

# THE BROWN BEAR NECESSITIES

The Official Newsletter of  
Hannah Marie Brown Elementary School (est. 2021)



## Principal Ponderings by Megan Sensibaugh, a "beary" proud Principal

We love seeing students and families traveling to school and getting exercise at the same time! As the weather gets warmer and more students travel to school walking, biking, and on scooters, it is important that we remind them of a few safety precautions! Please remind students of the safest route to and from school if they will be walking, biking, or on a scooter. It is important that students know where crossing guards are located and how to utilize them. We ask for students to walk their bikes or scooters across the crosswalk and on CCSD school property. Additionally, talk to students about the safety equipment needed when riding bikes and scooters to school. Also, please be reminded that pets are not allowed on CCSD property. I know students LOVE to walk to and from school with their pets, but for the safety of all students, please leave your pets at home!

We need some help from all of our parents when dropping off and picking up students. Please remember:

1. There is no double parking on Chapata or Drawback. All cars must continue moving (no idling) in their designated travel lane. You must park in the parking lot or an appropriate parking space and walk to the gate to pick up your student.
2. There is no parking in the back of the parking lot along the red curb. This must remain open for traffic flow.
3. Do not park in the bus lane in front of the school to walk your students to their gate; this is a drop-and-go only location in the morning.
4. Never pass a bus when the stop sign is out with flashing lights.
5. There is no parking in residential driveways or blocking residential driveways.
6. Do not double park or make a U-turn in a school zone.
7. Please do not park in a red zone.
8. When exiting Drawback, make a right turn only for the safety of students and staff.
9. Do not park in a handicapped/disabled parking spot without appropriate placards or plates.
10. Please do not leave students/children unattended in the car. It is a safety concern and against NRS (Nevada Revised Statutes).
11. For everyone's safety, please use the designated crosswalks.

Traffic can get congested, but if we all follow the traffic laws and routines we have established, we can quickly clear traffic and get home SAFELY. Thank you for keeping everyone's safety in mind!

## MRS. SUMSION'S CORNER!

Happy March! As we look forward to spring and nice weather, please continue to send your children to school. We have a lot to look forward to this month, starting with Nevada Reading Week, Spring Break, and Family Sports Night! Please take time over break to enjoy being together and encourage everyone to make it back to school for the final push to the end of the school year because it will be here in no time!

Students in third-fifth grades are preparing for the State-Wide Assessment (SBAC). SBAC will begin April 13th and go the entire week that week. Fifth grade will have an additional two days the following week for Science SBAC on April 21st and 22nd. Please ensure your students have plenty of sleep for those dates so they are ready to show all they have learned throughout the year!

**GIVE YOUR BROWN BEAR STUDENT A BIRTHDAY SHOUT OUT!**  
**DIGITAL BIRTHDAY MESSAGES**

**702-799-2250**

**10 Chapata Drive  
HD, NV 89012**

**Office Hours: 7:45 a.m. - 3:45 p.m.**

### Contact Info

[Hannahmariebrownelementaryschool.com](http://Hannahmariebrownelementaryschool.com)

[Hannah Marie Brown Facebook Page](#)

**MARK YOUR  
CALENDAR!**

3/6/26

Free Dress Day

3/9 - 3/13

HMB ES Celebrates NV  
Reading Week!

3/9/26

Kindness T-Shirt Day

3/11/26

Student of the Month Lunch

3/13/26

End of the Grading Period

Wear Fun, Crazy Socks in  
Recognition of Down  
Syndrome Awareness Day!

3/16 - 3/20

Spring Break

3/23/26

Kindness T-Shirt Day

3/24/26

PTA General Meeting 9 am

3/25/26

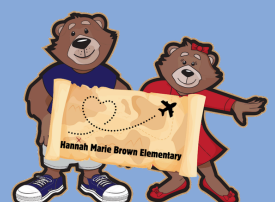
SOT Meeting 4 pm

3/27/26

Family Sports Night!

3/30/26

Kindness T-Shirt Day



# LOST & FOUND

We've been back in class for 38 school days since Winter Break, and our Lost & Found is filling up fast! We've collected over 100 items so far. If your child is missing a jacket, water bottle, lunch box, or any other item, please have them check the MPR as soon as possible. All unclaimed items left by Spring Break will be donated. Let's reunite these lost items with their owners!



Field Day is coming! We are so excited to host Field Day on 5/15/26. Mr. Hanson has been working hard to prepare exciting activities! As a reminder, in accordance with the Hannah Marie Brown ES Parent & Student Handbook, all extracurricular activities for the 2025–2026 school year are tied to student attendance. Students who are identified as chronically absent will not be eligible to participate in events such as the Halloween Parade, Raider's Day, Field Day, school field trips, after-school clubs, attendance incentives, and other special activities.

