

The Villager

Village Elementary School

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October Calendar

October 3 – 10 ■ Be Like Bill Week
October 7 ■ College Day
October 8 ■ Wear a Tie Day – Change Drive
October 5 ■ Count Day
October 6 ■ PTO Meeting – 4pm @school
October 11 ■ Board of Ed Meeting
October 15 ■ End of MP1
October 21 ■ Village Trunk-or-Treat
October 22 ■ Fall Break – No School

School Hours

Monday-Thursday

8:50-3:50pm

Friday

8:50 – 2:50

Please note that students are only permitted to enter the building at 8:35 for breakfast. All other students may enter the building at 8:45. We begin supervision at 8:40.

Coping with Covid Stressors

So far this year our students are reporting feeling stressed more than ever before, and they link their stress directly to Covid. Every day, we are inundated with information of individual and organizational responses to Covid. The constant news cycle, social media influx, and chatter at the watercooler increase our anxiety around this issue and overwhelm our ability to logically process the information. Then, when we come home, we begin to digest the deluge of information with our family/spouse often, in front of our children sharing our stress with them.

As Covid does not appear to be going away we must be mindful of how these external stressors are impacting our students. Villagers are sharing that they are anxious and nervous about Covid and its impact. Their minds are sponges and both feel and understand when the adults around them are feeling stressed and yet may not fully understand why.

At Village, we are seeing the manifestation of stress take many forms. Some students complain of stomach aches, frequent urination, irritability, or extreme emotional responses, and these are all completely appropriate and understandable given the circumstances.

But how can we help lessen our children's stress during these times? First, we can monitor the programs that are on in our homes and the messages being heard. Oftentimes, our children are too young to understand the meaning of what is being said but can pick up the emotion in the speaker's voice. You can also ask your student to share what causes them to feel stressed. Do not diminish their feelings by saying "don't worry about that" or "that's a grown-up issue." While they do not need to know all the particulars, if our children have questions the best thing to do is answer them honestly. The absence of information increases their stress response. Finally, focus on the positives with your child. The more you point out all the things that are going right for them and their amazing experiences, the better. The more positivity they see in the world, the less stress they will have overall. My hope is that we can work together to maintain the innocence of our children and to help make their world a little brighter and less stressful.

Be Well – Principal, Mrs. Angelina Kreger

Lost & Found This Year Will be Lost & BYO - Water Bottle

Our building usually has a very robust Lost and Found each year, and unfortunately, we must cut back this year. Please make sure that you label **ALL** student items so that they can be returned. Refillable water stations are all over the school and we encourage students to bring fillable water bottles.

Absences & Dismissal Changes? – Let the Office Know

Have a last-minute dismissal change or planning to be absent? Email or call the main office and let us know your plans. For dismissal changes, we cannot ensure changes will be honored if you do not contact the school **prior to 3pm**. We need to make sure that teachers have enough time to check their messages. Email your dismissal changes or student absence information to

kaloolahfelver@hartlandschools.us and gavleroberts@hartlandschools.us or call 810-

Proud Dads

Our Proud Dads recently helped to construct the lovely planters that are in front of our building. They are going to be lovely as we plant flowers and enjoy the seasons in Michigan. Thank you so much, Proud Dads. Please contact Jeff Campbell if you have any questions or thoughts that you would like to share villageelementaryprouddads@gmail.com.



No Outside Visitors or Parents Allowed in the Building

To keep our building as clean as possible, NO outside visitors will be allowed in. This means that parents that need to drop things off will need to ring the buzzer and leave the items outside by the door. No parents will walk their children to class or come into the building to pick them up. They will need to ring the buzzer and your student will be brought to you, outside. We will have no parent volunteers in the classrooms and if you are asked to attend a meeting, we may hold it virtually.

Thank You for Purchasing Mums

The Village PTO and our staff would like to THANK YOU for purchasing mums this year. For the 2nd year in a row, Village Elementary sold the most mums. In total, we sold 1,113 mums which is up from our total last year of 826. Thank you again and we look forward to seeing your beautiful mums around town.

Spirit Week

Spirit Week was AMAZING! As always, our staff and students went above and beyond to show their spirit at school. There are so many ways that we work to make our learning environment fun, and spirit weeks are just one of them. Thank you to everyone who participated, and we are looking forward to another spirit week in the future.

Reading at Home to Your Villager

Students are never too old to be read to. The practice of reading is so important to the development of life-long readers. We know that parents play an integral part in a student's read at home plan, and we wanted to provide you some practical tips and tricks for helping to support your reader at home. Our resident reading expert, Lindsay Haar (Reading Recovery Teacher) recorded our next parent learning opportunity for you to learn how to support your reader at home. Check it out and look for future parent learning opportunities from Mrs. Haar around this topic throughout the year.

