Greetings Harbor View Families!

As we approach the upcoming holiday season I would like to take this opportunity to thank the teachers, volunteers, parents and PTA members who are working hard each day to make Harbor View a great place for students. It is through this dedication to our school that we are able to continue to make great achievements, like our most recent school report card rating of Excellent on the Absolute Rating and Good on the Growth Rating. I look forward to this continued success in 2014 and the many years to come.

I hope that each and every one of you enjoys our upcoming winter break and are able to spend time with your family and other loved ones.

Lara Latto
Principal
From the HVES PTA

Please join us for our next PTA Meeting on Tuesday, December 10th at 6:15pm.

Bring the entire family for a brief informational meeting followed by a holiday performance by the HVES Chorus! Other PTA Meeting dates are Thursday, February 6th and Tuesday, April 1st.

GREAT JOB! Thank you to the MANY volunteers, donors, sponsors, and those who attended the Oyster Roast Fall Fundraiser! We raised $6000 for our school!!

Teacher Appreciation Lunch
Did you know that PTA provides a special lunch from a local restaurant once a month for Harbor View teachers and staff? Its a small way to show our thanks and give back to those who do so much for our children. It is time to line up our food sponsors for 2014. Do you own a local restaurant or catering business? Do you know a business that would like to support our school by providing lunch? Please contact Suzie at suzsteed@aol.com for more details.

Thank you to Bagel Cafe, Kickin' Chicken, Mondo's, and Holy City Pizzeria who have all contributed in making our HVES staff very happy in 2013!

Our next Chick Fil A Spirit Night is Thursday, December 19th from 5-8pm. HVES receives a portion of food sales - remember to drop your receipt in the "HVES Box" after ordering. Also, the class with the highest attendance will win a free nugget tray! Congratulations to Mrs. Bradford's class (October winner) and Mrs. Munn's class (November winner)!

Our next Melvin's BBQ Spirit Night is Tuesday, January 7th from 5-8pm. Free Jump Castle! HVES receives a portion of food sales - remember to drop your receipt in the "HVES Box" after ordering.

For up-to-date information about HVES, please "like" us on Facebook – "Harbor View Elementary School PTA (Parent Teacher Association)"


Please remember while you are doing your holiday shopping that books always make the best gifts! On that note, thanks to a gift from the PTA, students are getting ready to meet and hear local author Michelle Thompson on **December, Friday the 13th** as she reads her holiday book “Charlie the Tree” and answers students’ questions about the writing and publishing process. Students can purchase the books for a special school price of $7.99, and they are also available on Kindle. Ms. Thompson is happy to autograph her books also. Students may obtain the order form from Mrs. Parker.

Click on the book for more information.

Again, a Big Thank You to all students, teachers, parents, grandparents, aunts, uncles, etc., who visited the Annual Fall Book Fair in the Harbor View library, purchased books and other items, and made the Book Fair a great success! The proceeds from the Book Fair will go towards purchasing new books for the Harbor View library for the benefit of the students.

Of course, the success of the Book Fair would not be possible without the help of many dedicated, hard-working people who took time out from their busy schedules and volunteered all week to assist in setting up the Book Fair, man the cash registers, answer hundreds of questions, manage crowd control, help students with their purchases, and pack up the cases at the end.

A Very Special Thank You to the following helpers who showed up with their sleeves rolled up and a smile on their faces and made it all happen:

- Michelle Boyle
- Kara Godefroy
- Corinne Citrolo
- Karen Wilson
- Ruby Snipes
- Mr. Richardson
- Ruth Edmonds
- Jaci Furlano
- Kelly Elledge
- Erica Ciucci
- Amy Mitchell
- Christie Segle
- Suzie Steed
- Jennifer Harriett
- Medea Duffy
- Caroline Baker
- Lucy Dunlap
- Lynda Horrocks
- Rick Mintz
- Jenny Dickerson
- Quinn Dixon
- Susan Pope
- Janet Nixon

**Get Caught Reading!**

Many students have been caught reading around the school and were given tickets for a drawing on the live Monday morning news show. Those whose names were drawn to have their picture taken for the Get Caught Reading! Wall.
Mrs. Roddey, Mrs. Vevon, and Mrs. Kacpura dress up for college day during career week.

The Oysters were plentiful at the HVES/PTA Oyster Roast on Nov. 15th!

Tracy Condon and Quinn Dixon are two of our wonderful volunteers!

DaMarcus Vinson enjoys Thanksgiving lunch with his "grand-daddy"

Don’t miss the... HVES Talent Show
Friday, January 10, 2014 6:30!

A fire safety presentation by Austin Smith’s dad
From the Music Teacher...

