



Big Flats News

March 2025

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,

Thank you to our Big Flats Falcons, who wore gray and purple today in memory of Trooper Andrew Sperr. We are so appreciative of the New York State Police for their annual support in honoring a true fallen hero. We also appreciate the NYS Troopers for coming to our school campus this afternoon to say goodbye to our students before they went home for the weekend. Thank you, NYS Troopers!

Below is a list of important reminders for the remainder of March and all of April!

- Spring Pictures: Thursday, March 13th, 2025
- Superintendent's Conference Day: Monday, March 24th, 2025 (NO SCHOOL for Students!)
- 4th Grade Student/Parent Information Night and Self-Guided Tour of the Intermediate School: April 9th, 2025 at 6:00 PM
- Spring Recess: No School, Monday, April 14th – Friday, April 18th, 2025
- Pre-Kindergarten and Kindergarten Parent/Teacher Conferences: April 21st – 25th, 2025
- 3rd & 4th Grade New York State Computer-Based ELA Assessments: April 29th & 30th, 2025

Lastly, we are excited to announce that over the winter break, the construction of our new cafeteria was completed, which allowed us to move our students into our new cafeteria this week! I am hopeful that you heard all about our big, beautiful cafeteria from your child(ren). Next week, we will begin to move some of our support staff into their new offices. The contractors continue to work in the library, and we hope to hear soon that we may begin to move into our library! Once again, we greatly appreciate everyone's support during our construction phases.

Sincerely,
Elizabeth M. Scaptura, Big Flats Elementary Principal

Elementary Lunches (K-6)

School Food Services prices for the 2024-2025 school year will be:

Breakfast: Free

Lunch: Free

School Hours

Hours for the Elementary Schools are:
8:15 a.m. to 2:25 p.m.

Office Hours

Our school office hours during regular school days are:

Monday through Friday

7:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

Office Phone Numbers

(607) 739-6373

(607) 795-2550

Fax: (607) 795-2555



Drill Notifications:

As you are aware, throughout the school year Big Flats Elementary will practice important emergency response procedures for our school including fire, evacuation, lockdown, and emergency dismissal drills. Families will receive notice within one week prior to drills. Please be advised we will continue practicing our mandated drills.

Horseheads Central School District sets the standard of educational excellence by fostering innovative thinking, curiosity, and a passion for learning to maximize the potential of each individual. We engage with our local and global communities to provide a student-centered, nurturing environment.

Explore

Empower

Excel

FRIENDLY REMINDERS:

PLACEMENT INFORMATION FOR 5th GRADE

The Intermediate School will soon be completing 2025-2026 classroom placements for students. We create class sections with the intent to achieve a mix of students by ability, gender, personality, and individual special needs. While we are unable to honor specific requests for teachers, we value your input from a parent's perspective. If you have specific information about your child's needs which should be taken into consideration or a specific previous personal experience, please put them in writing and send them to the Intermediate School no later than April 21st. We look forward to working with you to ensure your child's academic success! Thank you!

**Please join us for the
Annual St. Patrick's Day Parade!**

Saturday, March 8, 2025

The Parade will start at 2:00pm on March 8th.

Parents must walk or ride with students and staff.



Prekindergarten Registration for 2025-2026

Parents of PreK eligible children should have already received registration packets. They were mailed out on February 20th to parents of all eligible children in our database. Completed registration packets may be returned on the following dates by appointment only: March 4, 5, 18 or 19. If you have a student who will be eligible for PreK for the upcoming 2025-2026 school year and did not receive a packet, or have questions about PreK registration, please contact us at kmclain@horseheadsdistrict.com or (607)-739-5601, x4251.

Grade 4 Intermediate School Presentation and Self-Guided Tour

The Intermediate School will be hosting a presentation and self-guided tour for all current 4th graders. The presentation will be held on Wednesday, April 9th in the Intermediate School cafeteria beginning at 6:00 PM. Immediately following, students and families will have the opportunity to take a self-guided tour around the Intermediate School. Should you have any questions, please contact the Intermediate School office at 607-739-6366.

ATTENTION PARENTS AND GUARDIANS OF 3RD AND 4TH GRADERS

To provide schools and parents with an assessment of student achievement, New York State has developed the New York State Testing Program. These standardized tests challenge all students in grades 3 through 8 to demonstrate their knowledge and skills in English Language Arts, Mathematics, and Science. Please visit the site at <https://www.engageny.org/parent-and-family-resources>. If you are interested in viewing this site but do not have access to the Internet, please call the school office so that we can make arrangements for you to see this guide.

