



*Proud to be a Title 1 School*

# OTTER NEWS

*SY 2020-2021 Newsletter-1st Quarter*

## Principal Points...Dr. Sarah Owen

Dear Parents:

Thanks for a great first quarter despite unique circumstances. Through virtual and hybrid transitions, through K-12, Zoom, SeeSaw and Google Classroom...with your support, our Otters were able to navigate learning for the last 9 weeks. Our staff members, especially our courageous teachers, have worked incredibly hard to foster learning despite ever changing platforms and learning models. With minimal notice, our teachers have worked to ensure that students had daily structure, a combination of mini lessons with differentiation, and independent practice so that our students remained on target. Our community learning pods have offered the extra support needed for so many families. Regardless of what the future holds in terms of our school day, I know that our team is the best team to support your children.

Our students have truly exhibited the elements of the IB Learner Profile. Our students have had to attempt to be **Balanced** with working hard, but focus on staying healthy....have been **Communicators** by participating in discussions virtually in front of their peers.....be **Open-minded** about the different modes of instruction.....and have had to be **Thinkers** and work hard, especially during independent practice. Being **Principled** and showing up on time to Zooms, even when parents/guardians aren't home to help, is something that has been exhibited everyday by so many of our students. As the school principal, I can't tell you how proud I am of all our Otters!

Today (BB students), and Monday (AA students), your child will receive their Quarter 1 report card. Virtual-only students will receive their information in the postal mail. For some, it truly is a celebration! For others, there may be disappointment. Work completion has been a factor for some. We ask that if you haven't participated in a conference with your child's teacher, that you reach out to schedule one so that we can help support your child's learning. In addition, your child will receive Fall MAP results, program progress reports and information about our only school-wide fundraiser, Operation 100%, all conducted virtually.

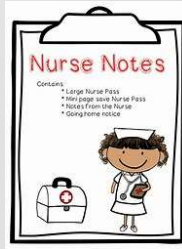
Moving forward, I just want to let you know that we will continue to communicate with you as clearly as we can. Safety and the well-being of your child and our staff will be at the forefront of every decision we make. We will continue to work on honoring our IB traditions and celebrations as much as we can even if it is done using a different mode. We ask that our entire school community communicates to school personnel regarding any potential health issues (*see Nurse's Notes*). We are currently working with district personnel about transitioning Face-to-Face 5 days a week starting January 4, 2021. We will communicate out soon the procedures to change learning platform, if desired, and timeline for that to take place.

What I know for sure is that our Otters are resilient, and I have no doubt that they will be stronger because of what they have had to endure during these last 9 months. Thank you for all of your support, patience and kindness during this time.

On behalf of the entire HHIE family, we wish you a wonderful break and a Happy Thanksgiving!

Sincerely,

*Dr. Sarah L. Owen*



### **When should I keep my child home from school?**

- New or worsening cough
- Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
- Change in sense of taste or smell

*(Having one of these 3 symptoms requires an automatic 10-day school exclusion. Please contact your healthcare provider if your child has any of these symptoms. Let your child's teacher know.)*

- Fever 100.4 or higher, Vomiting, Diarrhea, Red eyes with discharge, certain Rashes

*(These symptoms have always required 24-hr school exclusion after last symptom ends.)*

Other symptoms of COVID include fever, chills, fatigue, muscle or body aches, headache, sore throat, runny nose, nausea, vomiting, or diarrhea. Please consider keeping your child home for the day. Contact your healthcare provider if your child has any of these symptoms for more than one day.

Please do NOT medicate your child to alleviate symptoms and send them to school.

### **What should I do if my child recently tested Positive for COVID OR, If my child has been identified as a Close Contact of a Positive Case of COVID?**

- Keep your child home
- **Call the School Nurse, Gayle Oslund, RN @ 843-342-4215**

**Honest communication is the key to keeping all students and staff members safe!**



**Beaufort County School District Update:** Last week, Superintendent Dr. Frank Rodriguez announced that the district will be transitioning from the hybrid model to five days a week of instruction beginning Jan. 4.