In music class we have been busy singing, playing and learning a variety of holiday songs. 4th and 5th graders are working hard to earn “belts” on their recorders by playing selected songs proficiently. Students will be trying to earn special “holiday belts” throughout the month of December. Thank you to all the parents for encouraging your children to practice and for listening to “Hot Cross Buns” or “Jingle Bells” repeatedly! It is a busy time of year for our 4th and 5th grade chorus members!

On December 2nd they performed Holiday songs at the James Island Recreation Center Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony! The next performance will be the holiday concert at the school on December 10th. Chorus will also be performing the national anthem at the College of Charleston basketball game on December 21st. We are looking forward to representing our school in the community for all of these performances!

Congratulations!
2013-2014 Harbor View Teacher of the Year
Kelly Billman
I am very excited to tell you about what is happening in the computer lab for 3rd - 5th grade! **The week of Dec. 9th – 13th** is National Computer Science Education Week. With the help of a parent who is a computer programmer, Michael Huffman, I will be using the website [http://csedweek.org/learn](http://csedweek.org/learn) to teach the students how to create basic computer code. Here is a revelation to some of them - there is someone “behind the curtain” creating all web content! 🎨 The goal of teaching code is that it will help students learn about what goes into creating the Internet content they see. This is a huge step for our students because they are not only participating and using technology but they are learning how to create it. According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics computer programming jobs are growing at 2x the national average. I know my students are young, but they are also very technology-literate. It has been great to see the excitement around this. Who knows where it might lead for those whose interest is sparked! Here is the website that lists the lessons (concepts) that can be attempted and mastered in progressive order. [http://learn.code.org/](http://learn.code.org/) If you would like to have your child work on this at home, please wait until after the 13th so they can get a head start in the computer lab. Parents, this might be a fun and challenging thing for you to learn as well!

I am also using Scratch, [http://scratch.mit.edu/](http://scratch.mit.edu/), a website with a free educational program language which teaches simple programming concepts. This site can be accessed from home where, once a username and password are created, projects can be saved and worked on over time. It is not necessary to create a username and password to use the site, though.

**It is the second graders turn to display their artwork in the computer lab!**
Harbor View has had a quite a few cases of the Fifth’s Disease which is a very common viral illness in children. The symptoms are a rash and sometimes a fever or sore throat. The rash causes a striking redness of the cheeks in children and is later found on the arms, upper body, buttocks and legs. The rash has a fine, lacy pink appearance and tends to come and go for days or even weeks. The disease is often spread from person to person most likely through the respiratory secretions. Prevention/control of the disease is through proper hand washing with soap and water. Students are not excluded from school once the rash is present due to the fact the most contagious time is before the rash occurs. If your child has the Fifth’s Disease and has been around pregnant women or individuals who may have an immune deficiency (those who have been on chemo-therapy etc.) please have them notify their Dr’s.

Please email pictures of students who participated in the local Thanksgiving day race or the upcoming Reindeer Run to Faith_Hostetler@charleston.k12.sc.us

We the Wellness Committee, have had a very busy and event filled several months. We have a bulletin board outside the cafeteria which features students and staff that are involved in healthy activities. There is a box in the front office that contains information sheets that can be filled out about an activity that your child is involved in or you can submit a healthy recipe. If your child is involved in a healthy activity please submit a picture or email a picture to Faith_Hostetler@charleston.k12.sc.us. The students have also been involved in an art contest about healthy living. Each grade level submitted art work on different aspects of healthy living. The Wellness Committee will be judging and displaying the art work next week. We appreciate your feedback to the survey on healthy snacks and birthday celebrations 66 parents supported the healthy initiative, 14 were not supportive and 19 were undecided. We continue to encourage healthy snacks and alternatives for birthday celebrations. We are looking forward to having another PEP night on February 21st and South Carolina Walk to School Day on March 6th.

From the Nurse

From the Wellness Committee
Student Work

Mrs. Billman’s class
Halloween haunted houses

Mellie Exline in Art Class

Egan Smith
K-3
in computer class

Bad Witches
by Sophia Burns
2-1

I think witches are bad because they do not get enough sleep. That’s because their ghost dogs bark too much at night. The dogs bark because they are chasing a cat. The cat is trying to get inside. That’s because the cat food is inside. That’s what woke up the neighbor and scares the person inside and makes the person scream which wakes up the witch!

I am not a Turkey!

Josephine Bennett
1-5

Saylor Kozick
1-5
Harbor View Happenings!
2013 Reindeer Games

Sunday 12/15
1:00-4:00

WHO: ALL STUDENTS ARE INVITED!
WHAT: HOLIDAY CARNIVAL WITH GAMES, CRAFTS, AND TREATS!
WHEN: SUNDAY, DECEMBER 15 FROM 1:00-4:00
WHERE: BEHIND HARBOR VIEW ELEMENTARY
WHY: TO RAISE MONEY TO SUPPORT SAIL FIELDTRIPS AND SUPPLIES
Learn as a family

Make this winter memorable with fun parent-and-child activities. Try these ideas that combine family time with learning.

