



May 2024 Houghton Elementary School

Cole Klein, Principal
Patrick Aldrich, Assistant Principal



How Important is the Summer to Your Child's Academic Success?

The summer provides students with an opportunity to spend time with family and enjoy being kids—this is very important. The summer also provides an opportunity for you to help your child excel in school. This is three months that you can work with your child on their education and future. Here are some practical ideas to help.

Make time each day to read with and to your children. If your child can already read—read with them. If they cannot—read to them. A great resource to use is your library, running story times and reading programs.

Make flash cards.

Young learners benefit from repetition. This can be letter recognition, number recognition, sight words etc. This can help pass the time on long trips or be used daily. Ten minutes a day reviewing flashcards can make a huge difference.

Expose your child to possible careers.

Students will be more motivated and excited about school when they see it connects to opportunities later in life.

Make math hands-on.

When you review numbers, put real things in their hands. Have young learners count their mon-

ey at the store, count their toys or steps around the block. Any time offers an opportunity to review math—be creative.

Last, have fun. Make learning fun for your child.

I hope that all of you have a safe and educational summer!



Upcoming Events:

- **May 9th**—Fine Arts Night
- **May 27th**—NO SCHOOL -Memorial Day
- **June 4th**—Field Day (back up day June 5th)
- **June 6th**—5th Grade Banner Ceremony
- **June 6th**—LAST DAY for Students (Students Dismissed at 11:20, No Lunch)

Teacher Appreciation Week

Teacher appreciation week is this week, May 6th—10th. We have an amazing group of teachings here at Houghton Elementary School that go above and beyond for our students and school each day. Please take time

to say thank you. I truly feel grateful to have this opportunity to work with such a talented and dedicated staff!

-Mr. Klein



Please remember to slow down in our parking lot during drop-off and pick-up.



April TEAM Students

Every month we are recognizing a student in each class that exemplifies our school's TEAM goals:

Take Responsibility

Earn Respect

Act Positively

Make it Safe

These students will enjoy a cookie from the principal and receive a certificate. Our April honorees are:

Young 5's: Theo Roy

K: Esme Jaehnig, Yvonne Li, Emersyn Rilei, Finlee Kilpela, Tanishqa Mandal

1st : Winnie Voldarski, Hazel Lawrence, Pearl Kilpela, Oliver Kalinec, Jasper Morse,

2nd: Leif Westenberg, Mitchell Gagnon, Camden Wright, Leo Greenley, Logan Girard,

3rd: Kinoka Minakata, Emery Wiitanen, Adeline Fiala, Elliot Smith, Tyler Pietila

4th: Preston Schlieff, Luke Rubich, Jack McCarty, Angelina Datto

5th: Megan Little, Avalyn Gruver, Roxi Blair, Max Pietila, Ellie Ploe

Congratulations!

TEAM Students



Kindergarten Registration 2024-2025

Houghton-Portage Township Schools has begun registering kindergarten-aged children for the 2024-2025 school year. Children who will be five years of age by December 1st, 2024, are eligible to enter kindergarten or Young 5's. Please call Houghton Elementary School at 482-0456 ext. 3040 with

questions. Children currently attending Young 5's are automatically registered for kindergarten.



Field Day 2024

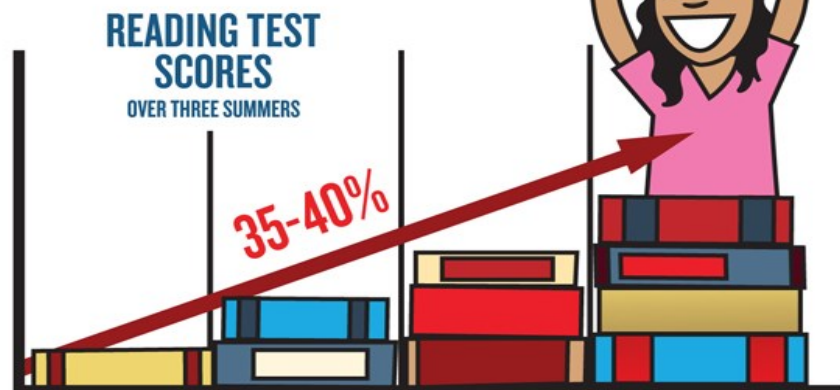
We are excited to announce that our Field Day 2024 event will be on June 4th. The entire school will be outside enjoying challenges and competitions as a class.

