



Big Flats News

March 2026



At Big Flats Elementary, we will SOAR together as we explore our "wonders" in a fun and engaging community, where we will inspire each other to achieve anything!

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Please do not forget that Friday is our annual Trooper Andrew Sperr Spirit Day, where we wear gray and purple in memory of Trooper Sperr. A big, "Thank you!", to our NYS Troopers for their continued efforts to come to our campus each year and their contributions to the memory of Trooper Andrew Sperr. We are so appreciative of the New York State Police for their annual support in honoring a true, fallen hero.

Below is a list of important reminders for March and April!

- Special Olympics Bowling: Wednesday, March 4th, 2026
- Spring Pictures: Thursday, March 12th, 2026
- St. Patrick's Day Parade: Saturday, March 14th at 2:00pm
- PTO Swim Night: HS Pool, BFE students only and MUST be pre-registered. Friday, March 20th, 6:00-7:00pm
- Superintendent's Conference Day: Monday, March 23rd (NO SCHOOL for Students!)
- Spring Recess: No School, Friday, April 3rd to April 10th
- Self-Guided Tour for Current 4th Gr students and parents: Intermediate School Cafeteria, April 15th, 6:00pm
- Pre-K and Kindergarten Parent/Teacher Conferences: April 20th – 24th,
- 3rd & 4th Grade New York State Computer-Based ELA Assessments: April 28th & 29th

On behalf of the PTO, we would like to thank everyone who is participating in and supporting our spring candy fundraiser, our biggest fundraiser each school year. We couldn't do the wonderful things that we do to support our students and staff without your generous support. Thank you!

Sincerely,

Elizabeth M. Scaptura

Big Flats Elementary Principal

School Food Services for 2025-2026:

Breakfast: Free

Lunch Free

School Office Hours During Regular

School Days:

7:45AM to 3:45PM

School Hours:

8:35AM to 3:20PM

Office Phone Numbers:

607-739-6373

607-795-2550

Drill Notifications:

As you are aware, throughout the school year, Big Flats Elementary will practice important emergency response procedures for our school including fire, evacuation, lockdown, and emergency dismissal drills. Families will receive notice within one week prior to drills. Please be advised we will continue practicing our mandated drills.

ATTENTION PARENTS AND GUARDIANS OF 3RD AND 4TH GRADERS

To provide schools and parents with an assessment of student achievement, New York State has developed the New York State Testing Program. These standardized tests challenge all students in grades 3 through 8 to demonstrate their knowledge and skills in English Language Arts, Mathematics, and Science. Please visit the site at <https://www.engageny.org/parent-and-family-resources>. If you are interested in viewing this site but do not have access to the Internet, please call the school office so that we can make arrangements for you to see this guide.

3rd and 4th grade Computer Based ELA—April 28th, 2026 and April 29th, 2026. 3rd and 4th grade Computer Based Math—May 5th, 2026 and May 6th, 2026

Friendly Reminders

PLACE INFORMATION FOR 5th GRADE

The Intermediate School will soon be completing 2026-2027 classroom placements for students. We create class sections with the intent to achieve a mix of students by ability, gender, personality, and individual needs. While we are unable to honor specific requests for teachers, we value your input from a parent's perspective.

If you have specific information about your child's needs which should be taken into consideration, or a specific previous personal experience, please put them in writing and send them to the Intermediate School no later than April 21st. We look forward to working with you to ensure your child's academic success! Thank you!

4th GRADE INTERMEDIATE PRESENTATION AND TOUR

The Intermediate School will be hosting a presentation and self-guided tour for all current 4th graders. The presentation will be held on Wednesday, April 15th in the cafeteria beginning at 6PM. Immediately following, students and families will have the opportunity to take a self-guided tour around the school. Should you have any questions, please contact the Intermediate School office at 607-739-6366



Prekindergarten Registration!



