



Principal Message:

Dear Families,

As we wrap up February and look ahead to March, I am excited to share that we will be celebrating March Is Reading Month with a fun and engaging theme: Habitats!

Each week throughout the month, students will explore different plant and animal habitats, learning about the unique environments where living things thrive. Reading opens the door to discovery, and we look forward to watching our students grow as curious readers and learners.

To make the month even more interactive, each Tuesday, we will share a suggested schoolwide activity connected to our habitat theme. Each Friday, students will be invited to participate in a fun Dress-Up Day related to that week's habitat focus. We hope these activities will spark conversations at home and encourage your child to read and explore beyond the classroom walls.

I would also like to remind families that you can opt in to receive text messages regarding attendance notifications, alerts, and other important updates. Simply text "Y" or "Yes" to 67587 to ensure you are connected and receiving timely information.

Thank you for the strong partnership we share in supporting our students. You make a meaningful difference in the success of our school community, and we are grateful to work together in helping every student thrive.

Wishing you a wonderful start to March!

Steve Graetz, Principal

MARCH CALENDAR

3/11 PTO Meeting in
Mrs. Dameron's Room 3
@ 4:15

March 16-20 Reading
Month Spirit Week

3/27 End of Third Mark-
ing Period

3/27 Half Day for Stu-
dents and Teachers. Stu-
dent Dismissal @
11:50am

March 28-April 6 Spring
Break

All **BLUE** events are PTO
sponsored. Please direct
questions to
huskyhelperspto@gmail.c
om

**Teachers will keep
you informed of
classroom dates and
activities.**

*** The 26-27 school
year calendar has been
attached to this news-
letter. PLEASE make
note of the changes it
contains, such as start-

Student Council

Some of our upper elementary students are part of student council. They have been involved in planning some fun activities around the school.

Please scroll down for a calendar with some special activities planned here at school.

There is also a flyer outlining a locker decorating event. Please note an adult must attend with their student.

Our student council advisor is Mrs. Barnes. We appreciate the contribution our students make to our building under her guidance.

Kindergarten is a DOG GONE GOOD TIME!

Homestead Hills will hold kindergarten round up on Monday, April 13th between 9 am and 3:30 pm. To sign up please use this [LINK](#). If you do not have a *Sign Up Genius* Account, you will need to create one (they are free). Our PTO will use *Sign Up Genius* as well.

Your student will need to be present at round up, as well as a parent or legal guardian. Please plan for approximately 40 minutes to allow time to travel between stations.

After you sign up an enrollment packet will be either sent home with your pre-school student or mailed to you. Please feel free to stop by the office or call with any questions!



MARCH BIRTHDAYS

3/2 Samson Francis

3/5 Isabella Osborne

3/5 Stella Osborne

3/6 Wyatt Ewanciw

3/6 Baylee Hawkshaw

3/7 Ganden Ballard

3/9 Damon Savage-Cole

3/12 Gunnison Weltmer

3/13 Madelyn Blanchard

3/16 Walter Fleetwood

3/19 Ronan Burns

3/20 Paisley Munsell

3/20 David Zeits

3/21 Remington Routley

3/24 Cyrus Devol

3/26 Charlotte Barnett

3/26 Skilynn Garlinghouse

3/27 Sussanne Kolehmainen

3/29 Molly Merrill



THE BENZIE COUNTY CENTRAL SCHOOLS DISTRICT DOES NOT DISCRIMINATE ON THE BASIS OF RACE, COLOR, NATIONAL ORIGIN, SEX AGE, OR DISABILITY IN ITS PROGRAMS AND ACTIVITIES. THE FOLLOWING PERSON HAS BEEN DESIGNATED TO HANDLE INQUIRES REGARDING THE NONDISCRIMINATION POLICIES: MRS. AMIEE ERFOURTH, SUPERINTENDENT, 9300 HOMESTEAD RD., BENZONIA, MI 49616 – (231)882-9653

Beyond the Bandaid

Benzie County Central Schools believe that parents are an important part of their child's safety education. The district has established a program of instruction in Safe Touch/Unsafe Touch and Personal Safety for your child. Nurse Danielle and Mrs Dodge presented Personal Safety lessons to all HHE students this month.

Below is an outline of content covered. We would like to encourage you to continue these conversations with your child to better equip them in the event they are faced with a safety breach.

Kindergarten through 2nd Grades met Sara and Lenny who shared their personal stories in the video. There are Six fundamental Protect Yourself Rules Sara and Lenny introduced.

