

THE BROWN BEAR NECESSITIES

The Official Newsletter of
Hannah Marie Brown Elementary School (est. 2021)



Principal Ponderings by Michele Wooldridge, a "beary" proud Principal

Hello Brown Families!

Grading reform has been a huge initiative in our district over the past couple of years, which is resulting in consistency, research based practices and transparency when it comes to grades, teaching and learning. One of the biggest challenges has been the discussion among the various levels of schools regarding assessments, assessment retake opportunities and how they inform instruction. While students do need to be held accountable for the learning of the information, consideration must be given when it comes to re-doing summative assessments if we truly care whether or not the student learned or mastered the information. The HMB ES grading and assessment policy speaks to the responsibilities of the teacher and to the learner—the teacher has an obligation to teach the information (and re-teach, if necessary) and the student must be given the opportunity (within reason) to demonstrate mastery through assessment or retake options. Here is a link to the [HMB ES Grading and Reassessment Policy](#). For more information and perspective regarding the grading and reassessment shifts, please check out this article, [How Classroom Assessments Improve Learning](#).

**REMINDER: DROP OFF STUDENTS BEFORE 8:50 A.M. ON DRAWBACK OR CHAPATA
SO STUDENTS CAN EASILY LINE UP WITH THEIR CLASS.**

ALL PARENTS ARE INVITED TO TAKE THE CCSD PARENT SURVEY.
THE SURVEY CLOSSES ON **DECEMBER 16**. THIS IS A VITAL PART
OF THE DISTRICT'S SELF ASSESSMENT.

CLICK HERE

CCSD PARENT SURVEY

CLICK HERE

**GIVE YOUR BROWN BEAR STUDENT
A BIRTHDAY SHOUT OUT!
DIGITAL BIRTHDAY MESSAGES**



**DISCOVER THE INTERNET
AS A FAMILY, PART 2**

***HANDLING DIGITAL MEDIA
AS A FAMILY**

***CLICK ON ENGLISH TRANSLATION**

Just a quick update from your friendly PTA!

First, the tables we purchased for the school have finally arrived! They are near the amphitheatre and will be so useful going forward for many different activities. Second, we would like to thank all of our families for helping our fundraising efforts come to fruition, as we are able to build our outdoor classroom! We are inviting each of you to join us at our General PTA meeting on November 16th at 9 a.m., as we will be presenting the overall plan for the classroom. This is such an amazing school, and it would not be half of that without your support and dedication to our kiddos.

Thank you.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

NOVEMBER

**Nov. 4 Free Dress:
VGK/HSK Spirit Dress**

**Nov. 8 No School-
CCSD Staff
Development Day**

**Nov. 9 Student of
the Month Lunch**

**Nov. 10 CCSD Camo
and US Flag shirt day
to honor our Veterans
and Servicemen and
Servicewomen**

**Nov. 11 No School:
Veteran's Day**

**Nov. 14 SOT 4 p.m.
Conference Room**

**Nov. 16 PTA meeting
9 a.m. MPR**

**Cookie Dough
Delivery Afterschool**

**Nov. 17 Family
Ornament Night at 5
p.m. & Uniform
Exchange**

**Nov. 18 Free Dress
or College Football
Shirt/Jersey Day &
Uniform Exchange
(8-10 a.m.)**

**Nov. 23-25
No School:
Thanksgiving and
Family Holiday**

Dec. 2 Free Dress

**Dec. 5-9 PTA
Holiday Shop for
Students**

702-799-2250

**10 Chapata Drive
HD, NV 89012**

Office Hours: 7:45 a.m. - 3:45 p.m.

Contact Info

Hannahmariebrownelementaryschool.com

[Hannah Marie Brown Facebook Page](#)

**HMB
ES
PTA
POINTS**

THE SPECIALIST SPOT



LIBRARY TID BITS FROM MRS. GEHLKEN

*Click this link to see the November class library schedule. Any books your child checks out are always due back on their next scheduled library day.

*The Library's November Book Fair was a huge success! Thank you to all of the students who excitedly visited, browsed, and purchased their favorite books. An even bigger thank you to all of the grown ups who helped make the purchases possible! Your support of our school library, books, and literacy are such a gift to give to our students. We are excited to announce that the funds earned from this fair will go towards author visits and assemblies. We look forward to another successful book fair in February 2023. Happy Reading!

*Congratulations to all of the classes who earned 41 or more "Paw"sitive Points in library during the past three months. As a result, they earned celebration time during one of their scheduled library classes during the month of November. Thank you students for coming to library with a positive attitude and behavior that aligns with our Hannah Marie Brown BEARS code!

FOR THE LOVE OF LITERACY FROM MRS. ROBERTT, READING STRATEGIST

November is Family Literacy Month. What a great time to cuddle up and read as a family. Here are some easy ways to integrate literacy at home.

1. Make books visible and accessible in the home. Leaving a book on a nightstand is a great reminder to read before bed.
2. Block out 20-30 minutes a day to make reading a priority.
3. Visit the Henderson Libraries monthly. Kids can check out 30+ books per visit!
4. Share the books you loved as a child with your own children.
5. Listen to an Audible story for kids together. <https://www.audible.com/ep/kids-audiobooks>



GATE UPDATES FROM MRS. ROSAS

Our GATE students are deep into their science units. Fifth graders are building food webs and investigating interactions in ecosystems. They will soon explore adaptations that help organisms survive through experiments and simulations. Fourth graders are in the science lab launching rockets and catapults to investigate the transfer of energy. Soon, they will focus on thermal energy and the different methods of heat transfer - including conduction, convection, and radiation. Third graders are engineering freshwater filters to better understand the importance of ground water and the water cycle. The next part of their unit involves forecasting, preparing for, and debating the danger levels of extreme weather.



