

Hardin-Houston Elementary

2020—2021

December Newsletter

Important Dates -

**12/17– 3rd & 4th Gr.
Musical**

12/22– 1 hr. E/D

**12/22– End 2nd Nine
Weeks**

12/23-Jan. 1–

Christmas Break

No School

A message from PTO:

- The annual Secret Santa shop is soon approaching. It is a two day event on Thursday, December 3rd and Friday, December 4th. Thank you to all of those who are volunteering for this event. We appreciate all of the support because without the help of our parents this event would not be possible!
- Your child received a shopping list and envelope, where you can send in your child's money and shopping list. Please return the sealed envelope with money to their homeroom teacher by Wednesday, December 2nd.
- Thank you for all of your help. We are excited about this year's Secret Santa Shop 2020!



A message from the Principal

May the joys of the holiday season be with you! Even in these trying times, we can always find a reason to feel blessed and small things that bring us happiness. I would like to challenge you to focus on those things during this special season. I have discovered that I don't even need to look anymore to recognize blessings. It is truly joyful.

This month will fly, and we will return in January for the second half of the year. As is our new reality, we have to make adjustments to some of our activities, but we are doing anything we can to bring some special events to the students. Thank you for all of your kindness and understanding as we move through this together. I wish you all a very happy holiday.

Upcoming events:

- 12/3: Book Fair Family Night 3:00-6:00, masks are required and attendance will be limited.
- 12/4: Kindergarten Post Office Visit
- 12/14: 3rd grade fall OST scores are expected to be released
- 12/17: 4th grade musical, aux. Gym, 7:00 pm
- 12/22: 1 hour early release, last day of school for holiday, end of 2nd quarter



Counselor Corner

Counselor Corner – December (Safety)

In all grade levels, we have started to discuss/review safety lessons as discussed in last month's newsletter. This month's guidance lessons will continue with how to remain safe at home and other grade levels will focus on personal safety (welcome and unwelcome touches) and personal rights. These grade appropriate lessons discuss how physical touches such as a high five, fist bump, hug and hand shake can all be welcomed touches that make us feel good; however, there are other touches that make us feel scared or cause us to feel uncomfortable. These unwelcomed touches can be in the form of hitting or touching our private parts (parts covered by a bathing suit). As a part of personal safety and personal rights, students in grades 5-6 will learn about harassment and sexting.

In any and all cases, it will be important to talk with your child about the information shared. It is important that a child talks to his/her parents about any difficulties or concerns that may arise, so if a situation arises around personal safety, your child feels as though he/she can trust you. Listening without judging is a great way to communicate when kids are sharing tough feelings and situations. As always, please encourage your child to follow these rules:

Say NO in an assertive voice

Get away from the individual

Tell an adult and keep telling until something is done

If you have any questions or concerns about lessons being taught, please don't hesitate to contact me at amakela@hardinhouston.org or (937)295-3010 ext.1002.

