



Hanlon School Newsletters

January 2021

From the Desk of Mrs. Cronin:

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January 11, 2021

Dear Hanlon Families,

The events in Washington last week led to rich, developmentally appropriate conversations in Hanlon classrooms. Teachers took their cues from students, and used existing structures such as Morning Meeting and Social Studies to respond to student questions and to teach relevant curricular content. For example, in Morning Meetings, we heard children ask thoughtful questions, process their understanding of facts, share worries, and express their hopes for peace in our nation. In Social Studies classes, I observed teachers discussing our branches of government, the election process, and the constitution. WPS has had an intentional focus on providing professional development for staff around the topics of dignity, social-justice, anti-bias, anti-racism, and facilitating difficult conversations in age-appropriate ways. Conversations in a kindergarten classroom look different than those of a fifth grade class. As I listened to classroom conversations last week, I was impressed with students' insights, and with teachers' ability to help children feel safe and supported while also helping them to think critically.

Honoring Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

Please join the WPS community as we welcome Michael Curry, Esq. and honor Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. with a virtual tribute on Monday, January 18th from 1-3PM. The target audience is high school aged students and older. Registration is required. [Click here to view the flyer and register.](#)

Square One Art

Beginning next week, Hanlon will participate in the Square 1 Art Fundraiser, sponsored by PTO. Each student will draw their self-portrait, and families will be able to order gifts such as mugs, aprons, notepads, etc. printed with their child's portrait. Every child is given a free sheet of stickers with their artwork, so no student is left without getting something. This year, we are adding to our self-portraits by asking students to draw what they want to be when they grow up. **All students K-5 will work on their self-portraits during asynchronous work on the next two Wednesdays: Jan. 20th and 27th.** January 20th will be dedicated to sketching

their self-portrait, and on January 27, children will add color and finalize their artwork. Ms. Miller will post an instructional video and directions on her Art Website. Teachers will include the project in their asynchronous plans for students on the two Wednesdays. Special paper, student photos, and multicultural crayons will be sent home for each student in the next few days. Completed portraits should be sent back to school on Thursday, January 28th so we can send them to Square 1 Art.

SEPAC Elementary Meet ‘n’ Greet

Westwood’s Special Education Parent Advisory Council is hosting a January event aimed at parents of elementary students. [Check out www.westwoodsepac.org or click to read about the Elementary School Parent Meet & Greet](http://www.westwoodsepac.org): Wednesday 1/20 at 7:30pm.

COVID Reporting and Questions

It is essential that families report any student COVID testing (whether positive, negative, or awaiting results) to WPS COVID team and Nurse Galvin. Please do not report solely to the classroom teacher. Our COVID Monitoring and Response Team is the first group to email with questions, symptoms, or if you are seeking guidance: wpscovidteam@westwood.k12.ma.us. If your child is exhibiting potential symptoms of COVID-19, do not send your child to school. Use the QR code on the [WPS Daily Health Checklist](#) or [this link](#) to report your child's symptoms. This will also generate an alert the WPS COVID-19 Monitoring and Response Team. This will also generate an alert the WPS COVID-19 Monitoring and Response Team. Doing so will activate our internal protocols and will ensure that school nurses remain available to respond to typical school health issues. We appreciate in advance your cooperation with this important procedure. (All other non-COVID absences should be reported by emailing the homeroom teacher and the Main Office: astaulo@westwood.k12.ma.us). The WPS Website is continually updated with resources and updates in response to COVID 19.

End of Term 1

We are nearing the end of the first semester, and families can expect progress reports to be available in Aspen on January 30th. More information on changes to this year’s report cards, as well as instructions on how to access your child’s grades will be sent at the end of January.

Communication on Student Absences

On behalf of the Hanlon Staff, I would like to thank families for keeping children home when they have symptoms, and for communicating with teachers about pre-planned absences far in advance. Teachers prepare materials and plans for in-person learners differently than they prepare for children learning at home. When teachers have advance notice that a student will be out for a week or more, they are able to plan intentionally and to send materials home to support your child with asynchronous or online assignments. The District recently provided families

with an opportunity to change your child's learning model for the second semester, and asked families to commit to one learning model for the remainder of the year.

1,000 Hours Outside Challenge

Some of our Hanlon classrooms have committed to the Thousand Hours Outside Challenge, which was suggested by WPS Science Coordinator, Kate Doyle. [Check out the website here.](#) This is a challenge to match screen time with time spent outside in nature. It challenges us to get outside for 1000 hours this year. Walks, recess, sledding, gardening, skiing, stargazing, summer naps in the shade, time on the beach, mowing your lawn, playing games... they all COUNT as long as they are outside. There are great trackers for all ages to keep motivated toward the goal. My family is taking up the challenge in 2021, and I hope many Hanlon Families will too!

Fun Run

Our PTO is sponsoring a Fun Run in March. This race is an opportunity for families to get outside, have some fun, and sponsor a great cause: the Westwood Food Pantry! Run any time the weekend of March 27th and 28th, choose your route or follow the suggested route map, and print your bib. Register by March 10th to get your t-shirt and medal.

<https://runsignup.com/Race/MA/Westwood/HanlonFunRun>

Jump Rope for Heart

Ms. Jennings and Mr. Chant are once again sponsoring the Jump Rope for Heart program. The focus is on getting active and making healthy choices for a healthy heart and body. Stay tuned for more information!

If you need to contact the Main Office for attendance/dismissal changes or if you have questions, email astaulo@westwood.k12.ma.us or call 781-326-7500 x8424

Hanlon School on Twitter

Follow @HanlonSchool_ps to see photos of our #HappyatHanlon kids!

School Committee

Did you know that Amanda Phillips is Hanlon's School Committee Representative? If you have questions, contact Ms. Phillips at aphillips-sc@westwood.k12.ma.us

Hanlon Elementary School, 790 Gay Street, Westwood, MA 02090 781-325-7500 x.8424
Sarah Cronin, Principal

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如果您需要翻译本文档，请致电Westwood的公立学校的学生服务部在781 326-7500 x1345或电子邮件您的要求 mmartin@westwood.k12.ma.us 谢谢你。

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لك. لطلب كنتشكر mmartin@westwood.k12.ma.us البريد الالكتروني الخاص بك

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