A Letter from the Principal...

Dear Parents and Guardians,

The spirit of giving is alive and well at Hampton! During November students packed 36 Thanksgiving bags and 10 boxes full of miscellaneous food items which will be used to stock the food pantry shelves at the Assistance Center of Towson Churches. The Hampton community is always so generous. It was also inspiring to have so many Turkey Grams delivered to students and staff.

In December the hat and mitten tree will be erected in the lobby. Donations of hats, mittens, and gift cards will be added to the tree and donated to Hampton families and local communities. We are also accepting new toys and books for children in need. As a staff it is gratifying to see our children proudly add their donations to the tree.

The Spirit of Hampton touched many of our staff members as the community fulfilled their wishes during American Education Week. Thank you again for your generosity.

Later this month the fourth-grade chorus and fifth grade band and orchestra will share their musical talents with the whole school during the day and with their guests in the evening. You will have time to relax and appreciate the way our students work as teams to perform for us.

At this busy time of the year and during the upcoming winter break, delight in the achievements of your children, snuggle up and read a book together, share meals with family and friends, and understand that Hampton is successful due to the concerted efforts of all involved. Thank you for your continued support. Happy New Year!

Sincerely,

Patricia M. Kassir

Follow us on Twitter @HamptonDolphins
**Office News...**

Consider making a year-end donation to the PTA. We need your donations to support our teachers!

https://www.paypal.com/us/fundraiser/112574644767835624/charity/1595002

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Hampton has instituted **Word of the Week** to improve vocabulary. Our words last month were: consequence, abundance, and rubble. Please acknowledge your child when he/she uses one of these words.

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**HAMPTON ELEMENTARY SPIRITWEAR**

HES Spirit Wear has a survey for parents regarding new Spirit Wear offerings—take a look and give your feedback!

https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/PRGLG97
The Library is asking for donations of playing cards. Do you have any playing cards around your house that are missing a few cards from the deck? Well... bring them into the HES library. We can use them for bookmarks!!!

Also, if you are interested in helping to check in books in the library click on the sign up genius [https://www.signupgenius.com/go/8050e4ba4aa2ea31-library](https://www.signupgenius.com/go/8050e4ba4aa2ea31-library). Sign up for one morning a month or every Thursday. Checking in books starts around 9:30 and ends around 10:00.

Reminder that the school library does not charge overdue or late fees. Please encourage your child to check out a book or two each time they come to the library. New this year we have library learning stations in grades first through fifth. These stations include microscopes, creation stations, carding making stations, and poetry board. Students are really using this time to showcase their creativity and respond to library lessons. If you have any cards, holiday or blank that you would like to donate, please drop these off at the HES library.

Big thank you to Stephanie Haddock in her support of the Birthday Book club program. Over fifty books have been donated in this program in the past six months. Our total collection of books at HES is over 10,000! This is huge for our students to have access to such a current, diverse collection of literature. Thank you to all the staff and parents that support this important endeavor.

Physical Education News
- Melissa Cavender, P.E. Teacher

First, I would like to say thank you so much for all the support and huge welcome by the students and parents. As I tell the students, P.E. rocks!

It's that time of the season when boots are all the fashion, but please help your child remember tennis shoes for their P.E. day. Students can not participate in the daily activities in boots, crocs, and sandals.

Fourth and fifth graders started off the year with soccer activities and track and field outside. The students just finished up their bowling unit and are currently starting their basketball unit. Second and third graders started off the year with directional games and activities as well as working on some kicking skills. They also just finished their bowling unit and are currently starting on hand dribbling and shooting skills.

First grade started the year off with directional games and activities as well. The students in first and second grades have learned how to throw and catch and are participating in many throwing games. They will work in the Magic Club which is a throwing and catching progression activity that includes different levels. They can even practice at home!

Kindergarten students enter the gym and jog on our roller coaster area for our heart warm up. We participate in dances, work on basic skills (tossing, throwing, catching, rolling, etc.) and finish with a game using the basic skill that we learned that day.
From the Health Suite

- Mrs. Chambers

I would like to give a very sincere thank you to all those who donated blood during our recent American Red Cross Blood Drive. It was a success thanks to all the volunteers and parent helpers!

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**Holiday Tree Safety Tips**

- Look for "fire resistant" labels on artificial trees.
- Avoid sharp, breakable or edible-looking ornaments that could cause choking.
- Cut trees should be fresh, with no needles falling off. Keep stand filled with water.
- Lights may have lead in sockets or wire coatings, so hang out of young children's reach.
- Check lights for fire risks like frayed or crimped wires, broken sockets or loose connections.
- Place tree away from fireplaces, candles, heaters, doors and walkways.

For more, visit HealthyChildren.org