



HALLEY SPECIALISTS

We are all excited for a new year at Halley!

Advanced Academic Resource- Ms. Roukas

Hello Hornets! My name is Hannah Roukas and I will be your Advanced Academics Resource Teacher. This is my 9th year in education and I have taught Full Time advanced services classes in Fairfax for 5 years. I recently completed a Master's in Giftedness, Creativity, and Talent Development from the University of Connecticut. I love my dogs, cooking, coffee, and traveling. This summer, I got to go to Sweden!

I am so excited to work with the staff at Halley to provide all our students with rich, rigorous, and creative lessons. I will also be working with students in Kindergarten through Third Grade during specials using some AAP curriculum and some STEAM opportunities; I will see Fourth – Sixth grade students outside of specials. While I am a resource for the students and staff at Halley, I am also a resource for you. If you have questions or need more information, I am happy to help. We are a team for each of your students and I can't wait to work with you.

Art- Mrs. Willis

This will be my 3rd year at Halley (time flies)! I love having the opportunity to watch every student grow into talented creators each year! Outside of school, I own a photography business, love snuggling my basset hound, and I'm expecting a sweet baby girl in December!

This year, we are hitting the ground running! We will be focusing on planning and procedures for a variety of materials such as collage, paint, and clay! Of course, we will be practicing and exploring these materials! My hopes are for students to fall in love with art on the first day!



Band- Mr. Woessner

Hello Halley families! My name is Ryan Woessner and I am the Band Teacher at Halley ES. My two primary instruments are Piano and Trumpet and I recently graduated from George Mason. This is my second year teaching as well as my second year at Halley. I am so excited to teach beginning 5th grade students their selected instrument and to continue working with all of our returning 6th graders. It is going to be a musical year!

ESOL- Mrs. Johnston & Mrs. Neimeyer

Hello- We are Andrea Johnston and Jennifer Neimeyer, the ESOL teachers at Halley. We are excited to welcome all our students for the 2023-24 school year. As ESOL teachers, our main responsibility is to provide equitable high-quality English Language Acquisition instruction to ALL English Language Learners/Multilingual Learners at Halley ES. As ESOL teachers, we collaborate closely with all classroom teachers to assure equitable academic inclusion and engagement and support the school-home partnerships with families.

Instructional Coach- Mrs. Rzucidlo

Hello, my name is Erica Rzucidlo (Ru-sid-low). I collaborate with teachers on instructional strategies and best practices through coaching cycles, support teams in following the collaborative cycle, and help support the School Innovation and Improvement Plan.

Library- Ms. Hall

Welcome back, Halley Hornet families! The books have missed your hornets and so have I! The library is overflowing with new materials for them to check out (literally 📖)! My name is Christie Hall and I am the library media specialist here at Halley. This is my 23 year in education - 5th in the library and before that I taught 1st and 2nd grade. In my free time I enjoy reading (of course) and audiobooks, spending time with my 4th grader and two dogs, and relaxing at the beach.

This quarter in the library we will be focusing on learning library routines and procedures, exploring our reading interests, and using a modified guided inquiry process to "get to know" the library. I also work with Ms. Buchko on our live Morning News show, which is broadcasted to classrooms each day via Zoom. Our 6th grade students work on their personal communication and speaking skills, technology integration and writing content for the show.

Music- Mrs. Poblete

I am Carol Poblete and I am excited for my 7th year at Halley teaching music! I am a 2008 graduate of Penn State University with a degree in Music Education, and I have a Masters in Teaching and Learning from Lock Haven University. In my free time I love running, yoga, working in my garden, and spending time with my husband and our cat Gershwin. I also love traveling to Disney World and cheering on my Nittany Lions at Penn State football games.

This year in music class will be lots of fun! We will be learning about singing, playing instruments, movement, reading and writing music, and listening to music. We will also learn about many different composers and types of music throughout history and from around the world!

Music- Mrs. Smith

I am Lindsay Smith and I am so excited to join the Halley staff this year as a general music teacher. This is my first year at Halley elementary and my 3rd year of teaching. I am a graduate of Concordia University Chicago, where I received my bachelor's in music education. During my time at Concordia, I played flute and piccolo in the touring wind symphony. I also love to sing and cannot wait to share my love of music with my students. I look forward to getting to know my students as we explore singing, folk dancing, instrument playing, and so much more!



Reading Specialist- Mrs. Anderson

Hi, my name is Tammy Anderson. As a Reading Specialist, I collaborate and support teachers in reading, writing and word study. I can model lessons, conduct professional development on new concepts, provide opportunities to preview resources and ensure best practices are being utilized in every classroom. I also support students with explicit and targeted intervention such as Orton Gillingham.



PE- Mr. Creek & Mr. Pennell

Mr. Pennell and I want to welcome everyone to Halley for, what we are planning, is another great year in P.E. Mr. Pennell and I have been teaching together at Halley for the past 17 years and, between the two of us, have nearly 50 years of experience teaching P.E.

In the first few classes, students will be learning our safety rules and procedures, participating in activities that encourage teamwork and cooperative play, and an introduction to health-related fitness concepts. Students in grades K-3 will also spend the first few classes learning about and reviewing gross motor movements. Students in grades 4-6 will also have fitness testing to establish a baseline score and set their monthly, quarterly, and yearly goal.



Strings- Ms. Hegre

Ms. Hegre is excited to be back at Halley for the 23-24 school year and can't wait to meet a new batch of musicians! She is a cellist and when not performing, teaching, or rehearsing, she can be found cooking, reading, and hanging out at home with her partner, Ravi, and their three cats. (Ms Hegre is wild about animals! Tell her all about your pets!)

Strings students will be starting the year learning or reviewing the basics so that they have the tools to play some awesome music this year.

Technical Specialist- Mr Curran

I'm Rob Curran, the Technology Support Specialist here at Halley! My main goal for Halley is to keep all the technology operating smoothly so that student and staff have access to innovative tools that help their learning and instruction flourish. If you every have a technical issue, please don't hesitate to hit my best friend, RequestIT!

Instructional Technology Coach- Mrs. Buchko

My name is Jennifer Buchko and I am the Instructional Technology Coach at Halley. This is my 22nd year at Halley. I support teacher with implementing instructional technology into their daily lessons. I will be teaching 4th, 5th and 6th grade during their specials this year. I also help with our Morning news show. I will be meeting with each class to set expectation for using technology at Halley. Students will reset their passwords and receive their devices the first few weeks fo school.