

## Elementary News

January 2016

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### DATELINE

Monday	January 4	Classes Resume	
Wednesday	January 6	Report Cards	
Thursday	January 7	Homework resumes	
Tuesday	January 12	First/Second Gr. Field Trip to Art Museum	
Thursday	January 21	Skating K and Pizza K-5	
Monday	January 18	School Closed - Martin Luther King Jr. B-day	
Tuesday	January 19	Multi-age Field Trip to Publix Ice Cream Factory	

## Happy New Year !

*As we enter a new year it's time to reflect on the challenges ahead and relish our accomplishments to date. We, who are responsible for guiding your children, parents as well as teachers, should remember that childhood is the ultimate process in which the lessons of life are learned. We must support children's development of emerging skills; patiently watching, gently pushing and guiding our children as learner's. We must model and expect self-discipline, strength of mind and character, fairness and respect of others and self control. It is important that we remember, our children are watching us all, in their growth to becoming self-reliant and productive individuals, sometimes using our words, repeating our actions and/or mimicking our behaviors.*

*Remember childhood will come with wins, loses, disappointments, celebrations, failure, conflict, hurt feelings and bodies all with the goal of learning to be responsible for ones actions, words and deeds! Of these, if your child can learn to be responsible for one's self they will travel smoothly through their adolescent years becoming successful adults!*

*Next year will be NHCDS's 33rd year of teaching children!*



Registration time for the 2016-2017 school year is just around the corner for all Elementary students Kindergarten through Fifth Grade. You should receive a personalized invitation to register and a parent contract welcoming your child to return to New Horizons for the next grade by February 12th.

Contracts and registration information are mailed out to our presently enrolled families the second week of February. Please return the completed application form and signed parent contract, accompanied by a **nonrefundable** registration of \$150.00 and tuition deposit fee of \$500.00 to secure your child's position for the 2016-2017 school year. **Please note that the tuition deposit is necessary to secure your child's position and your account balance must not be outstanding at the time of registration. If you need to go on a payment plan for the tuition deposit we can accommodate our enrolled families.**

Registration in our classrooms is on a first come first serve basis and limited to 14 students per class. On March 11th registration will open to the community and fees will increase.

McKay students will need to pay registration fee and tuition deposit to secure their child's position in our school. Students with identified special learning needs (speech, hearing, language processing, specific learning processing difficulties) can often qualify for McKay funds.

Florida Pride funds are available for families struggling financially.

[www.stepupforstudents.org](http://www.stepupforstudents.org)

### Report Cards



Report Cards for all elementary students will be sent home on Wednesday, January 6th. Your child's teacher has carefully watched your child for growth over the past nine week period. Growth in all areas: academically, socially and emotionally. Students in each grade receive an itemized skill list in which students are noted as developing the skill or consistently displaying mastery of a skill.

Comments using our comment codes will accompany some performance ratings but your child's narrative report will articulate how your child is growing as an individual learner.



Please take time to review your child's report card with your child. **Note that your signature is needed on the narrative only** and promptly return the report card and narrative to school by Tuesday, January 12th.

### Jacket & Sweatshirt Season



In Florida we never get weather cold enough for snowballs; however, our temperatures do drop becoming quite chilly at times.

Please remember that your child needs to be dressed each day with appropriate clothing for outside play. Our New Horizons' students will go outside to the playground and/or travel to the library unless weather is threatening. When the temperature drops, please send your child in long pants, a long sleeved shirt and jacket. If you send a jacket, the staff will see that your child wears the jacket when going outside. *Thank you for your cooperation!*

***If your child arrives without proper clothing for the playground and weather, we will give them a New Horizons sweatshirt and bill you \$27.00.***

## Raising Small Souls

presents

### *Animal School*

<http://www.raisingmallsouls.com>

Once upon a time the animals had a school. They had to create a curriculum that would satisfy everyone, so they chose four subjects...running, climbing, flying and swimming. All the animals, of course, studied all the subjects.

