



Welcome back! We've missed you!

Off to a great start in spite of COVID, renovation challenges

Hopefully, everyone had a relaxing and best summer possible. As you can imagine, our first month back has been filled with a variety of emotions; however, everyone has been so excited to actually see our students again, whether in-person or remotely. We really missed them.

I still can't believe it, but this year we are welcoming the Class of 2021 as seniors and the Class of 2026 as 7th graders. I'm still completely shocked, as I'm sure many of you are too.

As many of you probably already know, the Jr./Sr. high school is under major renovation. The students have done an

amazing job navigating the building. Yes, it's very hectic right now, we are all getting our "steps" in, but once completed it will be worth all the inconveniences. We can't wait to see the end product.

Regardless of all the nuances, we have had a great start to the year. The students and staff have done an awesome job navigating the new methods used for learning and quickly acclimating to the unfamiliar programs and apps. I am optimistic this energy, engagement, and enthusiasm will continue.

Please remember the school day begins

at 7:45 a.m. Currently, we cannot allow students in the building before 7:45. First period begins promptly at 8 a.m. Therefore, anyone who arrives after 8 a.m. and not on a bus will need to

See "Great start," page 4



*Kris Conrow,
High School Principal*





Letter from the superintendent

Dear residents,

The week of September 14, 2020, was one of the BEST weeks we've had in the Harpursville Schools in a very long time! I cannot begin to express just how exciting it has been to see our students return to campus. And, each day since then has been just as fantastic.

Schools are places where there are supposed to be students, places filled with the energy, laughter, connections and learning. And that's exactly what has been restored with everyone's return and it is simply the best. I am so pleased that we've been able to successfully reopen our schools and bring some sense of normalcy back into our lives. Truly, it's been great to see everyone.

I want to take a moment to thank our entire school community for the patience, communication and support as we worked together to reopen school. It was no small feat, for sure, but we made it happen. As I've said to a few people, we made a plan and the plan worked. I want to thank all the families that participated in our surveys and community forums. All of the feedback and information was invaluable in helping us make the best plan possible for our reopening. It really helps to have the proactive participation and communication within our school community. I feel like we took some very big steps forward in our work to get and stay connected with each other and we need to keep that going.

Now that we're getting settled into the school year, it's a really good time for some additional conversation. So, please know that we will be providing opportunities for parents, guardians and students to interact with their principals and building-level teams via Zoom throughout the school year. Getting information from you is important to us as we continue to

navigate the school year and we look forward to connecting with you.

On a related note, and as you know, it is always busy working to get ready for a new school year and, of course, it was more true than ever this year given the additional provisions that had to be accounted for. It truly was a team effort in making that happen. It was only through the hard work, commitment and tireless planning of everyone that we were able to make the successful transition back to school life.



Please join me in thanking the maintenance staff, food services staff, transportation staff, support staff, teaching staff and administrative staff for their commitment to our district and for everything they did to make our transition to the new school year as smooth as possible. I am humbled by the care and concern our team demonstrated for each other and for the students and families of our district and I am grateful to be able to lead this team. Thank you to our HCS team – you are the best!

In addition to the great energy on campus with our students, teachers and staff, there is also tremendous energy around our capital project. The front parking lot and new drop-off loop for W.A. Olmsted Elementary is beginning to take shape. I am hopeful that by the time you receive next month's newsletter, the new drop-off, parking lot, and main drive will be reopened. I know it's been busy on campus at drop-off and pick-up time with the temporary loop, so I sincerely

appreciate your patience. I do know this - our updated facilities will be worth the effort and sacrifice.

As our construction manager said, "Projects are kind of like

a root canal. It's a real pain while it's happening, but it's really worth it once it's done." The work in the Jr. Sr. High School is taking shape, too. There has been a ton of demolition work to get the spaces ready for reconstruction. It's amazing to see the blank slates that are the auditorium and the new main entrance to the Jr. Sr. high building. It won't be long before we start to see those spaces begin to get put back together with a fresh, new HCS look. It's going to be fantastic!

I sincerely believe that we are poised to have an outstanding school year and we look forward to your continued partnership to help us make that happen. Through our shared commitment to live our district's core beliefs each and every day, we will develop successful students who are prepared for their future. Please join me in reasserting our district's core beliefs which drive our collective work:

Students are our first priority.

