



January 2025 Calendar

**Happy New Year!**

We hope everyone had a wonderful and relaxing winter break filled with fun and precious moments with loved ones. We're so excited to welcome everyone back on **Tuesday, January 7, 2025!** As we step into the new year together, we look forward to continuing to learn, grow, and make unforgettable memories.

**Birthday Shoutouts**

Happy birthday to the following students with January birthdays! May your special day be filled with joy, laughter, and wonderful memories. ☐☐

01/05 Ava | 01/06 Salvador | 01/07 Ethan T

**Save the Date**

- 01/06 | Teacher Workday  
SCHOOL CLOSED
- 01/07 | Welcome Back!
- 01/16 | 100th Day of School
- 01/20 | MLK Day  
SCHOOL CLOSED

**January Field Trips**

Elementary

- 01/10 | Cooper Library
- 01/17 | Therapy Place Playdate
- 01/24 | Nutritionist Visit with Mrs. Nicole
- 01/31 | Reading to Kindergarten Prep

Purple Portable - 01/23 | Edventure: A Child Around the World Class  
Green Portable - 01/22 | Edventure: A Child Around the World Class

**December Recap!**

As we wrap up 2024, December was truly a month to remember at Harmony School! Our **Toy Drive** in partnership with the Richland County Recreation Commission was a resounding success. Thanks to the incredible generosity of our Harmony families and community, we collected an abundance of toys that brought joy to countless children at the Prisma Health Children's Hospital.

Our students took the stage for the much anticipated **Harmony School Winter Show** and **Charismatic Dance Studio Dance Recital!** Everyone worked so hard to prepare and it shows!

We ended the year with a bang with a festive pajama party for our students, creating special memories to close out the year. With such a strong sense of community and support, we are more excited than ever to welcome 2025 and all the opportunities it will bring!



### Celebrating 100 Days of School! | Thursday, January 16

The 100th day of school is almost here, and we're so excited to celebrate this milestone! As part of the celebration, we invite you to help your child to create a special shirt with **100 of something** on it.

Whether it's 100 buttons, 100 stickers, 100 pom-poms or 100 googly eyes - the possibilities are endless, and we can't wait to see the creative designs your children come up with!



### What's Happening in January?

#### Science Unit - Oceans

This science unit the preschoolers will dive into the fascinating world of oceans! They'll explore ocean animals, learn how oceans work, and discover the importance of these vast ecosystems. Through engaging activities in art and music, children will create ocean-themed crafts, sing songs about marine life, and enjoy hands-on experiences that bring the wonders of the ocean to life.

#### World Cultures - Education Around the World

In World Cultures, preschoolers and elementary will explore how education looks around the globe! They'll learn about the ways children in different countries go to school, the subjects they study, and even the unique traditions and activities in classrooms worldwide.

Elementary will be soon be opening their very own Herb Store as one of their Green Steps projects. We're looking to recycle small plastic containers to package the herbs. Send us your empty containers rather than trashing them!

#### Elementary's Human Body Unit

To kick off the new year, our elementary students will embark on an exciting journey to learn about the human body! This unit will explore how our bodies work, with a special focus on nutrition and how what we eat fuels us. As part of this study, students will be bringing their lunches to life by graphing which food groups they had packed.



We are thrilled to welcome Nicole, Amadeo's mom, who is a licensed Nutritionist Health Educator! Her goal is to share her expertise with the class, helping students connect

Gaining insight into their eating habits, while practicing their data and graphing skills.

their learning to real-world applications.

### Elementary Reading Goal

Our elementary students have been working hard toward their goal of reading **200 minutes at home**. So far, they've reached **114 minutes** - over halfway there!

Encourage your child to spend a little extra time each day diving into their favorite books!

### Reading Eggs in the Classrooms

In the new year, we will be implementing **Reading Eggs**, an interactive online phonics program that makes learning to read fun and effective as extra individual reading practice. This program supports your child's reading journey through personalized lessons.

Kindergarten Prep and Elementary students are about to embark on an exciting creative journey! They'll be creating their own original stories that will be compiled and published in Harmony School's very own book. This project encourages creativity, while giving students the pride of becoming published authors. Once the books are published, we'll celebrate their achievements with an **Author's Breakfast**. Keep an eye out for more details about this wonderful celebration!

In December, we raised \$34.00 for Families Helping Families! January's charity will be the Alzheimer's Association. Their mission is to end Alzheimer's and all other dementias - by accelerating global research, driving risk reduction and early detection, and maximizing quality care and support.

### January Community Partner: The Therapy Place

The Therapy Place is an incredible organization that works tirelessly to support children, helping them thrive and reach their fullest potential.

We're especially grateful to The Therapy Place for welcoming our elementary students to visit and spend time with their amazing kiddos. It's a wonderful opportunity for our students to learn, grow, and give back.



We are thrilled to welcome Ms. Shayla to our aftercare team! She brings so much energy and excitement, and we know she's going to be a fantastic addition to our program.

Ms. Shayla is currently a senior in college studying to become a school psychologist, and she's passionate about working with children. She can't wait to get to know all of our amazing Aftercare kids and make their afternoons fun and engaging.



We would like to take a moment to wish Ms. Len the best of luck as she prepares for her move to California. We are grateful for everything she has done for our students.

We hope this next chapter brings her lots of love, happiness and success!

Please join us in giving Ms. Shayla a warm welcome to the Harmony family!



We are excited to welcome **Saniya** and **Ava** to our aftercare team! Both are sophomores in college pursuing degrees in education, bringing a passion for working with children and a desire to gain more experience in the field. Saniya, a Forest Acres resident, is eager to work hard and play hard with our kiddos, ensuring they have a fun and enriching aftercare experience. Ava, whose favorite pastime is nursing fragile kittens back to health, brings a nurturing spirit and a big heart to our program. Their enthusiasm, experience, and dedication make them wonderful additions to our team, and we can't wait for the children to get to know them!

---

## MYTH-BUSTERS

### Does sugar make kids hyper?

Scientific studies have consistently shown that sugar does not cause hyperactivity in children. While some parents perceive a link, it's often due to situational factors, such as parties or excitement, rather than sugar itself.

[Read more!](#)

---

### Do children get sick from the cold?

Exposure to cold weather doesn't directly cause illness. Colds are caused by viruses, which spread easily in close indoor contact, typical during colder months.

[Read more!](#)

As we start the new year, we kindly ask you to take a moment to review and update your child's Brightwheel profile. It's important to ensure that all phone numbers, email addresses, home addresses, and approved pickups are current. Brightwheel is our main form of communication, and having accurate information helps us stay connected and ensures the safety of your child.



Try email marketing for free today!