

K-4 Connection

April– May 2022 From the Principal's Desk

Swather Families -

Our school year is quickly coming to an end in a few short weeks. I would like to take this opportunity to thank students and parents for a great year. Our students have learned and grown even when it has been challenging. Thanks for your support and grace.

Our fourth graders have begun the transition process to the middle school. Fourth graders met their buddies on April 19. As they learned to get to know each other, completed "Get to Know You" activities, and asked questions to ease their apprehensions of moving to a new school. On April 25, the fourth grade toured Hesston Middle School with their buddy and got a glimpse of what school is really like. The school counselors and teachers did an excellent job of making this transition a positive experience and reassured all students.

Hesston Elementary welcomed prospective students to Kindergarten Round-Up on the afternoon of April 4. It was fun to see these eager children ready to start their educational experience. Students and parents were introduced to school personnel, as well as answered many questions and completed pre-enrollment. Information on kindergarten can be found at the following link. [Kindergarten Round Up Information](#) We are excited to have these new friends join us at HES.

Students in third and fourth grades completed the Kansas State Assessments in math and reading. These tests were centered on the Kansas College and Career Readiness Standards. Students and teachers worked diligently to complete the assessments and their patience and their best effort was appreciated.

Class placement for the 2022-23 school year will begin soon. If you have questions or concerns regarding placement, please communicate with me in writing by May 31. There are many factors carefully considered by **our team** before a child is placed in a specific classroom. Therefore, individual teacher requests will not be taken. We are dedicated to meeting the educational, social, and emotional needs of each child and will address issues affecting your child on an individual basis.

With the warmer weather, more students are riding their bikes to school. Please remind your child to wear their bike helmet and practice bike safety. Also, please have your child check the lost and found box in the commons area. It is full and running over with coats and jackets.

Thank you parents for supporting teachers and your child(ren) throughout the year with reading, math facts, and positive affirmations. Your tireless efforts and motivation make a difference in the success of your child. Have a wonderful summer!

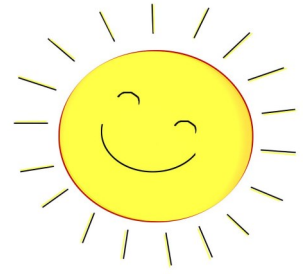
Hesston Elementary School

300 E Amos Hesston, KS 67062

620-327-7102

620-327-7153 fax

Web Site: es.hesstonschools.org



P.E.

Mrs. Brandy Coker

With the school year coming to an end, I would like to thank everyone who volunteered this year in one way or another for various PE events. These activities could not happen without the support of parents and community! With that being said, our Field Day will be May 10th. Be sure to send back the volunteer form if you can help out!



HELP NEEDED FOR FIELD DAY!

TUESDAY, MAY 10th

- ☐ **I can help 8:30-approx.11:50 am**
- ☐ **I can help approx. 12:30-2:30 pm**
- ☐ **I can help *all day***

Parent's Name _____

Student's Name _____

Student's Teacher _____

Team IV

Mrs. Gayle Boles Miss Courtney Unruh Mrs. Kristen Stucky

It is hard to believe that the year is coming to an end! The last few weeks of 4th grade have, and will continue to be, very busy!

Students worked on state assessments that reviewed skills in reading and math.

Fourth graders were thrilled to be meeting up with their middle school buddies. Their buddies will help them make the transition to middle school easier. Hopefully you were able to attend the 4th grade Open House at the Middle School on April 29 to meet up with their buddy. .

The students and teachers are excited to finish up the year with our annual trips to Kanopolis. Students will spend the day hiking, learning about Kansas history and land, and making memories with their classmates.

Look for more information from your child's teacher regarding end of the year events, such as field day and the 4th grade clap-up.



April 29—Swag Fun Run

April 29—Last Day for Cold Sack Lunch Option

May 8 —Pizza Hut Day

May 9—Field Day Opening Ceremony

May 9 —HEIP Meeting 5:00 pm

May 10– Field Day, All Day

May 18—Grade Cards Sent Home

May 19– Last Day of School, Noon Dismissal



Meal Prices for May—14 Meals

HES meals can be found on USD 460's website under the Menu tab.

All Meals are no charge through the end of the 2021-2022 School Year!

Extra Milk—\$.75

ATTENTION LUNCH VISITORS!!

Our students love having guests in the lunchroom.

However, due to COVID restrictions we are not allowing guests at this time.

