



Hallsville School

Parent Newsletter

October, 2017

Happy October, everyone! We have had a great start to the school year! There are **many** things going on this month, so please keep this handy so you or your child don't miss out on the fun! Also, at any time please check out our website for up-to-the minute updates and additions: <http://hallsville.mansd.org/>

- Thank you for respecting our **traffic updates** to help keep our children safe! Please see the letter that was sent home today.
- **School start time:** Thanks for those who bring their children a few minutes before 8:30--the start time for all elementary schools in Manchester. Those participating in our breakfast program may enter @ 8:15.
 - Children have been arriving earlier and earlier--many to play before school starts.
 - As stated several times before, the children are unsupervised at that time, and we are asking you to monitor their arrival time.
 - When the weather is inclement and/or cold, those children who do not abide by the 8:30 start time, will be brought in to sit in a grade level line in the building. We did this last year, and the children really do not care for it. Also, it potentially allows for the tracking in of much water, dirt, etc. onto our gym floor, and can create problems for the custodial staff to keep it clean and safe for the rest of the day.
 - For those of you who need childcare before 8:30, please contact our 21st Century Coordinator, Kristen Shimer at kshimer@mansd.org for information on that inexpensive program. We have openings in the morning program.
- **Staff needs:** The MSD, including Hallsville School, is in need of Paraprofessionals to work in some of our classrooms. Do you know someone who has 48 college credit hours and loves working with children? These positions start @ \$11.77 per hour and offer some benefits. If you, a relative or a neighbor are interested, please visit <http://hr.mansd.org/open-positions-new> to complete the application process. Then, once completed, please let me know and we will take a look and consider for future interviews. Thank you for helping us spread the word!
- **NECAP Science Test Reports:** Fifth graders who attended Hallsville last year will be bringing home their score reports today. Please look for them. If your child attending another MSD or NH school last year, their score reports should make it to us at some point, and we will forward them to you.
- **Hallsville Band and String lessons:** If you signed your child up for one of these opportunities (Strings Grade 4 & 5; Band Grade 5), please watch for information from the respective teachers: Mr. Brien-strings and Mr. Baberadt-band. We had a record number of children sign up, and I am so excited about this opportunity for them!
- **No school on Monday, October 9th** - Columbus Day observed.
- **iReady Assessments:** All MSD students in Grades 1-5 will be taking the iReady computerized assessments starting next week. We have a school-wide schedule and most children will take the test with their classes. If your child misses part or all of one of the tests, they will have an opportunity to make it up. A good night's sleep and a good breakfast are the best prep for these tests. (The children are familiar with the format, as we have taken them for the past two years. New students are being acclimated.) A reading and math score will eventually be provided to you.

Teachers and other educators will use these scores to help them plan and implement their instruction.

- **School Pictures:** Wednesday, October 11th-individual and group pictures will be taken. Brochures went home last week, and if you plan on purchasing any pictures, please return the envelope to school filled out, etc.
 - **Our fifth grade group picture will be taken this same day.**
- **Family BBQ:** This annual event will be held on Thursday, October 12th from 5:00-7:00. It helps us plan if you purchase your tickets ahead of time. Many of you have signed up already. On Tuesday or Wednesday of next week, we will send home your tickets to use in the food line. If you misplaced your order form--another one was sent home today. You can pay at the door, too, but we could run out of food if you don't order ahead.
 - Grade levels are also collecting items to create raffle baskets. Thanks for considering this! Raffle tickets will be sold at the event.
 - If you work for a company or organization that would like to donate a gift card to raffle off, please contact me directly at: bskogsholm@mansd.org
 - Watch for more information next week!
- **Hawks Basketball:** The **second night of tryouts is tonight, 10/4**: Boys: 5:30; Girls: 6:30. These time updates were sent home to all 4th and 5th graders last week, posted on the web, and announced four times at school.
 - **Coaches will notify players about who made each team.** (Coaches information is posted on the flyers that came home.)
 - Practice and game schedules will be distributed by the coaches and posted on the school website.
 - We would love to see you at the games!
- **Scholastic Book Fair in the Library:** Oct. 16-10; watch for the brochure with times listed.
- **Progress reports will go home on Wednesday, October 18th.**
- **Parent Teacher Conferences/Early Release Day:** If you have not yet signed up for your parent-teacher conference, please contact your child's teacher. The general hours are Thurs., Oct. 19 from 3:00-6:00; and Friday, October 20 from 11:50 to 2:50. Appointments are necessary. **Students will be dismissed @ 11:15 on Friday, October 20th.** Thank you for taking this opportunity to sit with your child's teacher and find out how he/she is doing in school!
 - **There is no 21st Century Program on October 19th or 20th.**
- **Fourth Grade Field Trip** - See Science Center: Tuesday, October 24th; details will be coming soon.
- **"Howlsville" Halloween Parade:** Tuesday, October 31st @ 2:00 p.m.
 - Weather permitting, children will parade with their classes twice around the school block. Costumes should be brought in a labeled bag.
 - More information will follow; however, gorey/scary costumes and masks are prohibited, as are any "peripherals" that would be carried. Small children can be easily scared, so remember the audience we serve when helping your child choose a costume. Thank you!
 - Classroom activities will be announced by each class.
 - Please do not send in any food unless requested by the teacher.
 - Out of respect for those who do not participate in Halloween activities, all of these events are optional. If you provide your child's teacher with a note indicating that your child will not participate, we will offer supervised alternative activities in one of our classrooms. It is parents' choice.
 - Halloween advice from our Guidance Counselor, Mrs. Saitz:

