

HORACE MANN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL NEWS & CELEBRATIONS

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CALENDAR REMINDERS

Friday, 2/5	SIT Team Meets in the Library @ 7:45 a.m. Report Cards Distributed Home
Saturday, 2/6	Spring Valley Progressive Dinner POSTPONED DUE TO WEATHER
Thursday, 2/11	Last Open House for Prospective Parents – Please Share the News
Friday, 2/12	PD Day – No School Opening Night of the Winter Olympics ☺
Monday, 2/15	Holiday – No School
Wednesday, 2/17	Winter PTA Meeting Re: Future Structure of Horace Mann
Thursday, 2/18	RSVP Deadline for the Auction – Go Online to Complete Yours
Friday, 3/5	Horace Mann Auction- Get your babysitters lined up now!

THIS WEEK IN SCHOOL....

- 👍 We celebrated the snow!
- 👍 We held our first copy of the Horace Mann cookbook in hand! It is gorgeous! See details below!
- 👍 We welcomed three students from the Field School who are doing a mid-winter internship. They served multiple roles and will be back with us again (plus one) next week. Hooray!
- 👍 We welcomed back Amy Iger, our part-time strategic support teacher, from her maternity leave.
- 👍 Our Boys and Girls Centaur Basketball Teams played their last games (including today @ Tubman ES). While the season may not have been memorable for wins vs. losses, if we measure the season by a point score of sheer determination, sportsmanship, and fun, we definitely ran up the numbers! Huge thanks to each of our players for representing the rest of us so well and to Coach Mac and each parent for their roles as organizers, drivers, and cheerleaders through it all!
- 👍 Our Community Center was transformed into a STAR LAB as several classes visited to learn about the night sky and our solar system. Thank you, Ms. Hill, for bringing such celestial wonder to our midst!

A GOOD WEEKEND TO MAKE SOMETHING...

On Sale Tomorrow from the Front
Lobby of School....

- The Horace Mann Community Cookbook!
- Purchase yours while supplies last!
- Plenty of inspiration for a weekend in the kitchen!
- \$30.00/copy (and worth every penny; wait until you see it!)

In the category of “beyond expectations”, this book takes “First Place”! It is a gorgeous compilation of family recipes and heirlooms to be treasured (and enjoyed!). Our talented cookbook team of Melanie, Therese, Gitte, and Emma created a culinary masterpiece that you will want to have and to give to your favorite foodies! My whisk is poised for adventure. Yours? Bon Appetit!



A WINTRY FORECAST....

As usual, there seem to be hourly adjustments in the predictions about the scope and arrival of our next blast of winter weather.

As we prepare for it, thanks for remembering that...

- *✱ Decisions about school closure are made at the District level, not by anyone in our building
- *✱ SHOULD the arrival of the storm necessitate an early dismissal from school Friday, there will be AMPLE communication to families via the radio and television news, and the emergency communication version of our ConnectED system (those friendly phone calls you get from me/the school system). This call will go to every number we have listed in our student information system (work, cell, home). Please resist the desire to call school to inquire about school closure. We promise no child will be left at school because a parent didn't know! Thinking ahead to your "game plan" SHOULD an early dismissal be called is a good idea....
- *✱ We need your help in protecting our bulb-planted hill. The snow fence is up. Thanks for helping us keep it that way.

OUR CONTINUING ACTION AROUND HAITI

Our 4th graders are continuing to collect Change for A Change in the library and voted this week to contribute their collection of coins to Heifer International's Haiti Disaster Rehabilitation Fund. In our Art Studio, we have been producing gorgeous HEARTS out of tin, paper, and clay. Our aim is to create hearts that we can wear daily as a reminder of the hardship facing those in Haiti. We welcome you to come make a heart of your own or to make a donation and walk away with a special heart made by a Horace Mann studio student. Our first round of hearts are on display in the hallway outside the Studio. Come by!

AUCTION CHECKLIST: HAVE YOU....

- Found (and opened!) the Auction Evite in your email in box? If not, please email William Goldfarb at wgoldfarb@iname.com so that he can get one to you! If you need a printed invitation, we can send that too! Please let us know! RSVP Deadline is 2/18
- Considered inviting friends and adult family members to the auction? It promises to be a great night out – and with a unique opportunity to go shopping without any hassle!
- Secured your babysitter?
- Contributed a donation of goods or services? It is easy to do! Just call up or visit with your favorite restaurateur, camp provider, craft maker, beach house owner.... People find it EASY to say YES when you are asking them to donate for a local public school. Online donation forms are available on our website.

LOOK OUT FOR OUR CHEERFUL HEART

The Cheerful Heart idea began two years ago at the holiday time as a way to enable families to show their appreciation to *all* of the adults in our school community who support students. A donation to the Cheerful Heart Fund, maintained by the PTA, simply enables us to provide some welcome snacks at professional meetings, an occasional pot of soup in the Teachers' Lounge on a rainy mid-day, and occasional flowers in the restroom.

If you'd like to contribute to the Cheerful Heart Fund, simply return the PINK HEART coming home with a small donation (cash or check: Horace Mann PTA). Thank you!

BOX TOPS BOX TOPS BOX TOPS BOX TOPS BOX TOPS

CONGRATULATIONS to MRS. PARK'S 3RD GRADE for being the Box Tops winner for the week of January 29th with 70 Box Tops (\$7.00). We collected 144 Box Tops (\$14.40) with all but one classroom participating. For the month of January, Mrs. Park's 3rd grade was the winner with \$178 Box Tops (\$17.80). Great job 3rd graders! They were followed by Mrs. Koerner's 4th grade with 108 Box Tops (\$10.80) and Ms. Allen's 1st grade with 87 Box Tops (\$8.70). We're about \$130.00 BEHIND last year's total collection as of February 28th so we really have to make a BIG PUSH to catch up so we can be the number 1 DC school (public and private) again for the 4th year in a row. Please be sure to alert your grandparents, aunts, uncles, friends and neighbors who clip Box Tops for you to get their Box Tops to you no later than February 25th so you can bring them to school for the collection on Friday, February 26th—the last collection day for our submission to General Mills which needs to be post marked by February 28th in order to get our check from General Mills in May.