



MAY 2024

LAKER NEWS

JENNIFER OLSON – Elementary Principal

HUMPHREY ELEMENTARY 320-543-4680

WINSTED ELEMENTARY 320-543-4690

HOME STRETCH!! Although we're down to just a month left, we still have much to accomplish before we wrap up the year. Instead of counting days, we're going to work hard to make the days count. Please partner with us to help your child stay on top of homework and the expectations of our classrooms and school buildings. Continue to stay in contact with your child's teachers—communication is essential, even in May!

The last month of school is typically a time, at the elementary buildings, when learning takes a few road trips, literally! We will be on the go, exploring different learning places and spaces, like the MN Arboretum, The Works Museum, Sea Life, and our local libraries and parks. All these opportunities help connect school learning to real life experiences for our students and grade levels. Along with the final musical programs and special events in each building, we will also complete important assessments, including STAR tests for grades K-4 as well as important end of year testing for each classroom/grade level.

Our last day of school for students is a half day on Friday, May 31, and marks the end of the year for all students. It also marks the close of our 4th graders' elementary careers. The four 4th grade classes have been a big part of our student community—filled with many talents, kind hearts, energy, hard-work, and uniqueness. We're so proud of them!! It's always a bittersweet time because we enjoy the kids so much—it's sad to see them go, but we're very excited for them to experience the next steps in their school journey. We wish each of them well at the middle school! ☺

It has been a great year and a pleasure working with a terrific group of students, families, and staff.

Have an enjoyable and safe summer!
Mrs. Jen Olson



May Student of the Month Theme



Click on the link below to find the Student of the Month honorees.

[Humphrey Elementary](#)
[Winsted Elementary](#)

2024-2025

Kindergarten

Winsted and Humphrey Elementary are registering eligible students for the 2024-2025 school year.

Parents/guardians of children who will be five years old on or before September 1, 2024, are asked to contact Winsted Elementary (320-543-4690) or Humphrey Elementary (320-543-4680) as soon as possible to begin the registration process.

Parents/guardians may also download the registration packet at www.hlww.k12.mn.us

LAST DAY of SCHOOL

May 31

Elementary Release: 12:35PM
MS/HS Release, 1:00PM

HLWW ACTIVITIES CALENDAR

Humphrey PTA

Teacher Appreciation Week is May 6-10, and we will be celebrating our Humphrey teaching staff that week and spoiling our teachers with several treats planned throughout the week. Showing appreciation for your child's teacher can be as easy as your student writing a letter to their teacher about what they mean to them, draw them a picture, send a note or email to your child's teacher and let them know how much you appreciate them or gift them something off their teacher wish list.

Below are the QR codes for Humphrey Elementary teacher wish lists and a thank you card that can be printed out and given to your child's teacher and/or support staff.

The Humphrey Lakers PTA are collecting gift cards that will be raffled off to the teachers at the end of Teacher Appreciation Week. More information will be coming out in Wednesday folders.

Contact us with any questions at humphreypta@gmail.com.



Thank You Card



Wish Lists

Winsted PTA

Teacher and Staff Appreciation Week is May 6-10 at Winsted Elementary and it's fast approaching! Our Winsted PTA team is working hard to coordinate a week of appreciation for our Winsted Staff. We are looking for help to make this week a success! Want to help? Check out our **Amazon Wish List**

https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/1SHGL7FNPHW4/ref=nav_wishlist_lists_3 and/or sign up to bring something from our **Sign Up Genius** or to donate money or gift cards <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/508054CACA923A6FB6-48043516-staff>. All items should be turned into the Winsted front office by Friday, May 3. Thank you for your help and support in making this week a success for our school!

Our Favorite Things About Spring!

Mrs. Wadman's 3rd Grade Class, Winsted Elementary

Spring is here and we are loving the warmer weather! As a class, we discussed all the things we love about spring! Here are some things that we are excited about... "What is your favorite thing about spring?"

Jaxon- The weather getting warmer.

Jayden- Playing at the park.

Evelyn- Playing outside with my friends.

Otto- Playing football outside with my brothers.

Lorenzo- I like playing outside with my friends.

Dennis- I like playing soccer outside.

Ryan- I like playing baseball with my friends.

Ella- I like playing outside with my brother.

Lily- I like playing with my brother and dogs.

Claire- I like playing on my trampoline.

Raiden- Walking my dogs outside and riding on my dirt bike.

Sofia- Playing outside and everything getting greener.

Lindzi- Going for walks and making my fairy garden.

Nora- I like playing softball and spending time with family.

Matthew- Riding my bike outside.

Kassidy- Seeing all the pretty flowers and playing outside.

Hadley- I like the warmer weather and Easter.

Avery- I like biking, scootering, and playing chalk.

Axel- I like going to the park and eating ice cream.

Ava- I like seeing all the trees and grass turn green.

Peyton- I like seeing the bunnies in my backyard.

Jacob- I like going to Twins games and playing outside.

Ashlyn- I like playing at the park and going on the swings.

Max- I like it when spring sports start.

Solar Eclipse Experience

Kayla Myhre, 1st Grade, Humphrey Elementary

On Monday, April 8, students put on their glasses and stepped outside for an eclipse experience. We spent the days leading up to the eclipse learning all about what and why an eclipse happens. We read stories, watched videos of previous eclipses, learned songs, and did a craft. Unfortunately, we only saw the moon partly covering the sun briefly, due to a cloudy day. The students would like to share their favorites from the eclipse experience.

Crosby: Wearing the glasses and going outside.

Remy: Watching eclipse videos.

Charlotte: The glasses.

Jade: The glasses.

