

Twister Times

2022 – 2023 School Year – November 1, 2022



Principal's Message

Administration

Mrs. Kim Lewis, Principal

kim.lewis@central301.net

Mrs. Melissa Rourke, Assistant Principal

melissa.rourke@central301.net

Administrative Assistants

Mrs. Carol Gallois

carol.gallois@central301.net

Mrs. Kristin Chapperon

kristin.chapperon@central301.net

Student Services

Mrs. Molly Rood, Nurse

Molly.rood@central301.net

Mrs. Amanda Schmidt, Psychologist

amanda.schmidt@central301.net

Mrs. Rebecca McCarty, Social Worker

rebecca.mccarty@central301.net

Miss Paige Gilson, Social Worker

paige.gilson@central301.net

Hello Twisters!

WOW! October was a busy month full of many fun activities! The students got to come together as an entire school for the first time in a few years for our annual Twister-a-thon and whole school costume parade! As a school, we also earned our Twister Tower incentive and students were able to watch a short film on the day of their fall party! I'm so proud of our Twisters for constantly showing their Twister Commitment to the HBT Care Code.

Thank you to all of the families who participated in our fall conferences! We had a wonderful turnout, with over 84% of our families attending a conference! The involvement of our HBT families is awesome to see as we continue to work together for our students!

And, last but certainly not least, HBT was named an EXEMPLARY school by the Illinois State Board of Education. This designation is only assigned to the top 10% of schools in Illinois and HBT was one of them. There are many factors that go into this designation but much of it is based on the amount of growth we have seen in the students in the area of Math and ELA. This is due to the wonderful staff at HBT and the commitment

that our Twister Families have to partnering with us to help our students achieve their goals. For more information on how this designation is determined, please [click HERE](#). Thank you for helping us get here!

Sincerely,
Mrs. Kim Lewis

Connect with us:

Phone: 847-464-6008

Fax: 847-464-6022

Website:

www.hbt.central301.net

Twitter: @KimLewis_301



Important Dates



DATE	EVENT	NOTES	TIME
Nov 2nd	4 th & 5 th Grade Music Concert		6:00 PM
Nov 7th	Teacher Institute Day	No School	
Nov 8th	Election Day	No School	
Nov 9th	Early Childhood/Preschool - No School		
Nov 11 th	Veteran's Day		
Nov 17th	PTO Meeting in the HBT Library		6:30 PM
Nov 21st	Board of Education Meeting at the District Office or view on YouTube		6:00 PM
Nov 23 – 25th	THANKSGIVING BREAK	No School	
Dec 21 st	End of Quarter 2		
Dec 22 – Jan 6, 2023	Winter Break		
Jan 9, 2023	School Resumes		
Jan 16 th	Martin Luther King Holiday	No School	
Jan 19 th	PTO Meeting in the HBT Library		6:30 PM
Jan 26 th	Student Picture Retake Day		9:00 – 1:00

Digital Links:

- [Lunch Menu](#)
- [Digital Bulletin Board](#)
- [Student/Parent Handbook](#)
- [Parent Square](#)
- [District Calendar](#)



School Hours:

Early Childhood (3's)

- 8:30 am – 11:00 am

Early Childhood (4's)

- 12:30 pm – 3:00 pm

Kindergarten – 5th Grade:

- 9:15 am – 3:40 pm

PTO Information:

Dawn Conklin, President

Lisa Almgren, Secretary

Daren DeCore, Treasurer

[PTO Facebook Page](#)

Dress for the Weather

Students are scheduled throughout the day to go outside for lunchtime and classroom unstructured play. Please make sure your child is dressed appropriately for the cooler weather. Students should have a jacket or sweatshirt if it is forecasted to be below 60 degrees. If snow is on the ground, snow pants, boots, hat, and gloves are needed as we go outside as long as the "feels like temperature" is above 0 degrees.

Did you know that HBT sits on some of the highest ground in Kane County? Due to our high altitude, it is always colder and windier outdoors.

Help the Lost get Found

The lost-and-found box at HBT is here to help recover lost items and RETURN them safely back to their owner.

Please help to identify lost objects in the lost-and-found by labeling your child's belongings with their first and last name. Items left in the lost-and-found box will be donated during winter break if left unclaimed.



