



Henry Elementary School Newsletter



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Dear Parents and Guardians,

With all the events during this winter time, it is sometimes good to stop and realize how much we impact each other... even when we don't realize it. The following piece is by an unknown author.

When You Thought I Wasn't Looking

When you thought I wasn't looking, I saw you hang my first painting on the refrigerator, and I wanted to paint another one.

When you thought I wasn't looking, I saw you make my favorite cake, just for me, and I knew that little things are special things.

When you thought I wasn't looking, I felt you kiss me goodnight, and I felt loved.

When you thought I wasn't looking, I saw tears come from your eyes, and I learned that sometimes things hurt, but it's all right to cry.

When you thought I wasn't looking, I saw that you cared and I wanted to be everything that I could be.

When you thought I wasn't looking, I looked and wanted to say thanks for all the things I saw when you thought I wasn't looking.

Each day at Henry, kindnesses also occur... when children thought we weren't looking...

*When the fifth grader listened to the kindergartener about how proud he was of the drawing he made for his mom.

*When the "Student Greeter" asked an arriving student if she was okay and then asked her if she wanted her to walk her to class.

*When the kind second grade student helped his friend search for his missing coat and told him, 'We'll find it. Don't worry.'

Kindness makes a difference... in the world and at Henry School.

Sincerely,
Lynn Pott, Ph.D.

Focuses at Henry School to Promote Academic Excellence and Good Character

Kagan Strategies: to enhance student collaboration and teamwork.

Project Lead the Way Science: New Hands-on Project Based Learning where students also demonstrate their understanding of science, integrated with math and teamwork.

Workshop Style Teaching: This happens in Math, Reading, and Writing. Small groups continually happen to enhance the learning at differentiated levels.

Guided Reading Groups: This structure is based on the “instructional levels” of all the students so challenging vocabulary and comprehension can be scaffolded and learning accelerated. This is based on one-on-one continual assessment.

7 Habits of Highly Effective People: Leadership for all Students is the focus throughout the school. Students track their progress, set goals, help others, and learn about kind leadership. On late-start days, the afternoons, cross-grade level leadership activities to help the school and community occur.

Strings Classes: in grades 3-5 to enrich the learning in the arts.

Individualized Project Learning in Non-strings: classes to “Personalize” the learning and to create choices for the students.

Concerts: in Vocal Music for grades, 1, 3 and 5 with 5th graders. Having the chance to be in choir. Honors Orchestra is also a possible option for students in 4th and 5th grades. Strings concerts and mini-concerts happen during the year so students can demonstrate their growth and talents.

Nurses Office Update:

We are seeing more winter illnesses due to the winter season. In addition to the common cold, we have become aware of several students with Influenza A and B and strep throat.

Influenza, or “the flu,” is a contagious viral illness that can also be spread by coughing and sneezing. People who have the flu often feel some or all of these symptoms: fever, cough, sore throat, runny or stuffy nose, muscle or body aches, headaches, and fatigue (tiredness). **Children with the flu should remain home until they have been fever-free for 24 hours and feel well enough to participate in school activities.**

Strep throat is a bacterial infection that is also spread easily from person to person. People with strep throat often have a fever, sore throat, and enlarged lymph glands in the neck. **If your child has strep throat or another bacterial infection, he/she should stay home until the antibiotic has been given for at least 24 hours and your health care provider has given permission for your child to return to school.**

If your child will not be attending school for any reason, it is very important for you to call and notify the school office of the reason for the absence. This helps us to keep track of illnesses among our students. It also helps us be assured that your child is safe at home.

****Children should be fever free, without the use of fever reducing medicine, for 24 hours before returning to school.**

With the arrival of colder weather, we have entered the cold and flu season. For the health of your child, other students, and school staff, it is important to know when your child should stay home due to illness.

Students should stay home if they have had any of the following symptoms:

- fever of 100 or higher in the past 24 hours
- undiagnosed rash that is accompanied by fever or itching
- bad cough or difficulty breathing
- vomiting or diarrhea within the past 24 hours
- sore throat, with fever or swollen glands in the neck
- symptoms of being sick such as being unusually tired, fussy, pale or had difficulty waking

We encourage you to seek medical attention when your child is sick and to follow your health care provider's recommendations about returning to school and other social activities. Thank you for helping us keep all of our students and staff healthy.

If you have any questions, please contact our school nurse,

Katie Paulsmeyer, BSN, RN

314.415.6360

kpaulsmeyer1@parkwayschools.net



Kindergarten Registration 2019/2020

All Parkway Elementary Schools will be holding Kindergarten registration on January 23, 2019 for next school year.

If you have an incoming kindergartener for the 2019/2020 school year, please start the registration process online. Go to the Parkway website and click on the KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION tab. It will have all the information you need.

