

The Highland School

31 Highland Avenue
Midland Park, New Jersey 07432

Highland School Weekly Updates

October 1st, 2021


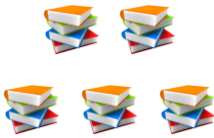

NEW INFORMATION:

Phase II Lunch: Starting Monday October 4th.

- The Cafeteria will now offer:
 - Single Hot lunch, Deli sandwich, and salad (all still for free).
 - Students will be able to order Doubles (must pay--- \$2.45).
 - No money = No Doubles
- Lunch Calendar was sent home, but can also be found here: [October Lunch Calendar](#)
- Parents are HIGHLY ENCOURAGED to add money to their child's account so we can just use student ID #'s instead of a cash exchange. This is much faster to get students served.
 - 2 ways to do this:
 1. Child may bring in a check/cash to be loaded onto the student account manually by Pomptonian. (students can drop off to main office in an envelope with name to be preloaded prior to lunch or hand right to cashier)
 2. Sign up for the *Payforit Program*: [Pay for it Link](#) (please click link and follow directions to set up an account)

Reading:

- Reading is still the best thing a child can do in order to be successful at school. Below is a chart that illustrates how reading benefits a child starting in Kindergarten. 20 minutes a day goes a long way. **It is never too late to start a reading routine.** (See e-book resources provided by our library below.)

Why read 20 minutes at home? (Nagy and Hermans 1987)		
Student A reads...	Student B reads...	Student C reads...
20 minutes per day	5 minutes per day	1 minute per day
3,600 minutes per school year	900 minutes per school year	180 minutes per school year
1,800,000 words per year	282,000 words per year	8,000 words per year
		
Will likely perform better than 90% of their peers on Standardized tests. (90 th percentile)	Will likely score better than 50% of their peers on standardized tests (50 th percentile)	Will likely score better than 10% of their peers on standardized tests (10 th percentile)
<p>If a child starts reading for 20 minutes per night in Kindergarten, by the end of 6th grade, Student A will have read for the equivalent of 60 school days. Student B will have read for 12 school days, and Student C will have read for 3 days.</p>		

Digital e-books:

- We are always looking for easy ways to make books accessible to our students. This year your 3rd, 4th and 5th grade child/children will learn more about our digital eBook collection, **Destiny Discover**. 6th grade students have had this instruction previously and still have access to the database. They are encouraged to use it.
- Click here to read more about Destiny Discover: [Destiny Discovery](#)
- Visit this website and your child can sign in and use the resources: [Destiny Discover E-Books](#)
- Any questions please contact Ms. Christine Carr: ccarr@mpsnj.org

Start Strong:

- The State of New Jersey is requiring all school districts to administer the “Start Strong” standardized assessment. As per the state, “This assessment is designed to produce information that should be used as a standards-based complement to the resources used by educators in their classrooms to evaluate the needs of students.” The results will enable districts to obtain “... a data point to support curriculum and instructional planning.”
 - For further information about the test itself, you may view the State PowerPoint Presentation at: [Start Strong State PowerPoint](#)
 - Other Key information:
 - Testing is 45 minutes to 1 hour long for each subject.
 - Grades 3-6 will test in Language Arts/Literacy and Math
 - Just grade 6 will test in Science
 - All accommodations for students with special programs will be in place.
 - Results are supposed to come out in the late Fall.

<i>Start Strong Highland Testing Schedule</i>			
Date:	<i>10/14 & 10/15</i>	<i>10/19</i>	<i>10/20</i>
Subject Tested:	<i>Science</i>	<i>Language Arts/Lit.</i>	<i>Mathematics</i>
Grade Levels:	<i>*Grade 6</i>	<i>Grades 3-6</i>	<i>Grades 3-6</i>

**Grade 6 Science: half of the students will test in Science on 10/14, and the other half on 10/15.*

Highland Clubs:

- Highland School will start advertising for participation. For a list of all clubs and the grade levels that can participate please go to the following website. [Highland Clubs and Descriptions](#) . (Some clubs may not be run based on not enough student interest.)
- To Participate in a club students must have solid grades, solid attendance and show up to the meetings.
- To sign up for a club, please email the listed advisor. All emails can be found under faculty drop down on the main Highland Webpage: <http://highland.mpsnj.org/faculty>

Upcoming Events:

- *10/5-10/9- Week of Respect*
- *10/5- STEAM Museum Grades 3-6*
- *10/6- SEL Assembly Grades 3-6*
- *10/8- Sky Dome Assembly Grade 3*
- *10/11- Half Day for Students*
- *10/15- Harvest Festival*
- *10/18- Read-a-thon begins*

OLD BUT ALWAYS RELEVANT NEWS:

Drop-Off:

- Drop off and student entrances with temperature checks have been smooth. Thank-you for helping with that. Since everyone knows where they are going at this point, and as we get into full swing, we are going to tighten up entrance a little bit.
- **Drop-Off Timeline:**
 - 8:00am- supervision provided at each entrance, with temperature checks, for students being dropped off to school.
 - 8:19am- students enter the building.
 - 8:23am- **late bell sounds**. Outside doors will close. All students arriving who can not get to their entrance by 8:23am, should then proceed to the front of the building to be let in through the main office. (when in doubt, go to the main office)
 - 8:25am- Morning announcements begin.

*** If it is raining, students will be let into the school at 8:10am (latest) from their same regular entrance. Grade 6 will then go to the cafeteria, grade 5 will be in the music room hallway, grade 3 and 4 will be stationed in their hallway outside their classrooms.