



# Flower Hill Happenings

Flower Hill Primary · 98 Flower Hill Road · Huntington, NY · 11743 · (631)673-2050 ·  
Hours: 8:45am - 3:05pm      September/October 2012



## Message from the Principal

It is hard to believe it, but our students have already completed one month from the 2012-13 school year. It is my pleasure to report that the year is off to a great start. Our students have transitioned smoothly from the summer break and are adjusting nicely to the regular routines of their classroom.

Over the last month our teachers have been getting to know our students as learners. Through their observations, assessments and the work students do, our teachers have been collecting data that they will use to guide instruction over the coming weeks. I encourage you to keep in contact with your child's teacher so that we can work together for the benefit of our students this school year. One of the most important elements that help to build school success is a strong home/school partnership. With that said, I would like to thank the parents who were able to attend our recent "Meet the Teacher" night. During this meeting our teachers were able to provide an overview of the curriculum, classroom routines and expectations for the year. For those parents who were not able to attend, your child's teacher will be contacting you to schedule Parent/Teacher conferences in November. We look forward to your continued support, and we are confident our students will have a fantastic year.



## Upcoming Flower Hill Events



|  |                               |
|--|-------------------------------|
| MEET THE TEACHER NIGHT K-2 7:00-8:00   | 10/2                          |
| MEET THE TEACHER NIGHT 3-4 7:00-8:00   | 10/3                          |
| COLUMBUS DAY<br>SCHOOL CLOSED  | 10/8                          |
| PICTURE DAY  | 10/11                         |
| PTA MEETING @ 9:30   | 10/16                         |
| K & 1ST GRADE SOCIAL   | 10/26                         |
| HALLOWEEN PARADE   | 10/31                         |
| FALL FESTIVAL<br>  | SEPTEMBER<br>STAR<br>STUDENTS |

Congratulations to the following Flower Hill Students: Henry Koemel, Colin Lennon, Zoe Sakellaropoulos, Sofia Gomez-Calderon, Benjamin Soric, Daniela Colon, Tess Calabria, Sophia Kaloudis, McKenzie Walleshauser, Angie Hernandez-Ramos, Brenda Jandres-Benitez, Emma O'Brien; Manuel Aviles, Katherine Torres-Paguaga, Jillian Loturco, Emily Roberts, Jake Cordes, Sahar Nadi, Zachary Gordon and Charlotte Maggio. Great work!



## Kindergarten Highlights



Dear Parents,

Our Kindergartners have transitioned very well this year. We had a fun-filled exciting month! We started off reviewing our colors and shapes. On 9/11, we remembered our fallen heroes by discussing heroes of our own and had a special visit from some firefighters who reviewed fire safety. In Treasures, we read some fables and books about Autumn, families, and music. We have been practicing our names and letters in Handwriting. In Math, we are practicing writing numbers and learning number concepts. We have also started some work in cooperative groups at center time. At the end of this month we will have our Harvest Festival! Thank you for all the support.



The Kindergarten Teachers



## First Grade Highlights



Our first graders are off to a great start! In language arts, we are focusing on analyzing story structure, sequencing and comprehension skills using fiction and non-fiction literature. We began learning many new sight words, word families and vowel sounds. The children have been learning proper sentence structure including beginning a sentence with an upper case letter and ending with a punctuation mark. We have also been discovering all of the things that make us special. In Writer's Workshop, we have been writing personal narratives and descriptive sentences. In science, we began our unit on living and non-living things. In math, we have been finding the partners of numbers through 10, patterns and geometric figures. Throughout the month of October, we will continue learning new words as well as retelling a story and finding the main idea. We will also begin our unit on Properties in science. Of course, we are all looking forward to the Harvest Festival at the end of the month!! Please read with your child every day. Thank you for your support at home.

*The First Grade Teachers*

## Second Grade Highlights

Welcome Back! September has been an exciting month for the incoming second graders. They have all settled into their new classroom and routines. The second grade teachers were pleased to have met many of our student's families at "Meet the Teacher" night. If you did not sign up for a November parent teacher conference, we will be contacting you to schedule a meeting.

Language Arts is an important component of our core curriculum. We are working on our fall assessments. Please have your child read to you on a daily basis. It is important that children not only read during the school day, but also read at home. Time spent reading at home can include having your child read to you as well as reading aloud to your child. Also, ask you child questions, such as, who are the characters? Where does the story take place? Does the story have a problem? This ensures if your child comprehends the story.

Math is also an important part of our curriculum. We have begun our first math unit, which includes solving word problems using addition or subtraction, adding and subtracting numbers up to 20. Please have your child review basic math facts using strategies such as counting on, math mountains and mental math.

We look forward to beginning our new Social Studies curriculum. We kick it off by learning about communities and where we live. For Science, we are focusing on weather and the importance of keeping healthy.

