



The Focus

Issue: May 21, 2021

From the Desk of the Superintendent

This WEEKLY communication is intended to streamline communications between school and home by providing one regular update on topics of general interest, reminders, etc. We hope this helps to reduce the number of duplicate emails you currently may be receiving from multiple district sources.

NOTE: This is an official communication from the Hopewell Valley Regional School District. Information that is not directly related to the staff or students will not be included in this email. In addition, it is not affiliated with the email list services maintained by individual school PTOs (i.e., Dog Byte, WolfFlash) and other parent organizations.

[Click here for the latest update from HVRSD](#)

Last Call for Saturday's Vaccine Clinic! Deadline 11:59 pm Friday - If you or your child would like to receive the Pfizer vaccine, please sign up using the Walgreens portal available through the following link: <https://wagsoutreach.com/ss/TIM872278> You only need to sign up for the 1st dose. The 2nd dose will be on 6/12 at the same time and location as the 1st dose.

Website Survey (2 minutes!) - This summer we will be reformatting our district and school websites to be more user friendly. As part of this process, we are asking for your input on why you access our website [here](#).

Helpwell Request

Helpwell is looking for someone to help collaborate on building a mosaic sundial at Toll Gate Grammar School. This volunteer's participation could include helping develop the school-wide design, speaking with students about patterns of the sun and how sundials work, and, once constructed, help with placing the sundial outside with the students. If interested, please contact us ASAP at sherihook@hvr.org.

Broadway is Back in HVRSD!

CHS students will be performing the musical **Little Women June 4 and 5**. All performances will be streamed through a filmed on stage experience with performances limited to only two shows. Tickets are \$5 per household at www.showtix4u.com. Show times are June 4th at 7:00 p.m. And June 5th at 7:00 p.m. Additional information can be found through the MTPA [Facebook](#) or [Instagram](#) pages.

REMINDERS:

- **PLEASE CHECK YOUR CHILD DAILY FOR COVID [SYMPTOMS](#)**
- **SCHOOLS ARE IN SESSION ON MAY 28 (OFF on May 31)**
- **Kindergarten Registration for Fall 2021 is open!** Registration Forms and further information can be found [here](#). The District will be holding an optional in-person Kindergarten Camp at the elementary schools in July. Information and the registration form can be found [here](#).

* Inside this Issue *

[Central High](#)

[Timberlane Middle](#)

[Bear Tavern Elementary](#)

[Hopewell Elementary](#)

[Stony Brook Elementary](#)

[Toll Gate Grammar](#)

[Community Events & Activities](#)

HOPEWELL VALLEY CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL

June Schedule - We are excited to welcome our students back to [full-day instruction](#) beginning on June 1! Based on feedback from our students and staff, we will maintain our current schedule rotation, and shift recitation to the session adjoining lunch, in order to provide two separate lunch periods. Specific details about our lunch plans will be shared next week.

Student COVID-19 Vaccination Information - If you have chosen to have your child vaccinated with one of the COVID-19 vaccines and would like to share that information confidentially with our school nurses, please consider completing [this form](#). Vaccination information may be helpful as the nurses update student medical records or conduct contact tracing and determine required quarantine periods.

May Schedule - Please review the [HVCHS May Calendar](#).

Pomptonian Food Service - The USDA and HVRSD have combined to provide free lunches for all students on school days. If you are interested, please pre-order your child's meal and it will be available for pick-up during our 12 p.m. dismissal. You can order online at www.payschoolscentral.com or download the Payschools Central app.

End of the Year Events - We are finalizing our plans for all of our [traditional end-of-year activities](#), including concerts, awards ceremonies, proms, and commencement. We're excited to be able to hold the large majority of these events in person and we appreciate your cooperation in following the district and state guidelines regarding COVID19 protocols during your attendance at the events.

What's Happening at HVCHS? Please follow us on Twitter: @HVCentralHS and Instagram: hopewell_valley_central_hs for pictures, updates, and fun facts!