- Safe Touch, Unsafe Touch - Anywhere on your body a bathing suit covers.
- Tell a Grown-Up – We identified safe adults in and out of school.
- Stranger Safety
- Doesn't Matter Who It Is
- Hitting Is Wrong
- Shout, Run, Tell

3rd – 5th Grades met Mya and Darius who share their personal stories. While The Personal Safety Rules are essentially the same, older students learn them in a little different context.

- Unsafe Touches
 - Anywhere a bathing suit covers
 - It is not your fault
- Tell An Adult – We identified safe adults in and out of school.
- Smart Choices
 - Internet Safety – Catfishing, Sextortion
 - Bullying – Stop, Walk, Tell
 - Cyberbullying - Block, Report, Tell An Adult
- Doesn't Matter Who It Is
- Hitting Is Wrong
- Tell Them To Stop

All students had an opportunity to practice their big voices (our largest asset).

If your child was absent during these sessions, we are working to schedule a make-up date to accommodate those still wanting to participate.

While these sessions can be difficult and the content hard to talk about, it is vital to ensure the safety of all children and bring awareness to these sensitive subjects. If you need support for your child or yourself, please reach out to Mrs. Dodge or Nurse Danielle.

Thank you,

Danielle Gray, RN

BLDHD School Nurse
Benzie Central School Wellness Program
231-882-6973





GRAND TRAVERSE REGION
Your Neighborhood Network of Playgroups by County



HOMESTEAD HILLS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL CALENDAR 2025-2026

ANTRIM COUNTY

Grass River Natural Area
6500 Alden HWY, Bellaire
1st & 3rd Thursday, 10:30 - 11:30 AM

Mancelona Township Library
202 West State Street
Tuesdays, 10:30 - 11:30 AM
Thursdays, 3:00 - 4:00 PM
*** in conjunction with story-time*

Lakeland Elementary School - Way to Grow
616 Buckley St, Elk Rapids
Contact Rbirgy@erschools.com for newsletter updates

BENZIE COUNTY

Benzie Early Head Start
9938 Honor HWY, Honor
1st & 3rd Thursday, 10:00 - 11:30 AM

Cognition Science and Discovery Center
232 N Michigan Ave, Beulah
2nd & 4th Thursday, 10:00 - 11:00 AM

Lake Ann United Methodist Church Community Center
19900 First Street
2nd & 4th Friday, 10:00 - 11:30 AM

GRAND TRAVERSE COUNTY

The Curiosity Place, Powered by The Children's Museum
Grand Traverse Mall, near Macy's
2nd & 4th Wednesday, 10:00 - 11:30 AM

Mill Creek Academy - Way to Grow
9039 Old State Hwy 72, Williamsburg
Contact Rbirgy@erschools.com for newsletter updates

LEELANAU COUNTY

Playgroups facilitated by Parenting Communities. Subscribe to their calendar for exact dates and locations.

Early Art Exploration
Friendship Community Center, Suttons Bay
2nd & 4th Monday, 1:30 - 3:00 PM

Glen Lake Community Reformed Church
4902 W MacFarlane Rd, Glen Arbor
Tuesdays, 10:00 - 11:00 AM

Northport Public School
104 S Wing St, Northport
Wednesdays, 10:00 - 11:00 AM

Keswick United Methodist Church
3376 S Center Hwy, Suttons Bay
Thursdays, 10:00 - 11:00 AM

West Bay Covenant Church - Baby Feeding Group
12720 S W Bay Shore Dr.
Thursdays, 10:00 - 11:00 AM

KALKASKA COUNTY

Kalkaska County Library
247 S. Cedar Street
Fridays, 10:30-11:30 AM
*** in conjunction with story-time*

Kalkaska Early Head Start
424 S. Cedar Street
2nd & 4th Wednesday, 10:00-11:30 AM

Clearwater Township Hall with Leap of Faith Gymnastics
5440 River St NW, Rapid City
2nd Friday, 3:00 - 4:00 PM



The Neighborhood Network of Playgroups is a Great Start Collaborative initiative that brings families and local partners together to play, connect, and build community in a fun and welcoming environment. Find event calendars at GreatStartKids.com