Parents are welcome to come watch events throughout the day.

Please keep an eye on the weather and make sure that you child is dressed in layers to stay comfortable while outside throughout the day!

BOOKS BEAT SUMMER SLIDE

Children who are given access to books over the summer perform 35-40% better on reading achievement tests than those without access to books.



Counselor's Corner

Fun ways to keep learning over the summer

Grow a great Zucchini What better way to learn the basics of science and how things grow than to plant your own garden? You can start with seeds or small plants. Talk about what plants need to be hardy: air, water, sunlight and nutrients. Vegetables are especially fun and educational to plant because your child will learn where food comes from and will also get to eat the end product.

Paint the picket fence, baby-sit or volunteer at a soup kitchen.

Even young children can learn to be responsible by helping to set the table, take care of a pet, clean out a closet, wash the car or paint the picket fence. Ask your child to be your energy consultant and help find ways to conserve energy in your house. Outside summer jobs and community service help children learn to be punctual, follow directions and serve others.

Clip, paste and write about your family adventures. A family vacation is a perfect opportunity to create a trip scrapbook that will be a lasting souvenir of family adventures. Collect postcards, brochures and menus from restaurants and tourist attractions. Encourage your child to write descriptions of the places you visited and tell stories about your family's escapades. Or suggest a scrapbook on your child's favorite sports team or a chronicle of his year in school. The scrapbook might contain photos with captions, newspaper clippings or school mementos.

Many photo-sharing Web sites, such as Shutterfly or Kodak Gallery, will help you (for a fee) create professional quality photo books, where you arrange the photos and write captions.

Become the family's junior travel agent. Half the fun of a trip starts before you get there. Involve your child in the planning by practicing how to use a map to find cities, tourist attractions, and how to estimate distances. If you are driving, work with your child to figure out how many gallons of gas it will take to get there and estimate the cost. If you are flying or traveling by train, check travel schedules and costs.

Turn a museum trip into a treasure hunt. Get your children excited about visiting a museum by exploring the museum's Web site and taking a virtual tour. When you go to a museum, take into account short attention spans and don't try to cover a whole museum in one day. To make them less intimidating, start in the gift shop and let your child pick out some postcards of paintings or objects on display. Turn your museum trip into a treasure hunt by trying to find those paintings or objects in the museum. Look for interactive exhibits and for periods of history that your child has studied in school.

Become an investment guru or a math wizard. Summer is the perfect time for older children and teens to learn about the stock market and the value of investing. A good way to get started is to investigate publicly held companies that teens are familiar with, such as Apple Computer, eBay, Nike or Tootsie Roll. The Motley Fool "Teens and Money" Web site is devoted to helping teens learn about saving and investing. Your older child might also want to join a Junior Investor program to learn more about the stock market. It is also possible to help your teen get a head start on high school math by doing math puzzles.



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JOIN US FOR “FINE ARTS NIGHT”

Houghton Elementary School FINE ARTS NIGHT

WHEN: Thursday, May 9th, 2024

- Time: 5:30-7:30 PM Art Viewing
- 6:30 4th and 5th grade Choir Performance
- Artwork from every student will be on display outside of their classrooms and around the school.
- Rock painting will be available to promote the Downtown Beautification Committee's Rock Ribbon.
- Several student entrepreneurs will have their products on display and for sale.
- Celebrate our rich Farm to School program by viewing our new Flex Farm hydroponic tower and Garden towers. Check out updates to our cafeteria food systems mural and pick up some plant starts too!
- TWO FOOD TRUCKS (7 Wonders and The Dog Father) will be here from 5-8PM
- Participate in our Scavenger Hunt and turn in your slip for a prize!



18 OR MORE DAYS

- Excused and unexcused absences represent lost time in the classroom and lost opportunities to learn.
- Missing just one day every two weeks can add up to 18 days in a year. Absences add up before you even know it.



10 TO 17 DAYS

- Students who are absent an average of 15 days a year miss a year's worth of school before their senior year.
- When students miss a day of school it actually puts them two days behind their classmates.



9 OR FEWER ABSENCES

- Students with good attendance generally achieve higher grades and enjoy school more.
- Children benefit and make the most of their educational opportunities if they attend school regularly and on time.