

# Hart's Hill Elementary School

January/February Newsletter 2024

Inspire-Cultivate-Empower



## Sprinkle A Little Kindness Everywhere You Go!

While December is a hectic time of year in the classroom and at home, the efforts by members of our school, and our community, have made a positive difference in the lives of those in need. At this time of year, it is important to focus on everything that we are thankful for and the charitable efforts of the Hart's Hill Elementary School community.

This holiday season the students and staff at Hart's Hill School, along with the Whitesboro Teachers Association, and Hannaford Supermarket made 100 kindness bags for women at Hope House. Hope House is a soup kitchen located in Utica that provides hot meals to those most in need. The bags contained items to show we care. Each grade level was assigned a different item to place in the bag. The reusable Hannaford grocery bags had toiletries, cozy winter items, a holiday card, yummy snacks and packets to make warm drinks. Collectively, the efforts of the Hart's Hill School extended community have benefited others at a time of year when it is most warmly welcomed. A special thank you to Miss Castano for carrying on this annual Hart's Hill tradition.



## Whitesboro Varsity Football Team Visits Hart's Hill



On Thursday, November 30<sup>th</sup>, the halls of Hart's Hill Elementary were buzzing with excitement from current students, faculty, and staff...as well as a few very famous alumni! Former students from Hart's Hill, who are members of the team passed out hugs, high fives, and even autographs to current students. This team is not only special because of their accomplishments, they are also KIND!

Congratulations to the 2023 Whitesboro Varsity Football Team

\*Class A, Section III Champions

\*NYS Regional Champions

\*NYS Western Champions

We are so proud of our former student athletes and all of their accomplishments. Thank you for taking the time to give back and make a difference with our students! This team is a class act! Go Blue!







## The 12<sup>th</sup> Year of the Hart's Hill Turkey Trot!

On Saturday, November 18th, 97 Hart's Hill students braved the cold weather to run the Hart's Hill Turkey Trot! This was the 12th year of this family event and it was the best turnout ever! Students had the option of running 1/4 mile or 3K. At the conclusion of the race, each participant received LED shoelaces and a medal, which was donated by the Utica Roadrunners. The families were able to enjoy refreshments sponsored by the Whitesboro Wellness Committee and shoelaces were provided by the Hart's Hill PTO. Proceeds from this event are donated to local charity each year. This year's recipient will be Sleep in Heavenly Peace. A fun time was had by all!



## Grade 2 Families Invited to School to Create Gingerbread Houses



Second grade families were invited to the cafeteria on Friday, December 4<sup>th</sup> to assist their children in making gingerbread houses. This annual second grade tradition allows families to work together to create a delicious looking treat! Thank you to our families for donating all of the sweet toppings that were used to create windows, doors, chimneys, and trees, and to our second grade team, Mrs. Alcuri, Mrs. Radell, and Mrs. Russo for making this happen!



## Hart's Hill Elementary School Awarded Badge for Ranking Among Best Elementary Schools in New York State



Hart's Hill Elementary School has been awarded a badge by U.S. News and World Report for ranking in the top 40% of elementary schools in New York State. The U.S. News rankings include data on more than 37,000 public elementary schools nationwide.

Hart's Hill Elementary School is ranked 353<sup>rd</sup> among New York elementary schools with an overall rating of 80.09/100. Public elementary schools that earned U.S. News rankings in the top 40% in their state gained eligibility to display a U.S. News award badge.

For each state, schools were assessed on their pupils' proficiencies in mathematics and reading, as measured by state assessment tests. Half of the ranking formula was the results themselves; the other half was the results in the context of socioeconomic demographics. In other words, the top-ranked schools are high-achieving ones that succeeded in educating all of their students.

"The faculty and staff of Hart's Hill Elementary School consistently work cooperatively to meet the needs of our students," said Principal Lisa Putnam. "I am so proud of our accomplishments and this well-deserved recognition."

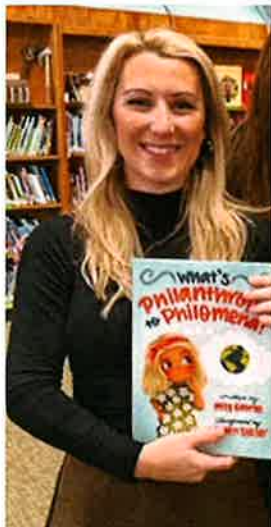


## Former Hart's Hill Student, Meg (Barry) George Gives Back to her Elementary School...

Meg George, author of *What's Philanthropy to Philomena?* Visited Hart's Hill on December 20<sup>th</sup> to talk to our students about the process of writing a book and explained philanthropy to our students! Meg is a former Hart's Hill student and graduate of Whitesboro Schools. After the presentation, our students realized that they are well on their way to being philanthropists!

