Happy Holidays Haen Families!

I am incredibly proud to be a part of the Victor Haen School Community, and I hope you share my sentiments! It is with great wonder and excitement that I see our students, with support of the staff, every day working to grow their minds and their character!

This month, in the spirit of the season, we will be creating messages of caring and kindness to decorate our Giving Trees. Each grade level will work together to decorate their Giving Tree, featured in our school library. As part of our daily routine with the character challenge, included in our daily announcements, we will keep our students thinking of how they can give to and do for others in school, at home and in the community.

At the heart of our Positive Behavior Intervention and Support (PBIS) Program, we practice how to be ready to learn. To be ready to learn, our students are taught that they need to be safe, responsible and respectful. This character education helps us provide our students with a classroom community of learners who are supportive of each other.

The Victor Haen Elementary School Report Card is one piece of evidence that we are growing our minds! Thank you for continuing to support your child and their learning at Haen Elementary School! The connections between school and home are important in supporting our young learners!

Sincerely,
Holly Magness
Principal

Seeking Your Input: District Vision Survey

Recently, the District has talked about the District Vision Committee (DVC), a group created to engage our school community in a continuous improvement process and examine the current reality of our District’s culture, fiscal sustainability and student achievement, and how they relate to our vision for the District. As we continue through our four steps - Education, Vision, Explore and Action - we’d like you to take 10-15 minutes to complete the District Vision Survey. The survey can be taken online or via a paper copy. You likely have already received the survey invitation via e-mail, and you will be receiving a paper copy in the mail. It’s input from all of you, through this survey, that keeps our work moving forward on a path of success. Thank you, in advance, for your understanding, input and willingness to be a part of this process.

To take the survey in Spanish simply click on the “Español” link on the top right of the survey’s “Start” page and the entire survey will change over to Spanish. You may also request a Spanish paper copy version by calling 766-6100.
A Message from Mrs. VanderLoop in the Filling Station

The Victor Haen School Library sponsored the 2016 election. All students read the story of Clifford for President and Otto Runs for President. Then they wrote why they thought their candidate should win. The writings were on display in the Library during the election. Student presented their ID (Library card) and received a ballot. They then walked up to a line in order to wait for the next available voting booth. Finally they dropped their ballot in the box. The ballots were counted and OTTO IS THE PRESIDENT!

First Graders continued their research project about squirrels. They learned how to take a picture on the iPad. After taking a picture of a squirrel using the app Screen Chomp, they practiced reading their fact from the many we gathered. Next they will open the app and recorded themselves reading the information. Just in time for Thanksgiving we had so much fun with the book One is a Feast for a Mouse. We had to understand the importance of a characters size. One pea was a feast for a mouse, but for us it would not be enough to fill us up. Students helped me with the repetitive chorus.

Second Graders used the iPads to take a picture in order to complete their research project on owls. However, due the fact that Thanksgiving came SO fast we had to postpone completion of our research in order to enjoy two “Thanksgiving activities.” We enjoyed a “circle story” that actually included an owl with “silent wings.” Students nodded their heads when I read that because our research said owls are silent when they go after their prey. We also used the Dictionary to look up cornucopia. We talked about the job of a Dictionary: pronunciation, definition, spelling, syllables, part of speech, suffixes and sometimes a picture. Then students did a cornucopia hunt in the library and they did it in silence. Books bring us such fun adventure!

Third Graders had practice using the Library Catalog. They had to complete title, author and subject searches. We decided that we need another attempt in order for everyone to experience each kind of search. As students are completed their study of Native Americans, we read a very appropriate legend. After identifying the traits of a legend, I read one but did not provide the title. They had to fill in the blank The Legend of the Cranberry. We learned about bogs and how clever the Paleo Indians were in creating the Legend of the Cranberry. Wisconsin is one of the top five states in the production of cranberries. A book on cranberries revealed how they are harvested and the bogs are created.

Fourth Graders completed the study of the Dewey Decimal System. They were given specific call numbers and the search was on. They now also appreciate the effort of the Library assistants who shelve all the nonfiction titles they check out.

Tips From the Nurse—Mrs. Sundelius

The holiday season is a wonderful time of year; especially for children. However, this time of year also presents a challenge for healthy eating. With all of the holiday parties and activities preparing healthy meals and snacks sometimes just doesn’t happen. One solution help prevent over indulgence on holiday treats is to send non-food items in for your child’s school celebration(s). The following are some non-food treats to share that children love:

Pencils/Pens, Eraser toppers, Friendship bracelets, Trading cards, Stampers, Stickers, Dollar stores party favors, Dollar store coloring/activity books, Story books, Notepads, Pretend tattoos, Key chains, Book marks, Super balls (for the older kids), Neon colored high-lighters, Folders

These items are a great alternative to the high sugar and high fat treats. Plus children love them.
Mrs. Mueller—Art Tidbits

Check out our classroom blog at: http://haenart.blogspot.com/ and follow our Instagram to get notifications on new updates! haen_art_kingdom

1st Grade created adorable Dachshunds in sweaters! Since Doxies get cold in this cool weather we designed our dog’s awesome sweaters using patterns.

2nd Grade students reviewed the rainbow and created beautiful tropical parrots. We used our rainbow knowledge, thanks to ROY G BIV to color their feathers in vibrant rainbow patterns.

3rd Grade looked at some amazing stained glass windows and used their new information to design their own window. It could tell a story or it could be nature in theme like the ones we saw. We used watercolor to give them a light translucent feel.

4th Grade has moved onto Russia! We looked at some of the amazing building built in Russia. We discussed how they are different from the building we see here in America. They got a chance to be their own architect and design a building filled with color and pattern.

