



The Hartley Hawks Headlines

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Hartley Home Page: <http://www-wdh.stjohns.fl.us>

* School Hours: 8:30 am – 2:50 pm *Office Hours: 8:00 am – 4:00 pm

*Wednesdays Early Release 1:50 pm

*To Report an Absence: Mrs. Robin Kelley 904-547-8384

From the Principal's Desk

It was great to meet our students and their families at the “Meet the Teacher” orientation activities last week! Friday was a very smooth beginning for our students and teachers. The children made new friendships and enjoyed reunions in the classrooms and hallways.

Our goal is for students to devote themselves to learning in an environment where they are loved as they are taught. With outstanding teachers who understand the way individual students learn, our school provides academic rigor in an environment that emphasizes thinking and creativity. Your children are the motivation for all of our efforts, the center of all we do. As we begin the new school year, we rededicate ourselves to providing a culture of caring for our students. Students, teachers and parents are the Heart in Hartley!

There is so much important information to be shared with you in this first issue that it won't all fit into one page. I hope you will take the time to print out and read through my musings on the subjects of: Reading, Reading Goals, Behavior Expectations, and School Safety.

The Importance of Reading in Our Lives

In elementary school, learning to read is fundamentally important. The ability to read with proficiency is a strong indicator of success in school. As parents, we prepare our children to read by encouraging their interaction with the people and objects around them. Before a child is able to read words, they “read” the world. Those experiences lead to new learning and a readiness to learn with others at school. When children begin their formal education, they bring an understanding of their experiences and the social world to school. These understandings are the foundations of reading. Learning to read is both an act of knowing and creating. When children read, they enlarge their awareness of the world. Reading is an important skill because children acquire much of their knowledge about the world through the written word. Reading will be an area of special focus at Hartley Elementary School this year.

As a parent, you are your child's first and best teacher. Before your son or daughter started school, you taught them how to walk and eat and socialize with others. You even taught them a language! Please continue to teach and model learning for your child this year by making a commitment to read to them. When children see their parents read, they understand that reading is important. When you read to your child or listen to them read to you, you affirm their confidence as readers and make memories together.

Studies indicate that students whose parents read to them and encourage them to read independently every day significantly increase their children's academic success. Visit the library together and explore books that interest both of you. Discussing books is a great way to introduce your child to the world of possibility.

From the Principal's Desk (Continued)

Goals for our Student Readers

The percentage of students who read with proficiency is one measure of an effective school reading program. Last year 75 percent of Hartley's third through fifth graders met high standards in reading, as evidenced by a score of Level 3 or higher on the FSA Reading Assessment. Our goal this year is to move our Level 3 proficient readers to the higher 4 and 5 levels, as we decrease the percentage of students who scored at the lower 1 and 2 levels.

Learning Gains, another measure of success, is an area of special focus at Hartley this year. We want all of our students to make learning gains during the school year. By promoting a school wide culture of caring, by being aware of our students' academic strengths and challenges and by providing differentiation through small group instruction, Hartley's teachers will encourage all students to reach their greatest potential in reading this year. All Hawks will rise!

Thank you in advance for the special commitment you make to your child's life at school this year.

How We Live In Our School Family

During the first week of school, Mrs. Baker and I will be meeting with students at each grade level to discuss school rules and expectations. This year, we are focusing on the importance of the "Five Ps": being polite, prompt, prepared, productive, and practicing safety. The following information will be shared in the grade-level assemblies:

Hartley students are:

- Polite-** show respect for others in manners, speech and behavior
- Prompt-** are always on time and ready
- Prepared-** are ready to listen and learn
- Productive-** give their best to whatever they do
- Practice Safety-** stay close to trusted teachers and friends

Safety is our #1 Priority

Safety is the #1 Priority at Hartley Elementary. This year a fulltime security office will be on campus during the school day as a security presence for our children and adults. Please introduce yourself to Officer Reed as you see him at school. Parents, thank you for modeling good character and safe behavior as you wait in the parent pickup line. By demonstrating patience and a respect for the rules, our students will grow to understand that a community's safety depends upon everyone's voluntary compliance with the rules. Parents of Bus Riders, if you have questions or concerns regarding transportation, please phone the SJCSO Transportation office at 819-7810. Thank you for making any changes in your child's routine route home no later than 2:20 p.m. I appreciate your consistent awareness of campus safety and your cooperation with school procedures.

