

# HBOZ

HONEY  
BUNCHES  
OF NOTES



## Upcoming Events:

- October 5:** Count Day/Picture Day
- October 7:** Professional Development, 1/2 day
- October 21:** Conferences, 1/2 day
- October 26:** Board Meeting, 6:15pm
- October 28:** Conferences, 1/2 day
- October 28:** Fall Festival 6:00pm-8:00pm

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Greetings,

The school year is off to a great start, and with the onset of October comes a number of activities.

## Director's Notes:

October is MEAP month, and all third through eighth grade students will be taking state assessments. Testing begins on October 11. The schedule is as follows:

Reading Test 1	October 11	Grades 3-8
Reading Test 2	October 12	Grades 3-8
Writing Test 1	October 13	Grades 4&7
Mathematics Test	October 18	Grades 3-8
Writing Test 2	October 19	Grades 4&7
Social Studies Test	October 19	Grade 6
Science Test	October 19	Grade 5&8

September

# 2011

During this same time we will be hosting the Advanc-Ed visitation team. This visit is an important part of our re-accreditation efforts. Many thanks to all of you who have contributed NCA Standard Reviews. The last phase of this process is the visit, which includes observations and interviews. Presently, three parents have committed to participating in our parent interview on October 19. I need three more parents to participate in this meeting. The interview will begin at 2:30 and conclude at 3:15. Please call or email me if you are available to participate.

Other major events include count/picture day on October 5. Please keep in mind that Honey Creek receives its funding based on our student count. Teacher, parent, and student conferences are scheduled on October 21 and 28. Please watch for further information to sign up for conferences. Also on October 28 is our Fall Festival. For those of you who are new to the school, this is a great community event that provides a variety of fun fall activities. During the conference period and festival hours on the 28<sup>th</sup>, I will be providing an update on our Strategic Plan by holding a series of brief meetings. I'll email you with times and further information once the schedule is in place.

Happy Harvests!  
Al

## Phoenix Rising Campaign

There is now an option to use a direct debit form to contribute to Phoenix Rising. Using the ACH will make contributing to Phoenix Rising easier for some people! Please return the completed form/voided check to Shellee Almquist or Karen Giltrow. Your information will be kept safe. Thanks!

## PTO News

If you were at our first PTO meeting this school year, you witnessed an exciting one! We began by voting to immediately purchase an iPad cart for the school, so that it can be put to full use as soon as possible.

We followed this up with discussion of an opportunity to yield funds that will cover and replenish monies spent. The inaugural Walk-N-Run-A-Thon will be taking place on October 1st. There are plenty of spots for people to volunteer. This is done through an online [Volunteer Sign Up Sheet](#) or you can contact Angie Tracey at [angie.hccs@gmail.com](mailto:angie.hccs@gmail.com).

If that's not possible, there are many other ways to get involved:

- From time to time we will email the community asking for volunteers to do specific tasks relating to events or other needs, as they arise. Look for these emails and reply if you can help.
  - If you would like to add an item to the PTO meeting agenda or have a concern the PTO may be able to help with, please contact us at [ptoagenda@honeycreekschool.org](mailto:ptoagenda@honeycreekschool.org)
  - You can also contact either the PTO Chair, Trish Gearhart [tgearha1@gmail.com](mailto:tgearha1@gmail.com) or CoChair Mike Birdsall [m.g.birdsall@mbirdsall.com](mailto:m.g.birdsall@mbirdsall.com)
  - The PTO standing school enrichment committees meet on days and times that suit the individual committee's needs. The standing committees are:
    - o STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering & Math)
    - o Health & Wellness
    - o Fine Arts
- The PTO meets on the first (school day) Friday of every month.**

## Scrip News

Thank you so much to all of you who have supported our scrip, recharge and rewards program so far this year.

This is the time of year to start thinking about winter clothing, holiday entertaining and gifts!! Please remember how much you can help our school by planning to make these purchases with scrip. LLBean is on special offer right now - 17% of what you spend comes to the school and it doesn't take many pairs of snow pants for that to really add up!

