

November 2020

The Hillcrest Herald



Upcoming Events

November 16 – November 20	American Education Week
November 18	Educational Support Professionals Day
November 19	Elementary Progress Report #1 distributed
November 23	Asynchronous Instruction Day for all Students
November 23	Virtual Parent-Teacher Conferences 8:45am-11:45 am and 5:30pm-8:00pm
November 24	Character Counts Recognition Day
November 24 and 25	Virtual Parent-Teacher Conferences 11:15am-12:00pm
November 25	Early Dismissal (more information will follow soon)
November 26 and 27	Schools Closed for Thanksgiving Holiday
November 30 and December 1	Virtual Parent-Teacher Conferences 11:15am-12:00pm
December 9	Kindergarten Progress Report #1 distributed
December 10	Virtual Home & School Association Meeting 6:00pm

Message from Principal McEaddy

Greetings Hillcrest Families,

As the weather remains warm and the leaves are falling with bright colors of orange, red, and yellow, the academic process here at the Hillcrest Elementary School is staying constant. The teachers and students have established their routines and procedures for virtual instruction and this is a direct reflection of the hard work and commitment of all school members and families within the school community.

Importantly, November is a time for us all to reflect on the many blessings bestowed upon us. I am certainly thankful for the many blessings in my life, including my supportive family, mentors, colleagues, our amazing teachers, and dedicated support staff.

At an early age, my mother had the responsibility of ensuring that family was a priority and to always respect others. My mother would remind us of the sacrifices made and instilled in my sister and me, the responsibility of putting our education first. Then, she would remind us that when we grew older, we would have the opportunity to exercise our rights and responsibilities as a citizen of this country and to always give back to our community. As a result, I want our students to begin to think about themselves as stewards of this amazing democracy and that their possibilities are limitless. Subsequently, equity is not only something that we talk about; it is alive in our actions. We believe in all children having access to a quality education that allows them the opportunity to fully participate in a global society.

Additionally, Parent-Teacher Conferences are scheduled for Thursday, November 23rd – December 1st. It is important that you meet with your child's teacher because the work we do together is a collective partnership. Our Young Royals must see us both as stewards of their learning. Below are a few questions that you can consider to ask your child's teacher during your scheduled conferences:

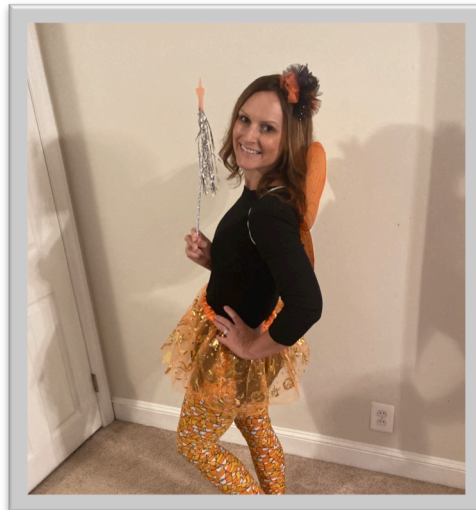
- What academic standards do you use, and what do I need to know about them?
- How is my child doing socially with their peers during virtual/hybrid learning?
- What are my child's strengths and challenges?
- What can I do at home to support what you're doing in virtual/hybrid instruction?
- How will you respond if or when my child struggles in during synchronous or asynchronous instruction?
- Is there technology you'd recommend that can help support my child in self-directed learning?

Thank you for your continued support and as always, Keep it Royal!

Your Partner in Education
Danny McEaddy
Principal

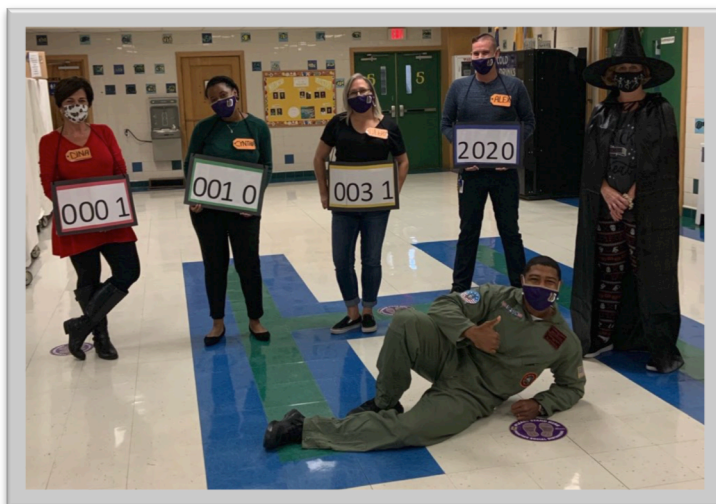


Hillcrest Staff celebrated Halloween by having a costume contest...

