



Hanlon School Newsletters

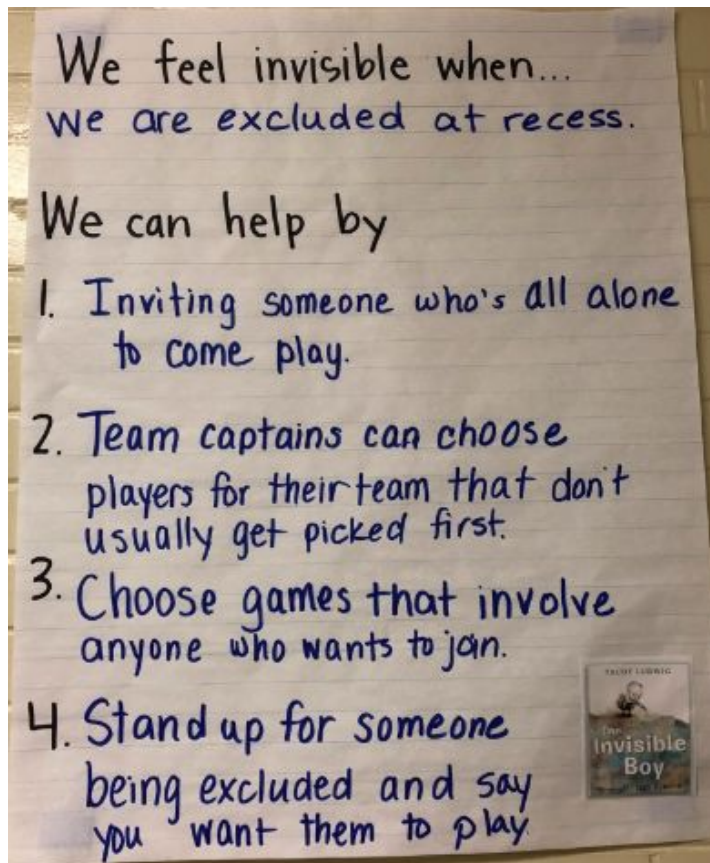
December 2017

From the Desk of Mrs. Cronin:

December 11, 2017

Dear Hanlon Families,

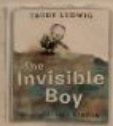
Hanlon School enjoyed celebrating National Inclusive Schools Week. Our One School, One Story was a great success. Each classroom read *The Invisible Boy* by Trudy Ludwig and brainstormed ideas for including children who feel left out. Here are a few of the posters lining our halls:

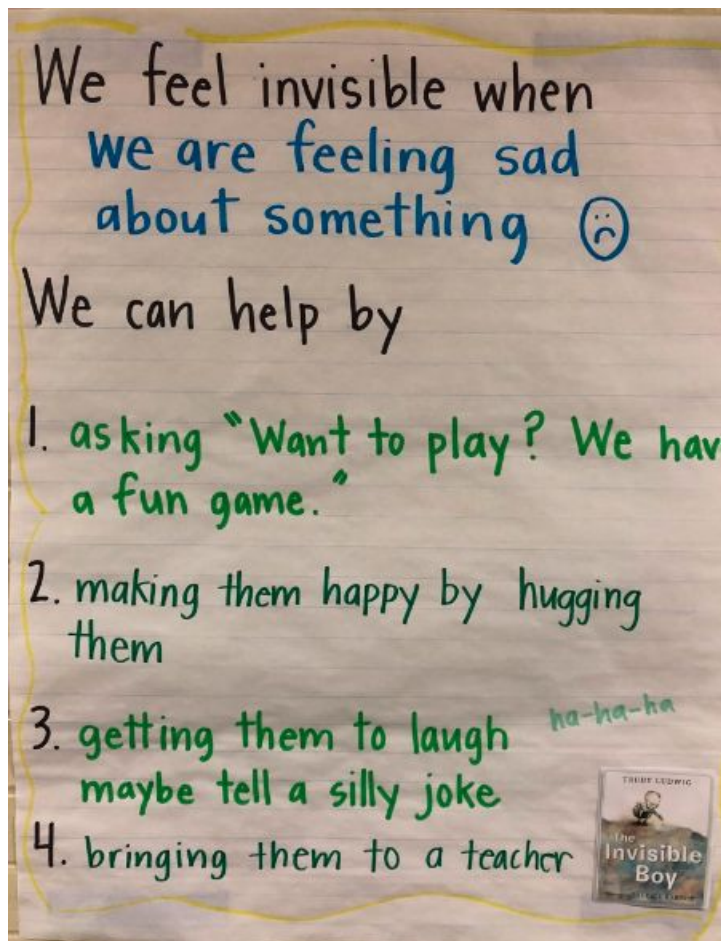


We feel invisible when
we are left out or excluded

We can help by

1. Inviting someone to sit or play with you.
2. Ask them to join your group.
3. Start a conversation with them.
Maybe ask them a question.
4. Give them a compliment
example: "Great kick!"