MUSIC NOTES FROM MRS. MCCONNELL

Hannah Brown Families! Wow, I can't believe how fast this year is going by. October has been a spooky month in the music room! We've been exploring music through October themed activities by singing spooky songs, using instruments to add sounds to stories, and having a lot of fun. This month we will begin to dip our toes into the concept of melody. We will explore high and low sounds, melodic direction, exploration of the solfege stack (think "Do a Deer"), play melodies on instruments, and compose our own songs. Our school choir will have their first concert on Dec. 7th. I can't wait to share all of their hard work with our school community!



HIGHLIGHTS IN ART FROM MRS. PIERCE



Hello from the art room!

3rd, 4th, and 5th Grade will continue their drawing unit, practicing shading and form, and then peer review some of their awesome artwork. We are also learning about the cultural art from Day of the Dead celebrations and trying oil pastels. Kinder, 1st, and 2nd have been busy practicing coloring symmetrically and showing off this skill by making Day of the Dead sugar skull masks. We will also be making a Thanksgiving surprise using watercolor paint. Also, lots of classes are ready for their "Paws"itive Points party! This will be a free art day where students can choose their own activity.



PHYSICAL EDUCATION INFO FROM COACH ESPARZA



J.A.W.S. is off to an awesome start and students are either jogging, running, or walking to a healthier lifestyle. Third, fourth, and fifth grade students all participated in the PACER Fitness Challenge and each participant did an awesome job with their efforts. This month all students will continue to develop their soccer skills and begin to develop some basketball skills.

STEM FOCUS AND PROGRESS

The STEM Team is behind the scenes making sure our goal in becoming a Governor Designated STEM School becomes a reality! Mrs. Rosas, our GATE Teacher, is delivering professional development on incorporating the Science and Engineering Practices into our daily lessons. This month teachers are adding Planning and Carrying Out Investigations and Analyzing and Interpreting Data to their lesson plans. For example, during writing, teachers will have students plan using graphic organizers as well as find information within text. In math, students use graphs and charts to analyze information. The super cool thing about the Science and Engineering Practices is that they are used throughout the curriculum, NOT just science.

MRS. SULLIVAN'S
CORNER!



DIVERSITY WITHIN OUR COMMUNITY

Wow! October was such an amazing month at Hannah Marie Brown. Our students, Pre-K through fifth grade celebrated Hispanic Heritage Month with a collaborative presentation and informational posters about each country. We had our BIP Picnic! I loved visiting with our families while they joined us for lunch. We celebrated Unity Day and wore orange to recognize diversity. Trunk or Treat and the 2nd annual Halloween Parade were a hit! The traditions at Hannah Marie Brown are bringing our families and communities together. These next few months we will continue to build on the foundations of our diversity and culture by sharing our own traditions. Please be sure to share your family's traditions with us as we enter the holiday season. I can't wait to hear all about them from your students.

COUNSELOR'S CHAT FROM MRS. CARPENTER



In October, we participated in a Week of Respect. The week was focused on respect, kindness, respecting our environment and school, and being an upstander. These daily activities taught us about how kindness and respect can improve the world around us!

Also, we celebrated Hispanic American Heritage month, where each class researched a geographical area that has Hispanic culture. We then shared a school-wide slide show to connect with our Brown Bears who share this heritage, culture and or language. Each class created a visual for our wall to share the richness of the Hispanic culture with our entire school community.

In November, we will kick off our Wellness Wednesdays. Our first unit is titled Growth Mindset and Goal Setting. The lessons include:

- K: We Watch, We Listen, We Learn & Why We Pay Attention
- 1: Time to Pay Attention & Everyone Gets Distracted
- 2: How to Get Good at Something & What Mistakes Tell Us
- 3: Changing Your Brain & Getting Better with Practice
- 4: Setting a Good Goal & Making a Plan
- 5: The Right Goal for Me & My Plan

Students who believe they can improve with practice and effort have higher rates of academic growth, handle transitions better and are less likely to show aggression than kids who believe their abilities and personalities are fixed. Our goal is for students to see themselves as learners who can set goals for individual improvements. This approach focuses on self (when student's brains may want to compare themselves to others) and increases self-efficacy, positive personal relationships, increased empathy and prosocial behavior. Some things parents can do to encourage a growth mindset are to allow productive struggle-support your child when something is challenging instead of removing the struggle and guide them in thinking about how they can figure it out. Another approach is to help children understand that our brains are a muscle and when we are learning something new or working on something that is difficult, we are growing our brain! Lastly, making sure our children have unstructured time to play and move their bodies each day is pinnacle to brain growth and development. Our children are growing so much and by working together, they will continue to grow by leaps and bounds!

Mark your calendar for December's Hike for {{mental}} Health! We will do a MOONLIT hike on Thursday, December 8th...more details to come!

2022-23 MEMORIES (SO FAR)

Trunk or Treat & Halloween Fun