BACK BY POPULAR DEMAND! HENRY FAMILY READING PROJECT!

We had an overwhelmingly positive response from our Henry families last year when they read Mr. Popper's Penguins with their kids. We are excited to share that the Henry community will be participating in another family reading event in the month of February! Stay tuned for the latest Henry Family Reading Project book to be delivered to the kids on Monday, February 4.

*More detailed information will be available on the Henry webpage once the book title has been REVEALED to the students!

Dates to Remember:

January 21: No School/Martin Luther King Day

January 23: Kindergarten Registration (7:30am – 6:00pm) for the 2019/2020 school year

January 30: Late Start Day (11:05am)

February 4: HENRY FAMILY READING PROJECT starts

February 8: Kindergarten only Muffins With Someone Special... for current kindergarteners and a special someone. 8:15 – 8:45 am

February 8: 4th grade Living Museum (1:30pm–3:00pm)

February 14: SPRING PARTIES
→ K & 1: 12:45 – 1:45
→ 2 – 5: 2:15 – 3:15

February 15: NO SCHOOL

February 18: NO SCHOOL

February 27: Late Start Day (11:05am)

The 7 Habits of Happy Kids



Habit 1- Be Proactive: I'm in charge!

I am responsible for myself.
I take initiative and have a "can-do" attitude.
I choose how I act, how I feel and what I do.
I do what is right without being asked, even when no one is looking.

Habit 2- Begin with the End in Mind: I have a plan!

I set goals for myself.
I have a plan for how I will accomplish my goals.
I think about what I want to be when I grow up and how I will get there.



Habit 3- Put First Things First: I will do my work first, then play!

I do my work before I play.
I know what my responsibilities are, and I do them based on what is most important.
I practice self-control.



Habit 4- Think Win-Win: I believe we can all win!

I want everyone to be a success.
I don't have to put others down to get what I want.
When there is a conflict, I look for solutions that will make everyone feel good.



Habit 5- Seek First to Understand, Then to be Understood:

I will listen to others before I talk!

I am a good listener.
I try to understand other peoples' points of view especially when their opinion is different than mine.
I am comfortable sharing my opinions and ideas.



Habit 6- Synergize: I know that together is better!

I know that everyone is good at something.
Everyone needs to get better at something.
I believe that we can all learn something from each other.
I know that working in groups helps to create better ideas than what one person can do alone.



Habit 7- Sharpen the Saw: I have balance in my life!

I keep my body healthy when I exercise, eat healthy foods and get enough sleep.
I enjoy learning new things.
I know that it is important to spend time with people that I care about.



W.I.G.



Way to go Henry!

93% of our students went up one level in reading in the first trimester. Our W.I.G. will be expanded to include capitalization and punctuation at each grade level.

5th Grade Book Review

Have you ever been trapped, in a place you can't get out of, being treated like a slave by your own mother? That's how Ada from *The War That Saved My Life* felt for all of her life because her evil mother was ashamed of her all because of her foot. She has clubfoot, which made it so her foot is sideways, and she was treated like a slave, until one day something magical happened. She escaped. She thought she could never do it, but she did. With the help of her brother, Jamie, they were able to get on a train and escape to a town in London where they went to a foster home. People were forced to take kids, even if they didn't want to, and Susan did NOT want to. She was given no choice and took Jamie and Ada. This was the escape that changed Ada's life. It was the escape that gave her a home, a home where she could be free, find her passion, and find her voice. While she lives with Susan, Ada makes new friends! This is a story of love, but will Ada and Jamie get sent back to their mom?

READING TIPS

Set aside five to ten minutes daily to listen to your child read the books he/she brings home from school. Here are some "handy tips" to reinforce the techniques being used during school instruction:

1. As children learn to read, one-to-one matching is very important. Encourage your child to read every word he/she sees, not skipping any or adding extra words.

2. Help your child use strategies which assist him/her in becoming an independent reader such as:

- ❖ Encouraging your child to check pictures and to think about what makes sense or what sounds right.

- ❖ Encouraging your child to look at the letters and think about the sounds in relationship to what makes sense and sounds right, rather than just saying "sound it out."

- ❖ Encouraging your child to reread if what has been read does not make sense. Allow wait time to work it out. Start by asking:

- ★ Does it make sense?

- ★ Does it sound right?

- ★ Does it look right?

3. Always praise for good reading work! Here are some ways to give praise:

- ❖ Good try!

- ❖ I like how you worked it out by yourself!

- ❖ You worked out the tricky part by going back and rereading!

PICKING UP CHILDREN

We cannot let a child go with anyone other than their own parent (or someone designated on the family census verification form).

- If your child is to go home with anyone other than a parent, the office is to be notified **in writing**. This also applies to picking up children in the pick-up line in back of the school.
- If you and a friend or neighbor have a carpool arrangement, please notify the office and we will be happy to make a car sign with all the names on it.
- ❖ You must call the office no later than 3:00 with any change of dismissal.

