HOUGHTON ELEMENTARY

November Newsletter



Houghton Elementary School is a proud 2023 National Blue Ribbon School and a MTSS Silver Recognition school for behavior and reading supports. We provide a safe, supportive, and engaging environment where all students can thrive. Our dedicated staff fosters strong relationships and delivers a rich, well-rounded education that prepares students for success.

Upcoming Events

Monday, Nov. 9th - Friday, Nov. 13th
Scholastic Bookfair

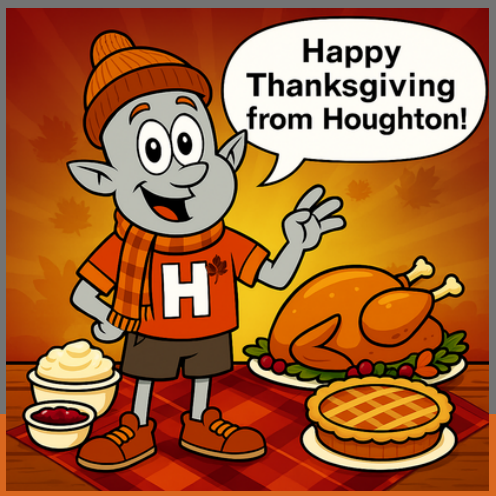
Thursday, November 12th
Parent Teacher Conferences
1:00pm - 3:00pm and 5:00pm - 7:00pm

Friday, November 13th
Parent Teacher Conferences
1:00pm - 3:00pm

Wednesday, Nov. 25th
No School! Teacher In-Service

Thursday, Nov. 26th
No School! Thanksgiving Break

Friday, Nov. 27th
No School! Thanksgiving Break



Parent-Teachers' Conferences

Houghton Elementary will hold Parent-Teacher Conferences for all students on Thursday, November 12th and Friday, November 11th. We encourage every family to attend, as parent involvement is an important part of your child's education.

If you have not yet scheduled an appointment, please contact your child's teacher as soon as possible. If you need to reschedule, reach out to your child's teacher right away, as coordinating schedules can be challenging.

We look forward to partnering with you and seeing you at conferences!

TV6 Canathon and Toys for Tots

Houghton Elementary Student Council is once again proud to support our community this holiday season through the TV6 Canathon and Toys for Tots collection drives!

We invite students and families to help spread kindness by donating non-perishable food items and new, unwrapped toys. All donations stay local and help families in need during the holidays.

The TV6 Canathon will run throughout the entire month of November, and Toys for Tots donations will be accepted through mid-December.

Let's show our Gremlin spirit and prove that "Other People Matter!"

A Positive Climate and Culture

“Every Student. Every Day. Whatever it takes.” - Jimmy Casas

At Houghton Elementary, “Every student. Every day.” is more than a motto — it guides everything we do. Through Capturing Kids’ Hearts, The Positivity Project, and our T.E.A.M. behavior system, we build strong relationships and a safe, supportive environment where every student feels valued and ready to succeed.

The Positivity Project

At Houghton Elementary, we’re proud to continue our work with The Positivity Project, a school-wide initiative that helps students build strong relationships and character. Each week, students explore different character strengths that support their social and emotional growth.

This month, our focus will be on two important traits: Bravery and Gratitude.

- Bravery is about facing challenges even when it's difficult. Whether it’s standing up for what’s right, trying something new, or working through tough emotions, we’re helping students recognize that courage doesn’t mean being fearless—it means doing the right thing even when you are afraid.
- Gratitude encourages students to recognize and appreciate the good in their lives. Whether it's a kind friend, a caring teacher, or simply a sunny day, we want students to notice and express thanks for the positives—big and small.

Through classroom discussions, morning messages, and read-alouds, students will reflect on how these character strengths shape their relationships, behavior, and sense of self.

We encourage you to talk about these traits at home! Ask your child:

- "When was a time you showed bravery recently?"
- "What are three things you’re thankful for today?"

Together, we can help all of our Gremlins grow into thoughtful, resilient, and compassionate

October T.E.A.M. Students

Each month we are recognize a student in each class that exemplifies our schools TEAM goals:

Take responsibility
Earn respect
Act positively
Make it safe

CONGRATULATIONS TEAM STUDENTS!!!!

Kindergarten/Y5's: Zoey Sechrest, Patrick Adkins, Wesley Anderson, Sienna Saint-Onge, Aerik Lindquist

1st Grade: Conor Kelly, Aeron Lindquist, Emilia Hodges, Noah Seppanen

2nd Grade: Jensen Juntunen, Delilah O’Connell, Jane Atkinson, Jaxon Malone

3rd Grade: Levi Watrous, Eliza Anderson, Eevie Campain, Lexi Bustos

4th Grade: Wilder Hansen, Wes Steelman, Watson Geshel, Thomas Gleason, Ingrid Kurtti

5th Grade: Auggie Meckler, Rex Walls, Vera Ison, Jase Williams, Hunter Chamberlain

HOUGHTON Gremlins

Updates and Reminders

Gremlin Health & Wellness: Every Student, Every Day!

Stay Healthy, Gremlins!

As we head into flu season, we ask families to help keep our school community healthy. Please keep your child home if they have:

- **A fever of 100°F or higher (must be fever-free for 24 hours without medication before returning)**
- **Vomiting or diarrhea within the last 24 hours**
- **Severe sore throat, cough, or difficulty breathing**
- **Red, irritated, or painful eyes with discharge**
- **An undiagnosed or spreading rash**

Encouraging rest and recovery helps prevent the spread of illness and ensures your child returns to school healthy and ready to learn. Thank you for your support!



EVERY DAY COUNTS!

The Importance of Attendance

At Houghton Elementary, we believe that every day of learning matters. When students attend school regularly, they build stronger relationships, stay on track with their learning, and develop positive habits that lead to long-term success.

Even missing just a few days each month can add up quickly and make it harder for students to keep up. We understand that absences are sometimes unavoidable, but we encourage families to make daily attendance a priority whenever possible.

Thank you for working with us to ensure that our Gremlins are present, prepared, and ready to learn — every student, every day!

Winter Weather Reminders

As winter approaches, please help keep our Gremlins safe and warm:

- **Closings & Delays:** Announcements by 7:00 a.m. via text, Parent Listserv, school website, TV6, and local radio. Buses run two hours late on delayed-start days. Early dismissals will be communicated promptly.
- **Dress for Recess:** Warm coats, hats, mittens, boots, and snow pants are needed for outdoor play. Students may be sent inside to put on coats if needed.
- **Label Clothing:** Helps return lost items and keeps Lost and Found manageable.
- **Need Winter Gear?** Let the school know — we're here to help.

Thank you for helping our Gremlins stay safe, warm, and ready to learn!

Houghton-Portage Township

Gremlins Wellness Center

Medical Services call 906-482-0450 ext. 1260
Or email us at: gremlinswellness@hpts.us
Visit our website by clicking HERE

The Gremlin Wellness Center at Houghton High School provides quick, on-site care for students. Services include physical exams, sick care, treatment for acute and chronic illnesses, immunizations, rapid flu and strep testing, over-the-counter medications, health education, and referrals for specialty care.

Parents can bring their child to the Wellness Center, just like the a walk-in clinic, if they go home sick from school. Using the center helps students stay healthy, recovery quickly, and return to school sooner ready to learn.

HOUGHTON Gremlins