CHRISTMAS CARD CONTEST

Thanks to the many students and families who submitted ideas for this year’s card. Congratulations to Michaela Peeters in Grade 4, Mrs. Busse’s class for submitting the winning design an old Ford Truck “Wishing you an Old Fashioned Haen Holiday.” The card is four feet wide and eight feet high. It was painted by student volunteers. It will be displayed on Hwy 55 during Kaukauna’s Christmas Parade and the month of December.
**Gym News From Ms. Ziegler**

**F.I.T. (Families In Training Together)** **PHYSICAL ACTIVITY CALENDAR:** Each month when family members exercise together **20 or more days**, (cross off days on the calendar/honor system), sign the calendar, and return it to the homeroom teacher @ the end of the month, your child (ren) will receive a **“FIT” Token** to add to their Moving Club chain! Remember to follow the days on the calendar (you can modify activity or equipment as needed) and if you miss some days it is ok to go back and fit them in when you find the time! Calendars are sent home monthly!

**Grade 1** – We have continued to work on building core strength through plank practice and worked to improve cooperation and fair play in partner and team games. Some of our games included Stuck in the Mud, Sponge Bob, Ocean Tag, Fish Gobbler, 7-Up, and Frogs Across the Pond! Ball skills of bouncing, catching, and throwing were practiced during an activity called, Feed the Frogs. Mystery Dribble and Catch included the math challenge of adding numbers, then performing the skill. We also worked on jumping with soft ropes, speed ropes, and jump sticks. Different locomotor movements were practiced during fun group games. Students experienced excitement and cooperation in the Thanksgiving games of Turkey Tag and Get That Feather!

**Grade 2** – Hand eye coordination was a focus with how to catch an object better! Students learned about the concept of how to absorb the energy of a moving object into their body by bending and cushioning. Scarf Catch helped reinforce this with partners. Pac Man tag challenged pathway planning while moving using different locomotor skills. Soccer skills of foot dribble, trap, and stationary kick were practiced. Aerobic kickball gave everyone’s hearts a big workout while students practiced important kicking skills safely. Students experienced excitement and cooperation in the Thanksgiving games of Thanksgiving Tag and Get That Feather!

**Grade 3** – Students worked on Frog Jump Ups, Inch Worm, and Body Supports which focused on the concepts of muscular strength and endurance as well as core strength and cooperation. Everyone worked on curl-up form. Hula hoop challenges also worked on core strength. Throwing and catching on the move was a fun challenge for all. Students worked with jump ropes and progressed through the tiered Jump Ladder at their own pace. Favorite fitness games played were Catapult Launchers, 3-Catch, Sink the Ship, and Pin Down! The Turkey Round Up was an awesome teamwork game to celebrate the Thanksgiving holiday!

**Grade 4** – Students learned about effort and how to demonstrate great effort in gym class even when tasks are difficult. Students worked with jump ropes and progressed through the tiered Jump Ladder at their own pace. Favorite games played were Team Offense/Defense, Catapult Launchers, Pin Knockdown, and Hula Hut. Students learned about offense, defense, safe guarding stance, and the importance of the ready position when participating in game play. Drop ball worked on reaction skills and cooperation with a partner. Push-Up Taps, a fitness challenge, focused on the concept of muscular strength and endurance as well as core strength. Students worked on curl-up form and hula hoop challenges that also worked on core strength. We celebrated Thanksgiving by getting along and working together in the game the Turkey Round-up!

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**Music News from Mrs. Krueger**

**1st grade**
Each student in 1st grade was tested on their ability to tap a steady beat during the month of November. They also worked on the vocabulary of note names. Some of the songs they worked on are: The Giving Of Thanks, Thanksgiving Day, I Like Thanksgiving, and Oh My Goodness! The Turkey Ran Away!

**2nd grade**
The 2nd graders took a sneak peek at some music they will perform in the spring concert. Please mark you calendars already. The date for the spring concert is Thursday, May 4 at 6:30. The 2nd graders also worked on counting and clapping simple rhythm patterns and learned several vocabulary words.

**3rd grade**
The 3rd graders worked very hard on rhythm and vocabulary words during November. They also enjoyed singing some songs of the season. Some of them included a jazz tune in a blues style called Thanksgiving Blues, a 50’s and 60’s love ballad dedicated to the cranberry called Cranberries Forever, and fun tune called Mashed Potatoes.

**4th grade**
The 4th graders concentrated on recorders during the month of November. The students are doing very well on learning new notes and new skills! Keep up the good work!
Upcoming Fundraisers

**Culver’s Scoopie Night**—January 16, 5:00-8:00 PM at the Little Chute Culver’s, 10% of sales will be given to Haen PAC!

**Papa Murphy’s Teacher Night**—March

**Vendor Fair**—February 18

**THANKS FOR MAKING CONFERENCES GREAT!**
Thanks to all our families who participated in conferences on November 15 & 17. It was the perfect way to show your child that their education is important.

Thanks to all the parents who provided a salad or dessert for the teachers during the conference night in November. Staff are very appreciative of the wonderful meals!

Continue sending in those Box Tops!
We continue with our Box Top Challenge. The classroom that collects the most box tops by January 6 will receive a Pizza Party!

**Gnome Game Night**
Thank you to all of our families who joined us for the Gnome Family Game Night. We had a great turnout and a great time playing new games. The PAC has approved to purchase a few of the favorite games for classrooms to use during indoor recess.

**Join Us!**
Join us at the January 10th PAC Meeting!
We will meet in the Haen Library. Child care will be provided!