Parent Learning Opportunities

[Reading at Home with Your Student](#)

Questions about our district Read-At-Home Plan? Reach out to Lindsay Haar lindsayhaar@hartlandschools.us our Reading Recovery teacher

Classroom Snapshot – First Grade

The first graders at Village are off and rolling. They are working on reading, writing across multiple pages, labeling their pictures, and adding numbers up to 100. In a few short weeks of school, these leaders have already grown so much. It is amazing to see what they are doing daily and how their minds are ever-changing. I love walking by and hearing them sounding out words as they write or talking about how they got their answer during math. We are excited to continue to watch our First Graders grow.



What is the plan when we have a case of Covid-19 at school?

While I am optimistic that our quarantine issues will not continue, I am also a realist. I am sure we will eventually cross a bridge where a school or bus quarantine occurs again. When this occurs, we will need your assistance to ensure that safety precautions are adhered to and protocols are followed. Additionally, as you heard from Mr. Hughes, new Livingston County Health Department Guidelines were released to help keep our kiddos at school. It is imperative that you watch the following video to understand your choices regarding quarantining your student.

[Parent Presentation - LCHD](#)

Here are the high points of the alternative to quarantine process:

- Your children will be able to stay in school if they are exposed to a student that is positive for Covid-19, if they...
 - ✓ ... wear a mask for the entirety of the quarantine period including stopping in the office to demonstrate that they have an appropriately fitting mask on the first day of return
 - ... take a Covid-19 test daily and report their negative results to the LCHD
 - ... complete a symptom assessment daily prior to attending school
 - ✓ ... agree to sit 6ft or more away from non-exposed students during snack and lunch
- If your student at any point fails to comply with one of these guidelines, the LCHD will switch them to a standard quarantine and they will have to stay home

When your student is exposed, our office will contact you and have you pick up your child. Your student will not be able to come back to school until you have been contacted by Livingston County Health Department, your student has completed their first Covid test, and you have uploaded their negative test results on the LCHD app.

The “alternative to quarantine” process is meant to keep students learning and in the academic environment. We appreciate your support and willingness to help us navigate these difficult times.

Village Elementary First Annual Trunk-or-Treat

The Village Elementary PTO is proud to present its first ever Trunk-or-Treat and Halloween dance. This outdoor evening event will take place on October 21 from 6-8pm. Below, you will find a Google Form that you can fill out to reserve your spot in our parking lot where you will decorate your trunk.

Parents will gain access to the parking lot to set up their “trunks” beginning at 4:30. At 5:45, both parking lot entrances to Village will be closed and coned off. If your trunk is available for treating, we ask that you bring your own candy to pass out. If you run out of candy, we ask that you close your trunk. There may be an opportunity to get additional candy depending on if we have donations. You will not be able to leave the event until the gates are opened. If you are interested in donating candy for the event, please drop it off at the main office.

Individuals that are attending the event will park at Creekside Elementary and walk through the “backyard” along our candle-lit path to the trunk-or-treat area. Students will enter the playground and be immediately excited to find exciting music, glow sticks, and fun under the pavilion. They can then walk around the front of the building and find all the cars ready and waiting for trick or treaters.

Things you may want to bring to the event:

- Money for food trucks on site to purchase goodies (more information to come)
- Blankets or Camp Chairs to enjoy yourself while your kiddos play and dance
- A wagon or large bag to store the candy while the fun continues

We are so excited to bring this **RAIN OR SHINE** event to our Village community.

Trunk- or-Treat – Decoration Sign Up Form – Due October 10

[Sign Up to Decorate Your Trunk HERE](#)

Be Like Bill Week

Each year, our school takes a week to honor former principal, Mr. Bill Cain. Mr. Cain, as many of you know, was a pillar of our Hartland community and a beloved principal by all. He created connections with his community and worked diligently to create an immersive educational environment for students. Our school chooses to honor Mr. Cain by hosting a “Be Like Bill” week. This week is dedicated to building friendships, community, and spreading kindness. Additionally, we will host a change drive this week. The classes will add change to a bucket or bag as they see fit. The proceeds from this change drive will be donated to the Be Like Bill Foundation. This foundation provides college scholarships to students at Hartland High School and in Montana where Mr. Cain was superintendent. We hope that you consider bringing change to donate during our Coin Drive and also allow your student to wear a tie on October 8th in honor of Mr. Cain and his legacy.



