

# HIGHLAND PARK HAPPENINGS

December 2023

Highland Park Elementary School  
8301 West Chester Pike  
Upper Darby, PA 19082  
610- 853- 4530  
Principal: Joanne DeVito  
Assistant Principal: Terrance Williams



## Highland Park Elementary School / Homepage

The Making a Difference feature recognizes students, teachers and staff who are truly "making a difference" in the lives of our students and impacting those around them with exceptional work and acts of support and care. Students, teachers, staff, Principals and Administrators are nominated by the peers for working to provide Opportunity, Excellence, and Unity for our students and in our District every day.

[upperdarbysd.org](https://upperdarbysd.org)

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# Celebrating Mrs. Hanna: UDSD's Unsung Hero!



Mrs. Hanna with the newly appointed school board President Fields, Vice President Williams, and our superintendent Dr. McGarry.



Mrs. Hanna with our former school board president and former Highland Park parent, Mr. Brown.



Mrs. Hanna posing for a photo with her proud family.



Highland Park's social worker Mrs. Hanna was honored at the UDSD school board meeting on 12/5/23. She was presented with the school board's Unsung Hero Award. Mrs. Hanna runs Highland Park's Big Brother, Big Sister program, our T.E.A.C.H. events with first grade, and our Cool to Be Kind program. She is ALWAYS KIND to everyone at Highland Park. She is an all star model of the 5 B's, and we are so lucky to have her helping all of us!



# First Grade



First grade students have been working hard during their morning small group reading time. They've been practicing their skills with short vowel sounds and sight words during this time. First grade students have also participated in SEL lessons about self-care. Two of Mr. G's 4th grade mentees visited the classroom to help 1st grade students with the activities.



## Second Grade



Second grade had their Fall show "Awesomely Autumn" where they showed off all their hard work in music and art class. Second grade got to perform in front of families, as well as Highland Park's first and third grade classes.

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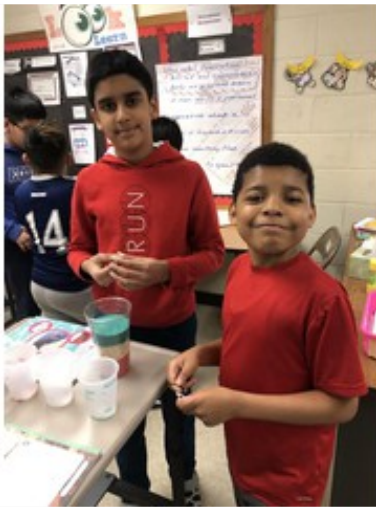
## Third Grade





The third grade team was so excited to disguise their turkeys. No turkeys were getting eaten on our watch! We also enjoyed a well earned board game day and Macy's Day float design. Can't wait for you to see next month after we have designed our own game in science.

## Fourth Grade



As part of the TWIG Science program, the fourth grade has been “hired” to be Grand Canyon tour guides. As part of their training, the students explored how landscapes changed over time, and why we see different rock layers in the Grand Canyon. They also learned how the Colorado River sculpted the Grand Canyon, and analyzed other amazing landscapes that were sculpted by weathering and erosion. These young scientists especially enjoyed identifying patterns in the formation of rock layers and building stream tray models. Great things are happening in Fourth Grade!