- If your child is currently a **hybrid** student, they will commence going to school five days a week on Jan. 4.
- If your child is currently a **virtual** student and you wish them to remain virtual, you don't need to do anything.

**As a general rule, there will not be any additional instructional mode changes allowed for the remaining of the first semester.** If you would like to change your student's instructional preference for the second semester, which starts on Feb. 2, you can make this request by emailing Sherol Pheiffer, data specialist, at [sherol.pheiffer@beaufort.k12.sc.us](mailto:sherol.pheiffer@beaufort.k12.sc.us), during the registration window of Nov. 16-24. This affords a consistent learning environment for the student and ample time for school administrators and educators to plan accordingly.

### **HHIE PROUD!!!**



A huge congratulations goes out to Mrs. Perdue! She is the newly elected President of the state's highest IB organization, SCIBS. Mrs. Perdue is an IB trainer, consultant, evaluator, and now the President of the state's IB organization. Mrs. Perdue has served on the SCIBS Board for several years as the PYP representative. This allowed her to continue to grow in her knowledge about all four IB programmes (PYP, MYP, DP and CP) as well as learn the unique needs related to South Carolina IB World Schools. As president elect, Mrs. Perdue will continue to ensure adherence to the SC IB School's mission of fostering intercultural understanding through service to schools within the state of South Carolina.



**HHIE is part of the International Baccalaureate Organization(IBO).** As a Primary Years' Programme(PYP) school, we have a network around the globe of schools that teachers can communicate with and share best practices in education. The IB is committed to providing all students with a quality educational framework. Using the required PYP programme standards and practices, teachers at Hilton Head Island Elementary School create units of inquiry using our South Carolina State Standards. All students have recently completed the first unit of study and are currently in the second inquiry unit. Be sure to ask your child about his/her recently completed studies and unit reflections. Parents play a huge role in the PYP community of learners. We welcome your ideas, feedback and examples of action. For more information about the IB and the PYP, please check out the IBO website. Additionally, please contact Karen Perdue for questions related to PYP at HHIE.

Useful parent links include the following:

<https://ibo.org/covid-19-support/>

<https://www.ibo.org/information-for-parents/>

<https://www.ibo.org/information-for-parents/pyp-for-parents/>

## 2<sup>nd</sup> Units of Inquiry:

Grade Level	Unit Theme	Central Idea:	Lines of Inquiry: An inquiry into...
First	Where we are in place and time	Human systems are interconnected and impact each other.	-responsibilities of government leaders -ways we can demonstrate active citizenship -ways historical data tells stories over time
Second	How the world works	Natural patterns influence the physical world.	-environmental components that impact weather patterns -how behavioral choices are influenced by data -how elements combine to foster physical change
Third	How the world works	People use their prior knowledge and tools to investigate and understand the world around them.	-structures that organize the world around us -tools people use to make connections -advancements in science and technology
Fourth	How we organize ourselves	Groups of people change the world for better or for worse.	-power, control, and revolutionary war -actions people take when they feel they are being treated unfairly -properties and influences of light
Fifth	Who we are	Populations change due to conflict and environmental factors.	-how alliances lead to conflicts -ways populations are impacted by environmental factors -how we can best use research to write a report





From the Desk of:  
Dr. LaQuandra S. Stevenson,  
Literacy Coach

Parents, there are many things you can do to support your children's reading and writing development. You do not need special skills. All you need is a willingness to try once.

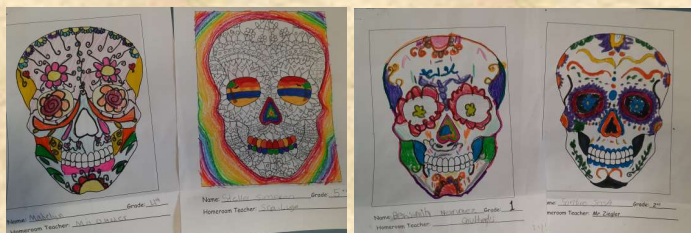
Reading and thinking aloud encourages readers to read for meaning even before they can read for themselves. It is a sure way to prepare students to have strong reading comprehension, which is why we read.

