Dear Parents and Guardians,

We have had an excellent yet hot start to the new school year. Students have been happy to reunite with school friends and meet new teachers. We are looking forward to a year of learning and partnership. We are committed to helping every student succeed in school. Specifically, I want to share some important focus areas we will be addressing in the upcoming months. We want to clearly communicate our beliefs about partnering with families. We would like to share some of our ideas and invite your input on this important topic.

At Hubbardston Center School we believe it is important for families and schools to work together and share responsibility for student success. We very much value family members’ expertise about their children. Families know a student best and we can learn from you. Also, we want our students to know the importance of schools and families together supporting their work at school.

- Communication is important to help us to understand your child’s needs. Please contact your child’s teacher if you have any concerns.
- In grades 3-6 students have agendas that your child will use to write down assignments. Please check this daily and you can also use this as a two way communication tool.
- We have a level of support in each classroom for all students that need a little extra help with either English Language Arts or Math. You may hear your child talking about our support personnel assisting them. Please do not be alarmed we try to give children what they need when they need it.
- If a homework assignment is too difficult for your student please have them try their best and then attach a note to the page telling the teacher they need extra help.

In an effort to avoid any confusion I am publishing our concert dates in advance. As you know we had a reduction in the music department last year. This resulted in Dr. K-M teaching all general music, and Band, Chorus, and Orchestra to all students at HCS. In addition he travels to another school in the district one day a week to teach Band and Orchestra. The music department met this past summer to come up with the following schedule.

**Upcoming Events**

**September 15**
Mare Meadows Fundraiser starts

**September 17**
Open House 6 - 7 PM

**September 17**
Back to School cake walk

**Sept 28 – Oct 2**
Grade 5 at Nature’s Classroom

**Oct 8 & 9**
School Pictures

**Important Announcement**

OPEN HOUSE SEPT 17th
6 - 7 pm
Nov. 17th HCS Band, Chorus, Orchestra grades 4-6 7:00 PM

February 2 Chorus Concert at QRHS 7:00 PM

February 11 Band Concert at QRHS 7:00 PM includes Hardwick, Hubbardston, 8th grade band, Symphonic Winds

February 23 Jazz fest Concert QRHS 7:00 PM includes all elementary, middle, & high school jazz musicians

February 25 String fest Concert QRHS 7:00 PM includes all elementary, middle and high school orchestra members

June 7 HCS Band, Chorus, Orchestra Spring Concert 7:00

June TBA All students K-3 1:20 during school day

We welcome you to the 2015-2016 school year at Hubbardston Center School. We hope to see and hear from you often.

Sincerely,

Cherie McComb
Principal

CAFETERIA NOTES

Welcome back to good nutrition. September is National Chicken month. Chicken is a lean form of protein. The menu features General Tso Chicken, Chicken Parm Sandwich, Breaded Roasted Chicken, Tangerine Sweet & Tangy Chicken, Chicken Teriyaki, and Chicken Quesadillas. Chicken nuggets will be the hot alternative every Monday in September.

Mondays are a favorite with Brunch for Lunch. Fridays are Pizza Days. Fresh Fruits and a choice of Milk are available with each lunch. (To view the entire menu for September, go to the Food Service site and click on Menu.)

The price for a student lunch is still $2.75. This is a great value for a nutritious lunch at cost effective price. The HCS menu is available on the link below.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Back to school and back to the gym. Our 5th and 6th graders are finding out how hard it is to cradle a ball in Lacrosse. Grade 3 and 4 are learning the basic skills in flag football and Kindergarten – Grade 2 are learning and reefing their basic movement skills: galloping, skipping, sliding and hopping. I hope everyone had a great summer keeping active!!

Mrs. Bristol

THE MUSIC CORNER

The school year has started off wonderfully with 4th graders signing up for band, orchestra and chorus while Swiss history, culture, dance and music are being studied in general music in all seven grades. Besides great chocolate and cheese, Switzerland is home to three major Romance languages - German, French and Italian. We are learning a Swiss song about the cuckoo bird in French. Orchestra, band and chorus will take place during Friday afternoons and group instrumental lessons will be spread out over Mon., Tues., Wed. and Fri. Our Music from Around the World concert will take place in November.