As always, don't hesitate to contact any of the scrip team if you have any questions or suggestions. We could use help selling scrip at the Friday morning bagel sales, so let us know if you are available.

Please keep any used gift cards and return them to us (put a large X on the back with a Sharpie first) - I have lots of ideas for reusing them and need lots!

Thank you -

Alex Foulis  
[alexfoulis@hotmail.com](mailto:alexfoulis@hotmail.com) 475-1153

Anne Dimitry  
[chloe713@yahoo.com](mailto:chloe713@yahoo.com)

Simone Jenkins  
[sjenkins@morganandnyork.com](mailto:sjenkins@morganandnyork.com)

## Wellness Committee News

The Farm to School, Try It Tuesday, and Fruit/Veggie Bowl programs have gotten off to a great start! Thanks to all the parent volunteers who have come in to help with these programs. Ongoing opportunities for being involved in Wellness Committee work are still available. Find the sign up sheet at [volunteer](#).

After a summer and fall of enjoying the bounty from the Edible Garden, students and volunteers will soon be closing it down for the season. Kale will be available for tasting well into November if it lasts that long!

Carrots will be the featured vegetable in October's Farm to School and Try-it Tuesday programs. Please encourage your children to try some foods made with them.

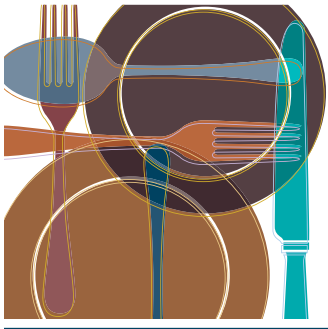
Look for a Wellness Committee special treat at the fall festival (10/28)!

## Board News

not submitted this month

## Board Kudos

not submitted this month



# Food, Friends and Gift Cards That's Entertaining!

There are countless ways to use gift cards for entertaining! Cater your next party, take guests out for an evening on the town, or simply stock up on everything you need for a fun night in. Using gift cards is the best way to entertain, because you earn rebates to support our non-profit organization every time you shop.

Now is the perfect time of year to prepare your ideas for home entertaining. With the holiday season fast approaching and out-of-town guests planning their visits, order the gift cards you will need while you have time in your schedule.

Consider these great brands for your entertaining:



Think of gift cards for all your fall and holiday entertaining. Purchase your gift cards for the coming season now and imagine all the rebates you will have earned by the New Year!

# Honey Creek Community School ACH Authorization Agreements

## Direct Payment Withdrawal Authorization Form

I hereby authorize the HONEY CREEK COMMUNITY SCHOOL CORPORATION to initiate debit entries, from my account indicated below, for payment of the amount listed on this agreement. I, also, authorize HONEY CREEK COMMUNITY SCHOOL CORPORATION or CHELSEA STATE BANK to reverse any debits made to such account in error. This authority is to remain in full force and effect until HONEY CREEK COMMUNITY SCHOOL CORPORATION has received written notification from me of its termination in such time and in such manner as to afford HONEY CREEK COMMUNITY SCHOOL CORPORATION and CHELSEA STATE BANK a reasonable opportunity to act on it.

Date \_\_\_\_\_ Name (Print) \_\_\_\_\_ Financial Institution Name \_\_\_\_\_

Employee Number/SS# \_\_\_\_\_ Account Number \_\_\_\_\_ Financial Institution Number \_\_\_\_\_

**IMPORTANT! CIRCLE TYPE OF ACCOUNT:    CHECKING   or   SAVINGS**

**Please Withdraw \$ \_\_\_\_\_ from my account**

**once a week, on the \_\_\_\_ day of the week**

**or**

**once a month, on the \_\_\_\_ day of the month**

**or**

**every \_\_\_\_ months on the \_\_\_\_ day of the month**

**Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Amount \_\_\_\_\_**

### CHECK ONE:

I am not currently participating in the Direct Payment Withdrawal Program

ADD - Withdraw my payment from the account shown.\*

I am currently participating in the Direct Payment Withdrawal Program

CHANGE - Change financial institutions and/or account number.\*

CANCEL - Stop my participation in the program

### ***TAPE YOUR VOIDED CHECK HERE***

***NOTE: Always get the Financial Institution Number from a check; never use the information from a deposit slip.***

Problem Solving  
Techniques used at  
Honey Creek:

S. O. S.

The 3 "D'S"

Debugging Steps

"I" Statements

These strategies are  
used by all of our  
students, EVEN K/1's!!

