

Homestead Hills Elementary

Oct. 2026



BENZIE CENTRAL
SCHOOLS

Dear Homestead Hills Families,

As we move through October, I want to thank our families for the important role you play in our school community. The partnership between home and school makes a meaningful difference in our students' success, and we appreciate your communication, involvement, and support. This was so evident during our Parent/Teacher Conferences. Thank you for showing up for your child.

One of the most important ways we can work together is by prioritizing consistent school attendance. Every day provides opportunities for students to learn, build friendships, and grow.

We also have some fun and exciting activities coming up, and I encourage families to take advantage of these opportunities to connect with our school community and make lasting memories together.

Thank you for being part of the Homestead Hills family. Together, we help every Husky grow!

Go Huskies!

Steve Graetz,
Principal, Homestead Hills Elementary



CALENDAR

October

10/12 Holiday Wreath
Sales

10/26 –10/30 Book Fair

10/30 End of First marking
period. FULL DAY of
school

10/30 Fall Festival 5-7

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

From the Hub:

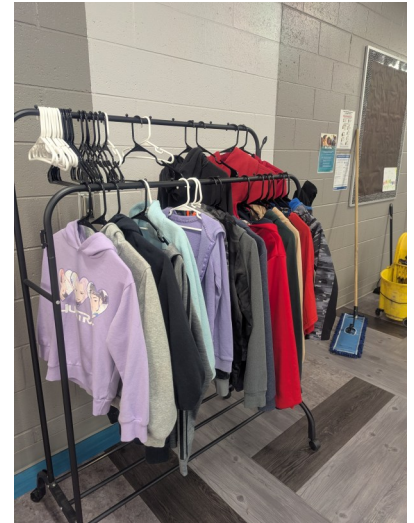
Happy FALL! The first month of school has flown by. Please take note of the attached school calendar so that you are aware of any early dismissal days and/or days we are not in session.

Attendance is an important component of your child's school experience. If they must be out for an appointment, please be sure to provide a note to the office so that we can place it in the file. Also, don't forget to notify the office of your child's absence. Teachers are only able to mark students UNX (unexcused) so it is important to notify the office so that it can be correctly coded.

Students are considered absent if they arrive after 10:11 am or leave before 3:00 pm.

We are heading into the time of year when the weather changes rapidly. Please make sure your child has appropriate clothing and outdoor gear for their day. It is also really helpful if their name is in their items, as we are already accumulating a lost and found!

Mrs. Bishop



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 ERFORTH, SUPERINTENDENT, 9300 HOMESTEAD RD., BENZONIA, MI 49616 – (231)882-9653

Helping Our Families Make Clothing Last: A Community Mending Project

Dear Homestead Hills Families,

Have you ever had a favorite pair of pants with a hole in the knee, a jacket with a broken zipper, or a shirt that could use a little repair? We are exploring an exciting opportunity to help families give clothing a second life through a potential clothing mending program in partnership with **St. Phillips!**

Our hope is to create a community-supported resource that helps families repair clothing rather than having to replace it. This effort could be one small way to ease the cost of raising growing children, reduce clothing waste, and strengthen the connections that make our community special.

We would love to hear from you! We are asking families to complete a short survey to help us better understand your needs, interests, and ideas. Your feedback will help us explore what a program like this might look like and how it could best support our families.

Please take a few minutes to share your thoughts here:

[Complete the Clothing Mending Program Survey](#)

<https://forms.gle/S3UQMChJZHFXWxvf9>

At this stage, we are simply exploring the possibility. Completing the survey does not commit you to participating, and we welcome all feedback, whether or not clothing mending is something your family would use.

Connecting families with helpful resources and finding ways to support one another makes a difference. Thank you for helping us imagine new ways our community can come together!

With appreciation,

Missy Smith

Strong Beginnings Family Liaison





HOMESTEAD HILLS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL CALENDAR 2026-2027

August 17	Office Opens
August 31	First Day Students- Welcome to the 26-27 School Year!
September 4	NO School
September 7	NO School- Labor Day
September 11	Early Dismissal for Students @ 11:50; PD for Staff
September 25	Early Dismissal for Students @ 11:50; PD for Staff
October 1	Webber Winter Wear Form DUE
October 8, 9	EARLY DISMISSAL for students @ 11:50; Parent Teacher Conferences
October 12	Picture Day
October 30	End of the First Marking Period
November 2	NO School for Students
Nov 10, 2026	Picture Retake Day
November 25, 26, 27	NO School, Thanksgiving Break
December 4	Early Dismissal for Students @ 11:50; PD for Staff
December 21-31	NO School, Winter Break
January 1	NO School, Winter Break
January 4	School Resumes
January 22	Early Dismissal for Students @ 11:50; End of Semester 1, Full Day staff
February 12	Early Dismissal for Students @ 11:50; PD for Staff
February 15	No School
March 11, 12	EARLY DISMISSAL for students @ 11:50; Parent Teacher Conferences
March 26-31	No School, Spring Break
April 1-4	No School, Spring Break
April 5	School Resumes
April 9	Early Dismissal for Students @ 11:50; End of 3rd Marking Period, PD for Staff
April 23	Early Dismissal for Students @ 11:50; PD for Staff
May 28	Early Dismissal for Students @ 11:50; PD for Staff
May 31	No School- Memorial Day
June 9***	Last Day of School- Half Day for Students. Dismissal @11:50 am

Last day, tentative as weather/acts of God may extend the school year. Calendar is subject to change.