ARRIVAL PROCEDURES

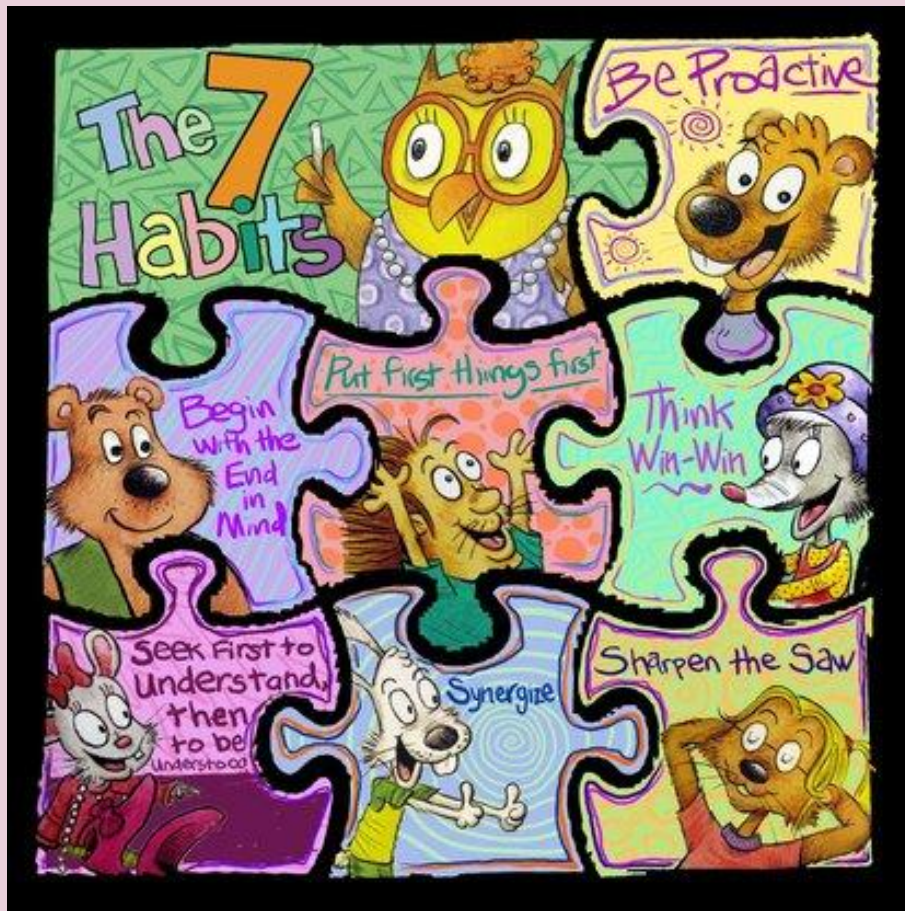
Thank you for assisting in the procedures designed for the safety of your children. Please remember:

- If you bring your child by car between 8:50-9:05 a.m., they are to be dropped off around the back of the building. A staff member is waiting at the back door to greet them.
- Any child arriving after 9:05 a.m., must be brought to the office by their parent and signed in. *If the doors are already closed DO NOT drop off your child in the back. The doors are kept locked all day for the safety of all students. Your child would not be able to enter through the back doors.

HENRY HEROES

Our staff knows the importance of recognizing students who do the right thing in all settings over a long period of time. This reflects our 7 Habits Focus of Leadership. Therefore, we have a special component of our school's recognition for good character. Students who have exhibited outstanding character consistently over several months are honored. These students demonstrate outstanding leadership in all areas (i.e., kindness, respect, honesty, and responsibility). In order to receive this award, these good character traits are demonstrated in all components of the school day and observed by all the staff. It is definitely an achievement and an honor to receive this award. Each student's name is announced and they receive a special achievement award.

Congratulations to all of the students who have received the Henry Heroes Award!



State Standards

In the spring of 2019, Parkway students, starting in the third grade and above, will take state tests in Math and English Language Arts. (5th graders also have a science test.) The tests will include more challenging academic content based on the State Standards. The goal of the new tests is to better prepare students for success in college or the workforce when they graduate.

Café News

If you are sending lunch money, cash or check, with your student, please make sure your child fills out the envelope completely before they turn it in. There have been a few lunch envelopes turned in with no name and just cash. Envelopes are available in the office and the café. You can also pay online to avoid any confusion.



Come and check out our lost and found!

The lost and found is located by the cafeteria and it is overflowing!

If your child is missing an item, please have them look in the lost and found.