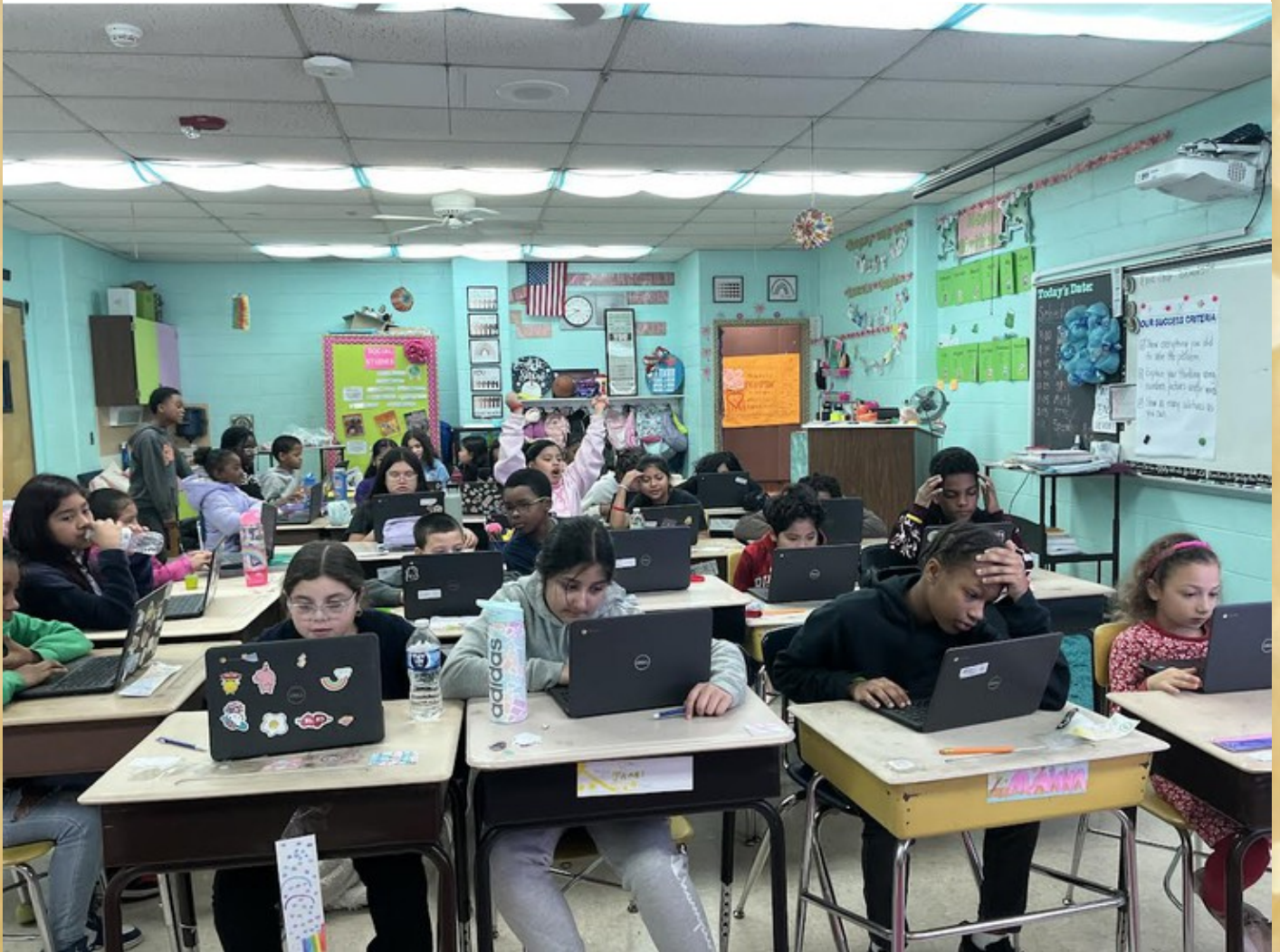
## Fifth Grade



Fifth graders made Turkey Traps in November. It was a great STEM activity, and a collaborative effort. Groups presented their traps to their class. We are looking forward to December's STEM activity!!!

## Hour of Code





Highland Park's third, fourth, and fifth graders participated in an Hour of Code. The students had a great time coding games, dances, and a variety of other things. We hope this inspires students to explore future opportunities in technology!

## Student of the Month

Highland Park celebrated the November Student of the Month winners! These students were recognized for the theme Responsibility. Thank you to our winners for being wonderful, RESPONSIBLE Royal students.









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## Dates to Remember!

Monday, December 25, 2023 - Monday, January 1, 2024: No School for Winter Break

Tuesday, January 2, 2024: School reopens

Wednesday, January 3, 2024: Early Dismissal at 12:25

Saturday, January 6, 2024: Pancake Breakfast Fundraiser at Highland Park

Monday, January 15, 2024: Schools are closed for MLK Day

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## Attendance

Reporting an absence

Please send an email to: [hpes-attendance@upperdarbysd.org](mailto:hpes-attendance@upperdarbysd.org)

School begins at 8:45 AM. There is no supervision outside before 8:30 AM.

School day ends at 3:15 PM on regular days.





**Stephanie Casey**

Stephanie is using Smore to create beautiful newsletters