* Dates to Remember *

May 25 - Choir Concert
May 31 - Schools/Offices Closed
June 1 - MTPA Virtual Banquet
June 2 - ACappella & Jazz Concert
June 4 - Spring Musical Premiere
June 7 - National Honor Society Induction
June 8 - Outdoor Band Concert
June 9 - Academic Awards Night
June 10 - Senior Athletic Awards Night
June 11 - Junior Prom
June 12 - Senior Prom
June 14 - Senior Awards Night
June 17 - Commencement

TIMBERLANE MIDDLE SCHOOL

The Builders of Kindness are sponsoring a Week of Kindness Challenge:

On Monday May 24 Timberlane students and staff will wear red and write a kind note to friends. Tuesday, May 25 we will all wear yellow and do a random act of kindness. Wednesday, wear green and write a nice note to teachers. On Thursday remember to wear purple and put a kind note in the box by the main office. Finally Friday May 28 is to wear your team colors and say hello to someone on a different team!

TMS Presents: Disney's High School Musical Jr - When star basketball player Troy Bolton meets the shy, smart Gabriella Montez their lives dramatically change when they are faced with a tough decision- audition for the school musical, or stick to their cliques? With jealous Sharpay Evans plotting to ruin their chances, they turn to the help of the jocks and brainiacs to work together and help their dreams come true. Tune in and see all your favorites from this 2006 Disney classic!

<https://www.showtix4u.com/event-details/49718>

Dear Hopewell Families: As we transition back to full-day learning, we wanted to update families on meal options. For the remainder of this school year, free meals will remain an option for all students on a pre-order basis. The cafeteria staff is working hard to fulfill pre-orders and provide the best service possible. As you may know, pre-ordered meals must be placed through the Payschools Central "myMealOrder" pre-order system. To assist you with ordering, here is a detailed description of the process. After creating an account for your children in Payschools Central, families will have the ability to pre-order lunch. After logging into Payschools, you will be able to select "**Pre-Order Meals**" in your Dashboard. This is listed in the menu on the right side of your screen. You will then complete the following:

- Choose the meals for each of your children for the days you wish to order meals.
- Once items are added to your cart, click the **RED** "**Check Out**" box in the right-hand corner.
- Review your selections, and then click the **GREEN** "**Place Order**" box in the right-hand corner. Must complete this step
- To finalize your order, click the **ORANGE** "**Continue**" bar at the bottom of the page. Must complete this step.
- You will get a **BLUE** screen indicating "**Success**" & "**a copy of your receipt will be emailed to you.**"

Please note that you must complete all of the above steps to finalize the ordering process.

If you have any technical questions regarding this system, please contact Payschools Central at (877) 393-6628. They will be able to assist you

TMS Updates - For additional information about TMS, please visit our [webpage](#), or follow us on [Twitter](#) @Timberlane_HV, or Instagram @timberlane_timberwolves.

*** Dates to Remember ***

May 31 - Schools/Offices Closed

June 11- Full Day but all Remote for 6th and 7th grade

June 11-8th Grade Transition Day

June 14- 8th Grade Moving Up
9:00 am- Titanium
11:00 am-Platinum
1:00 pm- Mercury

June 15- Rain Date-8th Grade Moving Up

BEAR TAVERN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

BT Changes In Students' Dismissal - Families, if there is a change in how students will be going home (pick up, take the bus, after school program, etc.), please be sure to call or email the main office, as teachers do not always have an opportunity to check their email. 609-737-4005

joannemarkulec@hvrdsd.org and laurenjordan@hvrdsd.org

Absences & Late Arrivals - Parents/Guardians should call our TeleSafe number 609-737-4005, Ext 2, by 8:00 am to report an absence or late arrival. Thank you.

May Calendar - Please click [here](#) to access the calendar for the month.

Expanded Lunch Menu - Complimentary lunch for students is being offered to all interested families. Our [new online form](#) with expanded options is now available. Orders for next week must be placed by Sunday night.

BT Student Classwork/Supply Pickup - Must be done by 4:00 pm. Any pickups after 4:00 pm must be planned with your student's teacher.