Please practice  
using these  
techniques with  
your child.

# Use S. O. S. to work it out!

S = Story

Use "I" statements to tell how you feel.

O = Options

Say what you would like to happen.

S = Solution

Find a solution that you both agree on.

## The 3 "D's"

Get a teacher right away when  
something is...

**Dangerous**

**Destructive or**

**Disturbing**



# *Is someone* **BUGGING** *you?*

*Try...*

*Ignoring it or Moving away*



*Then try...*



Please stop.

*Using nice words*

*then...*

*Using firm words*



Please stop  
NOW!

*Finally...*

*Get an adult to help you!*



# "I" Statements:

are used to express our feelings in a way that does not bring about a defensive response from others.

"I feel \_\_\_\_\_ when \_\_\_\_\_, because \_\_\_\_\_."

Examples:

"I feel frustrated when my paper is torn, because I worked hard on it."

"I feel excited when my grandma comes to visit, because she does fun things with me."

"I" statements should replace the blaming "you" statement:

"You tore my paper!"

and should minimize conflict.

## Early Elementary News

Early Elementary classrooms are off to a great start. This year our theme is "How Things Work". We will use this theme to help our students develop an understanding of what systems are, how they work, and how one part of a system affects the rest of the system. We call this "teaching for understanding" and use the theme to develop our students' broad understanding of concepts that they can then apply to all areas of their learning, rather than teaching them facts in isolation.

We begin the year learning about "How I Work". Children learn about themselves and each other, and share what is special about their families. In the beginning of the year we spend a lot of time on community-building activities and learning how to get along and work out differences using "I Statements" and "S-O-S" (Story-Options-Solution) conflict resolution (see previous pages).

Next we will move into a unit called "How My School Works", in which we will explore our school community, discuss rules, democracy, and fairness. In "How My Community Works" we will look at food systems—how food is produced, prepared, and distributed. In preparation for this we will be going on a field trip to Tantré Organic Farm, owned by Honey Creek parents Richard Andres and Deb Lentz. After examining food issues at school, our students will develop an Academic Service-Learning (AS-L) project related to our theme. The year will end with "How the World Works", in which we will delve into the science of how the physical world works, concluding with a unit on inventors. We are looking forward to an exciting year!

## The Importance of Play in Early Childhood

You may have noticed that our daily schedule also includes a large block of time for choice time and recess. In this age of increasing academic standards even for our youngest learners, you may wonder why we would devote such a large portion of our day to indoor and outdoor play.

The following points are summarized from the article "Back to Basics" by Dr. Englebright, a professor of early childhood education (full article is available from K-1 teachers): Play enhances language development, social competence, creativity, imagination, and thinking skills. When children play, they draw upon their past experiences—things they've done, seen others do, read about, or seen on TV—and they use these experiences to build games, play scenarios, and engage in activities.

Additionally, they use fine and gross motor skills, react to each other socially and emotionally, and use language to plan and execute their play. The integration of these different types of behavior is key to the cognitive development of young children. It is thought that until the age of at least nine children's cognitive structures function best in a play-based mode. Large blocks of time for play are recommended because shorter blocks of time reduce the maturity of play and cause the many important benefits of play, such as persistence, negotiation, problem-solving, planning, and cooperation to be lost.

## Middle Elementary News

Welcome to another amazing school year in the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> grade classrooms. Salli, Tammy, Mary and Darnell are working hard to get to know your children academically, socially and emotionally. September has found us doing all of the assessments we need to determine the specific academic needs of each of our students. Each classroom also has quite a few routines and procedures that help us inspire independent, project-based learners and we are learning and practicing these routines.