1. Students and staff deserve a safe, positive and supportive environment.
2. We will act with integrity and respect, value diversity, and preserve the dignity of each person.
3. We value the partnerships among students, staff, parents and the community.
4. All students have the ability to learn and will be successful.



Michael Rullo,
Superintendent

Continued on next page



5. We will never give up on any student.

help, our doors are always open, and we are eager to work with you.

Yours in education,

In closing, please be sure to reach out to your student's teacher, guidance counselor or administrator if you have any questions or concerns, or if you just need some information. We are here to

Best wishes for an amazing 2020-2021 school year!

Michael J. Rullo
Superintendent
Go Hornets!

District information

District communication guidelines

Frequently, parents and other community members request help in knowing the best way to communicate with the school. The chart below will serve as a helpful resource. By contacting the following people in the prescribed order, you can be assured that your questions will be answered.

For questions about	1 st contact	2 nd contact	3 rd contact	4 th contact
Academics	Teacher	Guidance Counselor	Building Principal	Superintendent
Athletics	Coach	Athletic Director	Jr/Sr Principal	Superintendent
Behavior	Teacher	Assistant Building Principal	Building Principal	Superintendent
BOE policies	District Clerk	Superintendent	Board of Education	
Budget	Business Official	Superintendent		
Building Use	Administrative Assistant	Building Principal	Superintendent	
Cafeteria	Director of Food Services	Business Official	Superintendent	
Classroom Procedures	Teacher	Assistant Building Principal	Building Principal	Superintendent
Bus Behavior	Bus Driver	Head Bus Driver	Asst. Principal/Principal	Superintendent
Co-Curricular	Advisor	Building Principal	Superintendent	
Facilities	Director of Facilities	Business Official	Superintendent	
Health Office	Building Nursing Office	Grade Level Principal	Superintendent	
Scheduling	Guidance Office	Jr/Sr Principal	Superintendent	
Special Education	Teacher	Grade Level Principal (academics)	CSE/CPSE Chairperson	Superintendent
Transportation	Head Bus Driver	Business Official	Superintendent	

Harpursville Central School District directory

District Office 693-8112

Board of Education
Michael Rullo, Superintendent
Tabaitha Rhodes, Admin. Asst./District Clerk

Business Office 693-8120

Joseph McLaughlin, Business Official
Amanda Loihle, Personnel Clerk

Special Education 693-8104

Joshua Quick, CSE/CPSE Chairperson
Audrey Warner, Admin. Assistant
Linda LoGallo, School Psychologist

Jr/Sr High School 693-8105

Kristine Conrow, Principal
Allison Chantry, Admin. Assistant

Guidance Office..... 693-5734

Karen Slesinsky, Jr/Sr HS Counselor
Megan Harrington, Jr/Sr HS Counselor
Ashley Bianchi, Elementary Counselor

Attendance/Registration 693-8108

Jill Andrews, Student Records

W.A. Olmsted Elementary 693-8115

Jim DiMaria, Principal
Katie Ives, Admin. Assistant

Health Offices

Rebecca Adolf (Jr Sr HS) 693-8118
Laura Berkeley(Elm) 693-8119

Athletics 693-8133

Joshua Quick, Athletic Director

Social worker 693-8115 ext. 3313

MaryOlevia Clark-Byrnes/Social Worker

Food Services 693-8126

Norene Tasber, Director of Food Services

Transportation 693-8100

Dennis Symons, Head Bus Driver
Joseph McLaughlin, Business Official

Buildings & Grounds 693-8121

David Johnson, Director of Facilities

Family & Children's 693-8123

Molly Soljan, Counselor

Community Schools Coordinator .422-1631

James Saunders



Hello, Harpursville Families!

My name is Megan Harrington and I am very excited to start this school year as the new Jr./Sr. high school counselor, overseeing 7th – 9th grade students.

I live in the Harpursville area with my husband and three children. I love this small-town school and community. A small town and close-knit community make my job so much more fulfilling, as I am able to get to know each family and their individual needs. My belief is that academics are important, but so is the social-emotional health of each student. My personal mission is to cultivate well-rounded, post-secondary prepared students who excel at life and become an attribute to our society, whether on a path to college, the military or the workforce.

I graduated from Homer High School and most recently SUNY Oneonta with my master's degree in school counseling. My hobbies include camping with my family, traveling, and watching my kids compete in various sports and activities, including racing four wheelers cross-country.



