

Highlander—December 2018

208 N. Highland Ave, Greeneville, TN 37745—P: 423.638.3341 F: 423.638.1780 <http://highland.gcschools.net>

Poetry and Poinsettias: Second grade will be hosting their annual Poetry and Poinsettias on Friday, December 14th at 9 am. Students select a poem, practice it, then read it to their parents, demonstrating their knowledge of poetry and strengthening their public speaking.



Online Absentee Reporting:

We are now offering parents another option for reporting their child's absence to the school. Our online absentee reporting is available on our Parents tab on our school website. The parent clicks the link, then fills out the online form and submit it directly to the school. This will count as one of the three accepted parent notes if a Dr. excuse is not sent to school.



The Power of Evening Routines:

A structured evening routine, getting children ages 5-13 in bed before 9PM, sets children up for success. The five broadstrokes are: 6PM—The Huddle: Checkin with children. While they do homework, parents start dinner. 6:30 PM—The Dinner Half-Hour: Family Time, use conversation starters to encourage dinner table talk. 7:00 PM—Homework Hustle: Sit with your children as they do homework. Monitor, motivate, organize and praise them as they do their work. 7:30-8:00PM— Bath, Book, and Bed: Bath changes body temperature and encourages sleepiness. Reading to children creates a bond. Beyond Bedtime: Children need 9-11 hours of sleep and having them in bed early gives parents downtime without children. You can read the complete article on the power of evening routines by Heather Miller at <https://www.gse.harvard.edu/news/uk/18/10/power-evening-routines>

Christmas Program at NPAC:

Students in grades 2-5 are receiving lyrics to their songs. Anyone in PK-1 that would like to receive the lyrics, please contact Mrs. Boegemann. They will need a red shirt and dark pants for the performance on the 10th.

Communication: We make every effort at communicating with our families, via this newsletter, Twitter, Facebook, school web page, SchoolCast, class dojo and personal phone calls, but we would like to introduce another way we will be communicating with you. We now have a digital sign in our office. When you are in the office, it is up on the wall to your right. This sign gives us the ability to feature our morning news, a Twitter feed, scrolling announcements and more. We will be introducing this digital sign to our web page under the What's Happening Link in December.

Yearbook Sales: Order forms for yearbooks will come home in Monday folders on December 3rd. Yearbook sales will run from December 4-14. We are only ordering 80 yearbooks this year, unless these December presales exceed 80. Once this pre sale is over, we probably will not have extras to buy. The cost of each yearbook is \$16.00. On the order form, you will be able to pay in full or pay an \$8.00 **non-refundable** deposit per yearbook. If sending cash, please send exact change. If paying by check, please make checks out to Highland G.S.I.A.

Attendance: It is very important that your child is at school every day. Tardies and early dismissals will add up to absences. Please try to schedule appointments after 3:15 PM. If you take your child to the doctor please get a note from the doctor. Tennessee students who are chronically absent in Kindergarten are 15 percentage points less likely to reach proficiency in either 3rd grade math or ELA.



A Look Ahead:

December:

- NO HAWKS in December
- 4-14 Yearbook Sales
- 10 Christmas Program at NPAC
- 14 2nd Grade Poetry & Poinsettias
- 19-31 Christmas Break
- 21 First Day of Winter

January:

- 1-3 Christmas Break
- 7 HAWKS Begins
- 21 MLK Day

February:

- 7 No HAWKS
- 15-18 Mid Winter Break
- 18-21 No HAWKS
- 27-28 Book Fair

7 Resources for Digital Citizenship:

This list with links can be found at <http://eschoolnews.com>

1. [Common Sense Media](#) offers a one-stop shop for grades K-12 educators—they'll find games and activities along with curriculum resources.
2. Check out [this ISTE resource](#) that helps educators teach students about three strategies for using empathy as an antidote to cyberbullying.
3. [CyberWise](#) offers digital citizenship resources for parents and educators to use in order to teach students about being safe and responsible.
4. [Digital Passport](#), from Common Sense Media, offers a suite of games to help students in grades 3-5 learn about some of the issues and challenges they may encounter online.
5. [NetSmartz](#) has compiled interactive and age-appropriate resources to help children ages 5-17 understand how to be smart and stay safe online and offline.
6. [Digizen](#) helps children, educators, and parents understand what digital citizenship means and how to apply it when confronted with issues or situations online.
7. Digital citizenship and global awareness go hand in

Food City School Bucks: Register your value card to Highland school to help us earn money for our school. If

your card has been registered with Highland, please do it



again. It must be done annually.



hand, because students will eventually join a workforce with global connectivity. Digital citizenship will help students listen to and communicate with their global peers with empathy and understanding for other cultures

We are at 32% of our school-wide WIG of reading 6,000 books this school year.