Read in season
Let your youngster pick a season, and hold a read-a-thon based on his choice. For summer, you could wear shorts and T-shirts and lounge on beach towels in the living room while each family member reads a beach story. If he picks fall, you might “camp”—pitch a tent by draping sheets over chairs, eat s’mores, and read aloud from an outdoor adventure novel.

Hold how-to nights
Celebrate talents and skills by sharing them with each other. Take turns giving lessons on your “specialties.” Your child can teach everyone how to draw a picture of a dog. Or the carpenter in the family could demonstrate how to measure and saw wood or use a hammer or drill. Everyone will learn new skills—and appreciate the things their family members know!

Plan a “trip”
Staying home this winter break? Make geography into an activity, and plan a pretend trip together. Get travel brochures, or cut pictures of interesting places from old magazines. Then, find the cities and countries on a world map, and calculate the distance from home. Look in library books or online to find sights to see and to learn about the climate, language, currency, and food. You could even design your own brochure for your dream destination.

Show respect
The holiday season is full of opportunities for your youngster to practice something that is important all year long—respect! Here are some examples:

- Talk about respect before a get-together. Explain that she should offer her seat to an adult who is standing. Also, if your child isn’t used to using titles (“Aunt,” “Mr.”), discuss this before visiting someone who prefers them. (“The people you’ll meet like to be called by Mr. or Mrs.”)

- Encourage your youngster to respect other cultures and traditions. If a friend observes a different holiday, she can wish the person a nice celebration. She might also point out something they have in common (“We have tons of relatives in town, too.”)

Calendar gift
A homemade calendar makes a great gift from your youngster. She could print blank calendar pages from the Internet or cut them from an inexpensive calendar. Then, on separate sheets, have her paint her own picture for each month. She can staple the pages together in order and decorate a cover.

Worth quoting
“It’s easier to go down a hill than up it, but the view is much better at the top.” Henry Ward Beecher

Q: What gets bigger and bigger the more you take away from it?
A: A hole!
Good study habits

There's more to studying than reading a chapter or reviewing a list of words. Help your youngster study actively with these three tips.

1. **Begin at the end.** If your child has a textbook chapter to study, she can start by reading the questions at the back. That way, she'll be on the lookout for key facts.

2. **Keep paper and pencil handy.** Suggest that your youngster make notes while she studies. She might jot down names, dates, or formulas, for example. This will help her understand and remember what she is reading. And if there's a part that confuses her, she can write questions to ask her teacher.

3. **Link it to real life.** The material will be more meaningful—and easier to remember—if your child sees how it applies to her life. Say she's learning about different types of clouds. Have her spot them in the sky and try to predict what kind of weather they'll bring.

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**Managing learning disabilities**

**Q:** My son doesn't like getting help for his learning disability. He'll even leave test answers blank instead of taking the extra time he's allowed. What should I do?

**A:** Your child's behavior is normal—kids this age don't want to feel different from their classmates. First, make sure he knows what's included in his learning plan. Explain that you and his teachers agreed on the accommodations to help him learn and do his best work.

Then, suggest that he set goals for himself so he can feel more in control of his learning disability. Also, talk to his teacher. She might have ideas for encouraging him to use the help he's entitled to. For instance, she may know a successful older student with a learning disability who would be willing to talk to your son.

Tip: Guide him toward an activity he can feel good about (sports, chess). That could boost his self-esteem and make him feel more confident about accepting help in school.

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**Activity Corner**

**Work together**

Whether your child is doing a group project or playing H.O.R.S.E., teamwork is needed. Everyone's a winner with these games that will show him teamwork in action.

**Lower the yardstick.** Together, hold a yardstick horizontally so that everyone has one finger underneath. Then, lower the yardstick to the ground—but if anyone's finger drops away you have to start over. See how many times it takes to get the yardstick to the floor.

**Pass the ball.** Have players lie down, head to toe, in a long hallway. The first player holds a ball between his feet and lifts it so the person behind him can grab the ball with his hands. That player places the ball between her feet and passes it overhead to the next person. Begin again if anyone drops the ball. How fast can you use teamwork to move the ball down the line?

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**Parent to Parent**

**A grandparent volunteer**

Last year when my mom was in town for the holidays, she asked if she could help me with my daughter Emily's class party. I checked with the teacher, and he said he'd be happy to have a grandparent volunteer.

My mother and I set up the snacks, and she played a game with small groups of kids. The students also enjoyed hearing what winter is like where she lives—she told stories about getting several feet of snow and being stuck inside for days.

My daughter was proud to have her grandmother at school. And my mom said she liked seeing Emily's classroom and meeting her teacher and friends. I've already gotten permission from this year's teacher for her to help out again.