

It's That Time of Year Again…



Time for the Hand-to-Hand Sale!

Hello Families,

Our annual **Hiawatha Hand-to-Hand Sale** is just around the corner! This special tradition brings our school community together to share, give, and support our local food shelf, **The Heavenly Pantry**, while giving students the opportunity to shop for treasures and gifts for themselves and others.

The sale will take place on **Wednesday, December 16**. Throughout the day, classrooms will rotate through the sale so students can select special items for themselves or as gifts for others. Classrooms may also offer students the opportunity to wrap their selections.

There are several ways to support this special event, and we welcome participation in whatever way works best for your family!

1. Donate Items for the Sale!



As you look around your home, you might find small, gently used items that your family no longer needs but that another child would enjoy. We welcome donations of clean, well-cared-for items in good condition. These items will be sorted and organized so students can shop for special treasures during the sale.

As you choose items to donate, **please leave out holiday-themed items** so that our sale is welcoming and inclusive of the many traditions and cultures represented in our school community. Thank you for helping us make this a celebration everyone can enjoy!

Donations will be collected through **Wednesday, December 9** and can be dropped off at the main office or sent to your child's classroom. Please see the donation guide attached for suggested items and helpful reminders.

2. Food Donations for The Heavenly Pantry



As part of our Hand-to-Hand Sale tradition, we will be collecting nonperishable food donations for The Heavenly Pantry during the **week of December 14**. Donations will be delivered to the pantry the following week.

Contributions are completely optional, and we are grateful for any support families are able to offer. We look forward to working together to support our local community!

3. Help Our First Graders Shop for the Pantry!

We will also be collecting optional monetary donations and bottle returns to help our first graders purchase items that The Heavenly Pantry has identified as especially needed. Students will visit Hannaford or Market32 to shop for these items and help deliver the donations directly to the pantry.

We love giving students the opportunity to take part in this process. It helps them see how small acts of kindness can make a difference in their community.

- **Monetary donations:** If you would like to contribute, please place cash in a labeled envelope and bring it to the main office or your child's classroom. You may also donate through Mrs. Harvey's Venmo (@kharvey77)



- **Coin Drop:** We welcome spare change to help support the first graders' shopping trip. Every little bit helps!



- **Bottle returns:** Collection bins will be located at each main entrance to Hiawatha and can be accessed during school hours. We will begin taking collections the **week of November 30**.



Thank you for helping us create a welcoming tradition that celebrates generosity, kindness, and community. We are grateful for your support and look forward to another wonderful Hand-to-Hand Sale!

Warmly,

The First Grade Team

Jessica Pepin | Karen Harvey | Rachel O'Donald | Kerry Mahoney

Hand-to-Hand Sale donations can start coming in!

As you look through the suggestions below, please feel free to send in any suitable items your family no longer needs. We appreciate donations of all kinds, but please don't feel that you need to purchase anything new or find something from every category. Clean, gently used items in good condition are wonderful! **Please do not send in holiday-themed items.** We want to be mindful of the different traditions and cultures represented in our school community and ensure the sale feels welcoming to everyone. We will be collecting donations from now 11/16 until 12/09.

Housewares • Small picture frames • Small baskets • Cookie cutters • Travel mugs • Clean potholders • Kitchen gadgets • Candles *Please avoid breakable items.*	**Toys** • Small toys in good condition • Pet toys • Unique toys and treasures *Please make sure toys are clean and working. If a toy has small or multiple pieces, please place them together in a bag.*	**Sports and Outdoors** • Balls • Sports memorabilia • Small sporting equipment • Posters • Trail guides • Compasses • Camping items
Games, Puzzles, and Art • Board games • Card games • Children's puzzles • Art supplies • Unused coloring books *Please make sure games and puzzles have all their pieces and are contained in a bag or box.*	**Gadgets and Other Items** • Cell phone cases • Mini speakers • Headphones • Small electronics • Flashlights • Tape measures • Computer mice and mouse pads • Small tools *Please do not donate unsafe items, such as pocket knives or other potentially dangerous objects.*	**Jewelry** • Bracelets and necklaces • Earrings • Pins • Rings • Tie clips • Cufflinks *Please secure each pair of earrings and each pin in a small baggie, box, or on a piece of cardboard.*
Accessories • Wallets • Belts • Scarves • Bags and purses • Sunglasses • Keyrings • Fanny packs	**Books** • Picture books • Chapter books • Cookbooks *Please, no adult books.*	**Stuffed Animals** • Small stuffed animals in good condition *Please make sure all stuffed animals are clean and in good condition.*

Thank you for helping make the Hand-to-Hand Sale a welcoming and meaningful experience for our students and our community!