From the Counselor

Mrs. Dawn Lafferty

It is hard to believe that the end of the year is right around the corner! We should all take a moment to celebrate everything we have accomplished! As we look forward to special end of the year activities such as field day, the fun run and 4th grade clap up, it is important to look back on all the things that we have learned this year. We have had so much fun learning about our Purposeful People words each month. Students have practiced each character trait in the classroom and I have supported these concepts in my wheel lessons. (See how many of the actions your child can remember!) It is my hope that as we continue to focus on these traits under the umbrella of our building pillars of **Respect, Responsibility and Integrity**, good character can truly become the way we work and play together everyday.

Our last character word of the year is Courage. As we head into the summer months with different activities, kids often need some enCOURAGEment to try new things. The hard thing about courage is that it always exists with fear - without fear there is no courage! This can be difficult to watch our kids walk through. Fear wants to take the driver's seat, but we as caregivers can help our kids with the skills they need to practice being courageous!

Here are some tips from Karen Young, who writes for the website Hey Sigmond.

1. Speak of their "brave" as they are already there.
2. Give permission for imperfection and encourage their sense of adventure.
3. You won't always feel ready, that's why it's brave.

You can read more about each of these and a few more ideas [here!](#)

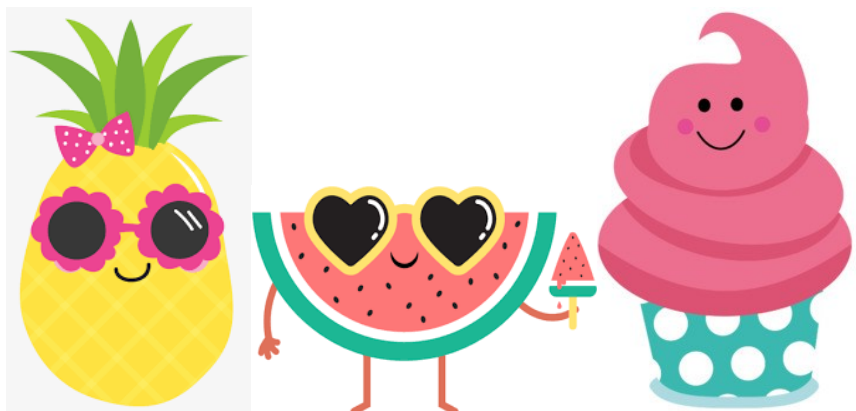
Another topic that I have enjoyed teaching about this year is the brain! Specifically the "upstairs" and "downstairs" brain. It is important for everyone to know how the brain works so that we can understand what is happening when we experience big emotions such as sadness, anger or even a case of the sillies! [Check out this short video](#) that explains how our brain works and what happens when we flip our lids! My goal is to teach kids strategies that they can use to get back to their "upstairs brain" and be learning ready! As always, please let me know if you have any questions or concerns about your child. You can email, call or stop in anytime.

Have a great end of the year!

Mrs. Lafferty

dawn.lafferty@usd460.org

620-327-7102 ext. 4004



Hesston Elementary Parents = H.El.P

It's hard to believe that the school year is close to wrapping up. We are part of an awesome community! Speaking of awesome... how about all of our amazing teachers!

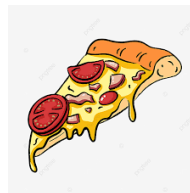
We are excited to celebrate Teacher Appreciation Week May 2nd-6th. This is an excellent time to let your child's teacher know how thankful you are for all they do! H.El.P will be providing treats for the teachers throughout the week but please feel free to send a note or have your child create a note thanking their teacher for all their hard work! They have put in extra hours and thought outside the box to make this another great year for our kids!

Our families and community have shown great support for H.E.S. on our Pizza Hut fundraising days! We have had an overwhelming response and have raised great funds for our school. Bravo, families and thank you for your support! We are so thankful Pizza Hut has partnered with us to give back a percentage of all purchases during those days. Our last Pizza Day will be Sunday, May 8. Mark your calendar and don't miss out!

Have a great summer break!

Maddie Epp—President Sarahanne Unruh—Treasurer Desi Adkins—Secretary

Liz Pfautz—Staff Support Vanessa Grieser—Family Events



Slip, Slop, Slap, Seek & Slide

Ah, the sounds of summer! May is skin cancer awareness month, so here are some tips to keep your skin healthy this summer as you play in the sun:

Slip on protective clothing. Keep exposed skin covered as much as possible. Use loose fitting clothes made of tightly woven material.

Slop on the sunscreen. Use broad-spectrum sunscreen with an SPF of 30 or higher. Apply a generous amount to exposed skin 20 minutes before sun exposure and reapply every 2 hours or as often as recommended on the label.

Slap on a hat with a wide brim to protect eyes, ears, face, and back or neck. These are areas prone to over exposure to the sun.

Seek shade.

Slide on a pair of sunglasses that provide 99-100% UVA & UVB protection.

Have a fun and safe summer!!