1. Invite your child to sit next to you while you read. (Make reading a time of joy and connection.)
2. Tell your child when you read this story you are also going to let him/her hear the things you do that help you to be a really good reader. (You want your child to see what readers do to build their understanding. You will say your thoughts first and if your child is ready to join in be sure to praise his/her good thinking. This read and think aloud is not the time for asking your child questions about the story.)
3. Say, Let's see what this story is going to be about. (Get ready to read by starting to anticipate and think.) Ask the question, "What do I see on this cover?" (Gather information from the title and illustration on the cover. Tell how you are making connections between the title and the picture. Ask questions about what you want to know. Say what you guess the answers to your questions will be. Show how you take time to pay attention to all the details.)
4. After reading aloud and thinking aloud a few times, begin to ask your child for his or her reactions and thoughts. (Children usually can't wait to tell you what they are thinking as you are reading.)
5. Ask questions if you need to, such as the following:
  - Ask your child to show you how a character acted. (Visualize)
  - Ask what the character's face probably looked like and what feelings that shows. (Infer & visualize)
  - Ask, "What do you want to find out?" (Ask questions)
  - Ask, "Did anything like what happened in the story ever happen to you?" (Make connections with our own lives, get new ideas to think about, raise questions we want to answer and gives us enjoyment.)

From the Desk of:  
Denise Bell  
Numeracy Coach

### Las Calaveras Contest

Skulls, "calaveras" in Spanish, are festive examples of folk art associated with El Día de los Muertos (The Day of the Dead), which is celebrated in Mexico and other Latin-American Countries from October 31-November 2. For HHIE's October math contest, students designed calaveras that showed line symmetry using reflection tools to help them make the right and left sides of their skulls symmetrical. The winners were: Benjamin Narvaez Luna in Ms. Coulter and Li's class, Santino Sosa Diaz in Mr. Ziegler and Ms. Diaz's classes, Madelyn Martin in Ms. Olander and Wommack's classes, and Stella Simpson in Ms. Lugo and Seelbach's classes.



### **Top 5 Ways to Help Your Student Be a Better Mathematician**

- 1) Play addition/subtraction and multiplication/division flashcards.
- 2) Limit excess use of electronics in favor of puzzles like sudoku, mazes and games.
- 3) Cook and build with your student using real-world measurement skills.
- 4) Ask your student to code a game for you. Try to beat the game!
- 5) Read with your student. Improved reading comprehension helps math skills!



Please support the Hilton Head Island  
Elementary PTO annual **Operation  
Offer fundraiser.**

*This fundraiser generates funds for our school, our students, our teachers and our classrooms. There is nothing to buy and therefore, nothing to deliver or pick up later. **100% of donations will stay with our school, and 100% of donations are tax deductible!** We would love to see 100% participation; no amount is too small!*

**Please make your donation by December 4th, 2020**

For online credit card donations, visit:  
[gofundme.com/f/operation-otter-2020](https://gofundme.com/f/operation-otter-2020)

OR use **PAY PAL** – you can find Hilton head Island Elementary PTO by searching for our email – hhiepto@gmail.com

OR send a **CHECK** to Hilton Head Island Elementary PTO –  
30 School Road, Hilton Head Island, SC 29926 (feel free to turn your check in through your teacher)

# SPECIALS ...



**Dylan Dukes** - In music class this quarter, we focused on wrapping our brains around why music sounds the way that it does. In 1<sup>st</sup> grade, we have been talking about instrument families and the different sounds they make. In second grade, we have focused on rhythm performance and writing. In 3<sup>rd</sup> grade we have learned about how to read notes on the treble clef and relate them to our solfège. In 4<sup>th</sup> grade we have been using solfège to learn about sight reading music. Finally, in 5<sup>th</sup> Grade we have learned about different music genres throughout history and how they are influenced by other genres. It has been a fun quarter getting to see our students again!



## Tech Corner / Ms. Jordan

The District Tech Coaches are constantly updating their Technology Help and Support page. Please reference this website first when there are issues or questions with your student device: <https://bit.ly/FamilyTechBCSD>.

Then you can reach out to the homeroom teacher. If you need to take the device to the school, the teacher will put in a help ticket for you and give you that reference number.

