

## The Hawk Highlights.....



### Principal's Greetings.....

Dear High Bridge Families,

Welcome to the second half of the school year! Now that February is here, we have four and one half more months remaining in the school year to prepare your child for the next grade level. Now that the majority of the mid-year testing is complete, I am pleased to let you know that there are gains overall in student achievement for the Mid year report. In April, all students in the state of Maryland in Grades 3-10 will participate in the MCAP (Maryland Comprehensive Assessment Program). This state exam is extremely rigorous and will test the limits of the students academically. This is a computer based exam which will be administered. We are preparing the students for that assessment as part of our weekly schedule. MCAP practice either is in the classroom or on the computer lab participating in simulation exercises. Either way we are getting them well versed in navigating the tools as well as similar questions they may see on the State exam.

Stay tuned and have a great February!

Dr. William J. Kelly

## Terrific TAG News.....

### Happy Month of February!

Our program is a pull out TAG program. The students are joined with an instructor two hours per week for enrichment activities following the TAG curriculum. There have been guest speakers and field trips this year as well! Look for more news on our website and in newsletters to catch a glimpse of all the hard work these students are doing.

In our talented and gifted program the students are extending their knowledge in specific areas. The Primary students explored how to use various materials to create a skyline visual. Next students will complete an independent study on polymer compounds. They will culminate their learning by making slime using varied ingredients.

In intermediate, the students will make connections between perseverance and self. Students will be introduced to deductive logic, self-awareness, self-management, and social awareness. In addition, this unit will help students to understand their strengths and limitations with a well-grounded sense of confidence, optimism, and a "growth mindset". Students will continue to explore the perspectives of others, including those from diverse backgrounds and cultures.

All of the testing for TAG has been completed for the year. Results should be coming in the next few months. A letter will come home with your child.





### Kindergarten Highlights!!!!

February is here!! Happy Black History Month!! This month in Reading we are exploring why writers tell stories and how we use technology in doing so. We will continue segmenting and blending the sounds in words, phonetic writing in complete sentences, learning heart words, and clearly expressing our thinking verbally. In math we are continuing to learn about subtraction situations and solve subtraction problems. We will revisit 3-Dimensional shapes and focus on composing, or building, them. In Science we are learning about forces and motion, focusing on what causes things to move and stop moving. In Social Studies we are learning about the geography, or physical make-up, of our planet. Our Kindergarteners will begin receiving a weekly reading log this month. Stay tuned for forthcoming information on the Black History Project we'll be completing this month, as well. As always, thank you for your continued support. The education of our youth is truly a joint effort and we appreciate everything that you all do.

### Fabulous First Grade!

February is here and our 1<sup>st</sup> students are ready for the third quarter with a love for reading! Our Dibels, IReady and Lexia data show a great amount of growth with all students, so keep up the wonderful reading practice at home! Congratulations to all of our hard working students. For our third quarter reading, we will be working in unit 4-5 and concentrating on the writing process, using opinions and adding details to our stories to make them more interesting. Remember to practice writing with accuracy and editing sentences at home for meaning. In math, we will be practicing missing addends in unit 6 and beginning to count and understand tens and ones. Please continue to use Dreambox and Mobymax at home to practice math skills and gain fact fluency. In science, we will learn about weather and sound, and how vibrations travel through objects! In social studies, we will be using maps and landforms to understand directions, keys and scales. We appreciate all the hard work you do at home and continue to read with your child for their monthly graded book logs. Keep up the great progress!

### Second Grade News!!!

Happy Valentines Day from 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade!

There is much to learn and discover this month. In **Reading** we are reading different Biographies. Our essential question is: How do our experiences shape our lives? Students are learning how authors use text features to help the reader better understand the text. Please continue to encourage your child to read for fifteen minutes every night.

During February, our **Math** focus will be we will be learning about place value in three digit numbers. We will also continue to practice solving word problems in Math. The students will solve story problems with unknowns. This will help them to master their addition and subtraction of two-digit numbers.

In **Science** we will begin studying Physical Science. We will learn about the properties of solids, liquids, and gases. We will also discover how matter can be changed. We will have lots of fun experimenting with matter.

We are in our third unit in **Social Studies**. We are learning all about maps. This month, students will explore why maps are important, the key parts of a map, and how to use them.