[For Husky Helpers \(PTO\) Events CLICK HERE](#)



**2026/27 Homestead Hills Elementary
School Event Calendar sponsored by Husky Helpers PTO**

PTO Meeting Dates - First Tuesday of the month at 4:15 p.m. Room 10, Beginning Sept. 1st

Fun Fridays - Every Full Friday- Popcorn or Treat Cart

August 26 - Welcome Party - Ice Cream Social - During Open House

August 28 - Preschool Open House, 4:30-6pm

Week(s) of September 14 - 25 - Fall Fundraiser - Believe Kids Fundraiser - Hybrid Catalog Fundraiser

Week of October 5 - 9 - Spirit Week for Homecoming- Details to follow

October 8 - October 9 - Fall Parent Teacher Conferences

Week(s) of October 19-30 - Holiday Wreaths- Tentative Delivery- November 23rd

Week of October 26-30th - Fall Book Fair- Library- During School Hours, During Fall Festival

October 30 - Homestead Hills Fall Festival- 5:00-7:00pm

Week of December 7 - 11 - Christmas Shoppe- During School Event

January 15 - Family Movie Night - Hosted at Homestead Hills 5:00-7:30pm

February/March - Preschool Prom (TBD)

February 12 - All School Family Dance and Games- 5:30-7:30pm

March 2 - 25 - Reading Month - Pit Spitters Reading Program

Week of March 8-12 - BOGO Scholastic Book Fair- During School and During Conferences

March 8 - 12 - Spring Fundraiser - Money War

March 11- March 12 - Spring Parent Teacher Conferences

Friday, April 30 - Spring Carnival/Art Exhibit - 5:30-7:30pm

Week of May 3-7 - Teacher Appreciation Week

June 4 - Field Day - During School Event

(All Dates and Times are Subject to Change)



HUSKY

WRESTLING CLUB

WRESTLING:

An individual sport that teaches discipline, mental toughness, and enhances social, emotional, and physical development.

Our focus is to build confidence through agility, flexibility, and technique.

Why Wrestle?



Any **BODY** Can Wrestle

Wrestling is a sport for everybody, literally! For some kids, wrestling isn't just a sport—it's a lifeline. On the mat, they find discipline, confidence, energy outlet, and purpose that lasts a lifetime.



Great Foundation for all sports



Wrestling is the fastest growing women's sport!

We will cover:

- ✓ take-downs
- ✓ basic moves
- ✓ top/bottom start positions
- ✓ drills/exercises
- ✓ and fun games!

ALL PROGRAMS BELOW ARE DESIGNED FOR



PRE-K - 5TH GRADE



HUSKY WHITE WRESTLERS

For beginning (novice) wrestlers or non-competitive wrestlers. We will be working on creating confidence, physical mobility, and introducing children to the sport of wrestling.



Season: November 3rd – December 17th



Practices: Tuesdays & Thursdays
from 6:00 – 7:30pm



Fight nights and tournaments
will be optional.

HUSKY RED WRESTLERS

For kids in any grade that want more mat time and better competition. 1 year of wrestling experience is preferred.



Season: January 5th through March



Practices: Tuesdays & Thursdays
from 6:00 – 7:30pm



Kids will compete in a designated league and will be required to pay the wrestler league membership (up to \$50).



Wrestlers must wrestle in at least two in-season tournaments (Traveling involved on Saturdays or Sundays).



We will need a copy of your child's birth certificate and health physical dated after April 15, 2026.



Scan to Register!

<https://www.zeffy.com/en-US/ticketing/husky-wrestling-club-memberships-2026--2027>

BUILDING STRONGER
KIDS ON AND OFF
THE MAT!



HUSKY HELPERS PTO

FALL FUN DATES



10/6 – Meeting

4:15 – 5:15pm | Room 10



Fun Fridays

10/2, 10/23 – Treat Time

10/16 – Popcorn



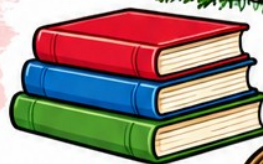
10/12 – 10/26

Winter Wreath Fundraiser



10/26 – 10/30

Scholastic Book Fair



10/30 – Fall Fest

5 – 7pm



Additional information to follow! 



Follow us on Facebook
Husky Helpers PTO



huskyhelperspto@gmail.com