Megan Harrington

I am so excited to meet all of you and begin serving the wonderful students and families in the Harpursville Central School District. Please do not hesitate to reach out to me at mharrington@hcs.stier.org.

Great start, from the cover

check-in with the attendance office, which is now located in the district office. If a student is absent or tardy, they should bring a note with a legitimate reason for their absence to be recorded as excused. It's important to remember attendance is directly related to a student's success. Students are expected to be actively engaged with their courses every day, even when learning remotely. Please ensure your students are connected to their classes on-time. If you are having connectivity issues, call the main office or the guidance counselors.

Also, I would like to encourage you to reach out to your student's teachers, counselors, coaches, aides, or myself with any questions or concerns. We recognize that these are not normal circumstances. Now more than ever, we know that working collaboratively is essential for ensuring each student and family has the best chance at being successful. Please do not hesitate to contact any one of us throughout the year.

The current bell schedule and days of the week are posted on the Jr./Sr. HS web page, which is where you can find the most up-to-date information.

Last, I want to personally thank all our students, parents and families. There have been so many unknowns, questions and uncertainties, but your patience and understanding has been remarkable. I know our staff has really appreciated everyone's graciousness. We are looking forward to a unique, but awesome year. This year will be like no other, but together we are going to make it great.

*Kris Conrow,
High School Principal*

Interns



Allison Laffey

Harpursville Central School District is thrilled to be once again working with students from Binghamton University in our BU Community Schools initiative. Assisting our district coordinator James Saunders this school year will be Allison Laffey, Savannah Colliton and Francesca Telarucci.



Savannah Colliton

Allison and Savannah will be working with W.A. Olmsted Elementary students supporting mindfulness activities, participating in attendance initiatives, as well as working with the Box Tops program. They will also be assisting with structured activities at recess along with numerous other community schools initiatives. Welcome, Savannah and Allison!



Francesca Telarucci

Francesca was an intern at Olmsted last year as well, and she is happy to be back. A large part of Francesca's role will be working individually with students in need of emotional support. Like Savannah and Allison, Francesca will also be practicing and teaching mindfulness techniques to students. Welcome back, Francesca!



W.A. Olmsted Reopening Information Fall 2020



Important School Information

Riding a school bus

Before entering the bus:

- Mask checked
- Hands sanitized

While on the bus:

- Loading from the back to the front of the bus by numbered assigned seats
- Unloading from the front to the back of the bus
- Please wear your mask and stay seated



Daily health screening for in-person students

Parents/guardians must adhere to the following guidelines prior to sending their children on a bus or report to school each day. You must be able to answer "no" to the following questions in order for child to attend in-person instruction:

- Has your child knowingly been in close or proximate contact in the past 14 days with anyone who has tested positive through diagnostic test for COVID-19 or who has or had symptoms of COVID-19?
- Has your child tested positive through a diagnostic test for COVID-19 in the past 14 days?
- Has your child experienced any symptoms of COVID-19, including dry cough, shortness of breath, new loss of sense of smell or taste, nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, or extreme tiredness?
- Has your child experienced a temperature of greater than 100 degrees F in the past 14 days?
- Has your child traveled internationally or from a state with widespread community transmission of COVID-19 per New York State Travel Advisory in the past 14 days per NYS travel guidance?

If yes is answered to any of these questions, you must notify your child's school nurse's office and primary care physician. As in previous years, please make sure that the school is also aware of any absences for your child.

Lourdes makes it easy to get your annual mammogram!

We bring mammograms to you.



Lourdes Mammo on the Move Mobile Mammography Van

You are eligible to use the van for breast screening if:

- You are age 40 or older
- You have no current breast problems or symptoms
- You have no history of breast surgery, or you had a biopsy over 1 year ago with benign results and no further problems.



HARPURSVILLE CENTRAL SCHOOL
54 Main Street / Harpursville, NY



Tuesday, November 17, 2020



9:00 am - 3:00 pm

Call 607-798-5723 to schedule an appointment.

You do not have to be a Lourdes patient. Your results can be sent to the health care provider of your choice. We welcome insured and uninsured women. No referral needed.

To find out if you are eligible for low- or no-cost screenings, call the Cancer Services Program at 607-778-3900.

****3D MAMMOGRAPHY AVAILABLE****



Ascension

Lourdes Mobile Mammography
169 Riverside Drive • Binghamton, NY 13905
607-321-0015 • www.lourdes.com

This project is supported with funds from Health Research, Inc. and the New York State Department of Health.