London: Wearing the glasses.

Chase: Nothing.

Camila: Seeing the bright sun.

Weston: I didn't like it.

Sunny: Everything.

Tucker: Watching the videos.

Charley: Everything.

Julian: All the stuff we did was good.

Logan: Being able to do it with my bestie.

Paisley: Watching the moon cover the sun.

Alice: The videos.

Adelyn: Seeing the moon cover the sun.

Cash: Watching the videos.

Ella: Seeing the moon a little bit covering the sun.

Eli: Watching the eclipse videos.



A Walking School Bus is powered by legs rather than an engine and it allows a designated adult supervisor (bus driver) to "pick up" student walkers. As each group of students is dropped off, they will walk to school quickly and safely, along a set route and under the guidance of adult supervisors, all the while enjoying fresh air, exercise, and conversation. Please note—because of the variation in bus arrival times, the whole school will not walk together in one group. Also, preschool students will be dropped off at school and not participate this spring.

Winsted – K-4 students will be dropped off at Glenn's Super Valu parking lot (491 Main Avenue West, Winsted) to walk the remainder of the bus route to school (approximately 0.5 mile).

Humphrey – K-4 students will be dropped off at the Waverly City Hall parking lot (502 Atlantic Avenue, Waverly) to walk the remainder of the bus route to school (approximately 0.5 mile).

Grit Is More Than Elbow Grease

Mrs. Rice, 2nd Grade Teacher, Humphrey Elementary School

What personality trait is more important than intelligence, but more than just effort? More than digging your heels in, and different than just using elbow grease? If you guessed grit, then I'm guessing you *took the time* to read the title of this article. In fact, *taking time to do it right* is one part of the GRIT acronym that we use in our classroom to help students put the word in action. Ask any student in my class about GRIT and they will tell you: **G**-give it your all; **R**-redo if necessary; **I**-ignore giving up; **T**-take time to do it right.

So, what takes grit? Where can you apply it? Everything and everywhere! Challenges of every size are prevalent in our children's lives every day, all day long. How a child relates to challenges, success, and failure and simply the idea of doing work or completing tasks can be determined by how they *think*. We must engage in helping our children train their brains for growth and give them the language they need to process it.



Teach yourself the GRIT acronym. Teach your children the GRIT acronym. Model gritty behavior, be a mirror. Use the vocabulary. If you are doing something that's really hard for you, tell your child it's hard and you feel like giving up, but you're not because having grit means ignoring that feeling of giving up. Explain. If you make a mistake, model how you will fix it. Normalize it. When these things happen to your children, work through it *with* them. Tell them how they are applying grit, or what gritty characteristics you see them doing right at that moment. The more instant specific feedback, the better! Encourage your child to recognize grit in themselves and others. Children lack control over their lives in so many areas, so it's empowering for them to have a part in helping their brains grow, developing positive self-core beliefs, and building their empathy skills as they recognize others.

Looking Back and Moving Forward!

Mrs. Gallagher, 4th Grade, Winsted Elementary

Fourth grade students at Winsted Elementary have reached their final year of elementary school and are now entering the last month of the school year. If you enter the 4th grade hall, you can FEEL the energy in the air during this thrilling time of year.

Students reflected on what they've learned in fourth grade. The best thing I learned about was:

Lauren – how to be a better friend and student, and you should pay attention in math!

Hunter – magnets.

Max – how to make great friends.

Vayda – more gymnastic tricks because now I can do back handsprings.

Kellen – symmetry.

Kali – long division DMSB.

Scarlette – decimals were fun.

Alex C. – all things math!

Eela – making new friends!

Meanwhile, the anticipation is building for the final days of fourth grade and upcoming year in middle school. I am looking forward to:

Chase – the fishing trip.

Vayda – moving to many classes.

Michelle – the teacher is not leading us to the bus.

Jayden – Making it to the state baseball tournament.

Aubrey – seeing my friends from Humphrey.

Luna – band.

Damian – picking my own seat in class.



Family Tree Project

Teddy Paulson, 1st Grade, Humphrey Elementary

Throughout the year in 1st grade, we have delved into a range of social studies subjects. These include geography, maps, rights and responsibilities, community roles, and exploring past, present, and future contexts. One of our favorite projects throughout the year was our Zoo map project. With this project, we created zoos that include a map key and a compass rose!

Moving forward, we will explore family-related topics and embark on a personal family tree project. This project is designed to not only help students gain a deeper understanding of their own heritage but also to foster a sense of identity and belonging. The goal is to involve family members in this project to provide a unique opportunity for our students to connect with their roots and learn more about their personal histories!

While completing their project, students were asked to share their favorite thing they learned or their favorite thing about their family. Here are some of the responses from our class!

Lukas - Learning their real names!
Addison - Playing games as a family!
Kayson - Learning great grandparents' names!
Marianna - Learning my family members names!
Joe - A lot of people in my family love to fish!
Lily - I got my middle name from my great grandma!
Grayson - Learning my family members names!
Kyle - They love me!
Brinn - Learning their real names! My grandpa and dad have the same name!
Rigley - Learning about my grandpa and my other great grandparents' names!
Emma - Learning my family members names!
Brevick - My dad and grandpa have the same name!
Haylee - Learning my family members names!
Duke - Learning about how big my family is!
Carly - Learning about family members!
Gus - Learning new names!
Jettson - Learning about my family members!
Harper - Learning about my grandpa!

**MARK
YOUR CALENDAR!**



2024-2025

September 3 & September 4

**K-4 Open House will be
held during individual
Welcome Back Day Sessions**

**1st Day
of
School**

2024-2025

September 5 (Grades K-4)