

Last Blog of 2012!!!

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Created 2012-12-22 13:35

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Special December Hours

* The library will close at 1pm on Monday, December 24, and remain closed on Tuesday, December 25. We will reopen at 9am on Wednesday, December 26!

* We will close at 1pm on Monday, December 31, and remain closed on the first of the new year - Tuesday, January 1, 2013

! We'll reopen at 11am on Wednesday, January 2, after our first all-staff meeting of the new year.

Winter Break Programs



Bubble Wonders Show - December 27, 11am.

Watch spellbound as bubbleologist Akins creates bubble caterpillars, ice cream cones, a snowman, a volcano, dancing bubbles, a bubble merry-go-round and a bubble around a real kid. You'll never look at bubbles the same way again! One adult per family group - make sure to register each attendee separately! **This event is currently filled - but join the waiting list!**



Close Encounters of the Chemical Kind - January 3, 2pm.

Try fun, exciting hands-on experiments that create magic drawings, slime, superballs, and chemically altered "gold" and "silver" coins: all yours to take home. Witness chemical reactions involving exploding foam and dazzling displays of fire and liquid nitrogen! (In a safe environment.) This is a drop-off program - *no adults* (or gerbils) allowed!

Winter Storytime

Storytimes

Winter Storytimes are still open!.

Book Patch



Stay entertained over winter break & participate in Book Patch! Earn sew-on patches for reading books!

Remember, if you go out of town for Winter Break, send Arthur, Merlin and Lancelot a [postcard](#)!
Stop by the Youth Desk for a mailing label or scroll to the bottom of this page for the library's address.

Year in Review

* January 2012

- * Our [New Year's Bash](#) was featured in the [online version](#) of the Highland Park News.

- * Our librarians didn't guess the correct [Caldecott](#) or [Newbery](#) Award winners this year, but they did guess two Caldecott Honors correctly! Stay tuned for posts about this year's Mock Caldecott and Newbery discussions.

- * We participated in the 2012 [Martin Luther King, Jr. Day of Service](#) by decorating book bags for the North Shore Health Center. We're doing it again this year, so stay tuned for info!

* March 2012

- * We added two [iPads](#) to the literacy area - they have been a **huge** hit this year.

- * The Spring [Gaming Tournament](#) was great fun!

- * The 2011-2012 Book Match Season came to an end.

* April 2012

- * **Light It Up Blue!** The library participated in a movement called [Light it Up Blue](#) for autism, which was started two years ago by the organization [Autism Speaks](#). April is autism awareness month with April 2nd being Autism Awareness Day. Buildings and households across the world change their outside/entry lights to blue to join together to raise autism awareness and money for research to find the cause and treatments to help those with autism.

- * **Every Day was Earth Day** in April at HP Library! Patrons shared their own Earth Day pledges with us, and the Gerbils tweeted Green suggestions each day.

- * The [Instrument Petting Zoo](#) visited & everyone had lots of fun.

* May 2012

- * [Michael Jordan's Mom](#) visited!

- * Author [Sharon Draper](#) came to speak.
- * Our librarian [MET NEIL GAIMAN](#).
- * 2012-2013 Book Match lists are out!

* June 2012

- * [Summer Reading](#) was DELICIOUS!
- * Giant, terrifying [birds of prey](#) came to the library & we gerbils hid.
- * Sherwood School celebrated [library night](#) during our first Stories Under the Stars event.
- * Delicious chef Gale Gand taught [two cooking classes](#) & we gerbils drooled.
- * James and the Giant Peach was a popular show.

* July 2012

- * Kids drew [delicious art](#) with artist Terri Murphy.
- * The musical [The Magic Onion](#) was a fun puppet show.
- * We had 958 total participants in Summer Reading this year.

* September 2012

- * [Outdoor Drop-In Chess](#) began.
- * We had a Labor Day [parade](#).
- * The library's 125th anniversary [celebration](#) kicked off with a great day of fun, including a production of the Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe.
- * Ventriloquist, songstress, and storyteller [Sandi Sylver](#) visited on the second of our school open house days.
- * We were voted Highland Park's [favorite rainy day spot](#) by HP Patch!

* October 2012

- * We presented a check to the Moraine Township Food Pantry for \$226.17 worth of donations from Summer Readers!
- * The annual [Halloween Railroad](#) was a blast!
- * Authors [Dan Gutman, Jon Scieszka, and Jeramey Kraatz spoke](#) at Elm Place School.
- * The adult services [renovation](#) began!

November 2012

- * Our own Robyn was featured in an article about [Right from the Start](#).

More Still to Come...

We've had a busy year at the library. See you in 2013!!!!!!

Tags: [The Gerbils](#)

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