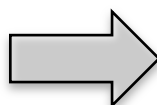




Happy Halloween

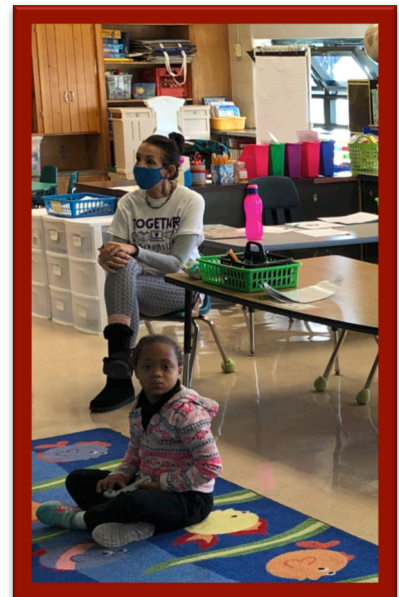
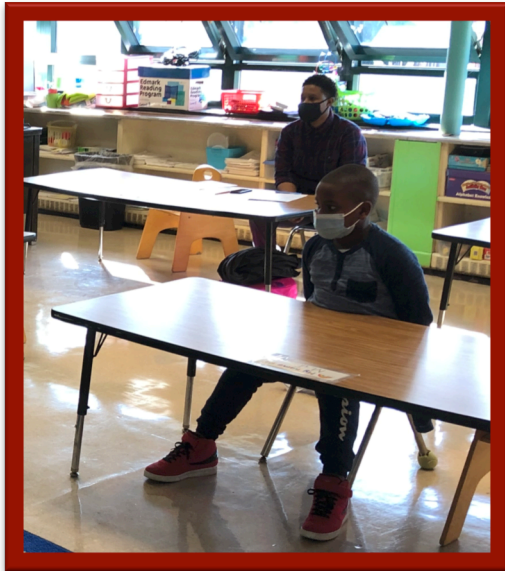


...and the winner is...Mr. Vaile!



Welcome Back to our Life Skills Support Students!





Hillcrest will be holding a Virtual Book Fair this year from November 30 through December 13. Look for more information to be emailed home soon!



Support our school & shop our
ONLINE FAIR

THE SCHOLASTIC STORE

Over 6,000 products including Book Fair exclusives, new releases, value packs, and more.

All orders ship home | FREE shipping on book-only orders over \$25*

Visit our homepage to shop between
November 30 – December 13

*Free standard shipping is available on book-only orders of \$25 or more, after all discounts are applied.

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Kindergarten News



Our Kindergarten classes are learning more and more each day! We have been using Nearpod to make our learning more interactive. We have been spending time during our Morning Meeting talking about the Character Counts trait of the month. We have learned how to write and how to identify the sounds for 17 letters and we have learned 5 trick words! In Math, we are learning to sort and classify items. This month in Reading, we are learning about our communities. We are having a great time in Kindergarten!

First Grade News



First grade students are in a virtual learning routine!

They learned how to log in to Google meetings and use the microphone, camera, pin and chat features.

Students learned how to use Schoology for Guided Reading groups and asynchronous learning.