***Also, please label all coats, hats and jackets so it is easy to match them with their owner. We have many lost items with no names.**

Safety and Cell Phone Use for Drop-off/Pick-up Line



For the safety of our children, we ask that drivers please **turn off their cell phones in the drop-off/pick-up line.**

All focus at this time should be on safely getting the children in or out of their proper cars. Please do not drive away from the drop-off zone until the children are safely away from the cars. There have been several instances where drivers are distracted, which is a safety concern.

Thank you very much for putting your cell phones down for this short time.

SAFETY AND SECURITY REMINDERS

With the current events happening in the world, it is important that you are aware that Parkway School District and Henry School are proactive and have plans for general safety and for emergencies.

· **As you come to the front door, press the buzzer and *identify yourself*.** You will then go directly to the office and see one of the secretaries so you can get signed in to our new system where you will be printed out a badge to wear while you are at Henry. After you are finished please return to the office, with your badge, to scan yourself out. This practice helps us to ensure that our building is safe.

If you do not have a printed badge on, a staff member will remind you to return to the office to sign in. Thank you for your support.

· We have tornado drills, earthquake drills, fire drills, and intruder drills. A safety walk is conducted through the school with district personnel.

· Please be sure to contact the office if your contact or emergency numbers have changed. We want to be able to reach you.

· If you have any questions or concerns, please contact your child's teacher or Lynn Pott.

Safety is our highest priority.

DRESS FOR THE WEATHER

Students will have outdoor recess on most days. As the weather changes, please remind your children to bring sweatshirts, coats, etc., to protect them from the cold and always changing weather during the upcoming months.

Sometimes buses can run late due to unforeseen circumstances and the wait at the bus stop could be longer than usual. Please be sure your children are suitably dressed during the winter months.

Example: Wear a coat, hat and gloves. No shorts should be worn during the winter months.

Also, do not leave children unattended at the bus stop. If the bus is running late they won't be left out in the cold by themselves.

Please remember to label all items.

SCHOOL CLOSING INFORMATION

If emergencies or hazardous conditions develop during the school day and Henry is dismissed early, these guidelines will be followed:

- Parkway will initiate the Parkway Connect communication system, informing parents of early dismissal.
- No child who ordinarily rides the bus home will be allowed to walk home.
- Adventure Club will be canceled. All after school activities will be canceled.
- The principals and other staff members will remain at school until all children are safely dispatched home.

For information on school closings, check:

- Parkway website @ parkwayschools.net
- Parkway phone recording 314-415-snow(7669)
- Parkway Mobile App
- Television: KSDK (Channel 5); Fox (Channel 2); KMOV (Channel 4)

In case of an early school dismissal or in the event that a parent gets detained or caught in traffic, we ask that each Henry family have an emergency plan in place. Please note that although school may be dismissed early, children may not arrive home early. Traffic tie-ups may prevent the buses from getting through their routes on time. Children may arrive home ahead of schedule or very late. *When school is closed for the day or dismissed early, all after school and evening activities are automatically canceled. This includes the Adventure Club Program.*

*Children of all ages should know what to do if a parent is not at home or if they misplace their key. Children should also know what to do if there is a storm or loss of power when they are home alone.

*Practice "What would you do if . . . ?" activities with your children. Review personal safety with your child. Be sure they know who to contact if they are approached by a stranger on their way to or from school or while they are playing in the neighborhood.

EARLY DISMISSAL PROCEDURES

When school is dismissed early in the day due to snow or ice, the following procedures will apply:

- The automated Parkway Connect communication system will attempt to call you.
- No child who ordinarily rides the bus will be permitted to walk home without prior written permission from a parent/guardian allowing them to walk home.
- All bus riders will be expected to remain at school until their bus arrives (unless they are picked up by someone pre-approved by their parents).
- Adventure Club School Age Childcare will be canceled and students will be expected to go home on their assigned bus. Other daycare buses will pick up children as usual.
- The principal and other staff members will remain at school until all children are safely dispatched home.
- Please use discretion in calling the school. We need to keep the phone lines open for emergency and outgoing calls.
- When school is closed for the day or dismissed early, all after-school and evening activities are automatically canceled.

Please remember--the Parkway District's administrative office makes the decision to close school. They notify the news media and then the school. The individual school does not make that decision and has no control over it. Please note that children may not arrive home early even though school has been dismissed early. Traffic may delay the buses. Everything possible will be done to ensure the safety and well-being of our students.



FAMILY EMERGENCY PLAN

While schools can sometimes be closed due to inclement weather, you never know when a school may have to close on short notice due to unforeseen emergencies, such as a water main break, that forces a school to close in the middle of the day. It happens more often than you might think!

Please ensure that you have a plan in place outlining each family member's responsibility during an emergency school closing, and be sure to review this plan each year with your child. It is important to know who will be responsible for your child at home if a parent can't be there, or where your child should go if school is closed.