3rd and 4th grade Computer Based ELA—April 29, 2025 and April 30, 2025 3rd and 4th grade Computer Based Math—May 6, 2025 and May 7, 2025

Important Dropoff/Pickup Reminders!

- ♦ The earliest you may arrive on campus to line up is 2:10pm. We begin dismissal at approximately 2:23pm. Please do not arrive any earlier than 2:10pm as we are dismissing our PK students until approximately 2:05pm.
- ♦ Please pull up as close as you can to the car in front of you. We need to get as many vehicles off Maple Street as possible.
- ♦ Please be as quick as you can with assisting children with car seats and seatbelts. Please be sure that every child is properly restrained before pulling forward. Please continue to build independence!
- ♦ Please do NOT pass any vehicles; please stay in line!
- ♦ Please do NOT BLOCK the entrance/exit of our school campus to get in line. Obstructing the view on Maple Street is very dangerous for parents trying to pull out. Please be patient and wait your turn. If your vehicle cannot fit straight at the end of the line when entering our school campus, please wait!
- ♦ Please be courteous and take turns alternating east and west bound traffic when entering our campus.
- ♦ Please do NOT block the entrance of our neighbors' driveways. Please leave each driveway accessible so that our neighbors may enter and exit their homes safely. We appreciate our neighbors and want to always be respectful!
- ♦ If the fire siren goes off, please pull off the road immediately!
- ♦ Please keep your family name tent visible to ALL staff to ensure that we are getting each child to the correct parent/vehicle. Throughout the school year, we have different BFE staff members assist with student pick up duty. Please continue to be patient and appreciative of our staff who do their best to ensure everyone gets home safely. Please let our staff know how much you appreciate them. A simple thank you goes a long way!

Parent Morning Drop Off Times:

K-4: 7:40am - 8:15am

PK: 8:50am - 9:00am

Parent Afternoon Pick Up Times:

PK: 1:50 pm - 2:00 pm

K-4: 2:10 pm - 2:20 pm

Please be punctual! We are running on a very tight schedule. We appreciate your support!



REMAINING SPIRIT DAYS:

Monday, March 3–Wear your pajamas or comfy clothes, and read Dr.Seuss books/Read Across America Day

Monday, March 17 – St. Patrick's Day –Wear your green

Friday, April 4 – Raider/Falcon Pride Day– Wear your grade level color or blue and white

Friday, April 25– Freaky Friday– Students dress as staff, staff dress as students

Friday, May 2 – Raider/Falcon Pride Day– Wear your grade level color or blue and white

Thursday, May 22– Mismatch Day! Wear mismatched clothes

Friday, June 6– Raider/Falcon Pride Day– Wear your grade level color or blue and white

Monday, June 16– Senior Walk– Wear your spirit wear!

Thursday, June 26– Too Cool for School Day–Wear your Hawaiian clothes and/or sunglasses

Mark Your Calendars

March 3

Dr. Seuss Day—Wear pajamas
CSE Mtgs

March 4

3rd Grade Field Trip CMOG
PTO Mtg; 6pm

March 8

St. Patrick's Day Parade

March 12

Special Olympics Bowling

March 13

Spring Pictures

March 17

St. Patrick's Day—Wear green
CSE Mtgs

March 20

BOE Mtg 6PM HSMCM

March 21

3rd Grade Chemung County Storm-water Presentation

March 24

Conference Day—NO SCHOOL

March 27

Budget Mtg 6PM HSMCM



March —The month of:

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



Learn Up-To-Date Information About Our Schools and the District

Facebook: The district and each of our seven schools have pages. "Like" them to see our information in your news feed.

Twitter: Follow us on Twitter at @HhdsSchools to read our tweets. Follow Mrs. Scaptura on Twitter at @escaptural



Instagram: The district's page—hhdsschools



Visit our district website at: www.horseheadsdistrict.com.

Questions about our website or social media? E-mail hcsdinfo@horseheadsdistrict.com

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 (DAC) for the Horseheads Central School District is Caitlin DeFilippo, director of Human Resources. If there is a complaint regarding discrimination, harassment, or bullying of any student, the complaint should be filed with Caitlin DeFilippo at One Raider Lane, Horseheads, NY 14845; 607-739-5601 x4211, or cdefilippo@horseheadsdistrict.com.

