

# The Villager

## Village Elementary School

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[Website](#)

### September Calendar

September 1 ■ PTO Meeting – 4pm

September 3 ■ No School

September 6 ■ No School

September 13 ■ Board of Ed Meeting

September 17 ■ Constitution Day

September 27 ■ Picture Day

### 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.

### Focus on the Positive

When I am feeling overwhelmed or underwater, I like to take a few quiet moments to think about all the things for which I am grateful. This school year was publicized as a time for all of us to “get back to normal.” As many of you know, that hasn’t quite happened, just yet. However, there are so many positive “normal” things that have occurred for which I am thankful.

Our students still flood the office each day asking for ice. Ice makes everything better in elementary school. Teachers continue to demonstrate their tremendous talents in the classroom and students are growing in their thinking. The hallways are filled with laughter and smiles. We run out of toilet paper in a bathroom daily and are provided the report immediately by a concerned student. Sometimes by the same one each day.

While some of these everyday occurrences I comment on in jest, I mention them to express how lucky I am to witness them happening. I find that taking some time each day to be thankful for the mundane, the routine, and the simple, provides me far greater joy in the unexpected. It took some time for me to learn this lesson and remember that the small moments make for the most lasting impression. It’s this ideal that guides me when times are trying.

Regardless of our trials, take time to wave at a fellow parent during arrival. Take a moment to ask someone how their day is in the dismissal line. Ask your student what the best part of their day was and listen to their answer. Revel in the funny stories or stinky socks that come home. Practice your positivity. It is a skill, and something that together we can instill in each one of our Villagers.

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

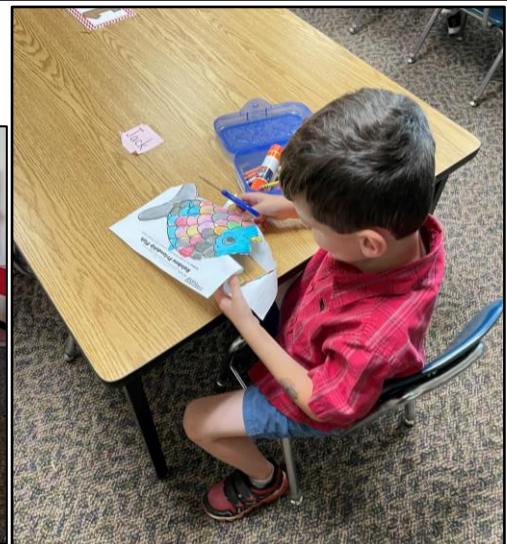
**Have a last-minute dismissal change or planning to be absent?** Email or call the main office and let us know your plans. For dismissal changes, we cannot ensure changes will be honored if you do not contact the school **prior to 3pm**. We need to make sure that teachers have enough time to check their messages. Email your dismissal changes or student absence information to [kaloolahfelver@hartlandschools.us](mailto:kaloolahfelver@hartlandschools.us) and [gayleroberts@hartlandschools.us](mailto:gayleroberts@hartlandschools.us) or call 810-626-2850.

## Proud Dads

Village Proud Dads is 76 members strong and counting. Our Proud Dads organization is underway, and we are so looking forward to having their support around school this year and for years to come. Please reach out with any ideas for how Proud Dads can support our building. Proud Dads will be represented at all our VES PTO meetings and you can look for updates through our “We Love Village Elementary” Facebook page. Please contact Jeff Campbell if you have any questions or thoughts that you would like to share [villageelementaryprouddads@gmail.com](mailto:villageelementaryprouddads@gmail.com).

# Classroom Snapshot – Kindergarten

Our Kinder students are off to a great start. Students are learning procedures, names, locations around the building and what it means to be a Villager. Our Kinder students are already starting to identify feelings and write letters. It is always amazing to watch their growth throughout the year. The students have already started to complete their Early Literacy Benchmark assessments on our Chromebooks. I am sure you have seen many changes and growth already at home. Make sure your kiddo gets healthy foods and lots of rest as their brain is growing and expanding each day.



## Open House

**It was wonderful to see everyone for Open House!** I hope that everyone had a chance to enjoy the various updates to Village that were completed as part of the bond. This year is going to be exciting as we continue to see updates happening throughout the year. It's always exciting when we get to welcome our families into our Village. We will keep you posted if, and/or, when the ruling to allow parents into the building changes this year.

## Social-Emotional Learning & Reading at Village

Village has a very robust SEL curriculum that we implement in all classrooms throughout the school. Our students learn that all emotions are natural, but we must attend to our “bigger” emotions when we feel them. The SEL committee is, made up of teachers and the mental health professionals in the building. Students take three SEL pre-assessments that ask them to report on their feelings toward academics and social relationships. From there, our mental health professionals, along with teacher input, create small groups based on the responses to help teach students more in-depth skills. Over the course of the year, most of our students participate in these small groups, and they will surely participate in a group over the course of their academic career at Village.

### Parent Learning Opportunities

In addition to this learning, we are also implementing parent learning sessions this year.

#### First Parent Home Learning Opportunity: Intro in Zones of Regulation

<https://www.loom.com/share/36887c7dfc7e4fcd9dba658ded3d3331>

These will help you better understand our SEL curriculum through a series of recorded information sessions. We plan to provide supports to parents to help their student fall in love with reading at home. **Questions regarding our SEL curriculum at Village?** Contact Carolyn Thompson [carolynthompson@hartlandschools.us](mailto:carolynthompson@hartlandschools.us) or Olena Mandeville [olenamadeville@hartlandschools.us](mailto:olenamadeville@hartlandschools.us). **Questions about our district Read-At-Home Plan?** Reach out to Lindsay Haar [lindsayhaar@hartlandschools.us](mailto:lindsayhaar@hartlandschools.us) our Reading Recovery teacher

## 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.

# 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 a DJ, 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 1**

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

## Village is Offering Yoga at Recess

We are excited to be offering an optional activity for our 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> graders during recess. Mrs. Mandeville will be opening her classroom for yoga and mindfulness activities as a recess option several days each week. Students will be able to sign up to do movement and breathing exercises based on yoga practices. This will give students opportunities to build spatial awareness, balance, develop positive body image and self-esteem, learn tools to manage stress, and learn non-judgment and self-compassion. Mrs. Mandeville completed the RCYT with a trauma informed focus coursework through YogaEd and will be guiding students through activities based on YogaEd's non-secular curriculum. Most poses will be taught using child friendly terms (rock, tree, frog) rather than traditional language you might hear in a yoga studio. Please contact Mrs. Mandeville with any questions you might have at [olenamandeville@hartlandschools.us](mailto:olenamandeville@hartlandschools.us).

## 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](mailto:hartlandvillage.yearbook@gmail.com)



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

[www.hartlandliving.com](http://www.hartlandliving.com)

[facebook.com/HartlandLiving](https://facebook.com/HartlandLiving)

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