The 2-3 teachers love and use a system called "The Daily 5 and CAFE" to help us organize our reading and writing instruction. We have been introducing your children to the idea of Just Right Books, Read to Self and Writing Workshop. Because this time in your child's life is just right for building good spelling and handwriting habits, we are also doing quite a bit of this in September and October.

While 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> grade math includes a lot of other subjects, concepts and problem solving, we are starting out focusing on strategies for efficiently and accurately learning our math facts in addition, subtraction and multiplication. Math games are a great way to do this and they provide time for the children to practice their communication and social skills, so we are learning a lot of these games as well.

Our big theme this year is "How Things Work" and we are focusing on Communities. We will start to read The City of Ember in October to launch our study of communities. In science, we are learning about the inquiry process with some simple and fun experiments that help us learn about asking questions, forming a hypothesis, executing an experiment and then gathering and analyzing data.

We are very excited about our new Blogs this year! Each classroom will post new information each week. Please visit <http://honeycreekschool.org/2-3/> and click on the appropriate link.



## Later Elementary News

Happy fall from the 4/5 team! It's been great reconnecting with familiar faces and getting to know those who are new to our community. We've had a busy September, and the school year is off to a strong and fast paced start! Here's a brief overview of our first month and a quick look ahead at October.

In social studies students started the year by discussing the Core Democratic Values of the United States. This led us into several lessons surrounding the 10th anniversary of September 11th. Students also talked about how core democratic values play a role in other public policy issues in the U.S. (poverty, health care, education, taxes, etc.). Next, in honor of Constitution Day (Sept. 17th, 2011), we did a short two day lesson on the Preamble to the United States Constitution. Students worked in groups to define specific portions of the preamble, and they discussed what the Preamble seems to say about the role of government within our society. Currently students are beginning a unit on geography. In order to facilitate our discussion about geography, students are learning about the five themes of geography (movement, regions, human/environment interaction, location, and place... MR. HeLP). These themes are like lenses through which we can better understand the geography of the world and our nation. These themes are essential to the questions

geographers ask when examining the geography of the U.S.

In Science students began the year learning about the brain. We do a lot of talking about choices and decision making in 4/5. How do we own our own thinking and take responsibility for our actions? How do we as individuals consciously make decisions that have a positive impact on the larger group as a whole.

Throughout this unit on the brain, students learned about the various parts of the mind, they created their very own "brain hats", and they developed a better understanding of how thinking occurs and the multitude of functions this master "control center" is responsible for on a second by second basis.

Currently students are beginning a unit on ecosystems. This unit ties in nicely with our social studies unit on geography, and kids are talking a lot about the physical geography of our planet. A large part of our ecosystems unit deals with the geographic theme of human/environment interaction. Students will be talking a lot about the impact humans have upon the environment, and they'll be discussing sustainable living practices and how to preserve and protect earth's ecosystems from further degradation.

In language arts, students are reading the book, *Hoot*. With its emphasis on ecosystems and human/environment interaction, *Hoot* ties in very nicely with our social studies and science units. Throughout the novel, students will be exploring their answers to

the following four essential questions: What is eco-justice? How can you justify or challenge this book being labeled "realistic fiction?" Who are the heroes and anti-heroes in this book and why do you categorize them this way? Roy's dad says, "there's a fine line between courage and stupidity," what does this mean?

Please contact your child's math teacher if you have any questions about math.

Again, we are thrilled to be starting another year with your children and we are looking forward to a productive, fun, happy, and successful 2011/2012 school year!

Warm regards,  
The 4/5 Team

# Middle School News

## Science

"Homes and Habitats" is this year's theme in the middle school and in science we are starting off the year learning about ecosystems. We are planning to go all over the world with the different habitats that represent what the Earth offers, looking at the interdependencies and relationships within. Students will demonstrate their understanding through a project that describes either an existing ecosystem, or for those who accept the challenge... creating one of their own.

## Language Arts

In the middle school reading and writing workshop, we have primarily been focusing on what writing is, or can be, and finding our own purposes and topics for writing. This week, students started their own independent reading and writing. In addition, every day we have been reading and analyzing a different poem, and discussing its features. It turns out that you can write a poem about just about anything... McDonalds, The Sims, or Spiderman!