Parents of Pre-K eligible children should have already received registration packets. They were mailed out on February 20th to parents of all eligible children in our database. Completed registration packets may be returned on the following dates by appointment only: March 9th, 16th, and 17th. If you have a student who will be eligible for PreK for the upcoming 2026-2027 school year and did not receive a packet, or have questions about PreK registration, please contact us at gconnel@horseheadsdistrict.com or (607)-739-5601, x4251.

Please Join Us for the Annual St. Patrick's Day Parade!

Saturday, March 14th, 2026

The parade will start at
2:00PM

Parents must ride with
students and staff.

Parents' Bill of Rights Relating to Student Data

The Horseheads Central School District, in compliance with Education Law 2-d, hereby establishes the following Parents' Bill of Rights in regard to student data:

- 1. A student's personally identifiable information will not be sold or released for any commercial purpose;**
- 2. Parents have the right to inspect and review the complete contents of their child's educational record. Procedures for reviewing student records can be found in the Board Policy entitled 'Student Records,' Policy 5500,**
- 3. Regulation 5500-R; Security protocols regarding confidentiality of personally identifiable information are currently in place and the safeguards necessary to protect the confidentiality of student data are maintained at industry standards and best practices. The safeguards include but are not limited to: encryptions, firewalls, and password protection.**
- 4. New York State maintains a complete list of all student data collected by the State and the data is available for public review at www.nysed.gov, or by writing to: 89 Washington Avenue, Albany, NY 12234.**
- 5. Parents have the right to have complaints about possible breaches of student data addressed. Complaints should be directed to the Superintendent of Schools, One Raider Lane, Horseheads, NY 14845.**

Mark Your Calendars

March 2nd:

Dr. Seuss Day - Read Across America

March 3rd:

PTO Meeting; BFE Library 6PM

March 4th:

Special Olympics - Bowling
CSE Meetings; Bridge

March 9th:

CSE Meetings; Bridge

March 12th:

Spring Picture Day

March 14th:

St. Patrick's Day Parade; 2PM

March 17th:

St. Patrick's Day! Wear Green

March 20th:

PTO Swim Night; High School Pool
6PM-7PM MUST PRE-REGISTER

March 23rd:

Conference Day 8AM - 3PM No
School for Students

March 30th:

CSE Meetings; Bridge

March 31st:

CIM Meetings; Bridge



Our School Health Office is looking for gently used pants and shirts in good condition. All sizes are welcome, but we are in need of larger sizes. If you have any items to donate, please send them in with your child or drop them off at the nurse's office. Thank you for your support!

Learn Up-To-Date Information About Our Schools and the District Facebook:

The district and each of our six schools have pages. "Like" them to see our information in your news feed. Follow us on Twitter at @HhdsSchools to read our tweets. Follow Mrs. Scaptura on Twitter at @escaptural

Instagram: The district's page—hhdsschools Visit our district website at: www.horseheadsdistrict.com.



March is the Month of: Respect!

- Follow the Golden Rule
- Be Tolerant and Accepting
- Deal Peacefully with Anger and Insults
- Use Good Manners, Not Bad Language
- Be Considerate of the Feelings of Others
- Don't Threaten, Hit, or Hurt Anyone





March 2026



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2 <i>Dr. Seuss/Read Across America Day</i> 1	3 <i>PTO Meeting; BFE Library 6PM-7PM</i> 2	4 <i>Special Olympics - Bowling CSE Meetings; Bridge</i> 3	5 4	6 1	7
8	9 <i>CSE Meetings; Bridge</i> 2	10 3	11 4	12 <i>Spring Picture Day</i> 1	13 2	14 <i>St. Patrick's Day Parade; HS, 2 PM</i>
15	16 3	17  4	18 1	19 2	20 <i>PTO Swim Night; HS Pool 6-7PM BFE Students only. <u>MUST</u> <u>pre-register</u></i> 3	21
22	23 CONFERENCE DAY NO SCHOOL	24 4	25 1	26 2	27 3	28
29	30 <i>CSE Meetings; Bridge</i> 4	31 <i>CIM Meetings; Bridge</i>				



Big Flats Elementary School

**** Please be on the lookout for an announcement from our PTO about pick-up dates for our Spring Candy Fundraiser ****