

Big Flats News

April 2017

At Big Flats Elementary, we will SOAR together as we explore our “wonders” in a fun and engaging community, where we will inspire each other to achieve anything.

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Happy spring!! We have lots of exciting news to share with you all this month. First, I wanted to thank you all for making our “Winter Wonderland” such a HUGE success last month! The students, teachers, and staff had so much fun playing outside all together in the snow. Students made snowmen, snow forts, snow angels, and enjoyed playing with one another in the mounds of snow that we had. Please look at some of the pictures from the event on the next page! Also check out photos of our amazing student projects at the Innovation Fair. I loved the creativity and inventiveness of these projects.

Coming up this month, we have our spring photos. This is an opportunity to see the growth of your child since their first pictures this school year. Our spring photos will be next Tuesday, April 4th. All students will be photographed, but if you do not want to purchase spring photos you do not need to; simply return your student’s packet, it’s that easy!

Enjoy your Spring Recess from April 10 through 17, returning on April 18. The Main Office will be closed all week, too. Let’s hope for nice spring weather for this break!

April is Autism Awareness month and I would like to invite all students and their families and friends to the “Drewassic Park” fundraiser on Saturday April 29, 2017, from 10:00-2:00 pm at the Higher Hope Church, 356 Maple Street, Big Flats. This fundraiser is in support of Drew, who is one of our ASD students here at Big Flats Elementary. Drew has been diagnosed with a brain tumor and all proceeds will go towards Drew’s medical expenses, as well as the Golisano Children’s Hospital at Strong Memorial in Rochester. This wonderful event will include kid’s activities, cool photo ops, raffles, food, carnival games, a bounce house, and much more. We hope to see you there!

Last but not least, please read the flyer that went home yesterday regarding “Bee the Change” and vote every day for our Seeds of Change grant application (web address on page 4).

Sincerely,

Elizabeth Saptura



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Falcons SOAR Photos

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Innovation Lab Wish List
Pull Tab Contest
Character Ed Traits

Online Supplements:

Monthly Calendar
New School Calendar

GENERAL INFORMATION:

Big Flats Office Hours

7:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.
Monday through Friday

Office Phone Numbers

(607) 739-6373

(607) 795-2550

(607) 795-2555 fax

FRIENDLY REMINDERS:

- ❖ **Write your Name on your Lunch Box!** Lunch boxes have been brought to the office several times this year, after having been left on the bus or in the cafeteria. Most of the lunch boxes have had no name in them, making it difficult to find the owner. Please write your child's first and last name somewhere in or on the lunchbox so we can get it back to them prior to lunch. Thanks!
- ❖ **Please Always Park in the Parking Lot** When you visit the school to drop something off to your child, attend a meeting, pick your child up for an appointment, etc. please park in the lot (not the fire lane). All visitors must report to the office. If you are dropping something off to your child, the office staff will be more than happy to get it to their classroom or teacher.
- ❖ To be proactive and avoid difficult situations, please review the **Code of Conduct** with your children. All students received a copy of the Code of Conduct the first day of school. Behaviors such as using threatening words or bringing any type of weapon to school could put them and the school in a position where a suspension is the outcome. These are just a couple of examples, but the point to be made is that we all want to avoid these situations. Proper dress for school, such as safe footwear, no hats, and appropriate clothing, are also part of the Code of Conduct.

Horseheads 2030 Infrastructure Discussions

Please mark your calendars to attend one or more of the infrastructure discussions for the Horseheads 2030 comprehensive project to improve by the educational program and infrastructure of the district now, in 2030, and beyond. More information on the project is available at www.horseheadsdistrict.com.

All meetings begin at 7pm in the Horseheads High School Auditorium, and are open to the public.

4/26 5/11 5/30

Questions? E-mail
hcsdinfo@horseheadsdistrict.com.

Main Office Updates:

Calendar Update

Because the district has used four snow days this year, Friday, May 26, will be a regular day in session for all students. Last April, the Board of Education approved the one-page calendar that indicated our school schedule in the event we use more than three snow days. This calendar was sent home in our summer newsletters and is posted on our website.

Please note: The multi-page calendar mailed to residents last summer has an error on May 26, and we apologize for that error. (The box for May 26 on that calendar should say "no school unless the district has used four snow days.")

Again, Friday, May 26 will be a regular school day for all students. Highlighted in our updated calendar are the snow days we've used this year, and the schedule for snow days in the bottom right corner. Should there be additional snow days this year, we will follow that schedule. Thank you!

Homework

Big Flats Elementary believes homework extends learning, can be a review of skills, and may include written and/or non-written work. The homework assigned for grades 1-4 should take no more than 10 minutes per grade level. For example: first grade should be 10 minutes, second grade should be 20 minutes, etc. Each night parents/guardians should check for homework completion. Individual grade levels, as well as individual teachers, have further specifications to these expectations.

If you wish to have homework for a child due to illness or a family emergency, please call the school **by 9:00am**, and we will arrange to have the work left in the office for you or a designated family member to pick up at dismissal time.

If your child consistently struggles with homework, please contact your child's teacher.

Vacation Homework

Please note that at Big Flats Elementary we will NOT provide homework prior to the student's absences, to students who will miss school for vacations, etc. Students will be expected to complete daily reading and a writing journal during these situations.

It is very possible that students may also be expected to complete any pertinent work deemed necessary by the student's classroom teacher once the student returns.

Our "Bee the Change" pollinator/vegetable garden project at Big Flats Elementary School needs your help! We have submitted a grant application in the 2017 Seeds® of Change Grant Program, and need you to vote for us on their website. You can vote daily from March 30 to April 19. We need enough votes to be in the top 50 of all the gardeners who submitted applications.