Elizabeth Scott

## Mathematics

Welcome to Honey Creek Middle School Math, those returning and those who are new. As usual, we will be beginning the year with a little review, it's amazing how fuzzy our math skills get over the summer. The MS math program is split into four different classes: Course 1, Course 2, Course 3, and Algebra. This year, I will be making some changes to the curriculum as we are beginning to align with the Common Core State Standards (CCSS), moving away from the Grade Level Content Expectation (GLCE) as the state adopts the CCSS. If you would like to see an overview of each course please go to [honeycreekschool.org/ms/mathematics](http://honeycreekschool.org/ms/mathematics). On the left side bar each of the different courses have an overview attached.

On that site you will also find access to the online textbook ([my.hrw.com](http://my.hrw.com)), and a copy of our classroom expectations. If you have any questions feel free to contact me at [cwauer@hc.wash.k12.mi.us](mailto:cwauer@hc.wash.k12.mi.us). Looking forward to a great year with your kids,  
Cindy Wauer

## Social Studies

In Social Studies, students will be engaged in a unit on Cambodia for the next couple of months. We will begin with a broad look at the geography of the Eastern Hemisphere and the settlement of the peoples across Asia and then begin narrowing our focus on Southeast Asia and Cambodia. Outside forces from India, China, Soviet Union, France and United States have contributed to the country's rich but tragic past. This unit is all about depth and there is the potential for students to go from knowing virtually nothing about Cambodia's history to becoming experts on it. I hope a lot of discussions surface at home as a result. I also welcome you to participate in a simulation on the Khmer Rouge at the Curriculum Celebration in January.

Joe Griffith

# Specials News

## Physical Education/ Swimming

PE and Swim has gotten off to a great start this year! Almost everyone is showing up prepared and ready to participate!

We have been working on a team building unit with the 4/5's and the MS while the 2/3's have been fine tuning their tagging and running/dodging skills. The K's have been learning the ropes of the gym and pool with the help of their 1st grade classmates. We will be moving on to a basketball unit for the month of October where all grades will get to learn and improve skills based on their level.

The MS swim elective has been building up their endurance with lap swimming and also having fun playing water polo. The 2/3's and the 4/5's are beginning to be able to fine tune their swimming strokes and are working very hard toward earning their free day on their "fish chart". The K/1's are practicing their breathing technique and flutter kick with some ready to add in their "rainbow arms". Others have a pretty great front crawl going already! Thanks for the great effort everyone!

The Field Hockey team is off to a great start with a 1-2 record overall. We are shining in our brand new uniforms and goalie pads and have been hard at work. Please come and cheer on our team!

10/3 @ Greenhills 4:30

10/4 @ Forsythe 4pm

10/6 @ HC 4 pm

10/11 @ Slauson 4 pm

10/12 @ HC 4:30

10/13 @ HC 5 pm

10/17 @ HC 4:15

10/24 @ Tappan 4 pm

## Technology

In 2/3 Technology, we are working on getting acquainted with the technology we use here at Honey Creek. Students are learning about using the laptop computers, as well as starting to think about the question, "What is technology?". Students made a short video the first week where they interviewed a classmate to get their answers to that question, and it will be interesting to see how their responses change throughout the year as they explore more facets of technology.

In 4/5 Technology, we have started our first major project, called Programming with Scratch. This is a great chance for students to start using the computer as a tool to express their own creativity while also learning concepts such as logic, design, and storytelling. We'll be working hard on creating our interactive stories and games using Scratch for the next few months, and will present these final projects during our Winter Curriculum Celebration later this year.

Scratch is a free program for both Mac and Windows PCs, so if you'd like to download it for use at home, you're free to do so! The address is: <http://scratch.mit.edu>

We are off to an exciting start in the Middle School Technology classes. In the first week of school, students found out that they now have Google Apps accounts through the school. A school-based Google Apps account allows our Middle School students to have an email address that can only send and receive email from others at the school, so it's a great first introduction to using email to communicate.