The duck was very good at swimming, better than the teacher, in fact. He received passing grades in running and flying, but was hopeless in climbing, so they made him drop swimming, so that he could practice climbing. After a while he was only average at swimming but average is still acceptable at least in school. And nobody worried much about it except the duck.

The eagle was considered a "troublemaker". In his climbing class, he beat everyone to the top of the tree but he had his own way of getting there which was against the rules. He always had to stay after school and write "Cheating was wrong" five hundred times. This kept him from soaring, which he loved, but school work comes first.

The bear flunked because they said he was lazy especially in the winter. His best time was summer but school wasn't open then.

The zebra played hooky a lot because the ponies made fun of his stripes and this made him very sad.

The kangaroo started out at the top of the racing class, but became discouraged when he was told to move swiftly on all four legs the way that his classmates did.

The fish quit school because he was bored. To him all four subjects were the same, but nobody understood that because they had never seen a fish.

The squirrel got an "A" in climbing, but his flying teacher made him start from the ground up, instead of from the treetop down. His legs got so sore from practicing take offs that he began to get "C's" in climbing and "D's" in running.

The bee was the biggest problem of all, so the teacher sent him to Dr. Owl for testing. Dr. Owl said the bee's wings were too small for flying and that they were in the wrong place. The bee never saw Dr. Owl's report so he just went ahead and flew anyway. ***I think I know a bee or two, how about you?***

The duck is the child who does well in math and poorly in English. He is given tutorials by his English teacher while the classmates are doing math. He loses his edge in math, and only does passably well in English.

The eagle is the child who turned into a "troublemaker" because of his own way of doing things. While he is not doing anything "wrong", his non-conforming is perceived as troublemaking for which he is punished.

Who does not recognize the bear, the kid who is great in camp, who thrives on extra curricular but really just goes flat in the academics.

The zebra is the heavy, tall, short, self conscience kid who is a failure in school. Few realize that it is due to a sense of social inadequacy.

The kangaroo is the one who instead of persevering gives up and becomes the discouraged child whose future disappears because he is not appreciated.

The fish is the child who really requires full special education, who cannot shine in a regular class environment.

The squirrel, unlike the duck who "manages", becomes a failure.

The bee, oh the bee is the child who the school feels they can not deal with. Yet against all odds, with the backing of his parents and enough self motivation he does well, even though everyone thought he couldn't.

***I've had the pleasure of knowing many bees.***

Your child is a unique blend of **talents, personality and ingredients**, nowhere else to be found. Some children are skilled intellectually, others are blessed emotionally, and many are born with creative ingenuity.

Each child possesses their very own exclusive collection of gifts.

Your child did not come with a direction booklet. Effective parents are always learning, studying, and customizing the instructions for their individual child.

Each and every child is as unique as their fingerprints.

A sparkling  
diamond of  
unparalleled beauty.

***Don't let your child be a kangaroo!***

## Kindergarten Explorers



By

**Mrs. Minnie Schroeder**

Happy New Year to one and all! We will ring in the New Year with one of my favorite Social Science studies of dinosaurs. This study will carry us to the end of February as we look at different types of dinosaurs, fossils and various extinction theories.

January sees our second report card going home, please take the time to peruse this and pick a specific area you intend to assist your child with over the next quarter.

In the area of language we will be spending some more time on our vowel sounds and will get to meet the 'Fairye' who changes short vowels into long ones. We will also be working on our alphabetical order and continue to extend our written pieces as well as writing to a particular prompt.

In the area of Math we will begin the concept of time and work on telling the time to the hour and half hour. We continue to work on our money identification and will be spending some time on shapes and place value. Our chapter read aloud book this month is another in the Magic Tree House series and is called Dinosaurs Before Dark. We will only have 3 weeks of homework during the month of January, no homework being assigned the first week of the year.