Thanks so much for supporting this crucial part of your child's education! Yours in music, Mr. K-M

SAVE THOSE BOX TOPS

Please send in all your saved Box Tops for Education. It is a continuous fundraiser throughout the school year. Remember each one is worth 10 cents, a special thank you to Mrs. Bristol who organizes all of them for us. We appreciate all the families who continue to send Box Tops in!

STOP & SHOP A+ POINTS

Don’t forget to register your stop & shop card on line. The school receives a donation every year from you doing this.

http://stopandshop.com/savings-and-rewards/rewards-program/aplus/

PTO FALL EVENTS

SCARECROW CONTEST
OCTOBER 25

HALLOWEEN DANCE
OCTOBER 30
more information to follow
NOTES FROM THE NURSE

It has been a great start to the school year at Hubbardston Center School. Here are some general suggestions for a healthy school year:

1. **Plenty of rest.** A good night sleep helps a child to process what they learned that day and be ready to pay attention in class the next. Sleep also is the time when the body puts its resources to work for growth and healing.
2. **Eat breakfast.** Put some fuel in the engine to make it go!!! Breakfast helps your child be attentive in the classroom and have energy to get through the day. Also, an empty stomach distracts the child’s attention from what’s going on in class.
3. **Daily bath or shower.** Whether it’s at night before bed or in the morning it is important for a child’s overall health to bathe daily and wear clean clothes.
4. **Appropriate clothing.** Our weather changes by the minute! Layering is helpful on the days with cool mornings that turn into hot afternoons. Comfortable shoes that fit, with socks helps prevent blisters. No flip-flops please!

I am here to help your child take advantage of all the opportunities open to her. I will do what I can to keep your child in school and ready to learn. Here are a few suggestions that can help me do that:

1. **Contact me.** If your child has been ill the night before or in the morning please feel free to contact me. (call, email or send a note) I can check on her and care for her.
2. **Medication Administration.** If your child requires prescription medication here at school I will do that. I require a written medication order from the doctor and a signed consent from you. The medication must be brought to school by an adult in a pharmacy labeled container. (forms for this are available in my office, call me)
3. **Updated information.** If your child’s health status changes at any time, please contact me.

Thanks

Barbara Conti, RN BSN

bconti@qrsd.org

ph: 978-928-4487  FAX 078-928 3753
COUNSELOR CORNER

Welcome Back! I’ve enjoyed visiting all the classrooms, seeing familiar faces and getting to know new ones. Our discussions have included getting to know each other, the role of the Counselor, the how’s and why’s of making an appointment and location. In addition to the counseling forms outside my office the mid-older students (grades 2-6) have forms located within their classroom they can fill out and return. The students know we are all a team; home and school. Any questions or concerns please contact me at 978-928-4487 or jfabrizio@qrsd.org.

In the upcoming weeks, be on the lookout for notices from our guidance classroom lessons incorporation the Second Step social-emotional learning curriculum.

Furthermore, our 6th-grade Peer Helper program is in full swing. If your 6th grader did not get a job of his or her choosing they will be future opportunities. The students have been enthusiastic and a great asset around the building working with various staff and students of all ages. Looking forward to working with you and a great school year!

Jen Fabrizio
Guidance Counselor

LIBRARY MEDIA CENTER

Library Circulation: Grades 1-6 will have library time on Wednesday this year. Kindergarten will have it combined with their Media time; Mrs. Coates’ class on Thursday and Mrs. Castriotta’s class on Friday. Please help out your student by reminding them when their book is due. Type to Learn 4 is a program taught to students in grade 2-6. Attached please find the instructions for downloading this program and using it at home. We have a number of students who completed all 34 lessons last year! Questions or concerns please don’t hesitate to call or email me.