WE WELCOME YOU BACK





WELCOME BACK





WELCOME BACK

November 2020 In School Menu

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
2	3	4	5	6
<p><i>Mini Cinni/Juice</i> Popcorn Chicken Mashed Potatoes Glazed Carrots NY Apple NY Milk</p>	<p><i>Br. Slice/Fruit</i> Turkey & Cheese Sandwich Broccoli Orange NY Milk</p>	<p><i>Mini Pancakes</i> Fr. Toast Sticks Potato Puffs Sausage Patty Banana NY Milk</p>	<p><i>Fr. Toast Sticks</i> Turkey Tacos Lettuce & Cheese NY Black Beans NY Grape Juice NY Apple NY Milk</p>	<p><i>Z.Z. Bar/Juice</i> Asst. Sandwich Broccoli Juice Peaches NY Milk</p>
9	10	11	12	13
<p><i>Frudel/Juice</i> Cheeseburger w/ lettuce Sw. Potato Fries NY Apple NY Milk</p>	<p><i>Breakfast Break</i> Chicken & Gravy w/biscuit Carrots Pears NY Milk</p>	<p><i>Z.Z. Bar/Fruit</i> PB&J Uncrustable NY Cheese stick Cucumbers Orange NY Milk</p>	<p><i>Br. Slice/Juice</i> NY Hot Dog on a roll Cucumbers & Tomatoes Peaches NY Milk</p>	<p><i>Brk. Pizza/Juice</i> Wild Mikes Pizza Broccoli & Carrots Fresh Fruit NY Milk</p>
16	17	18	19	20
<p><i>Mini Pancakes</i> Chicken Patty on a roll Sw. Potato Fries NY Apple NY Milk</p>	<p><i>Frudel/Juice</i> Cheese Lasagna Breadstick St. Broccoli Peaches NY Milk</p>	<p><i>Cereal/Fruit</i> Grilled Cheese Tomato Soup Cucumbers Orange NY Milk</p>	<p><i>Fr. Toast Sticks</i> Turkey & Gravy Mashed Potatoes Stuffing Cranberry Sauce Fruit Crisp/Fruit NY Milk</p>	<p><i>Cereal/Juice</i> Pizza Veggies Pears NY Milk</p>
23	24	25	26	27
<p><i>Frudel/Juice</i> BBQ Turkey on a roll NY Fr. Fries Pears NY Milk</p>	<p><i>Cereal/Fruit</i> Pizza Tomato & Cucumber Salad NY Apple NY Milk</p>	<p><i>Breakfast Break</i> Ham & Cheese Sandwich Baby Carrots Fresh Fruit NY Milk</p>	<p><i>Z.Z. Bar/Juice</i> Turkey & Cheese Sandwich Broccoli NY Apple NY Milk</p>	<p><i>Brk. Pizza/Juice</i> Chicken Nuggets NY Fries Strawberry Cup NY Milk</p>
30	MENU SUBJECT TO CHANGE		Starting Nov. 1 we will be offering meals 7 days a week	Sundays: Muffin Top/Juice Yogurt Meal w/ NY Cheese stick Fruit NY Milk
<p><i>Fr. Toast Sticks</i> Chicken Fajitas Lettuce & Cheese Fresh Fruit NY Milk</p>			<p>Saturdays: Br. Breaks PB&J Uncrustable NY Cheese stick Fruit NY Milk</p>	<p>Sundays: Muffin Top/Juice Yogurt Meal w/ NY Cheese stick Fruit NY Milk</p>





Getting a head start on the coming school year while having fun

Thanks to our amazing Community Leaders (Emily Markham, Allison Mickey, Nicole Fuller, Ashley Mannina, and Madelyn Blackman), students had a new adventure waiting for them everyday. Besides all of the fun activities, students explored other hyperlinks that included math games, thematic books they could read themselves or listen to through read-aloud, stream activities, movement and mindfulness videos, games and family fun.

Many of the incoming students for each grade level were introduced to concepts in reading and math, giving them a head start on the new school year.

To provide more options to our older students, we created activity classes

they could choose to participate in. Meeting the same day and time each week, students could attend Morning Meeting, Art, Community Service, Sports, Music & Games, and Library. With the help of our student workers, Abby Lyon and Paige Smith, these enrichment activities connected students with live teachers through Zoom, and provided numerous activities for them to complete throughout the week.