Halloween can be really scary for some of our children

It's that wonderful time of year where our children enjoy the festivities of Halloween and all the excitement of dressing up and going from house to house to get their treats. As we all enjoy this time we should also remember that some of our children can become very scared due to the nature of some of the Halloween costumes as well as how homes are decorated. We should keep in mind that for some of our children this can make the day scary and they may not want to participate. The adults in their life can help make this a fun time for their children by being aware of how scary Halloween can be and be prepared to help their children when they are feeling scared. Take a few minutes to talk with your child and allow them to express how they feel as well as support them if they do not feel comfortable approaching a scary house or approaching someone in a scary costume. By listening to our children and offering them support we can hopefully make Halloween a fun time for all of our children.

PTG Corner for October: Here are some activities you will not want to miss!

- **Thursday, October 26th:** Costume BINGO night!
- Fall Fundraiser coming soon: Cookie dough and pie sale
- Next meeting: Wednesday, November 8th @ 6:30 in the Library; please join us!
- Our Holiday Fair will be held on Saturday, December 9th. Watch for more information!

Math Corner for October:

from Mrs. McIntosh, Math Coach:

Have you ever wondered how you can help your child understand math? Each month I will be giving some suggestions for you to do with your child. Money makes the world go round and it is sometimes difficult for students to understand so this is our first topic.

Kindergarten

In kindergarten, students need to be able to count to 100 cents by the end of the year using pennies and dimes only.

Put out a small handful of pennies or dimes and have your child count them. Begin with smaller amounts and increase as you feel they are ready, eventually getting to 100. Use only pennies to 100 or dimes to 100 cents. This reinforces counting money as well as counting to 100 by 1s and 10s. At the store you could have your child purchase items costing up to 100 cents.

First

In first grade, students need to be able to count to 120 cents by the end of the year using pennies, nickels, and dimes.

Put out a small combination of pennies, nickels, and dimes and have your child count them. Begin with smaller amounts and increase as you feel they are ready, eventually getting to 120 cents. At the store you could have your child purchase items costing up to 120 cents.

Second

In second grade, students should be able to count any combination of money by the end of the year using pennies, nickels, dimes, quarters, and dollar bills.

Put out various combinations of money to have your student count. You may begin with smaller amounts and increase to higher amounts as your child is ready. At the store, your child could help you count out the money to pay for various items.

Third through Fifth

In grades three through five, students should be able to count any combination of money so the focus will change to estimating and making change.

In stores or eating establishments, students can decide the exact amount of money they will need to buy something or estimate how much money they will need at checkout to make sure they have enough money. We teach rounding and estimating in class. This would be a good time to talk to your child about the importance of real life estimating. Better to have too much money than not enough. Making change from different amounts, such as \$5, \$10, \$20 is a great real life skill also so that students know how much money they should get.

I hope you have found this newsletter helpful. If you ever have any questions about your child's math, please feel free to email me at tmcintosh@mansd.org.