Dr. Paul Goricki



OUR HARTLEY SONG

We are happy together at Hartley,
Here with my sisters and my brothers.
We are learning together at Hartley
Our hearts are at home here at school.

School Bus Expectations

School buses are part of the school experience for many students, and students need to follow behavior expectations on the bus as they would while in the school building. Please reinforce at home with your child the rules teachers and administration are sharing about riding the bus to ensure safety:

- Move safely to their seat or exit
- Fasten your seatbelt and remain seated while the bus is moving
- Use a quiet voice and kind words
- Keep hands, feet, and all objects to themselves
- Follow the directions of the bus driver
- Remember to take all your belongings when exiting the bus
- Report problem behavior to the bus driver or a trusted adult



Cafeteria News

Free and Reduced Price School Meals family applications are available and may be submitted online (<http://www.stjohns.k12.fl.us/food/free/>) through the Hartley school website and/or the district website. Paper applications are available at Hartley, (you will receive a much quicker response if the application is submitted online). **Every school year, a new application must be submitted within the 1st month of school.** If your child received free/reduced meals last school year, a 2018-2019 application still must be submitted.

School Visits/Volunteers

We are so happy to have volunteers/visitors at Hartley, but please remember the district access procedure for ALL PARENTS and Visitors. **In order to access our school past the reception area for any reason, you must be an approved volunteer or vendor.** This includes visits during lunch, to attend a field trip, and/or volunteer at school.

To be approved to enter our school, you must complete the volunteer application at the website below:
<https://knt3.keepntrack.com/HTML/KnTOnlineVolunteerApplication.html?db=stjohns&version=3.16.1-20160701>

Once your application has been cleared through the school district and St. Johns County Sheriff's office, it will be valid for three years. Your volunteer status, once cleared, will allow you to sign in at all St. Johns County Schools.

W. D. Hartley Elementary School

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School Vision

Hartley Elementary School will grow a community of responsible, confident, caring and educated citizens.

School Mission

Hartley Elementary School will provide a safe and caring environment where every student's academic, emotional and social needs are nurtured. Parents, teachers, and staff



Principal's Message

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School Hours

- Student drop off starts at 8:00am
- School day begins at 8:30am
- School day ends 2:50pm
- Early Release every Wednesday 1:50pm

School Events

- Cheers and Tears Social for Kindergarten parents on August 15, 2018 8:45 am
- Volunteer Breakfast on August 28, 2018 9:00 am

New and Improved!

Be sure to check out our updated school website! This web site includes helpful links about curriculum, student-friendly website, and the school lunch menu. In addition, the school calendar of events is always just one click away: <http://www-wdh.stjohns.k12.fl.us/>

Upcoming events are also posted below:

August 15: Cheers and Tears Social for Kindergarten parents - 8:45 a.m.

August 20 – Sept 7: iReady Diagnostic Testing (Reading and Math) for all students

August 28: Volunteer Breakfast - 9:00 a.m.

September 3: LABOR DAY, student/teacher holiday

September 4: SAC meeting - 3:15p.m. in the Media Center

September 6: PTO meeting – 6:00 p.m. in the Media Center

September 11: Fall Picture Day

September 11: Open House for Kdg, 1st, and 2nd grades 5:30 – 6:30 p.m.

September 11: Open House for 3rd, 4th, and 5th grades 6:30 – 7:30 p.m.

September 12: Interims Issued



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