Overall, we are thankful for the opportunity we had to get to know your children better this summer. We thank Superintendent Rullo and the board of education for providing this opportunity, Mrs. Horton for her direction, all of our summer staff for



Pictured: Hailey Merrin and her reading buddy

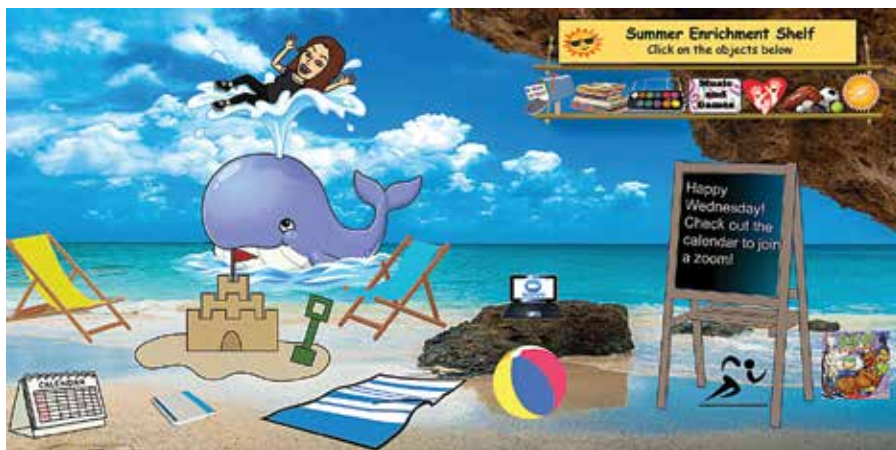
their time and creativity, and, last but not least, the community for its constant support of Harpursville Central School.

Students travel the world during summer program virtual tour

Have you ever had the opportunity to travel around the world for free? Students participating in this year's virtual summer program did just that. Students, including those entering kindergarten through 8th grade, were invited to their own virtual classroom, where fun games, learning tools and activity classes were waiting for them from July 13 to August 20.

Some of the fun "virtual vacation" spots included:

- Outerspace
- Beach/Ocean
- The Jungle
- Camping
- LegoLand
- Disney and other fun amusement parks



Learning to support our community

Over the past six weeks, we were able to talk about many groups of people who deserve our recognition and some special attention.

We learned about police officers and K-9 dogs, people who live and work in nursing homes, teachers, firemen, and "Random Acts of Kindness." It was important to show people that we care. Some of the examples include Jason Watts cooking dinner for his entire family and Kelsey Brewster surprising her minister with a gift card for ice cream after an incredibly hot Sunday Service. One of our student workers, Paige, even got into the spirit and secured treats from Starbucks for a neighbor having a bad day.

Cards were made, letters were written and many 'Thank You's said. It was a great summer!



Pictured: Jason Watts making dinner for his family.



Morning meeting with Kim Rusnak and Nicole Cole mixes silly with serious

Respect, responsibility, teamwork, trustworthiness, caring and fairness - all characteristics that we need a little more of in our world.

With the duo of Rusnak and Cole, there was singing, silly jokes from the "giggle patch", and high quality acting, displaying different examples of how to make good decisions and become a better person. When good habits like this are taught at a young age and fostered, it becomes easier to resist the bad habits.

Students who were able to submit a video discussing or displaying each of the six characteristics were awarded a free ice cream at Cindy's Crossroads in Harpurville.

Congratulations to the following students: Jason Watts, Alyssa Sherwood, Megan Cole, Levi Eberly, Hannah Cole, and Viviana Huston.



Pictured (l-r): Nicole Cole and Kim Rusnak singing a hello song in their weekly video.

Seniors become online coaches for younger volleyball players

Mrs. Potenza and her three varsity players (Caidence Ryder, Liv Harris-Morris and Mallory Carman) provided a volleyball program for students in kindergarten through eighth grade. The varsity girls filmed themselves doing various skills and then posted them on Flipgrid, a website that enables teachers to create "grids" to facilitate video discussions. Students would try the different challenges and video themselves and post back.

It was awesome to see the varsity girls get to coach our younger kids even online. We also were able to meet on Zoom twice a week, where we worked on some ball control and different team-building activities. The varsity girls did an awesome job teaching and coaching our younger kids as well as giving them some tips to get better.