A student is considered chronically absent when they have missed 10% or more of their enrolled school days. For Field Day, the attendance eligibility cutoff date is May 7, 2026. By that date, most students will have been enrolled for 164 days, which means that missing more than 16.5 days of school would place a student in the chronically absent category. Tardies and early outs count! Students who have been enrolled for fewer days will have a proportional number of absences allowed. **It is important to note that ONLY absences excused by a medical provider reduce a student's chronic absence status.** You can review your student's attendance on Infinite Campus. Absences labeled as MDP are the only absences that subtract from the chronically absent status. Please be sure students are at school, on time, for the entire school day!

For Field Day, we have designed Field Day shirts aligned with your students' grade-level colors! Shirts will be on sale from March 23<sup>rd</sup> to April 19<sup>th</sup>. Shirts will be delivered the week of May 4<sup>th</sup>. All shirt sales are final; refunds will not be given for any reason. Grade-level colors are as follows:

- Kinder = Purple
- First = Blue
- Second = Green
- Third = Yellow
- Fourth = Orange
- Fifth = Red
- All Staff = Tie-Dye



**ALL FIELD DAY SHIRTS  
ARE SSA APPROVED  
AND CAN BE WORN AT  
ANYTIME!**

## WHAT IS SEL (SOCIAL EMOTIONAL LEARNING)?

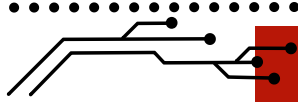
Last month in Social Emotional Learning (SEL), students focused on the important character trait of honesty. We learned that being honest helps others trust us and strengthens our friendships and classroom community.

Through fun cooperative teamwork games, students practiced telling the truth, taking responsibility, and supporting one another. These activities helped us see how honesty builds trust and helps everyone feel safe and respected. Did you know that being honest can actually reduce stress and improve your overall health? When we are truthful, we don't have to worry about remembering stories or hiding mistakes. Students discovered that honesty not only helps others — it helps us feel better too!

This month, we are excited to focus on our new character trait: cooperation. Students will continue participating in cooperative teamwork games that encourage communication, problem-solving, and kindness toward peers. We will also be working together as a team with our school gardener! It takes so much teamwork and cooperation to successfully grow a beautiful garden, and we are excited to learn more about what we can do in the Spring to get ready for a harvest of crops. Working together helps students learn how to listen to different ideas, share responsibilities, and celebrate success as a team.

We look forward to continuing to build strong relationships, grow our social skills, and strengthen trust within our school community. Together, we are learning that when we cooperate and support one another, everyone succeeds!

# THE SPECIALIST SPOT



## MRS. BENNETT'S MEGABYTES



March has arrived, and our computer lab has been busy buzzing with creativity, teamwork, and problem-solving! As we head into the spring season, students continue building important technology skills while learning how to be thoughtful and responsible digital citizens.

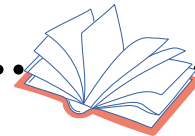
One of our biggest focuses this month is practicing how to stay safe online. Students are learning how to protect personal information, recognize trusted websites, and make smart choices when using technology both at school and at home. Being safe online helps everyone enjoy technology in a positive and responsible way!

We have also been strengthening our debugging and troubleshooting skills. Students are discovering that mistakes are not problems — they are opportunities to learn! Whether fixing a typing error, solving a coding challenge, or figuring out why something won't work quite right, our young problem-solvers are learning to slow down, think critically, and try again. At the same time, creativity is blooming in the lab! Students are exploring their creativity through digital design projects, experimenting with colors, layouts, and new tools to express their ideas. Collaboration has been a big part of our learning, as well. Students are working together, sharing ideas, and helping classmates solve challenges — just like real-world technology teams do.

As always, I am so proud of the kindness, curiosity, and perseverance our students show each day. They continue to grow not only as technology users, but also as creative thinkers and supportive classmates.

Thank you for your continued support, and happy spring learning!

## LIBRARY TID BITS FROM MRS. GEHLKEN



**Spring Cleaning Time!** - March is here and spring is near! This is a great time to do some spring cleaning and locate your student's library books. Please [click here to see the March 2026 Library class schedule](#) so your student will be prepared on library day. Thank you for your help.

**Nevada Reading Week** - Nevada Reading Week will be celebrated March 9-13, 2026. This year's theme is "Book an Adventure." [Please click here for the list of spirit dress up days.](#)

**Family Sports Night** - The spring Family Sports Night will be held on Friday, March 27th. The specialist team will be holding their very popular 4 Square tournament and snack fundraiser again that evening. Watch for more details coming soon via Class Dojo.

