

Dear Shepherd Glen families,

Happy November! It is hard to believe we are a week away from Thanksgiving and soon it will be December. As the temperatures fall, please ensure your child is dressed appropriately for school and outdoor recess. We do our best to hold outdoor recess unless the temperature falls below 32 degrees (By State Guidelines). Thank you to all that attended parent/teacher conferences either in person or via zoom. I cannot stress enough the importance of the home/school connection. Research proves time and again that the children whose families are involved with their school and education achieve greater success. There are many ways to be involved without being physically present at every event, such as:



• keeping in contact with your child’s teacher via weekly check-ins
• talking to your child about his or her school day
• checking our website: [HPS Shepherd Glen School](https://www.shepherdglenschool.org)
• keeping up to date with in-school and afterschool events
• joining and helping the PTA with fundraising and evening events, etc.

We had a great turnout for the PTA pumpkin and painting night. I have attached pictures from that event along with our Fire Safety presentation for grades K-3 that took place on October 30th in the cafeteria. We also had the School Resource Officers DeStefanis and Kaplan come and speak with our sixth graders in preparation for middle school. Grade Five also had a visit from members of the Quinnipiac Women’s Basketball! I cannot stress enough the importance of community outreach. We have such great resources in our town and surrounding towns that do not get utilized enough. Many of our teachers work hard at connecting with town stakeholders, QU sports, etc. It is wonderful and very engaging for our students and greatly appreciated.



Resource Officers visit with 6th Graders

Here are some pictures of a Grade Five event that happened on Wednesday, November 8th. The **Connecticut Kid Governor Bus** visited SHG! This is a statewide program and our students made signs to welcome the visitors.



Grade Five held a school-wide “town hall” assembly entitled “Green Day”. This assembly focused on well-being and assisting students in a deeper understanding of components of the RULER program, i.e., Mood Meter, Meta Moment, deep breathing. The students also performed a variety of ways to create calmness and wellbeing. This included nature walks, deep breathing, music, reading and yoga poses. This assembly tied in with Shepherd Glen’s role as a RULER Mentor School and our PBIS program. Students teaching students can have a very powerful impact. The teachers were the facilitators and were behind the scenes while the students were in control of the assembly. Well Done!!



RULER Town Hall Assembly - Mood Meter Demonstration

On Wednesday we hosted visitors from The **Yale Center for Emotional Intelligence**. They sent six representatives and researchers to spend time in our classrooms and interview teachers and students regarding their use of the RULER Program in our school.

Our second and third graders were able to visit the **Read To Grow Bookmobile** on Monday, November 13th. Each student was able to receive a brand-new free book. Students love walking away with a new book of their choice during these annual visits!



Read-To-Grow Book Mobile book recipients!

PTA News:

- The afterschool movie, pumpkin family event, and PJ Day were all huge successes. The PTA would like to thank Mrs. Ferri and all the staff for their support.
- Lyman Orchard Pie Fundraiser has started. Order deadline is 11/17/2023. Delivery is 12/13 at 5:30PM
- Possible winter Family events:
 - Open Skate at the Hamden Rink
 - Multicultural Evening with cultural displays and food samplings
 - Possible SHG cookbook from the event
- The Scholastic book fair will be held during March conferences
- The PPS Team is planning parent classes in the spring and PTA will provide babysitting.
- Stay connected with our PTA by membership and social media. pta.shepherdglen@gmail.com

Term 1 Report Card Timeline:

Report cards will be available for parent/guardians on November 29th

Now is the time to be sure you have access to your existing parent portal account. Check your account and apply to reset your password if you have forgotten it. To add additional students to your existing account or to create a new account (for families completely new to Hamden Public Schools) please visit the following link: <https://www.hamden.org/district-information/parent-portal/parent-portal-form-for-parents> (also available right on the home page of www.hamden.org).

PLEASE BE AWARE THAT THIS IS NOT THE SAME AS THE REGISTRATION PORTAL MANY PARENTS USED TO REGISTER THEIR CHILD THIS YEAR. This is something completely unrelated and required for parents to access their child's grades. Look for email and paper reminders and sure to complete this as soon as possible as wait times for portal account access increase significantly closer to the report card distribution date.

Calendar Reminders:

- November 17th: Red White & Blue Day in honor of Veteran's Day. Wear your most colorful patriotic gear!
- There is an early dismissal on Wednesday, November 22nd right before the Thanksgiving break.
- November 23rd and November 24th- No School in session
- December 4th Teacher Professional Development-No school in session
- December 21st Early Dismissal day before Holiday Recess
- December 23rd-January 1st Holiday Recess

We at Shepherd Glen love our greater community and are always seeking ways to reach out into the community and invite our families and the public to be a part of our school. With that in mind, if you would like to come in and share a special talent or activity, please feel free to reach out to me or your child's teacher. We are all in this together for the betterment of our SHG students.

Teaching Quote: *"Teaching children is an accomplishment, getting children excited about learning is an achievement"*

Teacher Joke: *"Which school teachers have the greenest thumbs?"*



Answer: The Kinder-garden Teachers!!

Shepherd Glen PTA Pumpkin Painting & Pizza Night Event