We are continuing on our busy path towards 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade and we are over half way there! Thank you for all of your help and support.



February kicks off the important month of exploration and discovery of African American of African American History and Culture. Students are undertaking biographies of African Americans and U.S. Presidents. First, students preview books and brainstorm several names. The students will read an article or book and fill out various graphic organizers stating their opinion, reasons and examples. In addition, they will use content specific character traits and vocabulary. This provides a great deal of student choice, discussion and choice. On Tuesday, February 14<sup>th</sup>, Third Grade will have their heart felt card exchange, crafts and refreshments. The suggested donation is \$4. Students showed great growth in their Winter Assessments, which will prepare them for the Spring MCAP! Congrats! Writers, Readers, Dreamers, Thinkers!!! MATH: During the month of February students will begin Unit 3.7: Division . Students will begin the unit by developing an understanding that division can be used to solve problems involving equal groups and arrays. They will learn that division can answer the questions *How many groups?* or *How many in each group?* As students use manipulatives and various visual models to represent these situations (pictures, tape diagrams/bar models, number lines, and arrays), they find the unknown quantity using the strategies of counting all objects, skip counting, and using multiplication and the properties of operations. Students will then explore situations involving equal groups when different pieces of information are known and unknown, leading to the interpretation of division as a multiplication problem with an unknown factor. Finally, students will relate division equations to multiplication equations with an unknown factor. They write these equations using a symbol for the unknown and relate them to real-life situations. At the end of the month students will move towards Unit 3.8:Fractions.**Science Living Things and Their Habitats:** *Students will learn what both plants and animals need to live and grow. Students will develop an understanding that plants and animals live in places that have the things that they need and that these places constitute systems that have parts that work together.* **Social Studies:** The students will explore how maps and globes can be used to locate places, physical features such as landforms and bodies of water, and features made by humans. They will compare regions that have similar physical and cultural characteristics and understand their location on a map. Finally, they will see how the environment (including weather, climate, and natural resources) varies from one place to another and influences how and where people, plants, and animals live.

## Fourth Grade Happenings!!!!

HELLO FAMILY! Welcome to the 3rd Quarter! The fourth grade is excited to sponsor our first family dance! Hope to see you all there. We are also sponsoring Valentine Day candy grams so look out for more details. In **ELA** over the next three weeks we will continue our unit on the informational text genre. Explore the Genre: Discuss with your child the characteristics of this genre, such as it gives facts and information about a topic. Ask your child to read to you each day and make time to read together. Students should be reading 20-30 mins each day. Look for texts that: •spark your child's curiosity • tie to the module topic • provide interesting facts and details • have unique formats and graphic features. Discuss the Topic: Set aside time daily for your child to share what he or she is learning. In **Math** students will work on 3 main components. They will find all factor pairs for a whole number in the range of 1-100. They will recognize that a whole number is a multiple of each of its factors. And they will be able to determine whether a given whole number in the range 1-100 is prime. This unit builds on the work in multiplication and division done in both 3rd and 4th grades. Understanding factors and multiples will help students operate more proficiently with fractions in later grades and with proportions and ratios in middle school. **Science-** We will continue to explore the world of light and sound! We will explore how light and sound travel through literature, virtual experiments, vocabulary, and concept building. **Social Studies-** We continue to explore geography by examining maps and globes, and discover how geography can affect how people live.

## Fifth Grade News Flash!!!!!!

It's hard to believe that we are now in the third quarter of the school year because the time is moving so quickly! Our 5th graders are working hard to prepare themselves for their next steps towards Middle School. Now is a fantastic time for all students to reflect on their efforts and achievements for the first half of the school year, as well as setting goals for what they hope to accomplish before the year ends. Take a few minutes to talk with your student about how they have been successful this year and what they might need to do in order to be best prepared for the second semester.

For this month, students will continue to work through grade-level skills and standards in all subject areas. In the next Math unit, students will multiply and divide decimals by decimals (to the hundredths place), using concrete models, drawings, and/or strategies based on place value and properties of operations. Students will estimate products and quotients by using their decimal number sense and rounding, and use these estimates to help them verify the placement of the decimal point in products and quotients. Students will look for patterns to explain where the decimal point will be placed in the product or quotient when multiplying or dividing decimals by decimals.