**Book Fair Success!** - The Library held another successful book fair! I want to thank you for supporting our school, books, literacy, and the love of reading. The funds earned from this fair will be used to support NV Reading Week activities/prizes, an author visit in March and new library books for our collection. Happy Reading!



## LITERACY NEWS YOU CAN USE WITH MRS. O'FARRELL



### Happy Reading, Families!

March is full of lucky books, special celebrations, and exciting reading events at our school! We are excited to celebrate Nevada Reading Week March 9-13 with fun, school-wide literacy activities designed to inspire a love of reading! Don't forget to thank our fabulous librarian, Mrs. Gehlken, for organizing and coordinating such a fun week!

Celebrate St. Patrick's Day with literacy activities at home! Check out the following books to get started: *How to Catch a Leprechaun*, *Jamie O'Rourke and the Big Potato*, and *There Was an Old Lady Who Swallowed a Clover*. Then have your child write a "How to Catch a Leprechaun" story or even design and build a trap. A few more ideas are to create a lucky acrostic poem using the word LUCKY or go on a "word hunt" around your house and find words that rhyme with *green*.

Spring Break is the perfect time to relax and READ! Here are a few fun family activities to try: visit your local library, read outside in the sunshine, start a new book series, create a family reading time each day, write a book review, or listen to an audiobook in the car. Remember, just 20 minutes of reading each day helps children build vocabulary, improve comprehension, strengthen fluency, develop creativity, and become confident and lifelong learners.

## SOCIAL EMOTIONAL LEARNING (SEL) IN STYLE WITH MRS. TREADAWAY



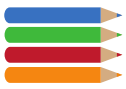
Hello families! For the month of February, we focused on honesty. One way to think about honesty is “being truthful in what you say and do.” Practicing honesty helps strengthen our relationships and even reduces stress. If possible as a family, set aside some time to gather as a family and check in with each other. Ask each family member, “How are you feeling today?” Practice honesty when responding and listen carefully as each family member shares.



## GATE UPDATES FROM MRS. ROSAS

4th and 5th grade GATE students are putting their ELA skills to the test! They are participating in a Living Wax Museum! Students select a historical figure, research all about his or her life, then bring that person to life. They build an informative tri fold board about the historical figure, dress as them, and come to life to tell you all about their accomplishments. Students are working their critical and creative thinking while using research skills, writing techniques, and speaking strategies.

3rd graders are gearing up for NV Reading Week with a Fairytale Unit. Students will participate in various fun activities to write creative fairy tales.



## HIGHLIGHTS IN ART FROM MRS. PIERCE



Happy March! Spring seems like it came early this year, and brought lots of fun art project ideas with it. Students in 3rd, 4th, and 5th grades have started looking towards Nevada Reading Week by designing book covers of their own biographies. 1st and 2nd graders have been challenging their creativity by making their own creations out of set supplies. Kindergartens are learning about drawing nature by painting landscapes.

After spring break, the year always seems to fly by. 5th graders will be working on a special wearable painting project. Other grades will also be painting on recycled cardboard canvases. As always, I am so excited to see what everyone will create!



## WHAT IN THE WORLD IS UP WITH MR. HANSON: PE AND BEHAVIOR UPDATES!



We are nearing the end of our basketball unit and will soon embark on our next fun-filled sport of hockey and lacrosse! Students will participate in learning the basics and safety of both sports with ball handling, followed by drills, activities, and games. Please advise your kiddos to not bring their own equipment.

Last month, our school welcomed the Las Vegas Desert Dogs Lacrosse camp for an entire day, where students participated in drills and exercises with the actual players! The Desert Dogs donated our new lacrosse equipment, along with an informational packet about lacrosse to every student. Make sure to check out the last page of the packet as it pertains to a free ticket to a lacrosse game.

Lastly, as the temperature starts to rise, please make sure your kiddos are coming to school in appropriate clothing, shoes and bringing a water bottle with them. Thank you again, and see you around the school!



HENDERSON  
HAPPENINGS



Are you looking for exciting ways for your students and families to get involved in the community? The City of Henderson offers an incredible range of youth programs, outdoor adventures, enrichment classes, and recreational sports designed to inspire learning, teamwork, and fun beyond the school day! These programs are a wonderful opportunity for students to build confidence, discover new interests, stay active, and connect with peers in a positive community setting. Don't miss out on the chance to explore, learn, and grow right here in our community! Check out all the opportunities at [Henderson Happenings!](#)