



# Hawk Connection



May, 2022

## Principal's Corner/School

As another school year draws to a close, I would like to communicate my sincere appreciation to all who supported our students as they returned to a full year of in person instruction. To our hard working teachers, the support and front office staff, our dedicated community partners, our wonderful parents, and the students themselves, who showed their true strength and resiliency with all they had to endure. Now we look forward to all of the fun and exciting events that characterize the last weeks of every school year. The Harris staff find themselves reflecting on the unprecedented year that is ending and already preparing for the fall, where we are very much looking forward to teaching, supporting and inspiring our returning students.

I would like to thank you for your kindness, grace, and cooperation as our teachers and staff worked tirelessly to provide quality learning experiences for our students. We have been amazed by the flexibility, tenacity and creativity that our students have shown as they have navigated through new programs and expectations here at school! The team is very proud of our students, and we will continue to support them through their educational journey!

## 2022-2023 School Calendar

August 17-First Day of School

September 5-Labor Day (No School)

October 24-28-Parent Teacher Conferences

November 11-Veteran's Day Holiday

November 21-25-Thanksgiving Recess

December 26-January 6-Winter Break (No School)

## How to prevent summer learning loss (and still have fun!)

Studies suggest we can prevent summer learning loss by engaging kids in summertime reading, math games, and hands-on STEM activities. But the benefits depend on making sure kids are truly stimulated — and having fun!

**1. Get started on a summer reading program, and make sure your child is reading books that are both interesting and challenging.**

Summer reading is important, but it doesn't always boost skills.

**2. Set aside some time to review mathematics concepts.**

It's unlikely that most kids will spontaneously practice the sorts of skills that will prevent learning loss in mathematics. And practice really matters. But don't you have to hold daily lessons, or turn the summer into a tedious series of drills.

**3. Play "unplugged" number games to help kids sharpen their math skills.**

Research indicates that young children can improve their intuitive understanding of numbers by playing certain board games. And such intuitions really matter: When kids lack a strong grasp of "how much" different numbers really represent, they perform more poorly in school (Mazzococo 2011).

**4. Develop spatial skills through spatial rotation games and construction play**

Experiments demonstrate that we can hone strong spatial skills through practice, and better spatial reasoning leads to enhanced performance in math and science.