HOWARD B. THOMAS
GRADE SCHOOL

Preschool:

Preschoolers have been learning about leaves! We talked about how the leaves change colors and fall all around us. We also talked about pumpkins! We learned the parts of a pumpkin and the life cycle. We also got to take our first field trip to Enjoy Pioneer Farm! We had an AMAZING time! Students were able to pull a wagon around and each picked out gourds, pumpkins, potatoes and even some corn from the farm to take home! Students went into the barn and got to learn about and pet some chickens, roosters, ducks, and rabbits. Later outside we walked around the farm and saw pigs, cows, sheep, and goats!

Kindergarten:

Kindergarteners have been busy learning their letter names and sounds. Each day students listen to a letter song/video, make an anchor chart, and practice writing the letter of the day. In math students are finishing up their numbers 0-10 unit. Students have also started rocket math and are practicing each day! Kindergartners had so much fun learning about Fire Safety and being able to touch a fire truck. Kindergarteners are very excited to go on their first field trip to Goebbert's Pumpkin Farm and to experience their first Twister-a-thon!

1st Grade:

We've had an exciting month learning about light and sound in our science curriculum. We studied shadows and different types of light such as transparent, translucent, and opaque. We also learned about how sounds are caused by vibrations and creating sound waves. In math, we finally wrapped up our first unit and completed our first math assessment. It was tough, but we're so proud of our 1st graders! Our new reading program has had us covering lots of new and exciting material. In October, we covered point of view, short e, short u, digraphs, context vocabulary, and more. It was a busy and fast first quarter of 1st grade!

2nd Grade:

Second Grade has had an exciting month full of learning! We used our knowledge of arrays to create our own Haunted House Array Project. We explored the properties of Matter and conducted experiments to show chemical reactions, reversible and irreversible changes. We also started learning about our economy and learned the differences between goods and services. We even got to create our own businesses and make flyers for them! October was a great month, and we are looking forward to expanding our learning even further in November!

3rd Grade:

We have been very busy in 3rd grade! We studied how force affects motion with lots of hands-on experiments. We have been loving testing out different magnets to determine what objects are magnetic and why. In math, we are diving into multiplication! We learned lots of strategies so that we can choose which strategy works best for each person. We are currently working with finding patterns in our multiplication facts. We are finishing our small moment narrative and are excited to work on some creative fall writing

Curriculum

CORNER



4th Grade:

What a busy month of October! We have been studying map skills and the history of Illinois in Social Studies. This month we also began animal research projects in reading. Students were exploring different Informational Text Structures and identifying them using clue words. They created a slideshow presentation which will then be turned into an Informational Writing piece. In math we kicked off our Multiplication and Division Unit. Students spent most of the month identifying factors, multiples, representing multiplication equations in different ways, and even began to multiply using area model and partial product. What an amazing month!



5th Grade:

We've had a very busy month in 5th grade! We wrapped up our second math unit on whole number operations and applications. Students worked to apply the concepts covered in class to real-world word problems. We also began our new unit on adding and subtracting fractions and mixed numbers. Fifth grade is currently exploring the 13 original colonies and will continue social studies into the beginning of 2nd quarter with the causes of the American Revolution. Additionally, in ELA, we wrapped up our first reading module, *Inventors at Work*, with a focus on expository text. We are finishing up our own expository essays on an inventor of our choice. Now, students will begin exploring literary elements of stories and will apply this knowledge by writing a narrative.

P.E.

Students have been playing Zombie Tag during PE class and getting a little spooked! We wrapped up our soccer unit. K-2 began their throwing and catching unit learning the 'Bow & Arrow' method. Kids then applied those skills to a fun, crazy game called 'Fil-Er-Up.' 3-5 launched their invasion unit, a fun offensive/defensive introductory unit to many gameplay activities.

The Monster Mash makes a return to HBT - a 20-year-old line dance the Little Twisters can't get enough of. Happy Halloween!

Family Fitness Fun - Get outside on a nice fall day and ask your child to teach you how to play pirate soccer (K-2) or invasion (3-5).

Health

During the month of October students in 2nd grade have learned about fire safety and what to do during an emergency. They have also started learning about pollution and recycling. They have great ideas on ways to help the environment they live in.

3rd graders have also been learning fire safety. They have also learned when and how to make positive choices. 3rd grade has done a great job learning what the different types of pollution are and how they affect our health.

