



P.O. BOX 97, HARTLAND, VERMONT 05048

HARTLAND COOPERATIVE NURSERY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

November 2017

" Too much love never spoils children. Children become spoiled when we substitute presents for presence." Dr. Anthony Witham – Pinterest

SNOW/ICE DAY SCHOOL CLOSINGS & DELAYS

Our school closes for snow days whenever Hartland Elementary School closes. Information about school closings can be heard on local radio stations and seen on TV stations or the internet by 6:30 a.m. Some examples are XL 92 and KIXX 100.5 for radio stations and Channel 3 (WCAX) TV or online. Hartland Elementary School records a message on its phone after 6:30 a.m. (436-2255); you can also check out Hartland Elementary School on the WSESU website (<http://www.wsesu.net/hes-home>). **If Hartland Elementary School has a delayed opening HCNS will delay its start to 9:00 a.m.** If HES has an early release for weather conditions our afternoon sessions will be canceled. If school at HES is cancelled on the day of a HCNS board meeting, the board meeting will also be cancelled or postponed.

DECEMBER DATES

Please put the following dates into your December calendars:

- **December 14 (Snow Date: December 19th) – Mrs. Harriet's & Mrs. Bonnie's classes** – School at Mrs. Harriet's house – drop off and pick up there. Details and directions coming soon.
- **December 14 or 15 – Miss Tiffany's & Miss Michelle's afternoon class** – Special event – details coming soon.
- **December 15 (Snow Date: December 19th) – Miss Tiffany's & Miss Michelle's morning class** – School at the Sweeney's house. Details and directions coming soon.
- **December 20 (Snow date: December 21)** – Holiday parties for all classes – see details below.
- **December 22 – January 1** – Holiday break – HCNS closed.

HOLIDAY PARTIES

Holiday parties will be held on **Wednesday December 20th at 10:30 a.m. for the morning classes** and **at 3:00 p.m. for the afternoon classes** (Snow Date: Thursday December 21st at the same times). Parents and siblings are invited to join us for holiday gift unwrapping, songs, games and finger plays. **We ask that each child bring in a present for the school.** We will post wish lists for supplies, materials and other items needed for the classrooms. The present should be wrapped and have your child's name on it. Please talk to your child about how the present is for everyone at the school. During the holiday parties the children will unwrap the presents they have brought in. **We strongly request that you do not bring gifts for the teachers!** Instead we'd appreciate your participation in the Hartland Christmas Project and gift giving to the classrooms.

HARTLAND CHRISTMAS PROJECT

HCNS will be participating in the Hartland Christmas Project again this year. This project, which has been around for over 30 years is sponsored by local churches, schools, businesses and individuals working together to assist Hartland families in need during the holidays. Families submit a list of needs and wants to organizers; then people purchase the items on the list. Our school will be assisting some families. **We will place paper ornaments on our classroom walls so that families can pick them up at family conference time or right after the Thanksgiving break.** HCNS families may take ornaments, purchase the gifts listed on the ornaments, and then bring all gifts to HCNS **unwrapped, with the paper ornaments securely attached.** We plan to have the children help with gift wrapping. **Gifts listed on the ornaments should be new.** Other ways to help include donating used winter clothing in good condition (no shoes or underwear please) and gently used household goods, toys and games. **Used car seats cannot be accepted.** Personal care items and nonperishable food items will also be collected. Food items especially needed include canned meats, spaghetti sauce with meat in it, peanut butter, canned vegetables and fruits, powdered milk, instant and brewing coffee, hot chocolate, and hot cereals such as oatmeal or cream of wheat. Personal care items requested include bar soap, shampoo, deodorant, tooth paste and brushes. Laundry soap, dish detergent, toilet paper and paper towels are also gratefully accepted. **We hope that each child can bring in one food or personal care item – there is always a great need for these items.** We will have boxes in each classroom to collect food, used clothing and household goods, and personal care items not on the family wish lists. We are planning to deliver our school's donations to the Hartland Brick Church with the children in the afternoon class. We feel that participating in the Christmas Project is a meaningful way for children to take the perspective of others and to begin to realize that giving to others is a part of the true spirit of the season. **All gifts and donations must be brought to HCNS by Tuesday December 12th.** We'll deliver them to the church with the afternoon classes on Wednesday December 13th.

OUTSIDE FRIDAY

We plan to be outside for the entire day each Outside Friday unless weather conditions are extreme. In order for the children to all be comfortable and warm when we are on our cold weather Outside Friday adventures please be sure that your child wears warm boots, a winter jacket, snow pants, a hat and heavy mittens (preferably waterproof). Even though we don't have snow on the ground feet and hands get cold when the children wear mud boots and lightweight mittens or gloves. Having an extra pair of mittens in the backpack is also helpful. We'd rather have too many clothes than not enough clothes. **Also, please be sure that your child has a filled water bottle in his/her backpack.**

HOLIDAY STRESS?