BTPTO - A huge shout out to the PTO. Our BT community got a charge out of the Scavenger Hunt. It was the hit of the weekend. Check out our Twitter page for pictures of the token quest [#BearTavernPride](#)

BT 5th Grade Memory Books - Hello 5th Grade Parents. The memory book is almost complete, and we are ready to take orders. The students will have their books for the last week of school. Please use the link below to order a memory book for your child using MTK. The deadline to order is **Friday, May 21st**. Feel free to contact Donna Guarraggi dguarraggi@gmail.com if you have any questions.

<https://beartavernpto.membershiptoolkit.com/form/m/141985>

PAKSEAT - Looking for a comfortable seat for outdoors? Need to carry lunch, sunscreen and water too? The TMS PTO is selling a new product called the PAKSEAT. Order online at <https://timberlane-middle-school.square.site>
Orders will be delivered directly to each school starting Friday, May 21st.

Kindergarten Registration - Students who will be 5 years old on or before Oct.1, 2021. Registration forms are [here](#). In addition the District will be holding an optional Kindergarten Camp at each Elementary school in July. More information and registration form can be found [here](#).

HV Mobile Food Pantry - Please see the [FLYER](#) on how you can help the pantry.

BTPTO Travels With Titus - Bear Tavern families are invited to participate in a spin on the Traveling Teddy Bear with **Travels With Titus**. Print, draw, craft, or grab your favorite look-alike teddy bear. Please take a photo of Titus sharing an in-home activity and post it to Twitter or the BTPTO Facebook page.

Don't forget to tag [#BearTavernPride](#) & [#TravelswithTitus](#)

Be Creative with props and locations; have fun.

BTPTO Box Tops of Education - By clipping or scanning on everyday items throughout the year, Box Tops provides our school with money to help teachers and students get the supplies they need. You can find more information and instructions right [here](#).

* Dates to Remember *

May 21 - Order Deadline For 5th Grade Memory Book

May 24 - GOTR

May 26 - GOTR

May 31 - Schools/Offices Closed

**June 8 - Bear Tavern Day
(a.k.a Field Day)**

**June 10 - 5th Grade Pool Party
(Raindate 6/11)
Preschool Graduation**

**June 15 - 5th Grade Step Up
Ceremony**

**June 16 - Early Dismissal
Preschool AM Only**

**June 17 - Early Dismissal
Preschool PM Only
5th Grade Clap Out**

BT Textile Drive - Ever wonder what the collection bin is for in the school parking lot? It is for the district's year-round textile drive. Support your school, your community, and your environment. The Textile Drive is a **HUGE** fundraiser for the BTPTO and a great way for you to get rid of old clothing and other items. Please drop off bagged textiles (clothing, shoes, handbags, hats, blankets, linens, towels, stuffed animals, etc.). Stained and ripped items are OK for donation.

BT Membership Toolkit - All volunteer opportunities, Spirit Wear, and your class lists can be found on MembershipToolkit. Click [here](#) to register. Please email beartaverndirectory@gmail.com with any questions.

What Did Your Child Do In School This Week? - Find out! To see pictures of all the great happenings at BT, please be sure to follow the Bear Tavern Twitter feed @BearTavernES ([here](#)) and #BearTavernPride ([here](#)). Our teachers update this feed daily. It is a great way to see all the wonderful things your students do all day. For important flyers and forms, check out the BT Virtual Backpack ([here](#)).

HOPEWELL ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

5th Grade Completion Ceremony - Attention 5th grade parents: We are in the process of finalizing plans and details will be shared shortly.

Field Day - [Field Day](#) was an incredible success! Many thanks to Ms. Kirk for making it possible.

Expanded Lunch Menu - Complimentary lunch for students is being offered to all interested families. Our [new online form](#) with expanded options is now available. Orders for next week must be placed by Sunday night.

Each day, students will have access to a warm option and garden salad with chicken. We're also proud to feature a vegetarian (black bean burger with lettuce and tomato) and vegan option (garden salad with hummus and pita wedges) daily.

Asian Pacific American Heritage Month - We are proud to be celebrating APAHM at HES. Click [here](#), [here](#) and [here](#) to see what we've been up to.

HES Teacher Book Club - Each month, interested HES staff members explore a different genre, vote on a book, read it and then [meet to discuss](#). This month's genre is [Modern Classics](#). The HES Teacher Book Club was established over a year ago and continues to be popular among staff.

