

HOLMES ELEMENTARY

WINTER 2024 NEWSLETTER

Snow Much Fun!

This winter season has been filled with a number of wonderful events at Holmes: Winter Wonderland, Rudolph Tickets, Holiday Sing-Along, and the 4th Grade Chorus Concert. This was capped off by Ms. Farrauto, Mrs. Staley, Ms. Cassillo, Ms. Lis, and Ms. Rajski taking their students sledding in the back of the school!

Be sure to ask your student which winter activity was their favorite!



CHALLENGE & PRIDE

All students and staff are pushing themselves to do their best by embodying Holmes' school theme: **Challenge & Pride**. We are encouraging everyone at Holmes to achieve all they can and be proud of their growth.

Ask your student how they are challenging themselves this year!

NYS Testing: Gr. 3 & 4

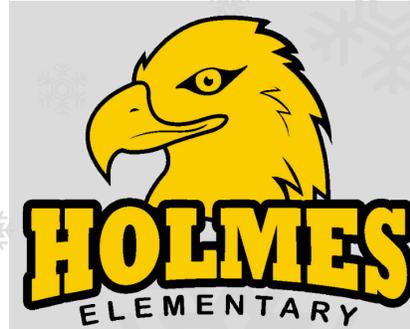
ELA

4/30 & 5/1

Math

5/8 & 5/9

We are **CHALLENGING** all of our 3rd and 4th graders this year to do their best on the NYS ELA & Math tests! We cannot wait to celebrate the success of our students with them and be **PROUD** of their growth!



OUR CLASS
IS HERE
TODAY!



New Challenges at Holmes

Aside from challenging each of our students to be Upstanders, we are now challenging our students to be here every day! Having good attendance is one of the key factors in ensuring student success, and we want to help our students succeed. We now have monthly competitions for individual and classroom attendance.

Ask your student if they or their class has won one of our monthly Attendance Challenges!

STUDENT SPOTLIGHT

Do you know Sal?

Well you should! Sal is a Holmes 4th grader, and Mrs. Staley was so impressed with Sal's leadership and kindness that she wanted to share it with the community:

"Sal sits next to one of my [kindergarten] students on the bus. In the beginning of the year, my student was sad and scared, and Sal wanted to make him feel safe. Sal chose to come and read in my room as his reward! He did such a great job and the kids loved it."

Ask your student how they have spread kindness and been a leader at Holmes!

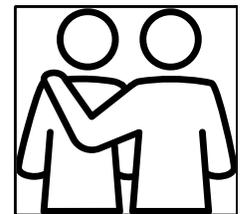
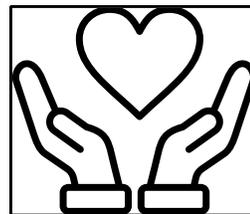


Learning Empathy

This month, our students in grades K-4 have been focusing on the important skill of empathy in their SEL lessons. Through various activities and discussions, we have been teaching our students the value of understanding and sharing the feelings of others. We believe that empathy is a crucial skill for building positive relationships and creating a supportive school community.

Want to do more?

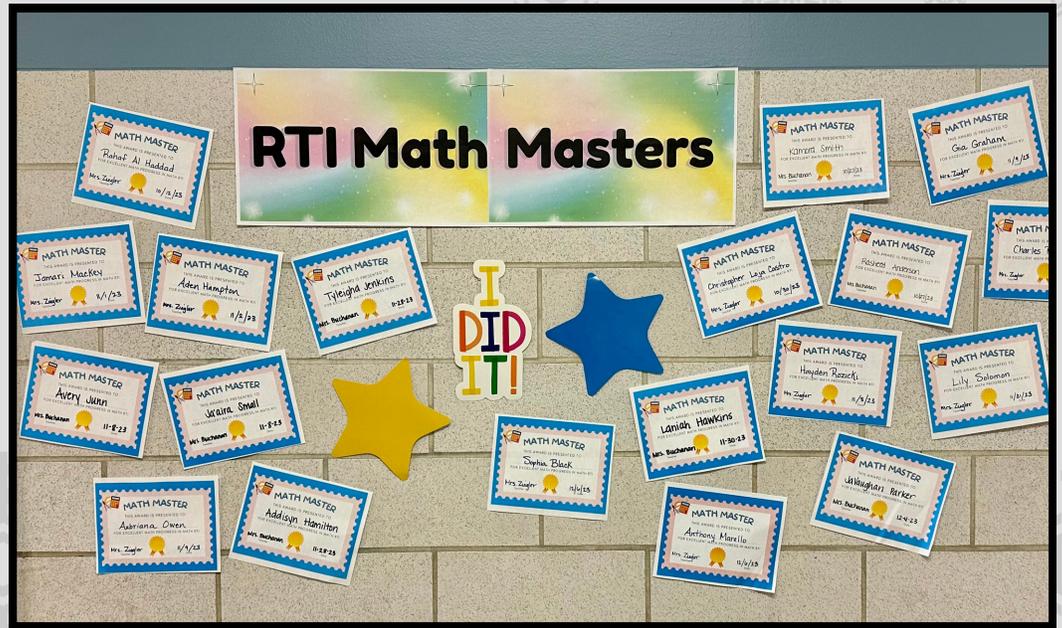
Click on the images below for videos on empathy to watch with your student!