In Health, students will work to distinguish between the effects of use, misuse and the abuse of drugs and the value of living a drug-free life. In 5th-grade Science, students are going to begin a new unit on Physical Science. They will develop a model that describes that matter is made of particles too small to be seen, and identify through a model that regardless of the type of change, the total weight of matter is conserved.

Students will explore the causes of the American Revolution in Social Studies. This background knowledge will help them to apply analysis skills of primary sources in order to answer a formal document-based question (DBQ) using evidence from the sources. Finally, in Reading, students will explore a variety of texts including fiction, non-fiction, and video text presentations. They will be challenged to analyze two or more texts to determine commonalities and differences and will incorporate their ideas into a formal written response with evidence from multiple texts to support their ideas. By this point in the school year, students are expected to respond with multiple paragraphs, including an introduction with a thesis statement, and a conclusion. We have a busy month of learning ahead of us and we thank you for all of your continued support from home.

Hello parents/guardians!

The Music Notes Newsletter will update you on musical happenings during the current month in all General and Special Education Music classes.

Please note that if your child is missing a music assignment, the assignment will be located in the Classwork tab of their homeroom teacher's Google Classroom. **A "0" will be entered into SchoolMax for the assignment until your child turns it in.**

Be sure to watch for additional notes in upcoming HBES Newsletters!

Musically yours,  
Mrs. Clarke

### **Music Notes:**

The musical concepts that will be covered during the month of February for the following grades are:

#### ***5<sup>th</sup> Grade***

***Students will be able to:***

- Perform a short improvisation based on the G major scale
- Identify treble and bass clef lines and spaces
- Define Accidental

#### ***4<sup>th</sup> Grade***

***Students will be able to:***

- Distinguish between major and minor
- Define articulation and identify various types of articulation
- Define Molto, Allegro, and Andante

#### ***3<sup>rd</sup> Grade***

***Students will be able to:***

- Play the notes B, A, and G on the recorder
- Recognize that the Classical period was characterized by order, balance, and simplicity in music, art, fashion, and architecture
- Explain the purpose of the pianoforte

A letter was sent home on November 28th with 3rd grade students requesting \$3 for their recorder payment. Please send the exact change (\$3) or a check made out to High Bridge Elementary School if you have not paid for your child's recorder.

**2nd Grade****Students will be able to:**

- Define Home Tone and demonstrate by singing it in a song
- Number the lines and spaces on the treble clef staff
- Define and sing a Partner Song

**1<sup>st</sup> Grade****Students will be able to:**

- Describe how vibrations affect the chest and face when using the voice
- Identify and use vocalizing anatomy of lungs and tummy muscles
- Recognize that if *sol* is on a line, *mi* is on the line below it

**Kindergarten****Students will be able to:**

- Distinguish between high and low sounds in a song
- Sing a song using high and low pitches
- Demonstrate high and low pitches by moving to a song

**Adaptive Music**

Students in CSEP and CRI classes will learn many of the same concepts in ways that are meaningful to them. Students in CRI will do more movement activities and instrument playing.





PGCPS

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www1.pgcps.org/highbridge  
– A great place to find the  
school calendar, frequently  
asked questions, current  
events, and websites for  
enrichment and intervention!



**Important Dates**

**To Remember:**

**February 8, 2023**  
**2nd Quarter Report**  
**Cards Released**



**February 10, 2023**  
**Father-Daughter**  
**Mother-Son Dance**  
**(Sold Out)**



**February 20, 2023**  
**Presidents' Day**  
**(Schools and Offices**  
**Closed)**



**February 21, 2023**  
**Parent-Teacher**  
**Conferences**  
**(2 Hour Delay)**



**Looking Ahead**



**March 6, 2023**  
**Professional**  
**Development**  
**(Schools Closed**  
**for Students)**



**Counselor's Corner**



**May 26, 2023**

**8:00 am until 1:00 pm**

High Bridge Elementary School  
7011 High Bridge Road  
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Ms. Miller School Counselor

If you are interested in displaying you  
career with the students, please RSVP  
to [lisa2.miller@pgcps.org](mailto:lisa2.miller@pgcps.org) or call  
301-805-2690 by May 12, 2023

Thank you as always for your support!