Kindergarten Registration - Students who will be 5 years old on or before Oct.1, 2021. Registration forms are [here](#). In addition the District will be holding an optional Kindergarten Camp at each Elementary school in July. More information and registration form can be found [here](#).

May Calendar - Kindly click [here](#) to access our May calendar.

Lost and Found - Please ask your child to check the Lost and Found table, located near the cafeteria, if you are missing any items. All uncollected items will be donated at the end of each month.

Weather Reminder - As temperatures have dropped, please remember to have children dressed appropriately for outdoor weather. We try to ensure that our students are outside daily. Jackets, hats, gloves, and appropriate footwear are necessary, and all should be **labeled** with your child's name.

HV Mobile Food Pantry - Please click [here](#) to learn how you may support the HV Mobile Food Pantry.

HES Updates - For additional information about HES, please visit our [webpage](#) or follow us on [Twitter](#) @HopewellES

*** Dates to Remember ***

May 31 - Schools/Offices Closed

STONY BROOK ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Changes In Students' Dismissal - Families, if there is a change in how students will be going home (pick up, take the bus, after school program, etc.), please be sure to call or email the main office, as teachers do not always have an opportunity to check their email.

PTO Bingo Winners - Thanks for joining us for family fun night! If your family won a round of bingo from the family fun night, please contact the main office so we can arrange to send home your gift card.

Save the Date-Field Day- Field day will be on June 11. More details to follow.

Moving? - If you are moving and leaving Stony Brook for next school year, please contact the Registrar, Ms. Loughery at 609-737-4000 Ext. 2304 or email catherineloughery@hvrstd.org. Also please let the Main Office know. Thank you.

Still a few Copy left of the 20-21 Yearbook!

There are still yearbooks available. Price is \$30 via cash or check (payable to Stony Brook PTO) while supplies last. Please send the order in with your child or drop off in the box outside the main entrance between 8:00-4:00.

Kindergarten Registration for Fall 2021 is Open- Registration Forms and further information can be found [here](#). The District will be holding an optional Kindergarten Camp at the elementary schools in July. Information and the registration form can be found [here](#).

Textile Bin - Ever wonder what the black collection bin is for next to the building in the South lot? It is for the district's year-round textile drive. Support your school, your community, and your environment. The Textile Drive a great way for you to get rid of old clothing and other items. Please drop off bagged textiles (clothing, shoes, handbags, hats, blankets, linens, towels, stuffed animals, etc.). Stained and ripped items are OK for donation. If the bin is full, please don't leave items on the ground outside the bin. The bin is emptied once per week so come back when you see it has room.

Lost and Found - Please ask your child to check the Lost and Found table by the Main Office, if you are missing any items. All uncollected items will be donated at the end of each month.

***Dates to Remember ***

**May 31 - Schools & Offices
Closed/Memorial Day**

June 11 - Field Day

TOLL GATE GRAMMAR SCHOOL

Pollinator Garden - Ms. Muzzy (our wonderful STEM Teacher) has been hard at work for the past few weeks planning, fundraising, educating our students, designing, and finally building and planting our new pollinator garden. In addition special thanks to Ms. Kampe and the Green Team for all their time and hard work both on the school grounds and with the garden installation. Because of these efforts along with Mrs. White (our wonderful Media Specialist) our students learned about the plants they planted, their purpose in the garden, and what elements are needed for proper growth and development. They will continue to learn about the various species attracted by the pollinating plants and how these species are important to the continued food production in our area. Sincere thanks to Ms. Muzzy and company. Click [here](#) for more detailed information.

Thanks to Sweet Valley Farm - Our sincerest thanks to Sweet Valley Farm for their enthusiastic support and generous donation of plants to our pollinator garden. For any of your nursery needs their farm is the place to visit.

Parent Reminder - Please return all chargers with their chromebooks. We are experiencing a shortage of chargers. Your assistance is most appreciated.

Greenspoons Market Fundraiser - The Green Spoon Market is a local business that delivers fresh produce and local products fresh to your door. The Fundraiser is to benefit this year's Fifth Grade class. Click [here](#) for detailed information and to place an order. This fundraiser is running through May 28.