Snack Pantry Donations

As you can imagine our snack pantry is a BIG hit. Students often forget to bring snacks to school, are not full after eating their snack, or just need a little energy boost to make it through learning. In response, our snack pantry is a bit bare. If you have extra snack donations, we would love them. Please make sure that they are

peanut-free. Some of our student favorites are listed below:

- Goldfish
- Cheeze-Its
- Fruit Snacks
- Applesauce
- Fruit and Grain Bars
- Cheese and Crackers
- Raisins
- Fruit Cups

HEA Coat Drive

The Hartland Education Association (HEA) will be having their annual coat drive for Bountiful Harvest this October. Hartland Teachers will be collecting coats and other cold weather items to go to local families in need. Please consider donating new or clean and gently-used coats, jackets, snow pants, gloves, etc. Collection barrels will be at the building entrance or in the vestibule throughout the month of October. We appreciate your support!

Hayaa Basketball Registration – 21/22 Season

Travel tryouts for boys in grades 3-6 are September 26th. Travel tryouts for boys in grades 7-8 are November 7th. We also have leagues for in house boys (grades 3-12), in house girls (grades 3-5) and instructional (grades 1-2). Check out hayaasports.com on the basketball page, for league information, details on tryouts and evaluations, and to register.

Halloween @ Village

This year, unfortunately, we cannot celebrate Halloween at Village as we normally would. We will, however, make the best of the situation by encouraging our students to wear their costumes to school. Teachers will still host fun activities for Halloween, and we will make sure to enjoy our day. The atmosphere will be fun and inviting throughout the school and our students will have an amazing time. If you would like to send in some bags of unopened, individually wrapped candy to your child's classroom to be passed out to the kiddos, please do so prior to October 25th. Please do not send items with peanuts or peanut butter. We unfortunately cannot accept any outside food like cupcakes or treats.

Village Costume Rules

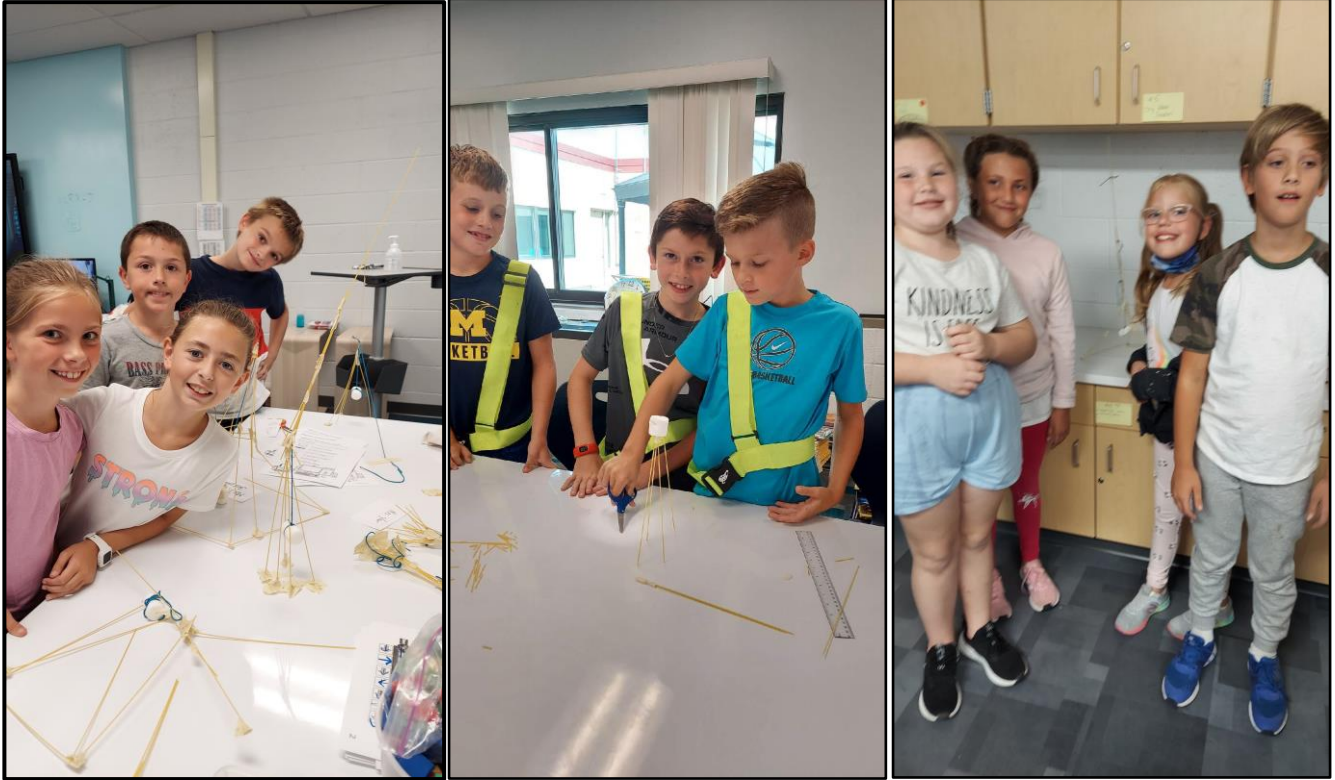
- No blood or gore of any kind
- No masks that cover your eyes and completely obscure your face
- Inflatable costumes can only be worn at the discretion of the teacher and cannot impeded learning
- Students and parents should use discretion when determining their student's school costume
- Make sure that your child can use the restroom and complete classwork independently in the costume
- Fake weaponry, including light sabers, will not be allowed on the premises
- Students should wear their costumes to school. Time will not be provided for them to change.