As we approach October, we are falling into autumn in second grade! We will be celebrating Christopher Columbus by reading and writing about his historical journey to America. Also, the second graders will enjoy their first field trip to the Engeman Theater to see *The Seussical*. The finale of our monthly events will end with the Harvest Festival!

Our second graders are looking forward to participating in all the events of the month! Our second graders have been working so hard....We are so proud of them!!

*The Second Grade Teachers*





## Third Grade Highlights



Welcome back to a new school year! The students have made a smooth transition to third grade. September was spent reviewing guidelines, goals, and expectations. Math has been a review of addition and subtraction with four digits. The children have been working on place value and place value drawings. Language arts began with a review of long vowels and proper sentence structure; these skills are incorporated through their daily writing. The children had an opportunity to write about being president. Their writing was submitted to "Child's Play" and if chosen it will become a skit. Science and social studies has been integrated with math and language arts. Our students will be working on a hands-on science kit covering the concept of buoyancy.

October will be a fun month filled with hands-on experiments, a field trip to the theater, and our annual Flower Hill harvest festival.

We look forward to a rewarding and fun year!

The Third Grade Teachers



## Fourth Grade Highlights



Welcome back to our new group of Fabulous Fourth Graders! We also extend a warm welcome to Ms. Melara, who joined the fourth grade team this year. We are off to a speedy start, jumping right into a schedule full of academics and activities. In Math, we have been busy learning about Place Value, Estimating, Fact Families, Rounding Numbers, and implementing Problem Solving Strategies. In Science, the students have been enjoying learning about the Properties of Matter, while in Social Studies, we have started to tackle the geography of New York State. The students will begin their first project of the year, which will be completed at home, and that involves creating their own map of New York State. The Treasures Reading Program is in full swing! The children have enjoyed reading various selections of fiction and non-fiction literature, while expanding their vocabulary and identifying story elements. In regard to Writing, all of the children have submitted a writing piece to the Child's Play Program. This year's theme is "Kids for President," and the chosen pieces will be performed in early November. It's also an exciting year for some of our fourth graders, as they begin their journey in the instrumental music program by participating in band and orchestra. It was a pleasure meeting our parents at "Meet-the-Teacher" night. We look forward to meeting with you during the upcoming Parent/Teacher conferences in November.

The Fourth Grade Teachers

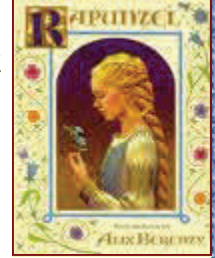




## Library Literary Corner



The Flower Hill Library has been a busy place! Books have been flying off the shelves as students in grades K-4 excitedly chose which books to take out for the week. To begin the year, students in grades K-1, were read books relating to the first day of school. Students in grades 2 have been encouraged to begin chapter books in the Easy Reader section. Third grade students have been learning that a library is more than just books. Libraries are a means of accessing information. Non-fiction books have been the focus of the third grad lessons. Facts have been introduced to students through the use of the SMART Board and they were followed up with a related nonfiction book. Fourth graders are becoming more independent users of the library. They have begun the use of the Destiny Automated Catalog. Fourth grade students will be able to use the knowledge of searching the automated catalog when they get to Woodhull, Finley and Huntington High School. The Flower Hill Library will continue to instill a love of reading in students as they become more independent users of the library.



Sites of interest:

UpToTen

<http://www.uptoten.com>

Up to Ten is available in 6 languages: English, Spanish, French, Dutch, Italian, and Korean). It includes a collection of interactive games, coloring, cards, and animated stories and songs.

MATH GAMES

<http://www.prongo.com/math/index.html>

Batter's Up Baseball. Practice your multiplication and addition here while scoring runs!!

SCIENCE

<http://www.kidsplanet.org/>

Is an interdisciplinary site full of animations and activities to protect animals and plants. There are many excellent sections appropriate for K-12. The Teachers Table includes curriculum on different animal species. Defend it! Lets you participate in Wildlife protection in many different ways. Learn and enjoy!

Keep Reading!!

Ms. Amodeo (subbing for Ms. White)



## Notes from Nurse Pirola



Welcome back to Flower Hill! I am looking forward to meeting all the new students and helping to make this a healthy, happy school year.

A reminder, that physical exams are required for all kindergarten, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> grade students, and all new students to the Huntington School District. Please be sure to get your child's forms in to me as soon as possible!



Please see your child's health care provider about getting a flu shot this fall. The CDC recommends that everyone from ages six months and older get the vaccine.

Also, please remind your child to cover their coughs and sneezes and to wash hands often to prevent spread of germs. If you have any questions or concerns about physicals, immunizations, or any other health related issue please call me at 673-2058.

*Nurse Pirola*