Here's a link to an article that gives some ideas of ways to deal with holiday stress in both adults and children:

<https://www.empoweringparents.com/article/holiday-stress-how-to-keep-calm-and-avoid-fighting-with-your-kids/>

BOARD MEETING MINUTES

November 8, 2017

Present: Heather White, Harriet Dumas, Nikki Raney, Tiffany Tucker, Val Raney, Liz Frederick (& Baby Charlie), Meggan Wehmeyer,

Approve October Minutes: approved

Treasurer's Report:

Net Loss: -\$2321.89

Val has requested reimbursement from the three school districts

\$38,015.25 checking account

\$38,114.57 saving account

Val paid the insurance last month

Val contacted one of the Mascoma Bank Managers about what to do with our extra money. No bank or credit union would help earn us extra money. This connection is planning to contact an investment agency. We need to check our by-laws ahead of time, to make sure this is approved. With the amount of money we have in the bank, we should look to invest it for future stability.

Val will continue to speak with him next month, and will email the board of updates and decisions on what the next steps should be.

The Hartland Rec Center put in a request for an AED system on-site. John Lennard will get back to Val with a price. The board has tentatively approved to pay for half of the device.

Admissions' Report:

We've had some movement in classroom. Two afternoon children went to mornings, and one morning went to the afternoon.

Discussion about Enrollment protocol for next year:

Options:

1. Open enrollment for all
2. Open to current families first
 - a. Current families with children
 - b. Current families with future children
 - c. Waiting list of requests

Opening up: January 1st to current families, then January 18th to the public. Same day as our Open House

Discussion about a change that may have to occur: The transportation piece to 4CCC is becoming an issue. There are more children than they can transport in one vehicle.

-Can we contact the Town Manager to see if there is an option of current employee driving the town bus?

-Contact Christine Bourne (HES Principal) about transportation options?

-Could we pay a staff member from 4CCC as well?

Director's Report:

Read With Me: Free early literacy program from the VT Humanities Program. Come two evenings in January 9, 16 with the 23rd as a backup snow date. 6-8pm. Families come and get free books, discusses how to share picture books with your children. We will offer food and babysitting to families.

Old yoga center, someone is starting a new fitness program. We are looking into bringing this program to our school. \$60/per session, 1x month. It would begin in January.

-Could we do a trial run first? Both classes together vs. one class at a time

-Will there be multiple stations or one group activity?

We will try it once, and go from there.

Substitutes Update: Called and spoke to a licenser. They cannot grant a variance because we can't show how we could be in compliance within a year. Harriet has found three potential substitutes, that meet the qualifications. \$90/day, \$45/half day

Upcoming events:

Conferences scheduled for next week, then a few the following week.

No School for students: November 21st

Harvest Feast on November 16th

School at Harriet's House: December 14th, snow date would be the 19th

School at Tiffany's: TBD

Last day of 2017, December 21st

There is limited response for Miss Tiffany's class for aiding and snack.

Nikki will identify family with low in points, and see if they can support the classroom.

Possibly connect with Hartland Community Connections to help our children have participation pieces too.

Operations:

There is a lot still not being recorded. We will add a note to sign-in list to remind families to fill out the sheet to get participation credit.

A family would like to do a fundraiser for the school, however we do not need any extra money. For our fundraisers this year, we haven't been keeping the money, but rather we have donated it to others.

Other Business:

RLG thank you for fantastic pictures

Future Board Meetings

December 13, 2018

January 10, 2018

Discuss Harriet move toward retirement

February 14, 2018

March 14, 2018

April 11, 2018

May 9, 2018

June 13, 2018

SONGS & FINGER PLAYS

Preparing for Winter Song

(London Bridge tune)

Winter cold is coming soon,

Coming soon, coming soon.
Winter cold is coming soon,
What to do?

I'll sleep away the winter cold,
Winter cold, winter cold.
I'll sleep away the winter cold,
I'm a bear.

I'll leave and fly far away,
Far away, far away.
I'll leave and fly far away,
I'm a hawk.

I'll beat the cold and move around,
Move around, move around.
I'll beat the cold and move around,
I'm a squirrel.

Mr. Turkey

Mr. Turkey, Mr. Turkey,
Run and hide, run and hide.
If you are not careful, you will be a mouthful,
Thanksgiving Day, Thanksgiving Day.