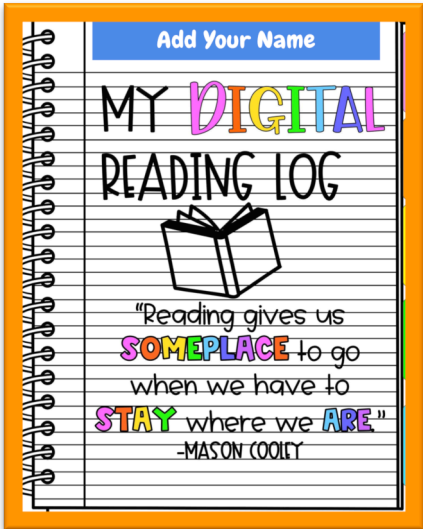
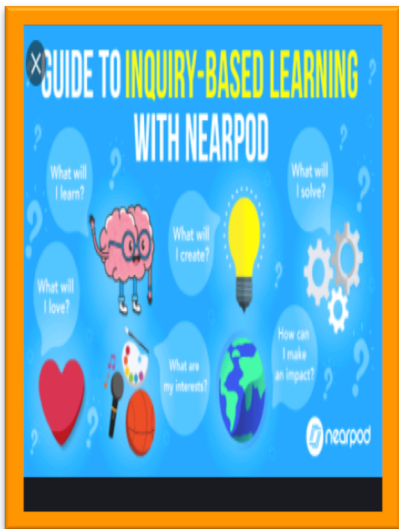
They are logging in to Schoology and Savvas Realize for their assessments!

FIRST GRADERS HAVE READ MORE THAN 1500 BOOKS IN EPIC ONLINE LIBRARY!

Second Grade News

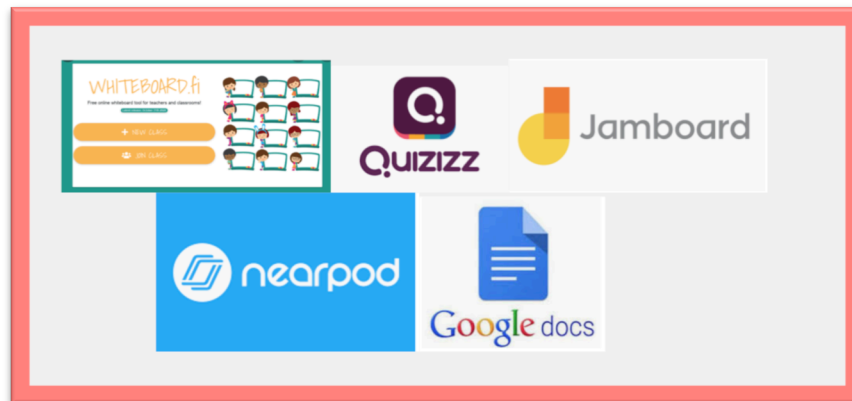


Second grade students are excited to be trying out some of the new interactive technologies we are learning about. They include WhiteboardFi, Digital Reading Logs, Nearpod and Jamboard. We are proud of how well our second graders are handling virtual instruction!



2nd GRADE

Third Grade News



Third grade continues to make strides during this unprecedented time in our history. Our students and parents are the very definition of perseverance. We are very proud of our class's efforts and look forward to their smiling faces every day!

In math, we recognize how difficult it has been to start this year with multiplication and division. Our new program enVisions Math, presumes that we were in traditional school until June last year AND that the students have had this program since kindergarten. We know your children are working hard in this virtual environment to do their best. To help your child meet with more success in math, please make sure he/she is practicing his/her multiplication/division math facts each week. Once they are memorized, the other pieces of this program will start to fall into place.

This month we focused on writing a letter to our future selves. It has been quite a feat thinking of where we will be in 10, 20, 30, 40, or even 50 years from now! We have high hopes in third grade, and the children definitely have a plan. Look out Bill Gates, Jeff Bezos, and Dr. Fauci! During this virtual time, the students are typing their final drafts on Google Docs to share them with their teachers. Also, this month the third grade team has collaborated and developed many new online lessons using Nearpod, Jamboard, and Whiteboard.fi. A year ago, these applications would have been a “great idea” to try. Now they are our “new normal”. Thank you, parents, for your patience as we navigate through all of this new technology. We hope the children are enjoying the opportunity to have such an interactive part in our daily lessons!