4th grade has been learning lots about different types of safety. They have learned fire safety, poison safety, and potential danger safety. They have done amazing using their imaginations and make positive choices that would keep themselves and others out of harm's way.

5th grade has learned the influence that media can have on their lives and their health. They talked about how much time children their age should spend on social media. They have also learned about how the ozone layer can affect their skin and health.

All kindergarten through 4th grade students were able to have the Burlington Fire Department come back this year to teach them about fire safety. It was nice to see students interact with community workers since they have not had this opportunity since 2019. Not only did they learn about fire safety and the equipment the fire department uses, but some students also got to play basketball and tag with them at recess.

Family Health Idea - Create a fire safety plan for your family and practice it.



The Burlington Fire Department along with their gear, the fire truck and the smoke house spent two full days educating our students about fire safety.

THANK YOU, BURLINGTON FIRE DEPARTMENT!

BILINGUAL/ELL:

Students have been writing about various topics, especially narratives, working on writing clear sentences and explanations. Bilingual students have been writing memories about family members or pets in honor of Dia de los muertos (Day of the Dead) which is celebrated November 1st and 2nd. Students created a bulletin board "ofrenda" with photos and writing about important people and pets who are no longer with us.

MUSIC:

All students practiced singing *American Every Day* for our upcoming Veterans Day celebration.

Kindergarten students practiced using each of their four voices: speaking, singing, whispering and calling. We used different pieces of music to practice the difference between singing and speaking like *Five Little Pumpkins* and *I'm a Little Ghost*. Kindergarten students also practiced taking turns and playing a steady beat with *Semper Fidelis* by John Philip Sousa. One student leader used a pointer to direct the class as each group of students played one of the following instruments: guiro, egg shaker, rhythm sticks or tambourine.

First grade students created rhythms using pies for the song *Simple Simon*. Student favorites were apple, pumpkin, and ice cream pie. Fir



st graders also used xylophones for the first time this year to practice playing a steady beat ostinato for *Hallowe'en*. An ostinato is a repeating pattern played underneath a melody. First grade students also had a blast using boomwhackers with the song *Smashing Pumpkins*.

Second, third, fourth and fifth grade students all have been preparing for their concerts. Each class has been carefully learning and perfecting each song, so it is ready for the concert. Please see below (or next page) for the concert schedule.

Please click the link for more information and a DVD form for the **fourth** and **fifth** grade concerts:

[Fourth and Fifth Concert Information](#)
[Spanish - Fourth and Fifth Concert Information](#)

HBT Concert Schedule 2022-2023

Wednesday, November 2	Tuesday, December 13	Tuesday, February 28
6:00 - 6:30 Fourth Grade	6:00 - 6:30 Second Grade	6:00 - 6:30 Kindergarten
7:00 - 7:30 Fifth Grade	7:00 - 7:30 Third Grade	7:00 - 7:30 First Grade

READING:

In reading class, we have been learning about the different syllable types, performing readers' theaters, doing word work, and reading great books (of course)!

Art:

"Throw Kindness around like confetti!" The dots are growing in the Art room. Students from all grade levels have created dots out of their artwork. Even when they have earned a fun free day, students still want to be helpers. Dots are made up of Marker, crayon, Oil pastel, chalk pastel, zentangle, Kwik stix paint, and much more.



LIBRARY MEDIA CENTER



It is Nonfiction November in the library this month! Students will be introduced to our new database Britannica Online! We'll learn about the features of our new database and students will have the opportunity to explore and learn facts about subjects that are of interest to them.



Digital Literacy (K-1 Special)

Since it is Nonfiction November in the library, K-1 students will be exploring nonfiction in Digital Literacy through Britannica Online, National Geographic for Kids, and the San Diego Zoo website. They will have opportunities to learn new facts while also learning to navigate through websites.



Book Fair

The Scholastic Book Fair was a huge success! Thank you to all our wonderful parent volunteers and to everyone who supported our fair! Over 150 new books have been added to our library collection!