Softball practice goes high-tech with videos and online activities

This summer, students in grades K-8 were given the opportunity to participate in a virtual sports clinic. Over the six weeks, some of the Lady Hornet varsity softball players provided videos for younger athletes to help develop their softball skills. These skills included infield and outfield drills, throwing, base-running and more. On Thursdays, challenges were given to them as well. Each week included two Zoom sessions to discuss how things were working our and to take part in team-building activities and games. These skill videos are still available on our Flipgrid for anyone who signed up.

Kite, bridge and tower construction leads to fun at summer enrichment

This summer, students in Jason Lyon's summer enrichment class had the opportunity to build popsicle stick bridges, kites and popsicle towers. Each week or couple of weeks, they completed different projects. During weeks one and two we constructed stick bridges, which we tested to see how much weight they could hold. Viviana Huston's bridge held over 50 pounds. Great job! In weeks three through five, we constructed kites using straws, tissue paper, glue and string. This was a lot of fun. We finished the summer by constructing popsicle stick towers.



I am really glad that we had the opportunity to spend our summer having fun. These students are AWESOME and they all had FUN while learning. I look forward to doing this again next summer.





Looking back at our Summer Enrichment programs

Exploring the arts is a creative way to spend those summer hours

During the summer art session this year students made use of an eight color watercolor set and some other materials to create many projects based on famous artists such as Paul Klee and Arcimboldo.

They created nature art outside with found objects in the style of Andy Goldsworthy. Students also learned some technical art skills such as how to create landscapes, how to make crystals look 3-D, and still-life drawing with flowers.

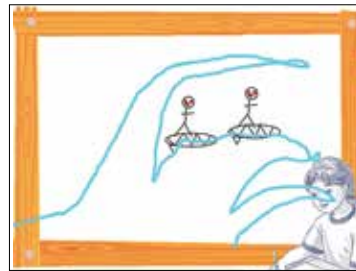
It was a fun way to stay creative over the summer break. *Pictures- Watercolor paintings & art made from nature.*



Hawaiian adventure teaches about culture, environment and more

ALOHA! Over the course of the six weeks students in grades 3-5 took an adventure to Hawaii with characters Jack and Annie from The Magic Tree House Series: High Tide in Hawaii.

On Mondays, students were able to Zoom with teacher Demetra Hall and go on virtual field trips learning about different traditions of the islands, the marine life, as well as natural disasters that occur there. When students were not exploring the islands, they were able to listen to each chapter online and engage in activities that went along with each chapter. Some of these activities included scavenger hunts,



illustrations and experiments. Check out a couple of the illustrations!

Drawing and dressing in character part of reading fun during summer program

Our K-2 students worked with Mrs. Potenza in her library class throughout the six weeks of the summer program. Each week they had a different theme of books that they listened to. Mrs. Potenza would leave them a video of her reading to them three days a week and met with them on Zoom one day

a week. Weekly themes included Mo Willems (Gerald and Piggie), Splat the Cat, Froggy books and more. The kids loved having the read aloud and an activity to match. Some of the activities included drawing the character that matched the book, dressing up like the character or even going on an

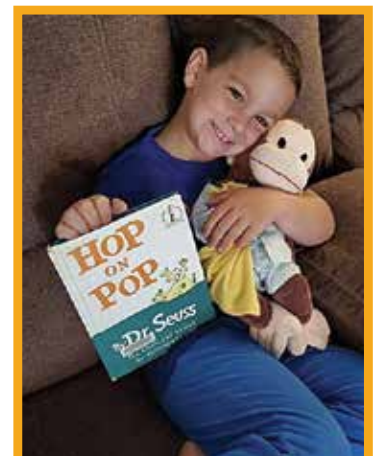
adventure like the characters. Thursdays were scavenger hunt days and students did an awesome job finding objects that were in the stories during the week. Being able to see them post their activities after reading the story and posting back to them was awesome!



Levi holds a snowman picture inspired from reading a Froggy book



Katie is posing with her scavenger hunt items



Logan poses with his reading buddy and a good book!



Through music and games students learn teamwork during summer enrichment

Madelyn Blackman's summer program offered students in grades K-2 activities that included trivia, name that song, dance party, Jeopardy, and scavenger hunts.

Students grades 3-5 enjoyed trivia, Jeopardy, name that song, Scattergories, Wheel of Fortune, and Family Feud.

