

**Harper Happenings**  
**May 1<sup>st</sup> - 5th 2017**  
**VOLUNTEER**  
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## **What's Happening**

### **Wednesday May 3**

- Harper Spirit Day: Wacky Wednesday!

### **Thursday May 4**

- Harper Spring Chorus Concert, 6:15pm.
- Fourth Grade parents Highcrest transition meeting, Highcrest, 7:15pm.

## **Coming Up/Reminders**

### **Wednesday May 10**

- Harper PTO General Meeting, 9:15am.

### **Friday May 12**

- Last day to purchase School Kits.

### **May 17-19**

- 4<sup>th</sup> Grade Outdoor Ed.

### **Wednesday May 24**

- Harper 75<sup>th</sup> Birthday Party, 6:30pm.

### **Thursday May 25**

- Harper Fun Fair, 3:15-4:15pm.

## **Dr. Kick's Corner**

-Our head custodian, Sal, had a beautiful baby girl Ximena!

-Stacy Levine, AM kindergarten teacher, will fill a full-time kindergarten position at Romona for the 17-18 school year.

-Do you have ideas about items that I could research/share information about in my 2017-18 Harper Happenings? Please let me know!

Hi everyone! It's Mr. Valentino! Social Emotional Learning (SEL) continues to permeate throughout educational institutions across the globe. Schools continue to implement SEL into their daily curriculum, and recently I found a list of books that emphasize empathy. The following books are suited for elementary school students:

1. *The One and Only Ivan* by Katherine Applegate
2. *Charlotte's Web* by E.B. White
3. *The Bridge to Terabithia* by Katherine Paterson
4. *Where the Red Fern Grows* by Wilson Rawls
5. *Wonder* by R.J. Palacio

While nothing can replace real-life experiences and the lessons we learn from them, reading books that elicit "perspective taking" prompt deep discussions about how we relate to one another in the world around us. These discussions and experiences can truly help shape our moral compasses and help guide our children to become upstanding individuals.

The full list of books can be found [here](#). Please note that this list includes books best suited for older children and includes content that would not be appropriate for younger children.

## Announcements

- **Wednesday May 3 is a Harper Spirit Day!** It's Wacky Wednesday! Wear anything wacky or mismatching to show your school spirit!
- **The proposed PTO 2017-2018 Budget is now available on the PTO website for review.** Please note that the vote to approve the budget will occur at the General PTO meeting on May 10th.
- **Spring Cleaning? The Hoedown Prize Tent Needs Donations!** Keep the Fall Hoedown in mind as you do your Spring cleaning. We're seeking new/gently-used stuffed animals and goody bag-type items for our prize tent. Have the kiddos help by telling them they're donating to a fun cause. Donations can be delivered to the collection bin in the Harper lobby. Thanks and happy Spring!
- **It's time to order your school supplies for next year!** Online ordering is underway and will end on Friday, May 12th. Don't miss out, order your school supplies for the 2017/2018 school year by visiting <http://www.shopttkits.com/> and enter the Harper Account Code 20325. Questions? Contact Sara O'Hare at [oharefamily4@gmail.com](mailto:oharefamily4@gmail.com)
- **Attention 4th grade parents!** The annual Highcrest school kits online sale will run 4/19-5/12. To order your 5th grade kit, click on <http://www.shopttkits.com/> and enter our school code # 30095. Questions? Contact [schoolkits@highcrestpto.org](mailto:schoolkits@highcrestpto.org).
- **Fourth Grade Parents!** A panel of experienced Highcrest parents will give their perspective on your 5th grade transition questions during parent information night on Thursday, May 4 at 7:00 pm in the Highcrest auditorium. Principal Kelly Jackson and 5th grade administrator Aaron Dubnow will also briefly review transition information for those who could not attend the elementary presentations. Questions? Please email Highcrest PTO Co-President Anne Sullivan ([president@highcrestpto.org](mailto:president@highcrestpto.org))
- **Last PTO meeting of the year!** Wednesday, May 10th 9:15 am. Please join us as we welcome in the 2017-18 board, approve the budget and wrap up another great year at Harper!
- **Harper Fun Fair will be Thursday May 25 from 3:15-4:15pm on Harper North Field.** There is no rain date. Adult supervision is required. Tickets can be purchased in

advance starting Monday May 15. Sponsored by Harper Student Council and ticket donations will benefit local charities. We are looking for parent donations for small prizes to raffle off during Fun Fair. Some ideas include: stuffed animals, lego set, fidget cube, Rubix cube, Pokemon or sports trading cards, board games, or small gift cards for Homer's or local restaurants. If you would like to donate a prize, please send to Harper, c/o Samantha Johnson by Friday May 5. Contact Samantha Johnson ([johnsons@wilmette39.org](mailto:johnsons@wilmette39.org)) or Kate Cummings ([cummingk@wilmette39.org](mailto:cummingk@wilmette39.org)) for questions.

- **What's your favorite memory of Harper?** The first day of school, Outdoor Ed, a favorite meal in the cafeteria? It's been 75 years of educational fun and we'd like to know what some of your favorite memories during your time at Harper School. Go to <http://harperpto.com/harper-school-75th-birthday-guest-book/>
- **Commemorative, engraved bricks are here!** Many of you have been asking about these for years! The bricks will be beautifully placed in the reading garden located in the back of the school by the reading benches and playground. Help celebrate Harper's 75th Birthday and honor your family, child(ren) or past/present staff member! To order a brick go to <http://harperpto.com/harper-turns-75/> **ORDERS NEED TO BE SUBMITTED BY MAY 26th!**
- **Don't forget to purchase your 2017 Harper Yearbook!** Guarantee your child gets a yearbook. Last year we sold out! You can purchase yearbooks at [jostens.com](http://jostens.com). If you can't remember whether or not you purchased one already, please contact Laura Hirschtritt at [laurahirschtritt@hotmail.com](mailto:laurahirschtritt@hotmail.com) or Sonia Esler at [soniaesler@gmail.com](mailto:soniaesler@gmail.com)

All announcements to be included in the Harper Happenings should be sent to Yvonne Kelly via the Communication Request Form at [www.harperpto.com](http://www.harperpto.com) **by Mondays at 9am**. If you do not receive an email response within 24hrs, please send an email to [yvykelly@hotmail.com](mailto:yvykelly@hotmail.com) to confirm your Communication Request Form was received.

**For more school information, visit the Harper PTO website:** [www.harperpto.com](http://www.harperpto.com)

**For additional D39 community events, visit:**

[http://wilmette39.org/index.php?option=com\\_content&view=category&layout=blog&id=3&Itemid=179](http://wilmette39.org/index.php?option=com_content&view=category&layout=blog&id=3&Itemid=179)