

Dear Parents/Guardians,

It is hard to believe we are finding ourselves preparing for March Madness already! The school year continues to roll by quickly and with each passing day we continue to work diligently.

Students in grades 3-6 have been participating in MAP assessments for the past few weeks. Grades 3-6 were given an opportunity to review their scores from the previous test cycle and then gave themselves a score they would like to work towards. About 97% have reached or exceeded their previous RIT score for this session of MAP testing. MAP tests give teachers an idea of how their students could potentially score on the Nebraska State Assessments starting in March. The assessment allows teachers to adapt their lessons to meet the needs of their students in areas of weakness as well as strength.

Kindergarten-6th grade also completed their AIMSweb test session. This benchmark test is a snapshot of how our students are progressing throughout the year. Teachers use this test to ensure that students are receiving instruction that is increasing the understanding of the skills needed at their grade level in reading and math in order to be successful. Students are then progress monitored to ensure growth continues to be made. Students that score below 50% in the area of math or reading will receive interventions to help increase their success opportunities. Now that the winter testing cycle has been completed, teachers were able to look over student results and are planning next steps for each child. If you have questions about your child's scores, please contact your child's teacher. '

I am very excited to say that all first grade students of HNS met the winter benchmark! We are equally proud of the increase in scores in all of our grades K-6: 74% of Kindergarteners, 93% of second graders, 91% of 4th graders, 86% of 5th graders, and 92% of 6th graders met benchmark. All grades showed substantial increase in scores from the fall benchmark. I am very proud of all the work our students have put into their learning as well as the preparation and execution of our teachers and paras in their implementation of the core reading program as well as interventions. We are very excited to see our students results in the fall!

Best Choice-Save-a-Label Program

Burnell's Foodtown Inc. in Hartington is filled with products with the Best Choice label.

Please save the labels of Best Choice products. Be sure to save the UPC portion (proof of purchase). Send the UPC labels to school any time!! We will count them, package them and send them in. We will earn \$30.00 for each bundle of 1, 000 UPC's sent. The money will be used for student field trips!



As the end of third quarter approaches it is important that contact be made between parents and teachers. March 15 is an early out day for in-service time. Elementary teachers will be setting up Parent/Teacher conferences during this time. If you have any questions, concerns or celebrations to discuss please feel free to contact your child's teacher by phone or email and set up a conference.

Sincerely,

Sarah Edwards