Each week, students would work together as a team to try and solve the answers to games, such as Jeopardy. It was a lot of fun choosing categories, and brainstorming answers together.

Pictured right: Having fun in Zoom class.



Through yoga, students gain physical well-being, mindfulness and relaxation skills

Yoga practice encourages balance, support, mental and physical strength, peace, relaxation, connection to oneself and others, and it can be used as a tool to improve ones' performance.

Students in Caitlin Giblin's class got the opportunity to go on meditation walks and learn different poses. Yoga improves memory, sleep, independence

and coping skills - all things important for living a good, healthy life. Using yoga choice boards and reading the book "Anna and her rainbow-colored yoga mats" together, students gained flexibility and strength in their spine column while working to be mindful of themselves.



Science experiments range from constellations to 'five-minute' ice cream

One of the most popular classes offered during the summer program was called 'Experiment, Fail, Learn, Repeat'.

Kelly LaDue met with students twice a week and completed the following activities: Phases of the Moon, Constellations, Rock Candy, Density, Chemical Reactions and States of Matter.

Using Oreos, students learned about outer space by creating the phases of the moon. They also learned that the lunar

phases are created by changing angles of the earth, the moon, and the sun, as the moon orbits the earth. They also learned about constellations, which make up different patterns in the sky and that there are 88

different kinds. The children constructed constellations using mini-marshmallows and toothpicks. They learned that rock candy is a crystallized form of sugar, which seemed to be a challenge for a lot of people, but through a couple of trials, one student was able to successfully make rock candy.

One of the most exciting experiments performed this summer was five-minute ice cream. Students took a liquid and made it into a solid in just a few minutes - the ice cubes with salt cooled the ingredients to harden them and make a delightful treat. With just a few ingredients and five minutes of time, a delightful treat resulted.





Students gain media savvy while podcasting and researching current events

Matthew Bucci's media savvy students had two months chalk full of important discussions related to current events. The class used the framework of the podcast "KidsNuz" as the starting point for their trip down the current event rabbit hole. This podcast is a six-minute daily offering of bite-sized news, easily digestible for all ages. When the podcast was through, the class did a quick check for understanding so everyone had the same working knowledge of the events mentioned in the news. Then came chat time; where Bucci played moderator/facilitator for the students discussion of the pros and cons of what was being discussed. The students became cultured little talkers by the end of their time, and Bucci says he enjoyed being their current event band leader, if only for two months.

New elective offers high-flying opportunities to HS students

Harpursville High School now offers a drone training elective for high school juniors and seniors that will have them soaring from beginners to FAA-certified commercial drone pilots ready to do aerial imaging, data collection, and autonomous flight programming. The jobs of the immediate future.

This elective drone course focuses on high-value, in-demand skills that prepare students for the real world of drone operation. Students who take this elective will be ready to take FAA Remote Pilot Certification if they would like and will have multiple career paths after graduation from high school.



HORNETS

ATHLETICS

Harpursville families,

I sincerely hope that you are all doing well. Welcome back to a very unique opening!

Over the past several months we have been faced with many challenges getting students back into their respective areas in our buildings, but we did it and it has been amazing seeing all the students.



Josh Quick,
CSE Chairperson &
Director of Athletics

Throughout the many conversations and meetings with public health officials and our administration, student safety was paramount in each communication. I thank all of you for your feedback over these trying months in helping us develop and communicate plans about the school reopening.

In a typical fall we would see our teams on fields and in gyms, but this year, again with safety in mind, we do not currently have this opportunity. Athletics are not over; our section and league have elected to have winter seasons begin in January. This additional time will help our district ensure that we have a plan in place for our athletes to safely participate again. Seasons could be shorter but there will be opportunities for our students and their families. We have much to look forward to in the coming months.

If you have not downloaded the new school app, I suggest that you try it out. This app will be directly linked to our athletic schedules and will help keep you up to date with scheduling.

Our athletics page will be redeveloped soon to bring you the latest communication and guidance associated with COVID-19 as it concerns athletics.

Once again, I thank you for supporting our programs and look forward to seeing how this crisis will continue to make us grow stronger, together, as Hornets!

Sincerely,

Joshua M. Quick
CSE Chairperson & Director of Athletics



Dear Harpursville families,

It has been awesome to have our kids back! We enjoy seeing them in the school building and on Zoom.