Dates to remember this upcoming month are 1/18 when we are closed in observance of Martin Luther King Jr. and 1/21 which is our monthly Astro Skate and pizza lunch. Thank you so much to all who volunteer each month, in both the class and on field trips! You enrich our academic experiences with

your time and consideration and we are grateful.

## First/Second Grade Investigators



by

**Mrs. Amy Slutz**

Happy New Year! I hope everyone had a joyful holiday. I am looking forward to many fun-filled experiences in the year 2016.

January will be filled with brilliant colors, tones, shades and hues as the first and second graders begin their thematic unit on Great Artists. During this unit, they will try multiple art experiences such as watercolors, sketching, painting, charcoal, clay and more. The students will also research different famous artists and complete a project that will be due in February.

This month during writer's workshop we will begin using the four-square method of writing. This method is one of many that teaches the students how to organize and structure up to five paragraphs on one topic. Other areas of concentration in our language arts will be the study of prefixes, suffixes, contractions, as well as fact vs. opinion. Also, the students will continue to work on their comprehension skills for reading.

Throughout January we will continue to practice and explore conventional math skills with multi-digit addition and subtraction. First graders will begin working with three digit numbers by means of place value, skip counting, rounding and comparing numbers. Second graders will begin with a multiplication facts review, move into

multiplying two digits by 1 digit and then division. Everyone will then be introduced to fractions.

## Multi-Age Experimenters



by **Mrs. Maggie New**

Welcome to 2016! Multi age class will begin to discover how machines help humans do their jobs. On January 19, 2016 we will take a trip to the Publix Ice Cream factory in Lakeland, Florida. This is a total hands free assembly line. The students will learn how ice cream is made and receive samples at the end of the tour.

Social science will include building and using simple machines in our classroom. We experiment with energy and motion perhaps finding a toy at home that use pulleys, a levers or a vice to share with the class.

During the month of January we will be reading the story *A Snicker of Magic* by Natalie Lloyd. This is a story about new adventures with new friends. Please remember to read 15 minutes every day for homework.

All grades will be expanding their knowledge of division in Math. The third grade will be becoming more proficient in short division, while grades 4 and 5 will be dividing with decimals. Please remember to check your child's folders before signing it.

Please check and sign your child's communication folder daily.

**January 19, 2016 trip to Publix Factory Lakeland leaving school at 8:15am**

 **Students of the Month**

**K** - *Cody Kovash*  
**1/2** - *Robert Noguez*  
**Multi-age** - *Kristian Hayward*

**Spanish** 

**Students of the Month**

**K** - *Marley Kelsch*  
**1/2** - *Sebastian Alemar*  
**Multi-age** - *Tommy Smith*

**Music** 

**Students of the Month**

**K** - *Chayce Vilmanis*  
**1/2** - *Bruno Collins*  
**Multi-age** - *George Palmer*

 **Fitness**

**Students of the Month**

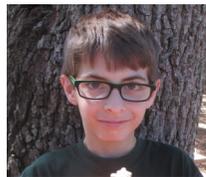
**K** - *Jacob Eslick*  
**1/2** - *Rayne Vilmanis*  
**Multi-age** - *Jacob Mandell*



**Happy Birthday**



Finnley McDonald

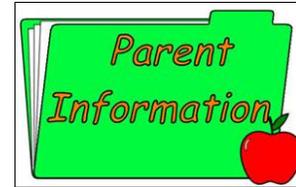


Tommy Smith

**Hope your Holidays were full of Joy, Family and Fun!**



**Coming this Spring Parent Education and Support Group**



Led by Kim Trocin

We will cover topics such as:

*Getting Mom and Dad on the same page when it comes to discipline!*

*What are your Goals for your child?*

*Rules/Consequences/Rewards*

*Establishing Homework ethics*

*Building Responsibility in your Child*

*Preparing your child for Middle School*

I am taking suggestions for issues to be discussed! Please email me: [newhorizonsele@tampabay.rr.com](mailto:newhorizonsele@tampabay.rr.com)