In addition to email, Google Apps also allows our students to create documents, spreadsheets, presentations and forms. The past few weeks, the MS students have been

using Google Apps to email me and others, create proposals for their Independent Projects, and create surveys to send to their friends.

To access the school's Google App server, students use the following address (helpful if your student forgets how to get to their Google Apps account): <http://www.honeycreekschool.org/mail>

The first semester's Technology Elective is called Programming with Processing. In this course, students will learn how to use the computer to create amazing visuals and interact with physical devices. We'll start by learning the basics of the Processing environment, including syntax, commands, and structures. Students will write many different programs in Processing, building their skills and knowledge of the different abilities provided by the environment. Processing is also free and available for both Mac and Windows PCs. You can download it at: <http://www.processing.org>

I look forward to another exciting year of working with your students

Bill

## Specials News Cont.

### Music

Music classes are in full swing as we begin our school year. The beginning band students are discovering their new instruments and working out the first sounds of squeaks and squawks. These band students will be working in small groups for a couple more weeks until we are finally ready to begin working as a band. The middle school band is already producing a very impressive sound and I'm excited about the music we are going to make this year.

The choir is also looking great, with the most members in choir since choir was added as a middle school elective four years ago.

In the elementary school I'm very excited about what the 4-5's are working on, The History of Rock and Roll. Over the next five weeks we will be taking a trip through music history from Bill Haley and the Comets to The Beatles to Michael Jackson and every where in between.

The 2-3 classes are learning about instruments of the orchestra through books, listening activities, online games, and even a mini field trip to the cafetorium to see some instruments up close and personal.

In the K-1 classes, we are talking about different music words like Forte (loud) and Piano (quiet). We even created our own thunderstorm using different hand instruments to show how thunderstorms start out piano then grow to forte and return to piano. I look forward to a great year in music classes and hope to see you at our Winter Performance on December 15th at 3:30.

--

Katie Gates  
Music Director

### Art

I hope everyone had a fantastic summer! Honey Creek's art program is off to a wonderful start as the school year begins. Once again, we will be participating in Artsonia, Honey Creek's own school gallery for art projects online.

K/1 students this year will be focusing on the elements of art, learning about color, line, shape, texture and form.

2/3 students will be taking these concepts even further, also incorporating value, space, unity, rhythm, and their own unique reflections on art and concept.

4/5 students will be exploring many and varied time periods and movements in art, including Pop Art, Surrealism, Realism, and Impressionism.

Middle School students will be exploring art & culture from around the world, including Japan, Mexico, Africa, and the Pacific Islands. I am looking forward to seeing the artists at Honey Creek learn and grow throughout the year, and can't wait to share their work with all of you!

Lindsay Parrish

## After School Programs

ON-SITE EXTENDED DAY STUDENT CARE **WILL** BE AVAILABLE ON THE FOLLOWING “EARLY DISMISSAL FRIDAYS:” October 7th, 21st & 28th; January 27th; February 10th; March 2nd & 9th; April 27th; and May 4th.

Please register 1 WEEK BEFORE in order to receive the Early Bird Discount. Also, please remember that you MUST give us 48-hour WRITTEN notice to cancel any pre-registered care without being held financially responsible.

REMINDER: **NO** ON-SITE STUDENT CARE DURING BREAKS OR ON CERTAIN HOLIDAYS. This includes: November 24th & 25th; December 23rd-January 6th; January 16th; February 20th-24th; April 2nd-6th; May 28th; and June 8th.

**SPECIAL CLUBS** There are still openings for the following after school special clubs:

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Music Lessons	Music Lessons	Music Lessons	Music Lessons	Swim Lessons
Chess	Art K-3	Choi Kwang Do	MS Field Hockey	
MS Field Hockey	MS Field Hockey	Art 4-8	MS Cross Country	
MS Cross Country	MS Cross Country		3/4 Field Hockey	
LEGO - (FULL)	LEGO - (FULL)		Capoeira	
	Girls on the Run - (FULL)		LEGO - (FULL)	
			Girls on the Run - (FULL)	

Please pick up a registration form from the after school programs bulletin board.