We appreciate the sacrifices you all continue to make in order to ensure your children are at school and getting online every day. This is a challenging time for our teachers as well. They are constantly working to find ways to engage students who are in their classrooms and online at the same time. We know there's some frustration when schedules shift and change. We are doing our best at keeping those changes to a minimum as we learn more about implementing a hybrid and fully remote model of learning. Please continue to give us your feedback. It really helps us to understand the challenges families are encountering from your perspective. If we all continue to figure this out together, our kids will have a much better experience.

Technology has also been a huge learning curve for us all. The decision to issue devices to all of our students was the right one to make. It's also been very challenging for us at school and for you at home. Thank you for your continued patience. We are working on more efficient ways to help you with the problems you might be having when students can't log-on or when Zoom isn't connecting or the microphone on the Chromebook isn't working. We have ordered more devices so when we do need to take your child's device for a few days to work on it, we can give them another. It's difficult to acquire additional devices at this time because of the huge demand. We know that when we are unable to give your student another device, it's a huge problem. We have about eight extra devices right now that we are trying to use as loaners. We are hoping that in the next few weeks we will have more so this won't be such a problem.

Our teachers are helping students to learn all of the technology apps and platforms so that they can be as

independent as possible when they are at home. The students learn quickly and are often able to navigate better than the adults. Please continue to call the help desk (607-766-3800) when you have a problem with an i-Pad or a Chromebook. Help desk staff will assist you directly or create a ticket so that the right person can get back to you as soon as possible. If you are struggling with internet access, please reach out to your child's guidance counselor and they will try to problem-solve with you. We know that students can't be successful without that access.



Pam Horton,
Director of Instruction

Students have been doing a great job bringing their devices back and forth to school. Thank you all for helping them to get into that habit. We are also working with students on handling devices correctly. We appreciate your help with reminding them to close the screens before walking with them anywhere and not to pick them up by holding onto the screens. Screens can develop "pinch points" on them when they are picked up using two fingers, creating shatter marks on the screen. We are truly grateful for all the time and attention you have given to all of these new technology expectations.

We also are grateful that we are part of a community that has come together to problem-solve and support students through ongoing challenges. Please continue to let us know how we can help. We will get through this challenging time together.

Sincerely,

Pam Horton
Director of Instruction

Harpursville families,

We here at W.A. Olmsted Elementary understand that these uncertain times are causing a lot of anxiety amongst our families. Please know that the health, safety and over all well being of our students is our top priority.

Our staff has been working hard to implement the state regulations put in place for your child's safety, while also maintaining a fun, warm and

friendly environment conducive to learning. We also want to make sure that you are aware that NYS rules are ever changing and that we are trying to keep you up to date with the most current information possible, please be sure to actively check the district website or app so we can share that information with you. Furthermore, we encourage you to reach out to us with any questions or concerns you might have. As a friendly reminder, we urge

you to keep your children home when sick and to inform the health office of any illness your child is exhibiting.

We are so excited to have our students back in our classrooms, learning and interacting. Although our school year looks different this year, we look forward to a great 2020-21 school year.

- W. A. Olmsted Elementary
Health Office



Harpursville Central School District
 P.O. Box 147
 Harpursville, NY 13787

Non-Profit Org.
 U.S. Postage
PAID
 Binghamton, NY
 Permit No.237

Board of Education

Michael Rhodes, president
 Melissa Anderson, vice president
 Michael Bennett
 John Dattoria
 Jessica Hartman
 Michelle Noyes
 Russell Weist

Postal Patron
 ECRWSS

Superintendent

Michael Rullo

Special note: School Board Recognition Week is Oct. 19-23. We thank our board members for volunteering their services to our school community.

New board member welcomed



Jessica Hartman has been appointed to fill a vacancy on our board of education following the resignation of Amy Livermore-Kappauf. Hartman will serve for the rest of this school year with her term ending June 30, 2021. The remainder of the term for that board seat (July 1, 2021 - June 30, 2022) will be decided by public vote in May 2021. Welcome Jessica!

**Notice to residents:
 Calendar correction**

Please note that a layout error in our recently distributed school calendar resulted in a date (the 25th) missing in the month of November, resulting in the Thanksgiving break appear to begin on the 26th when it actually begins on Wed. Nov. 25. We sincerely regret the error and apologize for any inconvenience it might have caused.