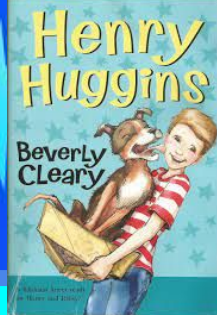




WHITEHOUSE SCHOOL News Flash



THE SCOOP



Dear Whitehouse School Families,

December is already here! In addition to all of the instructional planning that takes place to deliver a comprehensive academic program, teachers have been busy working with me to prepare for our annual thematic unit!

This has been a proud Whitehouse School tradition since 2005, and we are excited to embark on another opportunity when we join together as a learning community while we read about and study the same topic.

As I announced over the summer in my letter to students, this year's literature selections were written by award-winning author, Beverly Cleary. We will immerse ourselves in the study of two of her works, beginning with her very first novel, *Henry Huggins*. Then, we will continue the theme by reading a second selection from this hit series entitled, *Ribsy*.

During the process, we always search for social-emotional learning connections that help our children link the content from the novel to our school's character education goals, including a service project (in this case, to benefit dogs!) We certainly love learning, growing, and having fun together!

We have purchased the books for all staff members and have outlined the unit timeline, which is shown on the right. Please note that Dr. Bengels will spend the winter directing third grade Drama Club members as they gear up to perform an original musical as a special culminating event in the Spring.

In the meantime, stay tuned in January when your children will begin to tell you about Henry's amazing adventures with his best friend, Ribsy! You can still submit a small photo of your child with his/her best friend to be displayed on Mrs. Zanardi's bulletin board in the main hallway near the Cafetorium.

Warmly,
Dr. DeRosa

Thematic Unit Timeline

Looking Ahead & Connecting WHS to Klickitat Street

November

- ~ Grade 3 Drama Club "Auditions"

December

- ~ Faculty reads & plans ahead
- ~ Grade 3 Drama Club begins

January

- ~ Teachers read *Henry Huggins* to their classes
- ~ Students begin thematic study activities

February

- ~ Teachers read *Ribsy* to their classes
- ~ Students continue thematic study activities
- ~ Dog-related service project begins (Pennies for Pups & Dollars for Dogs)

March

- ~ New Jersey MakerSpace participation March 25 (WHS will again link this statewide event to our thematic unit!)

April

- ~ Culminating Grade 3 Musical Drama Performance for all WHS students & staff in small assemblies (if still needed for COVID-19 safety precautions.)

Partnerships: We Are Better Together!

Whitehouse School appreciates you as we work to make your child's primary school years positive and productive! Suggestions and comments are always welcome. Please contact me via telephone (908) 534-4716 and/or email at aderosa@readington.k12.nj.us

Henry Huggins is a Bucket-Filler

As we read all about Henry this year, we will discover the ways in which he is a bucket-filler. Here are a few...

- ~ Henry is **responsible** because he wants to do a good job taking care of his dog, Ribsy.
- ~ Since Henry thinks it is important to keep his promises, he could be described as a **trustworthy** person.
- ~ Finally, **loyalty** definitely matters to Henry, especially when it comes to his dog & best friend, Ribsy!



Inquisitive Learning: Thought of the Month

We keep moving forward, opening new doors, and doing new things, because we're curious and curiosity keeps leading us down new paths. —Walt Disney

