National Handwashing Awareness week is on December 1-7 and is a time for spreading awareness, not germs, about the importance of washing hands. Keeping hands clean is one of the most important steps we can take to avoid getting sick and spreading germs to others. Many diseases and conditions are spread by not washing hands with soap and clean, running water. While 95% of people claim to practice proper hand hygiene, studies show that only 67% of people practice any sort of hand hygiene.

**Handwashing Facts and Stats**

- On average, you come into contact with 300 surfaces every 30 minutes, exposing you to 840,000 germs.
- Only about 5% of people wash their hands correctly.
- Most people only wash their hands for 6 seconds.
- Around 33% of people don’t use soap when washing their hands.
- Only 20% of people wash their hands before preparing food, and 39% before eating food.
- The CDC reports that only 31% of men & 65% of women wash their hands after using a public restroom.
- Most bacteria on our hands is on the fingertips and under the nails.
- Damp hands are 1,000x more likely to spread bacteria than dry hands.
- There is fecal matter on 10% of credit cards, and 16% of cellphones.
- Elevator buttons harbor 22% more bacteria than toilet seats.
- Sneezes are mini hurricanes - A typical human sneeze exits the body at about 200 miles per hour and emits around 40,000 droplets into the air.

During this time of COVID 19, it’s more important than ever to realize the importance of good hygiene and keeping our hands clean in a way to prevent germs to yourself or to others around you. Proper hand washing steps begin by wetting your hands with warm water, placing a small amount of soap on your hands, lather and scrub your hands on all surfaces (backs of hands, waists, between fingers, and under your nails) for at least 20 seconds, rinse your hands with warm water and finally completely dry your hands. Good hand hygiene promotes good healthy habits.
Important December Dates:

December 1st to 3rd
Finals for Students

December 5th
International Volunteer Day

December 6th
2nd Trimester Begins

December 5th to 11th
Parent Org./Booster's Five Below Holiday Fundraiser

December 15th
HFA Board Meeting @ 8:00 AM
Parent Org./Booster's Meeting @ 5 PM
(Please see HFA website for further meeting details)

December 16th
HFA Talent Show

December 20th to 31st
**NO SCHOOL!**
Winter Holiday Recess

December 24th & 25th
Christmas Eve & Day

December 26th
First Day of Kwanzaa
Boxing Day (Australia)

December 31st & January 1st
New Years Eve & Day

Send pictures of your Holiday Traditions to be featured in the Upcoming Newsletter to kwioncek@hfa-dearborn.org
Important January Dates:

January 1st
New Years Day

January 17th
MLK Day (NO SCHOOL!)

January 19th
HFA Virtual Board Meeting
@ 8:00 AM
Parent Org./Boosters
Hybrid Meeting @ 5PM

January 24th
NO SCHOOL!
National Compliment Day

ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT:

Rodney Lewis

HFA is proud to shine the Alumni Spotlight on Rodey Lewis (Class of 2013) for his accomplishments and dedication in the field of software engineering. Rodney graduated from University of Michigan-Dearborn with a Bachelors of Science in Software Engineering. He currently works as a Site Reliability Engineer (SRE) for Dynatrace, a software intelligence company. In short, Rodney's role at Dynatrace is to “keep the lights on” in order to maintain a 99.9% uptime for company products.

HFA’s Robotics Program sparked his original interest in the field. He thanks Mr. Rick Enright who helped place him with the Henry Ford technical support team for his practicum project and to Mrs. Goodman for her continued support both throughout his time at HFA and through some difficult college level math courses. Apart from his involvement in robotics, some of his favorite memories at HFA include attending the Town Hall meetings, and meeting his future wife (pictured above during their senior prom).
November

- In November, we went on our first campus tour to Grand Valley State University. Mrs. Frederick, Ms. Gatling, and Ms. Gibbs accompanied 22 seniors. We went on a tour, received an admissions presentation, and ate lunch in the dining hall.
- Several more colleges and universities visited HFA and provided information to students. Schools include Ferris State University, Lawrence Technological University, Oakland University, Grand Valley State University, etc.
- On 11/11- There was a Veterans Day presentation for students to learn about careers within the different branches of the military. It was a packed event with over 60 students for both sessions. Hosted by Ms. Gatling
- On 11/16- we hosted an Onsite Admissions Event with the University of Michigan Dearborn. Several students received decisions on the spot. One senior was excited because this school was her top choice!
- On 11/30, Ms. Gatling and Ms. Gibbs took seven students on a Masonry Field Trip. Students attended an Intro to PPE class. All students received a hard hat, safety vest, gloves, and safety goggles.

December

- For December, HFA will receive visits from Eastern Michigan University and Ferris State (for Onsite admissions). Mrs. Frederick is also looking to plan a financial aid night before the break for seniors and families
Parent Organization & Navigator's Booster Club Holiday Fundraiser

WHAT: Grab your friends/family a holiday gift from Five Below & 10% of your sale will go back to HFA. Simply present the flyer to the left (printed or digital). Flyer printable at hfa-dearborn.org

WHEN: 12/5-12/11
WHERE: Five Below
   Allen Park Location
   3140 Fairlane Dr., Allen Park, MI

*If shopping at a different Five Below please send a copy of your receipt to annemichelis@yahoo.com and it will be submitted to the Allen Park store for credit.

Thank you for your support!!

HFA Parent Survey: Tri 1

Parents & Guardians,
As we transition into Trimester 2, please take a few minutes to complete the HFA Pandemic Survey (link below). By sharing your concerns and suggestions, you can help guide HFA's programs/ actions and improve our response to the pandemic.

Thank you!
https://forms.gle/gYaY7x8KmYZa4HWP9
Glimpse of November

Virtual Homework Lab
Every Tuesday & Thursday 5–6 PM
Join using this link: https://meet.google.com/ndb-bquh-hgv


Newsletter questions or additions? email kwioncek@hfa-dearborn.org