

## SCHOOL LETTERHEAD

September 2018

Dear Parents/Guardians:

The Monmouth Beach, Oceanport, and West Long Branch School Districts are pleased to announce the implementation of a grades K-4 English language arts balanced literacy program for the 2018-2019 school year. HMH Journeys includes instructional materials and resources for reading and listening, as well as for writing and speaking. Through differentiated guided, shared, and independent reading and writing, the goal is to prepare our students to master the concepts and skills identified in the New Jersey Student Learning Standards.

Via whole class and center-based small group instruction, HMH Journeys affords students opportunities for thoughtful analysis and problem solving using authentic literature and informational text that can be read and reread for multiple purposes. Specifically, anchor text reading instruction challenges students well beyond their first encounter with the text. At the core of HMH Journeys is a three-part routine that guides students in grasping big ideas, analyzing short passages, and engaging in independent close reading. This routine in conjunction with the comprehensive word study (i.e. Foundations, grammar, spelling, and vocabulary) and text-driven writing components creates a highly interactive literacy block that promotes academic rigor.

In September, each student will be provided with login information so that the digital program components can be accessed from home. Once your child receives his or her login information, please visit:

[www.hmhco.com](http://www.hmhco.com).

You will be prompted to select a state and a school district, after which you will be directed to a screen to input your login information. Thank you in advance for supporting this program implementation by taking the time to review the digital components.

Lastly, we will be sharing an overview of the HMH Journeys program at Back-to-School Night. We are also very much looking forward to our Family Literacy Night that will take place in October.

Should you have any questions about HMH Journeys, please do not hesitate to contact me through our main office secretary.

Sincerely,

Principal's Name