Non-Discrimination Notification

The Horseheads Central School District offers educational programs without regard to race, color, national origin, creed, religion, marital status, military status, sex, sexual orientation, age, gender identity, predisposing genetic characteristic, or disability, and provides equal access to applicable groups under the Boy Scouts of America Equal Access Act. Inquiries regarding this policy may be made to Caitlin DeFilippo, Title IX/DASA Coordinator, and Co-Civil Rights Compliance Officer; Anthony Gill, Co-Civil Rights Compliance Officer; or Kelly Squires, Section 504 Coordinator, Horseheads Central School District, One Raider Lane, Horseheads, NY 14845, (607) 739-5601. This policy of non-discrimination includes access by students to educational programs, counseling services, course offerings, and activities, as well as recruitment and appointment of employees and employment pay, benefits, advancement and/or termination.



March 2025

Big Flats
Elementary School

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	3 CSE Mtgs <i>Read Across America Day— wear PJs or comfy clothes & read</i> <div>4</div>	4 3rd Grade Field Trip CMOG PTO Mtg 6PM <div>5</div>	5 Spring Candy Fundraiser Ends <div>6</div>	6 <div>1</div>	7 <div>2</div>	8 Hhds. St. Patrick's Day Parade 2:00 PM
9	10 <div>3</div>	11 <div>4</div>	12 Special Olympics Bowling; Crystal Lanes <div>5</div>	13 <i>Spring Pictures</i> <div>6</div>	14 <div>1</div>	15
16	17 <i>St. Patrick's Day— Wear Green</i> CSE Mtgs <div>2</div>	18 <div>3</div>	19 <div>4</div>	20 BOE Mtg 6PM; HSMMLC <div>5</div>	21 3rd Grade Chemung County Stormwater Presentation <div>6</div>	22
23 30	24 Conference Day— No School <div>5</div>	25 <div>1</div>	26 <div>2</div>	27 Budget Mtg 6:00; HSMMLC <div>3</div>	28 <div>4</div>	29 Regional Scripps Spelling Bee 9:00

Character Trait of the Month
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



Fight Flu

at Home and School

Influenza (flu), spreads easily and can make people very sick, especially kids. You can help stop flu!

Flu symptoms include:

Fever or chills, body aches, cough, sore throat, headache, runny or stuffy nose, feeling very tired. Some people, especially children, may have stomach problems and diarrhea. Unlike a cold, the flu comes on very suddenly.

Prevent flu!

- Flu vaccine is the best protection against the flu. It is recommended every year for everyone 6 months and older.
- Get the flu vaccine for you and your children every year! It helps make flu sickness milder or prevents it altogether.
- Getting the vaccine early in the fall means you and your children will be protected when flu season starts.
- Make sure people close to your children, like babysitters and relatives, are also vaccinated.
- The vaccine is especially important for young children and people of all ages with certain health conditions like asthma, diabetes, and heart or lung conditions. The flu can make them even sicker.

If your child gets the flu:

- Your child will need plenty of rest and lots of fluids.
- Keep your child home from school for at least 24 hours after their fever is gone without using fever-control medicine. This helps avoid giving the flu to others.
- Talk with your child's health care provider before giving a child any over-the-counter medicine.
- Never give your child or teenager aspirin or any medicine that has aspirin in it. Aspirin can cause serious problems.
- Young children and those with certain medical conditions, like asthma, diabetes, and heart or lung disease, are at greater risk for getting seriously ill from the flu.
- If your child gets flu symptoms, call their health care provider and ask if antiviral treatment is right for them.
- If you are worried about your child, call their health care provider.

Don't spread flu!

- Stay home if you are sick.
- Wash hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds.
- If soap and water aren't handy, use an alcohol-based hand rub.
- Cough or sneeze into a tissue or your elbow, not your hands. Put used tissues in the trash.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth. That's how germs spread.
- Stay away from people who are sick.

health.ny.gov/flu



Department
of Health



We Are
HIRING



SUBSTITUTE TEACHERS

Horseheads Central School District accepts applications for substitute teachers throughout the school year. Both certified and non-certified positions are available. Uncertified substitute teachers may be approved as long as they meet the following minimum qualifications:

- ✓ Have been graduated from high school at least 4 years*, AND
- ✓ Possess an Associate's Degree or higher, OR
- ✓ Have completed at least two years of post-secondary education, OR
- ✓ Have completed a minimum of 12 credits of post-secondary education, OR
- ✓ Have served and been honorably discharged from the military

*Except for those substitute candidates who have satisfactorily completed or are in the process of completing a student teaching assignment in the pursuit of a college degree towards the teaching profession

Apply Now

Visit: horseheadsdistrict.com/employment.cfm
Call: (607) 739-5601 Ext. 4211

