



Holyoke Community Charter School April 2022 Newsletter



Directors News

Hello HCCS family and friends!

April is a very important month for students! We have MCAS and mid-term exams around the corner! Please avoid any absences for your child. We have NO SCHOOL on Friday, April 15, 2022 due to Good Friday. Also, we will have a well deserved one week vacation Monday, April 18, 2022 through Friday, April 22, 2022! No school on April 25, 2022 due to Parent/Teacher Conferences. Students will return to school on April 26, 2022

ELA MCAS Grades 3-8
April 12 & 13



HCCS Mission Statement

“The mission of HCCS is to promote the joy of learning and to prepare children for success as students, workers, and citizens by providing them with high-quality public education.”



SABIS[®]



Upcoming Events

- ◆ Friday, April 15, 2022– No School –Good Friday
- ◆ April 18-22th– No School– Spring Recess
- ◆ Friday, April 25, 2022– Parent Teacher Conferences
- ◆ Tuesday, April 26, 2022– Lower School Parent/ Teacher Conferences– Evening
- ◆ Wednesday, April 27, 2022– Upper S5chool Parent/ Teacher Conferences– Evening

Grade K

English: Students will be focusing on reading with expression and fluency. They will be learning how to write a letter. Students will also be working on digraphs with sh,th,ch,wh.

Math: Students will be writing and making sets for the numbers 18,19,20. They will be writing the numbers from 0-20 forward and backwards. Students will be revisiting 2D shapes/ 3D shapes.

Science: Students will be learning about how things grow and change as they grow.

Social Studies: Students will be discussing “ How do we work at school?” They will be discussing “ What are needs and wants?”

Spanish: Students will work on the unit about the animals and about the school. Reading and writing sentences with syllables fa fe fi fo fu va ve vi vo vu ña ñe ñi ño ñu.

Grade 1

English: In writing students will begin to learn how to write a “how-to” text. This helps students to understand step-by-step instructions. They will learn how to be clear and give a step-by-step of how to complete a task or make something. In reading, students will read a variety of different texts. They will start by reading rhyming poems. We will then move on to thinking about folktales and how you can identify a folktale. The students continue to practice reading nonfiction articles. This helps them to understand how to find information in a text. For grammar, students will learn about using commas to break up a series. They will understand that a comma is a pause and when we write lists we use them to separate the words to make it easier to read. Then we will review possessive nouns. For phonics students will learn the sounds of fl, fr, gl, gr, pl, pr, sc, scr, sk, sl, sm, and sn. Students will continue to focus on two letters blending together to make one sound. They will then use these sounds for spelling and handwriting to practice.

Math: Students will begin to learn about graphs and being able to find things on a graph. They will learn to read bar graphs. Students will also practice tallying. Students will refresh their memory on word problems. This time students will complete addition and subtraction word problems that use numbers up to 20. Lastly, they will review solid shapes, also recognize the faces of shapes as well as how many corners different shapes have.

Science: In science students will be learning about plants. They will plant their own plants and understand the life cycle. They will look at each part of a plant and understand how they grow.

Social Studies: In social studies students will begin to learn about people and money. They will think about the jobs people can do. Then they begin to think about trade and why people trade. Students will think about how goods and services affect people and money.

Spanish: Students will work on a unit about animals and a unit about food. They will read the story of “Goldilocks” (reading book pages 21-31) and the workbook (pages 40-50). They will also learn syllables with the letter G.



Grade 2

English: Students will learn about pronouns and reflexive pronouns and how to use them correctly. They will need to be able to read them, spell them, and write sentences with them. Reading selections will be a tale of magic, a nonfiction text, a fable, and a folktale. Students need to be able to determine how the stories are similar and different. We will write a fiction story with details, action, and dialogue, written in multiple paragraphs.

Math: Students will work on subtracting 3-digit numbers with and without trading. They will have to trade across the hundred place and tens place. Students will subtract across zero (309-96=); solve word problems with adding; subtracting with three digit numbers. Students will be introduced to algebra (find B, when you have A and C (A-B=C) $10 - \underline{\quad} = 3$).

