Hello Haisley Families,
We are approaching the last stretch of our year together, and we are busy, busy, busy! MSTEP testing continues this month followed by NWEA testing at the end of the month. We will be all done with standardized assessments by June!

During this month, we’ll be planning and prepping for our first Summer Book Giveaway (which will take place in June). The PTO (with your continued, generous donations) will be funding the Giveaway. There is a lot of research that shows students' reading achievement improves significantly with access to engaging texts that they choose themselves. We plan to provide at least 4 free books per student. Teachers will help guide students in finding and choosing books when classes visit the Book Giveaway room in June. In order to give our students more variety and choice in the books they take home, we have put together a wish list of engaging texts from Scholastic that appeal to a wide array of students.

If you are interested in purchasing books on our list to donate to the giveaway, please visit https://clubs.scholastic.com/on/demandware.store/Sites-rco-us-Site and click on the "Get Started" button under 'Parents'. A window will pop up asking for a 5-Digit Class Code. Enter QZYW4 (this is the code for Haisley's Book Giveaway Wish List). Once this is entered, you'll see a link to "Classroom Wish List" about halfway down the page. Click on this, and you can browse and purchase books for our Summer Book Giveaway. The books will be shipped to Haisley when the purchasing window closes (May 15th). We will set out all purchased books from the Wish List with other books for kids to choose at the giveaway. Thank you for supporting our kids and summer reading!

For more information on the research behind the Summer Book Giveaway, check out No More Summer-Reading Loss by Carrie Cahill. Here are a few key excerpts from the book:

"The two largest contributions to reading achievement were access to interesting books and student choice of the books they would read."

"Studies in which children were given choices of reading material showed substantially larger effects on reading achievement than did studies where children had no such choice. When children were given the opportunity to choose books, reading gains were almost double those of
children whose books were selected by someone else.'"

"[Their study]...found that the children who had participated in book fairs and received free, self-selected books for summer reading significantly improved reading achievement on high-stakes tests when compared to their peers in the control group who received no summer books."

"Sending home worksheets and practice pages is probably one of the best ways to destroy any chance that students will pick up a book over the summer....Enforcement of [teacher selected material] may make their children more resistant to authentic reading."

"We want students to recognize that reading is one of many positive life choices they can make."

Kelly House
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The month of May will be a busy one in the Media Center. Second and Fifth grades will be taking their library assessments for report cards. Up to that point, we will be reviewing library skills as needed. Fifth grade will also be creating video overlays in the Aurasma app on the iPads. Third and fourth grade will finish learning about the tools for the M-Step and will then work on poetry. Kindergarten and First Grade will continue to work on keyboarding skills (letter recognition and identification).

The last week of check out will be May 15th. This is to ensure that there is ample time to read the last books and return them before the end of the year.

My goal is to have all assessments done in mid-May so that I can focus on finalizing grades. While I am due to deliver in June, I am very aware that surprises do happen! If a set date for my departure becomes imminent (and not sudden!), I will be sure to let you all know.
Spring has sprung! PLEASE remember to help your child bring appropriate footwear for the gym. When the weather breaks, it can become muddy outside. Therefore, students should be wearing their **boots outside and clean, dry, appropriate footwear when they come to their PE class**. If you are able, we suggest leaving an extra pair of tennis shoes in their locker so we never forget them.

With Upper Elementary we are starting our Fitnessgram Testing. Students will be attempting to improve their scores from the fall in the following categories; PACER test (Endurance/running), curl ups, push ups, and flexibility. Their results will come home with them in June.

Lower Elementary is focusing on locomotor skills and improving overall motor skill and coordination. We break down the skills to practice and also implement them into game activities.

Please remember to encourage the practice of fitness at home... everyone should be active at least 60 minutes a day to maintain their health! Check the bulletin board outside the gym for local fitness opportunities like fun kid-friendly and motivating 5Ks. Check out [www.youthoncourse.org](http://www.youthoncourse.org) for information about a new program where kids can golf for $5 at participating golf courses!
Kindergarten - Students are preparing to read music notation, one and two sounds to a beat. Along with moving to express music, they will listen to various music styles and use simple sentences to describe similarities and differences of certain songs.

First Grade - Students are continuing to learn how to describe music that they hear with detailed language, listen for interval jumps in music, and singing songs that will be used in their Wednesday, May 31 concert, 2:30 PM showtime.

Second Grade - Students will explore music from different cultures, along with learning about instruments of the orchestra.

Third Grade - Students will return to learning some new songs, celebrating Earth Day and adding new notes to our rhythm reading practices.

Fourth Grade - While continuing to expand on learning the curriculum (identify orchestral families by sight/sound, use dynamic markings), we will incorporate all of our knowledge to put on a concert for our community. The concert is on Tuesday, May 23, 6:00 PM.

Fifth Grade - Our intended goal is to create musical games to help future Haisley Huskies learn Music in a fun way.

Ms. Tiffanie Waldron
Vocal Music
Haisley Elementary
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mswaldronmusic.weebly.com

"Music gives a soul to the universe, wings to the mind, flight to the imagination and life to everything."  - Plato
Here is what is happening in Haisley’s art classes

All the classes will be working on painting rocks like fish to be part of a future art installation. The style of the fish is based on book “The Only One You.”

The **Young 5’s & Kindergartens** will be making their own scratch art with oil pastels.

The **1st Graders** will be celebrating Spring with mixed media flowers.

The **2nd graders** are exploring mixing colors to create Georgia O’Keeffe inspired oil pastel flowers.

The **3rd graders** will be finishing up their prequel or sequel fairy tales and acting them out in a shadow puppet show.

The **4th graders** will be working with watercolors on environmentally themed paintings.

The **5th graders** will be working on Printmaking next.

**AAPS Student Art Show** is up at the Ann Arbor Public Library, Main Branch. There is student artwork from all over Ann Arbor. The show is open through May 29th.

**Wish list:**
Towels and washcloths, Art Calendars, News papers (no glossy adds please), Magazines (no fashion magazines please), Plastic containers with lids, Styrofoam takeout boxes or other flat Styrofoam (clean please)

If you have any questions or concerns or if you would like to volunteer during art please email me at vintera@aaps.k12.mi.us Thank you.
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