate!

Valentine's Day



The Valentine's Day holiday supports our goal of socialization for all of the children at New Horizons. Research suggests that peer relationships are a necessity for a child's social/emotional growth, and we believe the exchange of Valentine cards is another reinforcement for guiding children to good friendships. You might want to consider giving your child a very special Valentine as a parent by sharing some of your childhood memories! Students will simply exchange heartfelt feelings on this special day.

Please remember no candy or goody bags allowed on Valentine's Day! We will send it back home!

**Federal ID Number
59-3327147**

Every Child Is Smart

Recognizing the different ways children learn helps you bring out the best in each child. Howard Gardner is well known for his theories on Multiple Intelligences (MI). By recognizing your child's strengths and weakness, ways that your child learns best assist you as a parent and your child's teachers at school with optimizing your child's learning experiences.

Gardner's eight intelligences are:

word smart - verbal/linguistic

music smart - musical/
rhythmical

body smart - bodily/kinesthetic

math/logic smart - logical/math

picture smart - visual spatial

people smart - interpersonal

self smart - intrapersonal

nature smart - naturalist

Schools tend to focus on verbal/linguistic and logical/mathematical intelligences.

Children who aren't strong in these may be labeled as slow or at-risk learners. To reach each child there must be a balance of teaching strategies with activities that tap into all of the intelligences.

Take time as parents to learn how your child best learns new concepts using those avenues to assist your child in embedding knowledge introduced at school.



In light of the
"on again"
"off again"
cold weather that
we have been
experiencing,
please make sure your
child comes
to school with a
jacket.



We will supply a N.H.
sweatshirt if your child is
not dressed for the
weather and bill the family.



Red Ribbon Awards

Given to students who have exhibited an extraordinary random act of kindness or honesty, helped others through tough times, stepped in for another child, been respectful to others with their words or actions, exhibited excellent manners, showed tremendous courtesy for others, accepted others mistakes and/or displayed a "Yes, I can" attitude.

Congratulations!

Jasmine

Shawn G.

Breanna

Sarah

Boris

Ben

Ryan

Kaitlyn

Kindergarten/First Grade Explorers



by
Mrs. Minnie Schroeder

We had a wonderful month to begin our year and a fantastic trip to the Lowry Park Zoo. Thank you to all the parents who assisted us and shared in the wonderful weather outdoors. Receiving the 2nd report card should have you setting some goals for your child, and perhaps yourself, in assisting them during this last part of their school year.

The month of February starts off with the celebration of our 100 days of school. We are looking forward to meeting our 'aged' students. February brings Valentines Day and our Valentine's Program is scheduled for 10am on the 14th. We are practicing with due diligence and are excitedly awaiting the day. We will continue with our animal study this month and will round it off with a project, more information will be included in a homework packet. Towards the end of the month we will be taking a closer look at our body systems.

The First Grade students are working well on extending their writing pieces in language and we will spend some time this month on re-reading our own pieces and editing/correcting the more common errors. The entire class will also continue working on punctuation. Where do we use capital letters, what does this sentence end with and including commas and quotation marks with our First Graders.

In the area of Math we will continue with our place value work as well as telling the time to the hour and half hour and interpreting those word problems. Thank you again to all those parents who volunteered last month, in both the class and field trips.

Multi-age Investigators



By Mrs. Amy Slutz

We kick off the month of February by celebrating our 100th Day of School. We are looking forward to meeting the much “wiser” students as they come dressed as 100 years old. The month of February also celebrates many other events that include Ground Hog Day, President’s Day, Valentine’s Day and is considered Black History Month. We are very excited about our upcoming Valentine’s program “Love You Forever” and hope you will join us on February 14th at 10:00 am. We are taking our trip to Cracker Country Thursday, February 9th.

We will begin our monthly studies with an introduction to Greek Mythology. Our read aloud for the month is The Odyssey by Homer. We will also learn about the many different Greek gods and goddesses as we interpret Aesop’s Fables. Language Arts and Writing will focus more on paragraph writing with descriptive detail. We will refine our editing and revision skills using peer, self, and teacher evaluating.

We are beginning cursive writing for those who have not been introduced and for those who have, they will be writing for practice in cursive in their morning journals and story writing. Math skills introduced in January will be practiced and reviewed this month. Thanks to all those parents who volunteer. We appreciate all you do to help in and out of the classroom.