January 5	School Resumes
January 12	Surprise Fundraiser
January 14	PTO Meeting in Mrs. Dameron's Room 3 @ 4:15
January 16	Half Day for Students/Records Day Staff. End of Semester 1, Dismissal @ 11:50 am
January 19	No School
January 29	Movie Night at the Garden Theater
January 30	Half Day for Students/ PD day for Staff. Student Dismissal @ 11:50am
February 11	PTO Meeting in Mrs. Dameron's Room 3 @ 4:15
February 13	Half Day for Students/ PD day for Staff. Student Dismissal @ 11:50am
February 13	Boys Night
February 18	No School
February 27	Preschool Prom
March 11	PTO Meeting in Mrs. Dameron's Room 3 @ 4:15
March 18-20	Reading Month Spirit Week
March 27	End of Third Marking Period
March 27	Half Day for Students and Teachers. Student Dismissal @ 11:50am
March 28-April 6	Spring Break
April 7	School Resumes
April 8	PTO Meeting in Mrs. Dameron's Room 3 @ 4:15
April 24	Half Day for Students/ PD day for Staff. Student Dismissal @ 11:50am
April 24	Girls Night
May 4-8	Walk-A-Thon Fundraiser/Teacher Olympics
May 4-8	Spring Book Fair <i>**tentatively</i>
May 11-15	Teacher Appreciation Week (Volunteers needed to provide meals for staff)
May 22	Half Day for Students/ Full Day Teachers
May 25	No School- Memorial Day
May TED	Fifth Grade Camp
June 9	Field Day <i>**tentatively</i>
June 10***	Last Day of School-Half Day for Students. Dismissal @ 11:50 am

Community Activities
We encourage you to get
OUT AND HAVE FUN!



Elementary Volleyball
Spring 2026

\$10

Homestead Hills Elementary Practice

When:

Mondays: March 2, 9, and 16
Wednesdays: March 4, 11, and 18

Time: 6:00-7:00 pm

Games hosted by Brethren:

Saturday 3/14/26 from 2:00-5:00 pm

Saturday 3/21/26 from 10:00 -1:00 pm

Sign-up

Player's Name:

Grade: 4 5

School: HHE

Parent name:

Parent Phone number:

MONDAY

2

Lunch

- Classic Chicken Sandwich
- Roasted Green Beans
- Ham & Cheddar Chef Salad
- Dinner Roll
- PB&J and Cheese Fun Lunch
- Fresh Pear
- Cinnamon Applesauce
- Pea Salad
- Zucchini Sticks

TUESDAY

3

Lunch

- Macaroni and Cheese
- Dinner Roll
- Baked Beans
- Turkey & Cheese Wrap
- PB&J and Cheese Fun Lunch
- Chilled Mixed Fruit
- Fresh Red Delicious Apple
- Fresh Chopped Romaine
- Baby Carrots & Celery Sticks

WEDNESDAY

4

Lunch

- Homemade Chicken Noodle Soup
- Cheese Stuffed Breadsticks
- Ham Cobb Salad
- Dinner Roll
- PB&J and Cheese Fun Lunch
- Banana with Cinnamon and Sugar
- Applesauce
- Fresh Celery Sticks
- Sliced Cucumbers

THURSDAY

5

Lunch

- Tater Tot Casserole
- Fresh Baked Biscuit
- Seasoned Broccoli
- Ham & American Cheese Sandwich
- PB&J and Cheese Fun Lunch
- Chilled Mixed Fruit
- Fresh Red Delicious Apple
- Baby Carrots & Celery Sticks
- Citrus Kidney & Garbanzo Bean Salad

FRIDAY

6

Lunch

- Classic Cheese Pizza
- Seasoned Peas
- Cereal, Yogurt & Cracker Fun Lunch
- PB&J and Cheese Fun Lunch
- Fresh Orange
- Fresh Pear
- Fresh Broccoli Florets
- Fresh Green Peppers Strips

9

Lunch

- Beef Hot Dog on Whole Wheat Bun
- Apple Crisp
- Tater Tots
- Turkey Chef Salad
- Breadstick
- PB&J and Cheese Fun Lunch
- Chilled Mixed Fruit
- Fresh Nectarine
- Corn & Black Bean Salsa Salad
- Sliced Cucumbers

10

Lunch

- Mashed Potato & Chicken Bowl
- Dinner Roll
- Seasoned Corn
- Nachos, Cheese, & Salsa Fun Lunch
- PB&J and Cheese Fun Lunch
- Fresh Orange
- Fresh Red Delicious Apple
- Fresh Chopped Romaine
- Baby Carrots & Celery Sticks