**Technology Specials:** In technology specials, students have been using google apps for a variety of creation projects. 5<sup>th</sup> grade has been focused on Anti-bullying campaigns. 4<sup>th</sup> grade is currently working on a Solar System Google Slides presentation to correlate with their PYP planner. 2<sup>nd</sup> grade has officially started coding using Code.org, which also correlates with their PYP planner as they focus on directional cues. All students discussed what cyberbullying is, and how to stop this behavior.



**Mr. Murphy & Mrs. Davis** - What a wonderful quarter we have had with your students in Physical Education class! We have all adapted and become more flexible in our new learning environments this school year. Although PE class may look different, we are still committed to providing a developmentally appropriate physical education curriculum to all of our students. Virtually and in person has provided challenges to our students that they have never tackled before. We are very proud of our students for participating to the best of their abilities. Please encourage your child to be physically active for at least 60 minutes each day!



**Dr. Zervas-Gaytan** - I am writing to encourage your son/daughter to practice their Spanish using Rockalingua! All students have this application in their computers or iPads. Rockalingua is a fun way to learn the most basic Spanish vocabulary as the children are learning some very important everyday expressions that will enable them to speak Spanish with confidence and readiness. Rockalingua sets the information in an entertaining video with catchy songs. Games like Matching, Drag Race and Memory are used for the students to master the new vocabulary. Also, there are worksheets to practice some writing and comic strips to solidify their learning through fun activities. I invite you all to make sure your children are benefiting from this amazing program: ROCKALINGUA ROCKS!



**Studio / Ms. Ashton** The world of Studio is very different this year. In previous years, the "Studio" has been a space filled with costumes, props, materials and supplies to encourage creativity, problem-solving and self-expression. This year my goal is to inspire creative self-expression within the regular classroom using a variety of theater/drama techniques and skills. These skills will promote language and literacy, communication, critical thinking, collaboration, self-esteem, research and creative problem-solving. We began the year at all grade levels focusing on facial expression, pantomime, creative movement and vocal projection to strengthen our ability to express ourselves despite our masks. Now we are beginning to use these communication skills to make connections to grade level units of inquiry.

Current Grade-Level Projects:

- 1<sup>st</sup> grade- The Government Rap
- 2<sup>nd</sup> grade- Weather sound effects
- 3<sup>rd</sup> grade- Using creative movement and physical expression to explore Geography
- 4<sup>th</sup> grade- Writing character dialogues in script format
- 5<sup>th</sup> grade- Child Labor readers theater with sound effects.



**STEM** is a related arts class that is broken down into seven standards of practice (or skill sets) for educating science, technology, engineering, and mathematics students:

- Learn and apply content
- Integrate content
- Interpret and communicate information
- Engage in inquiry
- Engage in logical reasoning
- Collaborate as a team
- Apply technology appropriately



Mr. Steve Bouvier and Ms. Colleen Wynn will be leading the class for our students!

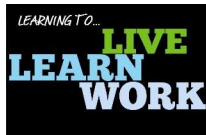


## Chinese

nǐ hǎo

Ms. Schodl, veteran Chinese teacher, will be working with students on the basics of Chinese language and culture!





## School Counselors' Corner

We are here to assist all students in the areas of academic achievement, personal/social and career development. For more information go to our school website:

[https://hhie.beaufortschools.net/a\\_c\\_a\\_d\\_e\\_m\\_i\\_c\\_s/counselor\\_corner](https://hhie.beaufortschools.net/a_c_a_d_e_m_i_c_s/counselor_corner)

### Jessica Barnes

Phone: 843-342-4279

Email: Jessica.Barnes@beaufort.k12.sc.us

Grades 1 & 2, Grade 3 (Cale, Rooney, Hamby, Perry, Senese & Taylor), and Mrs. Mullen's class

### Melissa Hady

Phone: 843-342-4353

Email: Mary.Hady@beaufort.k12.sc.us

Grade 3 (Andrews, Moreno-Pinto & Mehle), Grades 4 & 5 and Ms. Lopes' Class

### School Counseling Events:

- October/November guidance lessons: Bullying
- December/January guidance lessons: Problem-Solving

### IB Attributes:

- September: open-minded
- October: risk-taker
- November: inquirer
- December: caring



<b>November 25-27</b>	No School - Thanksgiving Break
<b>December 22</b>	Early Dismissal - 11:45
<b>December 23</b>	Winter Break Begins
<b>January 4</b>	Students Return!