Science Fair Update - The TG School Wide Science Fair continues. All students should have planted their seeds and are recording growth. Using your Chromebook, log in to the google form and record your data each weekend. Access the Google Form on this link:

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfHeETS9mhEOtO3xivmWcdLZGNk8EuiFB3wyOn5plnm21DS5Q/viewform>

Email Michael Southall at msouthall2@gmail.com with any questions.

TG Outdoor Movie Night - See you tonight!

Kindergarten Registration - continues for future Toll Gators who will be 5 years old on or before Oct.1, 2021. Registration forms are [here](#). In addition the District will be holding an optional Kindergarten Camp at each Elementary school in July. More information and registration form can be found [here](#).

TGWHYYOUMATTER Campaign -The #TGWHYYOUMATTER campaign aligns with our school theme, our commitment to an inclusive community and building meaningful and lasting relationships in this new year. The basic premise of this project is a simple question: "Why do you matter?". We want students to look

* Dates to Remember *

May 21 - Outdoor Movie Night

May 31 - Schools/Offices closed - Memorial Day

June 15 - Gr. 5 Promotion Picnic/Ceremony

June 16 - 12:45pm - Early Dismissal

June 17 - 12:30pm - Grade 5 Clap-out. Last Day of School

inside and find their purpose and to really examine their positive attributes, the characteristics that make them unique, and the reason why the world is a better place because they are in it.

Pomptonian Food Service - A reminder that lunches are being provided free of charge to all students. See the flyer posted [here](#) for more information.

Marching Band Opportunity - On Saturday, May 15th, from 3:00 - 5:00 pm on Ackerson Field at CHS, we'll be hosting our first "Open House Marching Band Rehearsal." This will be a rehearsal where 5th - 11th-grade students interested in color guard and 6th - 11th-grade students interested in woodwind, brass, and percussion can rehearse alongside our high school students for an afternoon. We invite any interested student to learn what it means to be a part of our team and get hands-on experience. Click for [Registration Form](#).

COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES & EVENTS

Weekly Parent Program: Empowering (You)th is being offered every Thursday (via Zoom) from 12:00PM-1:00 PM by the Prevention Coalition of Mercer County. Topics vary weekly. For May program information and to register see their Thursday event calendar [here](#). For recordings of previous programs click [here](#).

New! Safety Town needs student volunteers! Safety Town is a one-week summer program (June 28-July 2) for rising Hopewell Valley School District kindergartners and first graders offered through the HV YMCA. If your student is 14 years or older and would like to volunteer during this program, have them sign up [here](#).

Hopewell Township Recreation Department Spring Sockeye® registration for grades 1-5 is open! Weekly themes have just been announced for "Rec Camp in the Park" grades 1-6. Information on these programs, summer camps, spring programs, clinics and trips for children and adults can be viewed [here](#). To join their email list, click [here](#).

Hopewell Valley Single Parenting Together is a newly formed parent group where people can find the support they need through the power of connection. To learn more click [here](#).

New! Hopewell Valley YMCA Announcing a new Summer Extended Care program for ESY and Gen Ed families attending summer school. For more information click [here](#). Summer Camp registration is still open! Click [here](#) for details.

Local non-profit #NotOnMyWatch is offering free women's self defense classes for women and teenage girls every Wednesday evening at 6PM through their "Stand Up" program. For more information on this -- including registration -- and other programs offered to our community, click [here](#).

Mercer County Park Commission in-person programs for families and students of all ages for the current month can be viewed [here](#).

Hopewell Branch - Mercer County Library System programs and events can be viewed [here](#).

Pennington Public Library programs and events can be viewed [here](#).

Hopewell Valley Mobile Food Pantry To register to receive assistance click [here](#). To donate food items click [here](#). Please see the [flyer](#) on how you can help the pantry.

The Chubby's Project has a website! They deliver nutritious meals and weekly groceries to neighbors in need. If you or someone you know needs assistance or you would like to donate contact Liz at foundation@auntchubbys.com. For more information visit their new website: www.thechubbysproject.org