11

Lunch

- Beef Nachos
- Cilantro Lime Brown Rice
- Seasoned Black Beans
- Strawberry Chicken Salad
- Homemade Garlic Croutons
- PB&J and Cheese Fun Lunch
- Banana with Cinnamon and Sugar
- Fresh Pear
- Fresh Tomato Wedges
- Confetti Coleslaw

12

Lunch

- Bacon Cheeseburger
- French Fries
- Muffin, Yogurt & Cheese Fun Lunch
- PB&J and Cheese Fun Lunch
- Applesauce
- Fresh Plum
- Corn & Black Bean Salsa Salad
- Baby Carrots & Celery Sticks

13

Lunch

- Classic Pepperoni Pizza
- Carnival Cookie
- Savory Green Beans
- Ham and Cheese Bagel Melt
- PB&J and Cheese Fun Lunch
- Fresh Banana
- Fresh Peach
- Homestyle Potato Salad
- Fresh Broccoli Florets

16

Lunch

- Spaghetti with Meatballs
- Seasoned California Vegetable Blend
- Ham & Cheddar Chef Salad
- Homemade Garlic Croutons
- PB&J and Cheese Fun Lunch
- Fresh Orange
- Fresh Fuji Apple
- Fresh Chopped Romaine
- Sliced Cucumbers

17

Lunch

- Jumbo Crispy Chicken Tenders
- Dinner Roll
- Baked Beans
- Mashed Potatoes
- Turkey & Cheese Wrap
- PB&J and Cheese Fun Lunch
- Pineapple Tidbits
- Applesauce
- Corn Salad with Ranch
- Fresh Broccoli Florets

18

Lunch

- Hot Turkey & Cheese Sandwich
- Mixed Vegetable Medley
- Sweet Potato Fries
- Ham Cobb Salad
- Homemade Garlic Croutons
- PB&J and Cheese Fun Lunch
- Chilled Mixed Fruit
- Fresh Banana
- Citrus Chickpea Salad
- Fresh Tomato Wedges

19

Lunch

- Chicken Fried Brown Rice
- Fortune Cookies
- Roasted Broccoli
- Ham & American Cheese Sandwich
- PB&J and Cheese Fun Lunch
- Fresh Pear
- Applesauce
- Baby Carrots & Celery Sticks
- Zucchini Sticks

20

Lunch

- Classic Cheese Pizza
- Seasoned Peas
- Cereal, Yogurt & Cracker Fun Lunch
- PB&J and Cheese Fun Lunch
- Fresh Red Delicious Apple
- Chilled Mixed Fruit
- Fresh Green Beans
- Creamy Carrot & Raisin Salad

23

Lunch

- Chicken Nuggets
- Dinner Roll
- Baked Beans
- Corn on the Cob
- Turkey Chef Salad
- Homemade Garlic Croutons
- PB&J and Cheese Fun Lunch
- Fresh Orange
- Chilled Mixed Fruit
- Baby Carrots & Celery Sticks
- Zucchini Sticks

24

Lunch

- Pork Sausage Patty
- Buttermilk Pancakes
- Scrambled Eggs
- Nachos, Cheese, & Salsa Fun Lunch
- PB&J and Cheese Fun Lunch
- Chilled Mixed Fruit
- Fresh Banana
- Fresh Tomato Wedges
- Sliced Cucumbers

25

Lunch

- Soft Beef Whole Grain Tacos
- Mexicali Corn
- Strawberry Chicken Salad
- Homemade Garlic Croutons
- PB&J and Cheese Fun Lunch
- Pineapple Tidbits
- Fresh Red Delicious Apple
- Black Bean Salad
- Fresh Green Beans

26

Lunch

- BBQ Pulled Pork Sandwich
- Apple Crisp
- Steamed Peas
- Tater Tots
- Muffin, Yogurt & Cheese Fun Lunch
- PB&J and Cheese Fun Lunch
- Chilled Peaches
- Fresh Orange
- Fresh Broccoli Florets
- Zucchini Sticks

27

Lunch

- Classic Pepperoni Pizza
- Seasoned Broccoli
- Ham and Cheese Bagel Melt
- PB&J and Cheese Fun Lunch
- Cinnamon Applesauce
- Banana with Cinnamon and Sugar
- Baby Carrots & Celery Sticks
- Cilantro Lime Coleslaw

30

31

Menus Subject to Change We try our best to serve our menus as posted; however, sometimes last minute changes occur. Please check with the cafe manager prior to the meal if you have any concerns.