Progress Reports

We are continuing forward with our new progress report format. Each marking period you will receive an in-depth look at the standards being taught to your student. Additionally, you will have specific comments available for you to read and find out a bit more about how your student is doing specifically. You will also notice that you are provided insight into your student's social-emotional health and well-being at Village. As a district, we feel that this information is vital to parents as well. With our explicit work and learning around social-emotional health and wellness here at Village, this is a great opportunity to engage in a dialogue about how your student is feeling about school, friends, and academics. Finally, we have included an "NA" scoring comment on this year's progress report. This stands for Not Assessed. This means that your student was not assessed on a topic or standard due to an extenuating circumstance (quarantines, absences, etc.). You can then follow up with the teacher once those assessments are completed.

STEM Spot

Our STEM program is off and running. Mrs. Schroder is doing an amazing job and students are learning each day about the need to creatively problem-solve, collaborate with a team, and provide an explanation for their work. Most recently, the students are completed what is called the Spaghetti Tower Challenge. This challenge asks students to build the tallest tower using dry spaghetti noodles and marshmallows. Pre-planning, strategizing with their teammates, and executing the activity were hallmarks of the challenge.



TikTok Challenges – We Need Your Help

I was recently made aware of a slew of TikTok challenges that are particularly geared toward schools. We already experienced the “challenge” that was promoted on the platform this month. I am sharing this information with you to ask that you monitor your student and speak with them about these challenges if they use TikTok. Additionally, please know that each one of these challenges violates our Student Code of Conduct. Students need to know prior to engaging in any behavior that they see online being marketed as “cool” or “funny,” that there will be consequences if they participate at school. Thank you for your support and assistance.

Month	Challenge
October	Smack a staff member on the backside
November	Kiss your friend's girlfriend at school
December	“Deck the halls and show your b****” in school
January	Jab a breast
February	Mess up school signs
March	Make a mess in the courtyard or cafeteria
April	Grab some “eggs” (theft challenge)
May	Ditch Day
June	Flip off the front office

CUB SCOUTING IS FUN FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY!

FOR BOYS and GIRLS IN GRADES K-5

It's fun adventure and achievement with hands-on learning using S.T.E.A.M. and character-building activities.

District Cub Scout Join Nights - come to learn more and register

Howell / Pinckney / Fowlerville: LESA Education Center, 1425 W Grand River, Howell, MI

September 29th at 7:00pm

Brighton / Hartland: St Patrick Catholic Church, 711 Rickett Rd., Brighton, MI

September 30th at 7:00pm

PTO Book Review Basket Prizes

Village PTO is proud to announce the start of the Monthly Book Review Contests. The contest gets kids excited to READ and share their thoughts and ideas about their books. Here's how it works:

- Has your child completed the Book Review Template – written, video or both?
- Email your completed review to welovevillage@gmail.com
- There is NO LIMIT to the number of entries – monthly or yearly!
- Keep reading for more chances to WIN!

Drawings to WIN a fun book basket occurs at the end of every month. At least 3 baskets per month will be raffled off. All entries carry over throughout the year, so the more you read the more chances you have to win!

October's Book Baskets are fun and spooky so get reading and send in those book reviews! **Whose name will Mrs. Kreger call as the next winners?!**

Check out the baskets in our showcase to see what you could win this month!

BUS DRIVERS NEEDED

Starting at \$18.37 per hour and up to \$21.22. \$2,000 sign on bonus!

Please contact transportation at 810-626-2175 with questions and the attached flyer for more details.



Looking for the Latest and Greatest Village Updates

Join our Facebook group: We Love Village Elementary

Add us on Twitter: @Villageelem

Interested in knowing what is going on in Art Class?

Follow Mrs. Tomy on Instagram @art_withmrs.t

Want to send us pictures to include in our Village Yearbook?

Email hartlandvillage.yearbook@gmail.com



Discover the wonderful things happening in the community of Hartland by visiting the Hartland Living resources:

www.hartlandliving.com

facebook.com/HartlandLiving

twitter.com/HartlandLiving

Attachments: October Lunch Menu and Bus Driver Information