

Hardin Houston Elementary

2018-2019

April Newsletter

April Happenings:

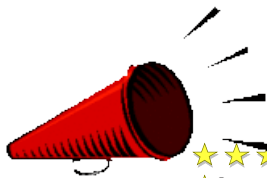
- April 4 & 5: Kindergarten screening
- April 11: Preschool transition meetings
- April 12: Kindergarten field trip to St. Mary's Hospital
- April 15: Board of education meeting 7:00 pm
- April 18: Spring pictures
- April 19 & 22: No school, spring break
- April 27: Bicentennial celebration-Hardin
- April 30: 1st grade field trip-LaComedia



A message from the Principal

We are now in the season of testing. Students are taking the spring Student Learning Objectives assessment so that teachers can determine how much knowledge students gained from fall to spring in their content area(s). They are taking their spring benchmark in MAP to help determine growth since we checked them in the winter, and students in grades 3-6 begin their Ohio State Tests, which allow students the chance to show how much they know in ELA, Math, and Science. Finally, students in grades K-2 will have their reading level tested so we know how much they have grown in reading over the year. This seems like a lot of testing, and it is! The theory is that we need to assess our students regularly so that we can be better-informed instructors. Technically, that is true. Just as our doctors do different types of tests to determine our physical needs, teachers must do different types of tests to determine academic needs. We do realize that sometimes, all this testing causes some anxiety in students, and we try to compensate for that as much as possible. If, however, you notice that your child seems anxious, please let the teacher know so we can address it here at school.

I hope you will all enjoy the warmer weather and the long weekend over Easter, but please encourage your children to realize that summer break is not here yet, and they need to continue to work hard!



- April CATS!
- ★ Kdg. – Torryn Schutte
 - ★ 1st - Kelseigh Hughes
 - ★ 2nd – Kaiden Teegarden
 - ★ 3rd – Shawnee Martin
 - ★ 4th – Jalyynn Elsas
 - ★ 5th – Ethin Schutz
 - ★ 6th – Skylar Bowman



Houston Elementary School ran a week long fundraiser to benefit the Houston Fire Department. Students participated in a week's worth of activities to raise the funds. On Friday, March 22nd, the student council presented a check for \$1488.43 to Dustin Meyer, assistant chief of the fire department. We, at Houston, appreciate all that the Houston Fire Department does to support our community and this is our way of giv-



PTO will be having a BOX TOP contest Monday, April 1 – Friday, April 5. Turn Box Tops into your child's teacher. If possible, have the Box Tops in groups of 50. Please be sure to cut the Box Tops on the dotted lines. The grade collecting the most Box Tops will receive extra free time playing dodge ball, and enjoy a snack and drink. Thank you for your participation and support of the PTO.

Counselor Corner – April/May

As we come close to closing up another school year, 5th and 6th grade students will look at goal setting and the difference between long term and short term goals. During this lesson, students will create a short term or long term goal that they wish to achieve. They will identify the steps that it will take for them to achieve the goal. If we have time, 6th grade students will look at how goal setting and classroom academics play a key role in careers.

In 4th grade, students will focus on using problem solving skills. They will look at problems from Big Deal vs. Little Deal and if our reaction matches the size of our problem. Learning this skill will help them break down problems that look huge into smaller parts and dealing with those smaller parts. Students will learn strategies in how to handle or cope with problems. It could be as simple as losing a friend. One of the strategies we will focus on are "I Messages". An "I Message" is a statement that you use to communicate how you feel.

"I feel _____ when you _____. I need you to _____."

In the younger grades, we will continue building character as we review some of the information covered in previous lessons and spend some time focused on characteristics of a friend. Some of the aspects we will