Science: Students will learn about different habitats and what a habitat is. They will explore food chains, food webs, and habitats. We will also be learning about migrations and the seasons.

Social Studies: Students will learn about people that have made a difference in this world like Martin Luther King Jr., Cesar Chavez, and Ruby Bridges. They will explore how each individual can make a difference in this world.

Spanish: Más sobre la cocina de Andrés. Capítulo 3 De palabras a las oraciones Lección 2. El sapo y la princesa pagina 6. Más sobre el dormitorio de Andrés

Grade 3

English: Reading: *Sarah, Plain and Tall*. Writing: Opinion essay. Grammar: Unit 23-Focus on adverbs, comparative and superlative. Spelling: List 13

Math: Chapter 5, Section 5 Equivalent Fractions, p. 70-75 In this section, students will learn to find equivalent fractions using diagrams, and number lines. Chapter 5, section 6 Comparing Fractions, p. 76-79 In this section students will learn to compare fractions with the same numerator, the same denominator, and different denominators. Chapter 5, section 7 Fractions and Lengths, p. 80-82 In this section students will learn to measure lengths to the nearest half inch, and to the nearest quarter inch. Chapter 6, section 1 Tallying Data, p. 96-98 In this section students will learn to read and construct a tally chart for a given set of data. Chapter 6, section 2 Line Plots, p. 99-102 In this section students will learn to read and draw line plots.

Science: Life Science Book Chapter 4, Section 4 - Water Ecosystems, p. 128-133 In this section students will learn about different types of water ecosystems, such as the wetland ecosystem, and the salt water ecosystem. Chapter 5, section 1 - Adaptations to Ecosystems, p. 140-146 In this section students will learn about adaptations, animal behavior, how adaptations help animals meet their needs and protect themselves from predators, camouflage and mimicry.

Social Studies: Students will learn about leaders of the American Revolution and our hometown.

Spanish: Las arañas de Navidad Cuento en Libro de Antología. Aprende las reglas El tiempo presente (verbos). La Bella y la bestia páginas 16 -18. Antología La lagartija

Grade 4

English: Anthology: Santiago Caltrava: Building movement (Biography). Writing: Complete a narrative essay. Grammar: Focus on punctuation, apostrophes, and quotation marks.

Math: Chapter 10, Section 1.3 - Capacity, p. 119-120 In this section students will learn to manipulate metric units of capacity. Chapter 10, Section 2.1 - U.S. Customary Units, p. 121-126 In this section students will learn about customary units of length, such as inches, feet, yards, and miles. They will also learn how to convert between customary units of length. Chapter 10, Section 3 - Time, p. 133-138 In this section students will learn how to read time on an analogue and digital clocks, how to convert between units of time, and to add and subtract time intervals. Chapter 10, Section 4 - Perimeter, p. 139-142 In this section students will learn to define perimeter, and to solve word problems using perimeters.

Science: Life Science book Chapter 1, Section 4 - Plant Life Cycles, p. 24-29 In this section students will learn how different plants reproduce. They will learn about traits, and the life cycle of flowering plants and conifers. Chapter 5, Section 1 - Variation and Adaptation, p. 148-155 In this section students will learn how individual within a population have variations, and how organisms adapt to their habitat. They will learn about camouflage, mimicry, hibernation, mutualism, and migration. Chapter 5, Section 2 - Survival and Extinction, p. 156-161 In this section students will learn how a population changes when its environment changes, and how sudden environmental changes can cause the extinction of some kinds of organisms.

Social Studies: Students will work on chapter 6, "The American West".

Spanish: Students will read and write in Spanish short stories about "Fruits and Restaurant". Also, students will develop Spanish grammar "Regular Verbs with Simple Present Tense." Students will work Andres Book pg. 113- 136, Workbook pg. 104-125 and Grammar, Book Reglas pg. 59-67, Workbook pg.46- 55.