Attention All Parents

**Please consider
reading**

10 Mindful Minutes:

**Giving our children and ourselves--the Social and Emotional Skills to Reduce Stress and Anxiety for a Healthier, Happy Lives
By Goldie Hawn**

**At NHCDs we will
be using the MindUp
Program with our**

students, teaching them about their brains and how they function. They will learn how feelings affect our learning, how to control our anxiety, ways to think positively and how to become a happier person.

We will learn about optimism, happiness, gratitude, anger, sadness, fear, empathy and kindness!



Helping Children Gain Academic Success

by Teresa, The CuteKid™ Staff

In today's competitive world child's academic success is extremely important. If a child is successful in school they are more likely to be successful for the rest of their life. The skills that they learn starting in grade school will follow them throughout their academic career and into adulthood. Good grades in junior and high school will help your child get into a good college. Having a college degree will help ensure that your child will be successful and make enough money to live a comfortable life. But academic success does not come without effort.

Growing up my parents were strongly involved in the academic success of my siblings and I. My mother made sure we completed all of our homework, attended parent teacher conferences, and back to school nights. Stressed the importance of school attendance and let us know that they expected high achievement. As a result two of their children graduated from a high school class of six hundred as valedictorians, the third with high-honors, and the fourth with honors.

So read on for ways you can influence your child and encourage academic success.

Be interested Find out what is going on at school. Ask your child questions about what they did at school. Was there something they really liked? What is the latest book they read? What are they learning about in math? My mother always discussed my day when I came home with school and I do the same with my children.

Discuss your expectations Talk to your child about what you expect. Is your child going to be required to do their homework before playing? Do you expect certain grades on his report card? Does she have to put studies before extracurricular activities? Will he be expected to attend all of his classes? Realize that as a parent your expectations need to be realistic. If your child studies really hard and still doesn't receive a high grade it is okay. As long as your child is trying that is what is important.

Praise your child's efforts Not all children are going to be straight A students. It is the effort that matters not necessarily the grade. Praise your child for their efforts recognizing that they did their best. On the flip side if your child is not expending much effort and his grades suffer then there should be consequences.

Stress good attendance If your child is not in school they will not learn the material covered. Their grades will suffer as a result. Don't take your child out of school for unimportant events. Stress the importance of being at school. One of my friends attended school with her son because he kept sluffing a particular class. The sluffing quickly stopped.

Establish good health habits Research has shown that students who get enough sleep and eat breakfast do better than their hungry sleep-deprived peers. Make sure that your child is eating breakfast every morning. Many kids have a hard time making the time to eat so have quick breakfast items like yogurt smoothies or breakfast bars on hand.

Develop a rapport with your child's teacher Most teachers are more than happy to talk to a parent about their child's progress or needs. They want students to succeed. Students whose parent's are involved are more likely to be successful than those that aren't. I remember my mother saying that when she attended back to school night a teacher complained that it was always the parents of the students who were doing great that attended and the parents of the students who needed help that never appeared.

Monitor your child's homework Many students do poorly because they fail to complete or turn in their homework. Plus if your child does not complete the assignments they will not know the information at test time. Set aside a certain time each day when your child is required to work on their homework. My son is in second grade and is required to read 15 minutes each day. He does this while I am preparing dinner. Because we have a set time it gets done. If your child is easily distracted establish an area where they can work without distractions like T.V. If your child is using the computer check periodically to make sure they are doing their assignment.

Teach management skills Many children cannot successfully manage their time. Teach your child to start working on large projects early. Then complete a small amount every day. This way there won't be a big rush to finish the night before. Children will also neglect their homework in favor of time spent watching television or playing with friends. So helping them learn to prioritize is important.

Organization is also key. One teacher I had made the comment that he could tell how successful a student would be by looking at how organized their desk or locker was. If the student's desk or locker was neat and clean then they were more likely to be successful. My husband did poorly in junior high and has told me that he often found completed assignments in his locker weeks after they were due. If he had been better organized he could have turned them in and gotten better grades. Provide a notebook for your child to write down all of their assignments. Then if needed help them clean out their locker once a week.

Another valuable skill is note taking. Practice giving lectures to your child using their textbook and have them take notes. Work on writing the things that are important in a condensed version.

Doing all of these things won't guarantee that your child will be top of their class, but it will help your child to achieve their maximum potential