We were thrilled to welcome Community Readers who visited classrooms this week to read aloud stories with inclusive themes. Thanks to the careful organization and promotion of Kathy Beggan, Jackie Keaveney and Christina Martin, Hanlon was visited by a representation of parents and community members with diverse backgrounds including: Retired Firefighter Tiger Allen, Joanna Blaney, Anne Callendar, Rabbi Karen Citrin, Hania Khuri-Trapper, School Committee Member Tony Mullin, Superintendent Emily Parks, Colonel Michelle Peck USAF, WPD Sergeant Paul Sicard, Maria Vasilevsky, and Vivian Vogel. Students enjoyed listening to their stories and participating in discussions. Thank you to all who volunteered their time!

The Hanlon Parent Book group was another success for Inclusive Schools Week. Claire Gritton, Hanlon student, read *The Invisible Boy* aloud to the parents in attendance.

Emily Mohr, Claire's mom, facilitated the book discussion. The conversation was rich and filled with ideas about how parents can model inclusive practices for their children. We hope to host more parent book groups in the future.

Holiday Fair

Many thanks to Dawn Khoury, her volunteers, and the PTO for making the Hanlon Holiday Fair such an enjoyable night for all. Children enjoyed purchasing gifts for their loved ones, and it was nice to see so many families gathering and enjoying each others' company while the kids were shopping.

Pajama Project

Student Council would like to remind you about their community service project: The Pajama Project. They are collecting new pajamas for children, infants, and teens up to 18 years old. It must be a complete set (tops and bottoms). Donations will be collected in a box outside the Main Office until Friday, December 15th. If we collect at least 200 sets, the entire school will win a Pajama Day!

Spirit Day: Class Match Day

Student Council has planned our next Spirit Day for Thursday, December 14th. Each classroom will decide together what they will wear. Some classes will choose a certain color, others will choose a theme such as "fancy" or stripes. Please remember that recess is usually outside, so make sure children have appropriate footwear and cold-weather gear. Hats should not be worn in the building.

Toys for Tots

The Extended Day Program is collecting Toys for Tots. Donations of new unwrapped toys can be dropped off in the box in the Extended Day classroom. If your donation requires batteries, please include them. The collection will go through Thursday, Dec. 14th.

Last chance: Lost ‘n’ Found

The Hanlon Lost ‘n’ Found has two racks full of sweatshirts, fleeces, and jackets. All items will be collected and donated during the December Break. Stop by between now and then to take a look! We always return labeled items, so please write your child’s name inside their clothing.

BOKS is coming

We are excited to announce that BOKS (Building Our Kids Success) is returning to the Hanlon School this winter!! BOKS is an early morning exercise program for children sponsored by Reebok. BOKS prepares students for a day of learning and is an important step in helping children appreciate the benefits of exercise and healthy choices that will last a lifetime. BOKS was inspired by the book “Spark” by Dr. John Ratey of Harvard Medical School. Several studies establish that moderate to vigorous physical activity stimulates brain function and creates the physiological conditions for students to be ready to learn. Grades 3-5 will meet on Wednesdays from 7:45am-8:30am, and K-2 will be on Thursdays from 7:45am-8:30am in the Hanlon gymnasium. The session will run for eight weeks from the week of January 29th through the week of March 27th. The cost to participate is \$15.00 per student for the session.

Sign-ups will open on Tuesday, Jan 9th at 8PM. Students will be accepted on a first-come, first-served, basis. The pre-registration form “timestamps” entries to ensure fairness. If your child is accepted, you will receive an email confirmation with a detailed registration form that you must fill out and return by the deadline listed.

Cold Weather

Now that the cold weather has arrived, I’d like to share a few reminders. Children play outside on the playground before school and at lunch recess, unless the temperature is below 20 degrees, or raining hard. It is important to make sure children are properly dressed for the weather, and this is especially important for students who walk to school, or who wait at the bus stop.

Winter jackets, hats, and mittens are appropriate for cold days. Sweatshirts, fleeces, and light jackets that are worn inside will not keep children warm enough to prevent

cold injury. Please be sure your child has the correct clothing so that recess can be enjoyed safely. Many children keep an extra pair of mittens stuffed inside a hat in their backpack just in case.

Remember to label everything with your child's name. Labeled clothing is always returned to children when it arrives in Lost and Found. If you need assistance with financing winter gear, or you know of a family in need, please contact Mrs. Cronin. Financial assistance will be handled respectfully and confidentially.

Used Legos Wanted

Hanlon is looking for donations of gently used Legos for a variety of uses with students. If you have Legos to donate, please drop them off in the Main Office.

School Committee

Did you know that Carol Lewis is Hanlon's School Committee Representative? If you have questions, contact Ms. Lewis at cswjlewis@gmail.com.

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

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