Grade 5

English: April is a busy Month for the grade 5 ELA program. We will be guiding the students on how to navigate through the MCAS site and respond to the questions. In addition to MCAS practice, we will be conducting the MCAS exams on the 12 and 13 of April. After the MCAS exams are done we will start writing informational reports and concentrating on the correlative conjunctions in grammar as well as unit 18 complex sentences and subordinating conjunctions. After that we expose the students to solar eclipses in scientific texts.

Math: Students will finish primary instruction and begin preparing for Math MCAS coming in May!

Science: Life Science Chapter 7, Sections 2-3. This Chapter focuses on Interactions in Ecosystems. The students will learn about decomposers, the energy pyramid, prey, predators, the carbon dioxide-oxygen cycle, and the nitrogen cycle. We will also be doing some Science Technology and Engineering during the month of April.

Social Studies: Students will learn about the Industrial Revolution.

Spanish: Students will read short stories in Spanish about "Weather expressions, Time and Sports". Also, Students will develop Spanish grammar understanding "Estar plus Gerund, and Adverbs of Time" writing sentences in Spanish. Students will work Book Habla Ya1. 254 - 297.

Grade 6

English: Anthology: “The Myth of Perseus” (Genre: Myth); (Unit 6:) narrative essay; Writing (unit 8): Research report; Grammar (Unit 22) degrees of adjectives and adverbs; Grammar (Unit 23) Punctuation— capitals, periods, and commas, The writing of the research report will require the following: determine a theme or central idea of a text and how it is conveyed through particular details; provide a summary of the text distinct from personal opinions or judgments; provides a description of how the theme or central idea is conveyed through particular details.

Math: Geometry (Chapter 6) Area of Compound Figures; Solids and Their Nets; Surface area of solids and volume of solids. (Chapter 5) time; metric units

Science: Life Science: Chapter 2 Section 3. This chapter and section focus on the Human Body. Students will learn about antibodies, antigen, their immune system, infectious diseases, noninfectious diseases, parasites, pathogens, vaccines, and viruses. Life Science: Chapter 4 Section 2. This chapter and section focuses on the evolution of life. Students will learn about adaptations, biological diversities, extinctions, natural selections, species, and the theory of evolution.

Social Studies: Students will be studying Brazil.

Spanish: Students are learning about the name of the sports and other activities, also we are learning about professions. Chapter 6 in Habla ya 2 parte 2

Grade 8

English: The month of April will be geared entirely toward reviewing concepts for MCAS. We will practice with past years' MCAS release questions, the online testing platform. Test-Nav, and test-taking strategies.

Math: Students will discover and solve applications of the Pythagorean Theorem. They will know and apply the formula for the volume of a sphere, cylinder, and cone.

Science: Students will learn technology and engineering.

Social Studies: Students will learn about how the success of the U.S. economy affects the quality of life for everyone who lives here. They will also learn how each of us enjoys the freedom to choose a job and decide how to use our money under the economic system called capitalism.

Grade 7

English: MCAS exam practice (Reading and Writing). Read “Blizzard” and “Celeste’s Heart” and “Principals and Principles”. Guide students on how to navigate through the MCAS site and respond to the questions.

Math: Students will work on probability trees, numerical and categorical data sets. They will work on displays of quantitative data, center and variation of quantitative data. Students are also working on population and sample.

Science: Students will learn about technology and engineering.

Social Studies: Students will learn how Rome's location, especially its nearby farmlands and easy access to the Mediterranean Sea, enabled it to grow and influence the world. Rome's ideas about democracy would greatly influence the people who founded the United States many centuries later.

Gym

- **K-2:** Jump rope, overhand throwing and catching and beanbag toss.
- **3-5:** Station work (lots of different things at once)
- **6-8:** Fitness planks, different ways to play games with just a ball and a goal (soccer, handball, polo, etc.)

Computers

- **K-2:** Students will learn about online safety.
- **3-6:** Students will be working on using the MCAS online testing platform (Test Nav).