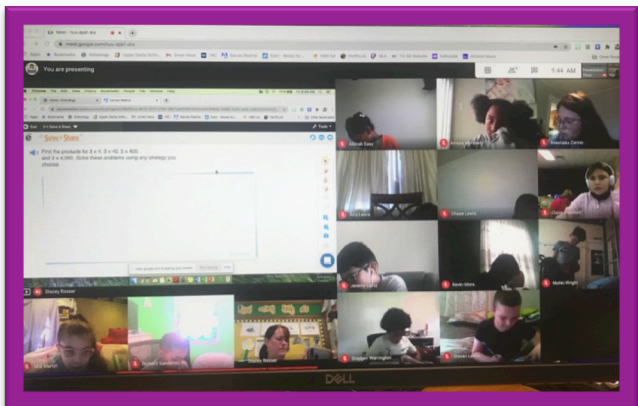
Fourth Grade News

Although the students are learning from home, you sometimes wouldn't notice the difference. The children are working hard and they are learning. Teachers are finding ways to use tools like Nearpod, Whiteboard.fi, Flipgrid, Jamboard, and our new Envision/Savvas Math website to keep students engaged. Sometimes the students even use good old-fashioned composition books or dry erase boards. 4th grade started the Topic 3 multiplication unit the past two weeks and they are using every imaginable tool available to them like professionals. Students are learning how to collaborate with their peers from home on Jamboard, take fluency quizzes in Nearpod, and access their Savvas account. The math is challenging, but they are truly working hard. The fourth grade students of Hillcrest are resilient and they will come out of this year learning that using technology and working hard feels rewarding. The fourth grade staff is so proud of our Hillcrest 4th graders!

9. Higher Order Thinking Tod Mountain is a mountain peak near Tyler, Texas. A ranger hiked 607 feet to and from the peak, each way. The ranger hiked 3 times in the past four weeks. How far did the ranger hike on Tod Mountain over the past four weeks?

Step 1
 $2 \times 607 =$
 $2 \times (600 + 7) =$
 $2 \times 600 + (2 \times 7) =$
 $1,200 + 14 =$
 $1,214$

Step 2
 $3 \times 1,214 =$
 $3 \times (1000 + 200 + 10 + 4) =$
 $(3 \times 1000) + (3 \times 200) + (3 \times 10) + (3 \times 4) =$
 $3,000 + 600 + 30 + 12 =$
 $3,642$



Super Math Stars of 4th Grade!

1. 4×8
 $4 \times (10 + 0)$
 $(4 \times 10) + (4 \times 0)$
 $40 + 0 = 40$

2. 7×3
 $3 \times (2 + 1)$
 $(3 \times 2) + (3 \times 1)$
 $6 + 3 = 9$

3. 8×5
 $5 \times (80 + 9)$
 $(5 \times 80) + (5 \times 9)$
 $400 + 45 = 445$

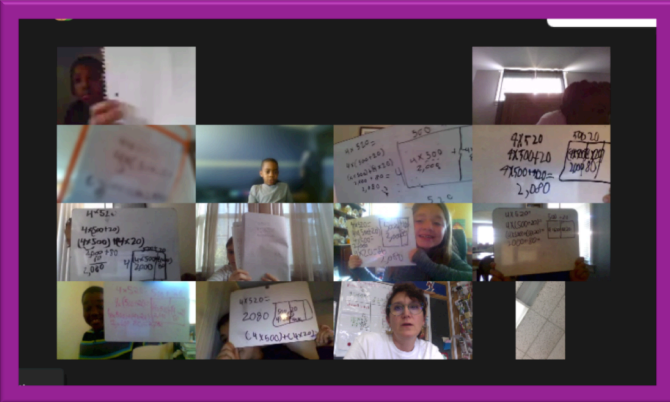
4. 6×4
 $4 \times (50 + 1)$
 $(4 \times 50) + (4 \times 1)$
 $200 + 4 = 204$

5. 3×6
 $6 \times (30 + 9)$
 $(6 \times 30) + (6 \times 9)$
 $180 + 54 = 234$

6. 2×2
 $2 \times (200 + 10 + 2)$
 $(2 \times 200) + (2 \times 10) + (2 \times 2)$
 $400 + 20 + 4 = 424$

Copy of 3-4 to 3-5 Math Reasoning

- I can draw models to solve problems involving reading.
- I can write all steps of a math reasoning problem.
- I can apply distributive property to solving multiplication problems.



Fifth Grade News



5th graders will visit the Philadelphia Art Museum virtually this year. This field trip is very different than years past because of the unforeseen circumstances. The fifth grade will visit various rooms of the museum learning about different cultures, comparing works of art, and finding common threads to art that they created in school. This interactive trip was the first visit of two this year. The next visit will take place in January of 2021. Thanks to the Philadelphia Art Museum grant, they sponsor 5th grade students in the Upper Darby School District yearly.

Virtual Field Trip!