Please stay tuned for information on these and other activities:

4H, Art, Ballet, Baseball, Basketball, Brownies, Campfire, Chinese, Cooking, Crafts, Dance, Drums, Eco-Maniacs, Electronic Music, Fitness, Football, French, Garden, German, Guitar, Gymnastics, Harp, Hip Hop, History Club, Knitting, Open Swim, Orchestra, Photography, Pilates, Rocks & Robots, Rockets, Sewing, Skateboarding, Spanish, Spiral Scouts, Soccer, Strings, Study Skills, Tap Dance, Tech, Tennis, Theater, Tutoring, Violin, Writing, Yoga, Youth In Government, Zumba

**PLEASE CARE WHAT YOU WEAR.** Recess will be outside everyday. Except for hazardous weather conditions (lightning, severe storms, wind chill below -10° F), we will always go outside for recess. There is limited indoor space that allows the children opportunities to move around energetically. Children should always dress for the weather. Students must wear snow pants, boots, coat, hat, and mittens or gloves in order to play in the snow and sled.

# Academic Service-Learning:

Greetings!

Academic Service Learning (AS-L) is an integral part of Honey Creek Community School. Hopefully at this point, you're well aware of what this entails, but for those who are new, here is some important information:

- All students participate in service activities throughout the school year and most of these are directly linked to the curriculum, hence the academic part of the program.
- We strongly encourage our whole community to get involved during non-school time as well. There are many opportunities for service in the area and some will even be organized by the school but require evening or weekend times.
- Though we don't view these acts of service as a competition, we ask that the hours are documented. This helps us see trends, recognize those who have completed more than fifty hours, thus earning the President's Volunteer Service Award, and set goals. These pieces come together and help us all remain more aware of this part of our school.
- To qualify for AS-L hours an activity must be unpaid and completed outside of the home. AS-L logs are located in the A wing, across from Cindy's middle school math room. Completed sheets can be turned in to a base teacher or directly into Johnny Thompson's mailbox.

Last school year, students set individual AS-L goals. The total for the whole school was 6,050 hours. At the end of the school year we had completed 3,993.5 hours. Although we fell short of our goal, this is still an impressive number of hours for a school our size! Students will again be asked by their teachers to set a personal goal. Any conversation at home around this topic would be beneficial--perhaps you can even set a family goal!!

Currently, The Education Project, which works with youth who are living in temporary or transitional housing, is asking for donations. We try to avoid planning activities that revolve around raising money for our service projects, but if you have any of the following or see a great deal, they are in need of new BLACK backpacks (most people buy colorful ones to donate, but the majority of students' preferences are black), zippered pencil pouches, pencil sharpeners and shoeboxes. 4/5 students will be decorating these boxes to be used at other locations for collecting boxtops for education. Students will also be filling the pencil pouches with pencils provided by the Education Project. If you are able to provide any of these materials please drop them off in the box near the front office. We look forward to a terrific year, filled with rich AS-L activities. If you have any questions please e-mail: Johnny Thompson at: [jthompson@hc.wash.k12.mi.us](mailto:jthompson@hc.wash.k12.mi.us)

Look for information about our fall food drive to assist Food Gatherers soon!

## Trip to Peru with Cindy

**In the summer of 2010, I took a small group of kids on an eco-educational trip to the Peruvian Amazon. What a life changing experience, especially for the kids.**

**I am hoping to offer this trip to another group of kids this coming summer. If you/your child is interested in learning more about this opportunity I will be holding an informational meeting in October. When a date and time is set I will send out an email.**

**If you have any questions contact me at:**

**[cwauer@hc.wash.k12.mi.us](mailto:cwauer@hc.wash.k12.mi.us)**

**Thanks, Cindy Wauer**

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We're on the Web!

<http://honeycreekschool.org>

Need to submit something to next month's newsletter?

Email submissions to Amber Byers at:

[abyers@hc.wash.k12.mi.us](mailto:abyers@hc.wash.k12.mi.us)

by the last Friday of the month!