## TO ALL OUR LEARNING POD COACHES!

We thank all the coaches at the Island Rec Center, Boys & Girls Club of the Lowcountry, NOC at Cordillo and Island Lutheran, The Sandbox, First Presbyterian Day School, and St. Lukes Preschool!



Parents, please use the below link to apply for free/reduced lunch. All students are currently free, however, lunch will go to full price in January if no application is submitted. If you already applied and were denied and there has since been a change in income in your household, please fill out another application at school.

<https://paypams.com/OnlineApp.aspx>

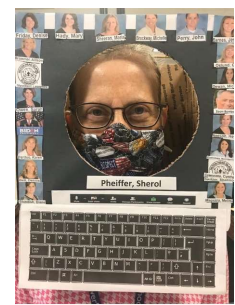
Even if your student does not buy lunch at school, this status is used to get reduced internet services, the additional EBT benefits and some childcare camps in the summer. It also helps the school qualify for Title I funds that benefit all the students at school.

- Denise Friday, HHIE Social Worker

## HHIE Faculty and Staff Dress as Story Book Characters!



*Best Overall Costume -Book Title  
Ms. Taylor, Ms. Hamby and Ms. Dolan  
"If you Gave a Mouse a Cookie"*



*Most Creative  
Ms. Pfeiffer  
"Good Morning Zoom"*

## Witches/Warlocks on the Water

HHIE Faculty and Staff became witches and warlocks on paddleboards, yes, quite the sight to see!

Through this activity, they brought in several donations of school supplies!

See you next year!



HHIE Teachers taking action! Thank you to Ms. Ashton, Ms. Hady and Ms. Shupp who rescued this fast-little friend. This sweet thing kept us busy all day!



Hilton Head Island Elementary School is a Title I school. Title I supplements our current school budget and provides funds to purchase materials and resources, professional development sessions for our teachers and provides for additional staff members to support our students. During this pandemic these funds are even more crucial.

Part of Title I guidance promotes parent engagement in order to help support children. As part of this guidance, we are asked to communicate best practice through the **Parent Student Teacher Compact** and the **Parent Engagement Policy**. Normally, these documents are embedded in the student's agenda book. However, due to pandemic, we are sending both policies electronically via email. In addition, both policies can always be found on the school website located at: <https://hhie.beaufortschools.net/>.

In order to continue receiving Title I funding, we ask that you fill out and complete the below survey acknowledging that you have received and read the Parent Engagement Policy and the Parent Student Teacher Compact. We only need one response per family.

**Survey:** <https://forms.gle/prMAfRvdoMsTYP488>

As a Title I school, we must meet federal rules related to teacher qualifications as defined in Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA). These rules allow you to learn more about your child's teachers' training and credentials. We are happy to provide this information to you at any time.

If you have any questions about your child's assignment to a teacher or paraprofessional, please contact us at any time.

If you have any suggestions or concerns, you may contact us at the following link:

[https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSc1oiKzGOWRfWinuEVpjCwydUHtnMjI\\_HVFLCI7GXhKq4Edog/viewform](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSc1oiKzGOWRfWinuEVpjCwydUHtnMjI_HVFLCI7GXhKq4Edog/viewform)

For more information about Title I, you may visit:

<http://beaufortschools.net/cms/one.aspx?portalId=170925&pageId=228265>

Dr. Sarah Owen, Principal  
Ms. Michelle Brockway, Assistant Principal  
Ms. Heidi Neeson, Assistant Principal



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[www.facebook.com/hhiesotters](http://www.facebook.com/hhiesotters)

<https://hhie.beaufortschools.net/>  
<http://beaufortschools.net/>

30 School Road, Hilton Head Island, SC 29926 | Phone 843-342-4100 | Fax 843-342-4299