

Copper Hill Elementary School

January 2023 Family Newsletter

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908-284-7660
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Mr. Jesse Lockett, Principal

Mrs. Amy Switkes, Vice Principal

Mrs. Rebecca Moeri, School Counselor - ext. 57669

Mrs. Lisa Fuchs, School Counselor -ext. 50007

Mrs. Lisa Maslankowski, School Nurse - ext. 57670

Mrs. Jinky Yuzon, School Nurse ext. 57670



Dear Copper Hill Families

Welcome back! We hope everyone enjoyed their Winter Break, upholding traditions, making memories, and celebrating with family and friends. Our PTO Holiday Shop in December was a great success and we hope everyone enjoyed the gifts they received from our little shoppers. Speaking as parents, our kiddos take great pride giving their gifts and it surely puts a smile on our faces. Thank you to everyone who donated to the United Way Helping Hands program. The Copper Hill community is extremely generous. We continue to exceed expectations helping and supporting our families.

As we move into the second half of the school year, we must thank you very much for your continued support of your children and our school community. Last year, 2022 had brought some normalcy, and we are confident that our Cougar community will continue to make this an incredibly memorable and successful school year for 2023. As we say, we are BRAVE, SMART, KIND, & READY- ready to tackle a new year!

With great appreciation,

Jesse Lockett and Amy Switkes



Color Our World Reading Challenge!

We are looking forward to an epic two-month reading challenge! The challenge begins January 3, 2023 and runs through March 2, 2023 (Read Across America).

Teachers will introduce the challenge to students on January 3rd. Our goal is for our school to reach five thousand books read. If we achieve our goal, Mr. Lockett and Mrs. Switkes will have a schoolwide surprise for our students. In addition, the top two classes with the most books read will have a pizza lunch with Mr. Lockett and Mrs. Switkes.

Please encourage your child to read during our challenge and read with them. Our teachers will also encourage writing about the books students have read. You can help too by encouraging writing about books that have been read at home. Here a few examples- early elementary students could draw and/or write about their favorite part, a character, or the setting. Middle elementary students could write a book review or record interesting facts they learned. Older students could write a summary or about the theme of the text.



Why Attendance Matters!

Students who attend school regularly have been shown to achieve at higher levels than students who do not have regular attendance. This relationship between attendance and achievement may appear early in our students educational experience. A recent study looking at young children found that absenteeism in kindergarten was associated with negative first grade outcomes such as greater absenteeism in subsequent years and lower achievement in reading, math, and general knowledge.

When students aren't feeling well and sick they should stay home until they are better. However, when students are healthy we want them in school learning and growing with their teachers and peers. If you have any questions about your child's attendance, please reach out to Mr. Lockett or Mrs. Switkes.

IMPORTANT DATES

1/16/23 Schools Closed: MLK Day

1/3/23-3/3/22: Reading Challenge

1/24/22 Early Dismissal: Staff Professional Development



The Weather is Changing!

Families, now that colder weather is upon us, please be sure that your child is prepared for physical education, recess, and breaks outside. Please label your child's name on all jackets, hats, gloves, etc.

Breakfast and Lunch

Breakfast and lunch options are available for all students. Please visit [Maschio's website](#) for updated menus and other important information.

Lunch Information:

For safety purposes, please refrain from sending in glass bottles or glass tupperware.



Safety and Security

- Please do not hold any doors for visitors.
- Please use the crosswalks in the parking lot.
- Please obey the 15 mph speed limit in our parking lot.
- Student drop off begins at 8:45 am. Please wait at the stop sign, until being waved on by one of our staff members wearing bright green vests.
- When exiting the drop off area please be aware of buses that may still be entering the back parking lot or leaving the school.
- If you are dropping your child off after 8:55 am, please park your car in the main parking lot and walk your child into the building and check in with the main office.

- Please **DO NOT** park your vehicle in the front driveway of the building.
- For the safety and security of our staff and students, monthly fire and security drills are conducted.
- Staff wear bright green safety vests during drills as well as during bus duty.

Absences and Changes in Your Child's Routines

- If your child is **ABSENT** or **TARDY** for any reason, please call the Copper Hill **ATTENDANCE LINE** by dialing **908-284-7665** or report an absence online [here](#). Leave a message detailing the nature of the absence, your child's name and his/her teacher's name. Messages may be left at any time of night or morning and are retrieved on a daily basis.
- If your child needs to be **DISMISSED EARLY**, please send a note to school with your child in the morning, listing the time for pick-up and the reason. Children leaving school prior to 3:25 pm will be marked as an early dismissal. Please note, three tardies or early dismissals count as one absence.
- If your child normally rides the bus but will need to be **PICKED UP** at dismissal time, please send a note with your child that morning.
- Please **DO NOT leave information regarding your child's change in dismissal on a teacher's e-mail or voicemail**. They often do not have an opportunity to check their e-mail during the day and your message may not be communicated.

IMPORTANT: PLEASE SEND A NOTE WITH YOUR CHILD IN THE MORNING FOR ANY CHANGE IN YOUR CHILD'S ROUTINE.

Lost and Found

Please label all of your child's belongings (lunchboxes, jackets, glasses, etc.) Any items that are found with a name on them will be returned. The lost and found is located right outside the media center. Valuables (such as money, jewelry, eyeglasses, etc.) will be kept in the office. Items that have not been claimed will be donated.



PTO Updates & Calendar: follow the URL code below for all PTO updates and activities!

Become a member of the PTO today!

Visit copperhillpto.ptboard.com to find our 2022-2023 Membership form. Your \$20 membership fee per family will help to fund the multiple PTO-sponsored activities and materials that are provided throughout the school year for the benefit of our children. Plus, you gain access to the online directory!



 Copper Hill Parent Teacher Organization 

Terracycle Recycling! Saving the planet and helping our PTO! Please see the link below for details!

 <https://docs.google.com/do...>

docs.google.com