

HMS Parent Newsletter

August 5, 2022

A Note from the Principal

HMS Families:

Welcome to the 2022-23 school year! I am looking forward to seeing our students and families back on the HMS campus and to meeting the students who are new to Hockinson!

This new school year brings many exciting opportunities for students to learn, connect with their peers, and explore activities outside of school. I am excited to welcome students back to school in a few short weeks. Enjoy the final few weeks of summer vacation and feel free to reach out to our office with any questions or concerns. Our school office reopens on August 18th.

Please look out for our next parent newsletter on August 26.

Thank you for your support!

~ Meredith

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Orientation and Back to School Events

Hornet Academy (6th Grade)

For rising 6th graders, HMS will host Hornet Academy on August 29, from 8 a.m. - 12 p.m. Parents should plan to drop off their student at 8 a.m. and can return for parent information sessions at 11 a.m. and/or to pick up their student at 12 p.m. During this half-day event, students will meet their teachers, participate in a pep assembly, run through their daily schedule, and enjoy a snack break in the cafeteria. In each class, students will complete a different activity designed to help them get to know their school and prepare for their first day as a middle schooler. These activities will include taking their photo and getting their school ID card, picking up their Chromebook and class color shirts, and more. HMS will also provide parent information sessions on how to use Schoology and get involved in school events and initiatives.

Orientation (7th and 8th Grade)

Orientation for HMS students in grade 7 and 8 will be held on August 30, 2022. At orientation, students can pick up their class schedule, have their picture taken for their student ID, purchase an ASB card, get information on bus routes and pick up times, learn about school clubs and activities, and pick up their school Chromebook.

Back to School Events

The HMS Back to School night will be held on September 6 from 6 - 7 p.m. At the Back to School event, parents can meet their child's teachers, find out about what their student will be learning in each class, and learn about class policies. We hope to see you there!



HMS Basics

If your family is new to HMS, welcome! We look forward to meeting all the new Hornets students soon.

Supports for New Students and Incoming Sixth Graders

We want every student to have a great first day at school! To help each student to feel comfortable in their new school, our student leadership team will be available to help new students in a variety of ways. Student leaders will be wearing special HMS Leadership shirts so they are easy to locate around campus before school begins and during the first week. Student leaders will offer school tours for our new 7th and 8th graders on Orientation Day (August 30) and all new 6th graders will take a campus tour at their Hornet Academy on August 29th. Student leaders will be there to show students to their classrooms and answer questions about HMS. During the first three days of school, leadership students will continue wearing their special shirts, so please encourage your child to ask a student leader for help if they need it. Our student leaders will also be walking new sixth grade students to the parent pick up area and to the buses on the first day of school.

Student Schedule

Students attend classes on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday from 8:50 a.m. to 3:20 p.m. Each Wednesday is a one hour early release and students attend from 8:50 a.m. to 2:20 p.m. Our school calendar can be found [here](#).

Student Attendance

It is important that students attend school regularly so that they can continue to grow as learners. Please keep your child home if they are ill (fever above 100.2, vomiting or gastrointestinal symptoms, or any symptoms of COVID-19). If your child will be absent from school, please notify our attendance secretary at 360-448-6441 or you can report an absence using Skyward Family Access.

HomeBase Class

Students will attend HomeBase class daily. This class is in addition to their regular six period schedule and will show up as their 3rd period class on their printed schedule. The purpose of Home Base class is to build a community of learners and teach students the skills they need to be successful at school. In HomeBase class, students will learn and practice social skills from the Caring School Communities curriculum and will have time to check in with their HomeBase teacher about

grades and make-up work. Two days per week, students will practice math skills using iReady.

School Supplies

School supply lists for each grade can be found by clicking [here](#).

Busing

First Student will be providing for bus service during the 2022-23 school year. Information on bus routes and pick up times is available from First Student. Families will be able to use the [First View App](#) to track pick-up times and to confirm the arrival time for your student's bus. The app will also alert you to any late arrivals and safety notifications. Parents can contact First Student directly with any questions or concerns by calling their dispatch center at **(360) 846-2922**.

Lunch and Breakfast

This year, breakfast and lunch will return to their regular prices. If your family may need meal assistance, please complete an [application for free and reduced lunch](#) and return it to our school office. Additional information about food services can be found [here](#).

Student Schedules

As new students enroll and students leave HMS, we adjust classes so that they are balanced in size and to ensure that students have access to elective choices. Finalized schedules will be distributed at student orientation on August 29 (6th grade) or August 30 (7th and 8th grade). If you are unable to attend orientation, your student can access their schedule on Skyward on August 30.



Fall Sports

Middle School sports are open to all 7th and 8th grade students. Registration for Fall Sports opens on August 18th.

Fall sports include volleyball (girls) and cross-country (co-ed). Student athletes compete with other schools as a part of the Greater St. Helens League. Registration information can be found [here](#).

In order for athletes to be eligible for sports, students must meet the following criteria before they can be cleared to tryout/participate:

- Registration on Family ID website
- Current sports physical uploaded to Registration (physician signature required) [click here for form](#)
- Proof of medical insurance - Insurance may be purchased [here](#)
- Scholastic and WIAA eligibility (see athletic handbook- read current handbook and sign on Family ID)
- Sport Fee and ASB Paid (For cut sports- wait to make **payment** until team selections)
- All past due fines must be paid to participate

Please contact our HMS Athletic Director, Caleb Millay, or our Athletic Secretary, Karen Johnson, at 360-448-6440 with any questions.

Go Hornets!

Upcoming Events

August 29: Hornet Academy - Grade 6 Orientation 8 a.m. - 12 p.m.

August 30: Grade 7 & 8 Orientation 8 a.m. - 12 p.m.

August 31: First Day of School - early release (2:20 p.m.)

September 5: Labor Day - No School

September 6: Open House - 6 - 7:00 p.m.

October 14: No School - Statewide Teacher In-Service Day



Hockinson Middle School

 Facebook

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