Birthday Book Club

Birthday Book Club is up and running this year! During your child's birthday month, they will receive a Birthday Book Club donation form. If you would like to donate a book to the HBT library for your child's birthday, please complete the form and include a \$15 check made payable to HBT. During the month, your child will come to the library to select a new book. A sticker will be added to the book that says it is a Birthday Book Club donation and your child will be the first person to check out the book. Their photo will also be placed on our Birthday Book Club Bulletin Board. Please remember that this is a donation to the library and that the book needs to be returned. This is a great way to make your child feel special and to help build our library collection!



5th Grade Lunch Clubs

The 5th graders have an opportunity to participate in several lunch clubs this year. Lunch clubs take place on Mondays during their lunch and recess periods. Our first club starts November 14th and is a Computer Coding Club. Fifth graders also selected a craft club, a board games club, and a robotics club which will run during 2nd semester. Parent permission is required to participate. Forms have already been sent out for coding. If your child is interested, please have them return the signed form.

Terrific Twisters:

We were able to celebrate our Terrific Twisters of the month for October. These students were recognized by their teacher as demonstrating expected behavior in the classroom. They have either gone above and beyond in demonstrating positive behaviors or they have shown incredible growth.

HOWARD B. THOMAS HOME OF THE



Fire Safety Week:

HOWARD B. THOMAS HOME OF THE



HBT assistant principal Ms. Rourke, assigned the fifth-grade students with a voluntary project that went along with fire safety learning month. Fifth graders could enter a safety plan outlining what safety measures they would take in the event of a fire. Ms. Rourke received 33 plans from 5th grade students ranging from physical models to maps & drawings, and paragraphs including several essays!

Three students who participated were selected and won a ride home in the Burlington Fire Departments fire truck.

PTO NEWS



A HUGE thank you to the HBT community! With your contributions to the Back to the Hill event and the second silent auction we reached our school improvement goal and were able to get the GaGa Ball Pit purchased! With the help of Michael Wood and Boy Scout Troop 38 out of Elgin we were able to get it installed on October 22nd.

Thank you HBT Families,
Michael Wood, and Boy Scout Troop 38!



The Holidays are getting close, and we are so excited for our upcoming Holiday Shop. Shopping days will be **December 5 – 9th**. More info coming soon!

Enter offer code **GIVING25 at checkout***

Raise your fork to raising funds.
Nourishing our communities is an essential part of our mission at Noodles. And we make it so easy. Dine with us on the evening of your group's event and mention your organization when ordering. You can also order online or use our app:

- Log in to your Noodles Rewards account
- Place your order and **enter offer code **Giving25** at checkout.***
- Not a member? Join Noodles Rewards today

ENTER CODE: GIVING25
*To receive this offer, ordering must be through the Noodles Rewards app or Noodles.com/Order. Valid for pickup, delivery and in-restaurant. Not valid for cash-in-orders. Please enter offer code at checkout online or mention the organization when ordering in-person. Cannot be combined with other offers or discounts.

Elgin
895 S Randall Rd, Elgin, IL 60123

November 29, 2022
4-8 pm
25%
of qualifying sales will directly benefit:
HBT PTO

VIP & Me Bowling!

ALL HBT STUDENTS!
November 13, 2022
12:30 - 2:00pm
Bowlero
1611 s Randall Rd | Algonquin

\$50/student & VIP
\$22 per additional player

Includes shoe rental, pizza, soft drinks, & a \$12 arcade card! **MAX 300 BOWLERS**

Questions?
Contact Maggie Buchdahl
630.408.2914

Sign up on Membership Toolkit or return bottom portion to school by Friday Nov 4
checks made out to HBT PTO

VIP & ME BOWLING

VIP Name > _____
Students Name & Teacher > _____
+ Players Name & Teacher > _____

Twister a thon

Together we collected \$8,670 for the HBT PTO!

- Over 140 students raised enough funds to receive a pair of Twister Sunglasses!
- Kindergarten had the most funds raised, with \$1,660, and will vote to have admin ride a scooter all day, wear a crazy wig, wear a costume, or sub in their classroom soon.
- 40 students earned a lunch with Mrs. Lewis and will redeem that on Friday, November 11th.
- 5 students earned being a Specials Teacher for an hour and 1 student earned being the Principal for an Hour
- 1 student won a \$50 Amazon Gift Card.
- 2 students (brother and sister) tied for first to win a \$100 Amazon Gift Card to be shared.

GREAT JOB TO ALL OF OUR TWISTERS!