*What's Philanthropy to Philomena?* is available at:

<http://www.megtgeorge.com/books>



Inspired by Meg George, Haley Buckley shares a book that she wrote with her classmates and principal!



## Whitesboro Varsity Hockey Team Visits Hart's Hill

Thank you to the Whitesboro Varsity Hockey Team for visiting two of our classrooms and bringing holiday treats. As part of giving back to the community, the players choose an elementary school every year to visit! Thank you, and best of luck with your season!



Former Hart's Hill student David Johnson delivers gifts!

## Utica Comets Mascot, Naudie, Visits Mrs. Kutty's Class

Callie Lamie (3<sup>rd</sup> place) and Santino Caramadre (honorable mention), students in Mrs. Kutty's Class, were recognized for the Comets Coloring Contest. Naudie, the mascot for the Comets, visited Hart's Hill with a pizza party to help them celebrate! Congratulations to Callie and Santino!





## Holiday Spirit Week Sponsored by the 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Class!







## Winter Concert



## Holiday Sing-A-Long



## School Hours: Arrival/Dismissal Procedures

Please keep in mind that our school hours are from 9:20 - 3:30. In order to maximize instructional time, please try to schedule appointments outside of the school day whenever possible. Please be sure to send a note with your child each time they will be picked up early.

Any pickups prior to 3:20 without a legal excuse will be documented in our attendance system as unexcused. Please be sure to **ALWAYS** have photo identification with you and ready to show it to the secretary when asked. Thank you for your cooperation.



## OUTSIDE RECESS

Students are outside nearly everyday for recess. Please be certain children wear appropriate clothing during winter months. This includes winter boots, gloves/mittens, hats, winter jackets, and snow pants. Please label all items with your child's name so that we can return them to the

proper owner when they get misplaced. There is a lost and found table in the hallway near the office. If your child is missing an item encourage them to check here for it.



## "NO PARKING IN FIRE LANE"



Please refrain from parking your vehicle at any time in the yellow fire lane to pick up your child during or at the end of the school day. Parking in the fire lane not only puts the children at risk, it also halts the flow of bus traffic. Please park your car in a PARKING SPACE and

not along the edge of the curb near the STOP SIGN. This is hindering easy access in and out of the parking lot and may cause a serious accident.



## UPCOMING EVENTS

### JANUARY 2024



1/1	Winter Recess-No School
1/9	Board of Ed Mtg 7PM-West Rd
1/15	M.L. King, Jr. Day (No School)
1/22	PTO Meeting 6 PM
1/25	Kindergarten Registration

### FEBRUARY 2024

2/2	Groundhog Day
2/2	Elementary Report Cards sent home
2/6	Bd of Ed Mtg 7PM-Hart's Hill
2/12	PTO Meeting 6 PM
2/14	Orchestra/Band Concert 6PM
2/19-23	Mid-Winter Recess

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### **A message from Mrs. Bauernfeind and Mrs. Farr**

- ♦ Please contact the school nurse/secretary if your child is ill
- ♦ Please make sure we have your current phone number during the school day
- ♦ Please be sure to provide a written excuse when your child is absent and the reason

Thank you to all the parents who call to notify the school when your child is absent.

If you have any questions, you can contact us at 266-3434 or 266-3430. Thank you.

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**MID-WINTER RECESS  
SCHOOL WILL BE CLOSED  
FEBRUARY 19 -23**

Enjoy your Winter Break!!



# HART'S HILL



## January 2024



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 NO SCHOOL	2 DAY 5	3 DAY 6	4 DAY 1	5 DAY 2	6
7	8 DAY 3	9 BOE Mtg 7:00 DAY 4	10 DAY 5	11 DAY 6	12 DAY 1	13
14	15 Martin Luther King Jr. Day NO SCHOOL	16 DAY 2	17 DAY 3	18 DAY 4	19 DAY 5	20
21	22 PTO Mtg 6PM DAY 6	23 DAY 1	24 DAY 2	25 Hart's Hill Kindergarten Registration DAY 3	26 DAY 4	27
28	29 DAY 5	30 DAY 6	31 DAY 1			

## February 2024



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 DAY 2	2  DAY 3	3
4	5 DAY 4	6 BOE Mtg 7:00 DAY 5	7 DAY 6	8 DAY 1	9 DAY 2	10
11	12 PTO Mtg 6PM DAY 3	13 Beginning Orchestra/ Band Concert DAY 4	14  DAY 5	15 DAY 6	16 DAY 1	17
18	19	20 MID-WINTER RECESS—NO SCHOOL	21	22	23	24
25	26 DAY 2	27 DAY 3	28			