



# Week at the Creek

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Dr. Joy Reichenberg  
Principal

Mrs. Jill Hillier  
Assistant Principal

Hello Hickory Creek Families!

We have so many exciting things happening around our school!

On Friday, our fifth grade students competed in the Spelling Bee. All of the kids did a great job preparing for the competition, but there could only be one winner. Congratulations to Sarah Rocheleau for winning the Bee!

The time to see our school's BIG holiday production, The Polar Express, is finally here! The cast and crew have been rehearsing and working hard, and it is going to be an amazing show! Students and teachers will all have a chance to see the performance during the school day sometime this week. Nighttime shows will take place on Wednesday and Thursday nights. You must have a ticket to attend the nighttime performances. This is one show that cannot be missed!

Have you heard about our new Positive Behavior Referrals? When a student receives a Positive Behavior Referral from a staff member, he/she is celebrated for his/her behavior. A Brag Tag is awarded to the student along with a special note and recognition from an administrator. This is something new we are trying to promote and recognize positive behaviors within our school.

Our first Brag Tag Celebration for the school year is coming up on December 20<sup>th</sup>. We'll serve hot cocoa and cookies, dance to holiday music, and have a great time showing off our Brag Tags. Students that have earned six or more Brag Tags so far for the year are invited to attend and their parents can come too! Please check with your child's teacher to confirm whether or not your son/daughter will be attending the celebration.

iReady testing has started again. This is the computerized assessment that we use to monitor academic growth in reading and math throughout the year. We look forward to seeing how much our students have learned since the beginning of the year!

Enjoy your week! Winter Break will be here before we know it!

Sincerely,

Jill Hillier, AP



## The Polar Express is coming to HCES!

We hope you will attend one of our Polar Express performances this week. Performances are Wednesday, December 13<sup>th</sup> and Thursday, December 14<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 PM. Admission is free, but we would like for you to have a ticket to attend to ensure that we do not reach overcapacity in the cafeterium. Tickets are available for pickup at the front desk throughout the week.

We hope to see you there!



**Monday 12/11:** Mac & Cheese, Chicken Nuggets or BBQ Chicken Max snacks

**Tuesday 12/12:** Mini Corn Dogs, Mini Cheese Ravioli or Nacho Li'l Bites

**Wednesday 12/13:** Cheese or Pepperoni Pizza, or Chicken Nuggets

**Thursday 12/14:** Cheeseburger, Chicken Sandwich or Chicken Nuggets

**Friday 12/15:** Hot Dog, Chicken Nuggets or Max Cheese Sticks

### Upcoming Events at HCES:

- 12/13&14 – Polar Express Performance 7 PM
- 12/18 – PTO Spirit Night at Gators Dockside 5-8 pm
- 12/19 – K “Teddy Bear Smiles” play – Goselin, Williams, Rewey and Ferro’s classes.
- 12/20 – Brag Tag Celebrations for students who have earned 6 or more Brag Tags this year.
- 12/21 – Early Release Day
- 12/22 – 1/5 Winter Break



### Spelling Bee

Congratulations to our Spelling Bee winner, Sarah Rocheleau, in Mrs. Turnipseed’s 5<sup>th</sup> Grade class!



### Upcoming PTO Events

- Flight of the Hawks 5K – Dec. 16<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 am

Check out our website for more details:

<http://www.hcepto.org/>

Thank you for supporting our Holiday Shop and our HAWKS Connect Service project!



We have many daytime events happening at HCES! When visiting the school during the day, ANY GUEST should be an approved volunteer. Please access <https://stjohns.keepntrack.com/apply/> to apply to be an “approved volunteer.”

When coming to visit, please stop by the front desk and sign in to our Keep’nTrack system. You will need to be prepared to present your ID to whomever is working at the front desk for verification. Please wear your visitor badge whenever you are in the building to alert our employees that you have clearance to be in the building.

If you are looking to check your child out early, or pick them up in the event they are ill, please be prepared to show your identification. It is not always the same person working at the front desk, and our staff has been instructed to verify authorization before releasing a student to an adult.

If a student comes to the front office before 3:15 to retrieve an item, the front office staff will call to make sure the teacher is in the room before letting the student back in the building. If the teacher is not in the room, or if it is after 3:15, that item will have to wait to be retrieved the next school day.

In the mornings before school, students are not admitted to the commons areas or classrooms, unless they have a predetermined activity such as patrols, band, etc. Students should not be in the commons areas or classrooms until 8:05 – when teacher supervision is available.



CALLING ALL RUNNERS!

The Flight of the Hawks 5K will be held on Saturday, December 16<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 am on Hickory Creek Elementary campus! We would love to see you out at this fun event. Register today on the PTO website:

<http://www.hcepto.org/>



We are so grateful for the kind and generous outpouring of love that has come from our families at this wonderful time of year! So many of you have graciously donated toys, food, gift cards, monetary donations and more to our Hickory's Heart and HAWKS Connect endeavors. Special thanks to the Mayo team who have once again rallied together and made a very generous donation to our Hickory's Heart program! We are so appreciative of everyone's contribution. May you all be blessed greatly in return!