Thank you for your ongoing support in reinforcing these valuable lessons at home!

SOCIAL EMOTIONAL LEARNING

MATH MASTERS



Check out all of the progress Holmes kids are making in RTI Math! These students met their math goals and either moved to the next level or tested out of RTI! ***Keep up the great work Math Masters!!***

READING IS OUT OF THIS WORLD!

Literacy Night

March 13, 2024

6 - 7 PM

at Holmes Elementary

***We hope to see all our
Holmes Families there!***



LEARNING ON THE ROAD



Fieldtrips are a regular occurrence at Holmes! They provide our students with priceless opportunities to put the skills they learn in the classroom to practical use.

To the left is a picture of Mrs. Staley's Kindergarteners visiting and learning at the Tonawanda Highway Department.

Ask your student which fieldtrip this year has been their favorite!

GIRLS ON THE RUN IS BACK!

Attention all 3rd and 4th grade girls who would like to join Girls on the Run:

Paper registration forms were handed out the first week of February. Please see the flyer for more information on the program.

Practice days will be Tuesdays and Thursdays after school until 5:15. *There are NO BUSES PROVIDED.* Girls will need to be picked up by an adult. Only 3 absences are allowed throughout the program.

We look forward to a great season!
- Coach Conway & Coach Caruana

EARLY INTERVENTION

If you suspect your child has a delay in cognition, communication, gross/fine motor, social/emotional, or self-help skills:

YOU DON'T NEED TO WAIT UNTIL KINDERGARTEN FOR FREE HELP!

Birth - 2 Years of age, call:

*Erie County Department of Health Early Intervention
716-858-6161*

2 - 5 Years of Age, call:

*Kenmore Tonawanda School District
Donna Ringholz
716-874-8400, ext. 20318*

Kindergarten Registration

If your child is turning 5 on or before December 1, 2024 it's time to register them for Kindergarten!!

There is no need to wait! Click the image below for more information or call (716) 871-2090.



We can't wait for your student to be a part of our Holmes Family!

HOLMES ELEMENTARY

INVITES YOU TO
LITERACY NIGHT!



WEDNESDAY, MARCH 13 6-7 PM

READING

IS OUT OF THIS WORLD!

Send your child to school if...

They have a runny nose or just a little cough, but no other symptoms.



They haven't taken fever-reducing medicine for 24 hours, and haven't had a fever during that time.



They haven't thrown up or had diarrhea for 24 hours.



They don't feel great, but have no other significant symptoms. They didn't sleep well, and are kind of tired.



Keep your child home if...

They feel sick and have had a temperature of greater than 100.4°F in the past 24 hours.



They throw up 2 or more times in 24 hours.



They have diarrhea 3 or more times in 24 hours.



Their eye is pink and crusty.



They have a chronic cough or green nasal discharge.



Call the doctor if...

They have a temperature greater than 100.4°F for more than 2 days.



They throw up or have diarrhea for more than 2 days.



They've had the sniffles for more than a week, and aren't getting better.



They still have asthma symptoms after using asthma medicine. (Call 911 if they have trouble breathing after using an inhaler.)



GUIDANCE ON WHEN TO KEEP YOUR STUDENT HOME

Did you know that the best way to keep your student from frequently getting ill is through handwashing and keeping yearly doctors appointments. These preventative measures can truly help your child stay healthy!

When was your student's last well visit?





ELEMENTARY HEALTH NEWS

Mrs. Jelonek has visited all of the elementary classrooms during November and December to teach our students about communicable diseases. Each visit gets started with our kids moving to a little exercise where they Spin the Wheel of Exercise! Lessons focus on germs, how they're spread, how they enter our bodies, and how our immune system works to help us stay healthy. Our Holmes kindergartners learned how to cover coughs and sneezes with elbows and tissues- they even help a friend they've colored cover his germs! The upcoming Health lessons will be covering a unique Nutrition topic for each grade level.

DIGITAL LITERACY

TWO SIMPLE TIPS

For a Safe, Healthy, and Balanced Digital Life

1) SET MEDIA EXPECTATIONS



The American Academy of Pediatrics encourages parents to set media use expectations using a Family Media Plan. They have created an online tool that makes the process a breeze. The QR code on the right will walk you through the steps.



[HTTPS://TINYURL.COM/YCX56D63](https://tinyurl.com/YCX56D63)

2. TALK WITH YOUR CHILD ABOUT MEDIA USE



[HTTPS://TINYURL.COM/29C9SPP9](https://tinyurl.com/29C9SPP9)

Talking and listening to your child about media issues is a great way to monitor use and encourage healthy media habits. Common Sense Media has created a collection of activities to help families with media literacy. The QR code to the left will take you to Common Sense's resources for parents.