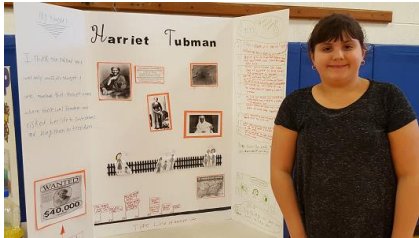


Please help us! Vote every day – from every computer you have, and please share the link with your friends on social media! The direct link to our garden proposal is here:
<https://www.seedsofchangegrant.com/GalleryDetail.aspx?id=3516>

Falcons SOAR!



Welcome to a Winter Wonderland in March!



Some of our creative students and their projects for the Innovation Fair



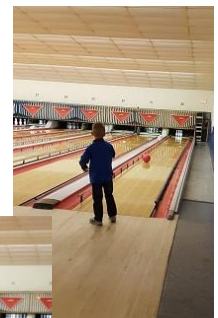
Visit from artist Gary C. Myers



Top o' the Mornin' on St. Patrick's Day



The Big Flats Elementary Special Olympics Bowling Team!



Mark Your Calendars

CSE Meetings

March 1

Principal Chat

March 7, 6:00 to 6:30 p.m.

PTO Meeting

March 7, 6:30 p.m.

Spirit Day: mlsMaTch dAy

March 9

Superintendent's Conferences

March 10 – No School

St. Patrick's Day Parade

March 11 2:00 Start

CIM Meetings

March 14

Innovation Fair

March 14 6:30 pm BFE Gymnasium

Spirit Day: Wear Green

March 17

IS Open House for 4th Graders

March 20 6:00 pm MS Cafeteria

CSE Meetings

March 22

Board of Education

March 23

6:00 p.m.—MMC

Spirit Day: Hat Day

March 24

NYS ELA Assessments (Grades 3&4)

March 28, 29, 30

Spirit Day: Sports Day

March 31



&



Follow Us on Facebook and Twitter!

Keep up with last minute announcements by liking us on Facebook! We post classroom activities, school reminders, emergency closings, and all sorts of interesting facts and photos. Check us out daily!

AND – follow us on Twitter – Mrs. Scaptura @escaptura1, or the District @HhdsSchools.

SUPPLY WISH LIST FOR THE INNOVATION LAB FEBRUARY 2017

Teachers in the Innovation Lab have a couple of things on their wish list for this month. They would love to see donations of:

Pom-Poms, Clothespins, Clay, Tempera Paint, Tape of all kinds!

Thanks!

2017-18 Budget Development Calendar:

The Board will meet to discuss budget development with the community on the following dates:

March 9, 2017 - 6pm, Erin Town Hall – Budget Workshop

March 23, 2017 - 6pm, Multi-Media Center - Board of Education Meeting

April 6, 2017 - 6pm, Multi-Media Center – Budget Workshop

April 19, 2017 (Wednesday) - 6pm, Ridge Road – Board of Education Meeting

The board will adopt the budget to be offered to voters at this meeting.

May 4, 2017 - 6pm, Multi-Media Center – Public Hearing on the 2017-18 Proposed Budget

May 8, 2017 - 7pm, Multi-Media Center – Candidates' Forum

May 16, 2017 - 7am - 9pm, Big Flats/Ridge Road/High School - School Budget Vote/Board of Education Election

Encourage RESPECT:

Follow the Golden Rule

Be tolerant and accepting

Deal peacefully with anger and insults

Use good manners, not bad language

Be considerate of the feelings of others

Don't threaten, hit or hurt anyone



Please Pull Tabs for Ronald McDonald



PullTabs4McDonalds@yahoo.com

Like Us on Facebook:

Pull Tabs for Ronald McDonald House
Charites

The tabs will be picked up mid-May.



E L E M E N T A R Y

543 Maple Street
Big Flats, New York 14814-9707
607-739-6373

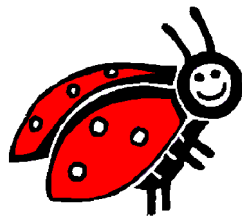
Elizabeth Scaptura, Principal

Dignity Act Coordinator

The Dignity Act Coordinator (DAC) for Big Flats Elementary is Elizabeth Scaptura. Complaints regarding discrimination, harassment, or bullying of any student should be referred to Mrs. Scaptura at 607-739-6373.



The Dignity Act Coordinator for the Horseheads Central School District is Judith Christiansen. Mrs. Christiansen may be reached at One Raider Lane, Horseheads, NY 14845, or 607-739-5601 x4211.

The Horseheads Central School District offers educational programs without regard to actual or perceived race, color, weight, national origin, ethnic group, religion, religious practice, disability, sex, sexual orientation, or gender (including gender identity and expression). Inquiries regarding this notice may be made to Judy Christiansen, Title IX and DASA Coordinator, or Kim Williams, Section 504 Coordinator, Horseheads Central School District, One Raider Lane, Horseheads NY 14845, (607) 739-5601.



May 2017



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 5	2 NYS Math Assess- ments 6 6:00 Principal Chat	3 NYS Math Assess- ments 1	4 NYS Math Assess- ments 2	5 3	6
7	8 4	9 5	10 CSE Meetings 6	11 1	12 2	13
14 	15 3	16 BoE Budget Vote 4 Big Flats Elementary	17 CIM Meetings 5 7:00 Spring Concert	18 6	19 1 8:45 Kdg Orientation	20
21	22 2	23 3	24 CSE Meetings 4 4th Gr. NYS Science Assessment	25 5 6:00 BoE Gardner Road Elementary	26 (School is in session) 6	27
28	29 No School MEMORIAL DAY 	30 No School	31 1			