Kristine Beaudet
Library Media Specialist
kbeaudet@qrsd.org (978) 928-4487 ex.19
I have truly enjoyed meeting and getting to know all of my new artists at Hubbardston Center School. We will be starting the year off learning about color and line! Grade 6 will be learning about radial symmetry and primary and secondary colors. Grade 5 will be looking at art from a foreshortened viewpoint and creating a self-portrait. Creating a Modern Mona Lisa will be the challenge for the Fourth graders. Not only will they be making Mona Lisa “Modern” they will be learning about Leonardo DaVinci. Going on an archeological dig and using their imaginations is what grade 3 will be doing, by drawing and water coloring. Grades K, 1 and 2, will be busy learning how to draw different lines and how to correctly use water colors.

I am looking forward to creating many exciting projects with your children and they will be featured in a spring art show! If your child doesn’t bring home much art work, it’s because I am saving it for the art show. Once the art show is over the students will create a portfolio to bring all of their work home!

Thank you! Mrs. Topper

“Creativity is Contagious, Pass it on!”

Albert Einstein

HELLO EVERYONE FROM CAPS’ KELLY DAY SCHOOL PROGRAM!

We had a great summer program with our classrooms learning about camping, Vermont, and the Ocean. Now that the school year is upon us we are looking forward to another exciting new year. We have a new teacher on board, her name is Molly Bicchieri and she has the Kelly Day Early Elementary room. Deb Page has the Kelly Day Upper Elementary classroom and I myself, Ms. Erin Blanchette, have the Kelly Day PreK classroom.
In the PreK classroom we are doing a year long unit-- Color Your World Wonderful. We will have an emphasis on social skills and caring for each other and our environment. For the start of the school year we are learning about the colors, shapes, and sounds of Autumn. We have also been making friends with the new kindergarteners out on the playground and in class during a story time/ art activity. All of the students had so much fun that we will surely do a lesson like that again! If you are coming to Open House this week be sure to check out the bulletin boards outside of my classroom to see what the students made.

Ms. Bicchieri's room is rockin' back to school with the book ?Pete the Cat and His Four Groovy Buttons? by Eric Litwin. Our themes for September are ?Back to School? and ?Friendship?! Her class is also joining the first grade music group with Ms. Bohigian and Ms. Mankowsky. They are also joining Ms. McDonald's third grade class for time with their reading buddies.

Mrs. Page's classroom is learning all about butterflies to start the school year. They have a live chrysalis and are anxiously awaiting their painted lady butterflies! The students in the Upper Elementary classroom are also having so much fun with some exciting new inclusion opportunities.

So we want to welcome you to stop in for a visit during Open House this week. We would love to meet you and tell you a little bit more about who we are and what we do. Your wonderful children have made such an impact on our students and we are so pleased to spend another year with Hubbardston Center School!

Wishing a happy and healthy school year to all,

Ms. Erin Blanchette

CAPS Collaborative

"Working with districts to improve results for students"
QRSD EXTENDED DAY PROGRAM

The QRSD -Fun Frontier Extended Day Program enters its 9th year at Hubbardston Center School. We have been privileged to spend time with over 600 students the past 9 years, some who spent their elementary school career coming to the program. These students have challenged us to consistently think, grow and modify the program to what’s it’s become today. We now operate from three schools in the district and treat over 120 students to before and after school enrichment/STEM activities. The program works hard to provide an environment that stresses outdoor/indoor play time, advanced learning opportunities, sportsmanship skills and helping students cope with the stresses of being a kid in today’s world. Our Motto "We have what it takes to make ourselves great," gives each child an opportunity to find something they can excel at. The program has been given some amazing opportunities and was recently awarded an engineering pilot curriculum from The Boston Museum of Science’s Engineering is Elementary program. We conducted our first “Music to My Ears” engineering curriculum during our summer program and we are scheduled to receive two more pilot programs for this school year.

We are off to a great start working hard to complete some fun self-portraits for open house that are sure to "jump" out at you, please be sure to visit the cafeteria to see what a great job all the kids have done. Extended Day kids also have opportunities to go on Field Trips. Sept. 23rd - early release - our first field trip of the school year to Red Apple Farm to pick apples and pumpkins!! Happy Fall.

For more information on how you can enroll your child in our amazing program please contact Kari Sacramone - ksacramone@qrsd.org or (978) 928-4487 x.312