



# Highland Newsletter

## November/ December 2018

Highland Elementary School  
Phone 474-5765 Fax 474-5767

*Highland Elementary is a Title One School*

### PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Highland Families,

It is hard to believe that the first two months of the school year are behind us, and November and December are upon us.

September and October have been an adventure while we established a lot of new ideas and welcomed new people. Our jog-a-thon has been completed for the year and our students and families earned over \$36,000 dollars for our school. That is an absolutely amazing number! Our building is now sporting a new Highland Logo on the west side, as well as a new hawk mascot by the entrance to the office. These are two of the small improvements our PTA made to help beautify our school.

Our students are working with our new Ready Math and Second Steps programs, and our newly added Kindergarten class is off and running. We also have 1:1 chrome books in grades 3<sup>rd</sup> through 5<sup>th</sup> and shared chrome book carts for our 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> grade classrooms.

November and December brings a lot of exciting activities for our students as well as many interruptions to our regular school schedule. Stay tuned for information from your classroom teacher in regards to Parent Teacher Conferences. Conferences will be held in November on the days leading up to Thanksgiving. If you are leaving early for Thanksgiving please let us know so we can schedule your conferences before you leave.

We are also coming into the season when inclement weather can be an issue. The Grants Pass School District website is the best source for information about school closures. You can also tune into any of our local TV or radio stations for information. During times of inclement weather, school may be completely cancelled for the day, or there could be a two-hour delayed start in which case everything starts exactly two hours later than it normally would. Busses would run on a two-hour delay with classes beginning at 9:30 am (no breakfast). Text Remind is another great way to get quick text messages directly from me with information regarding activities at school. If you haven't yet subscribed to Remind it is easy. Simply text @ 8e6k82 to 81010.

I hope that this season brings you great joy and you are surrounded by family and friends.

Your Principal,

Mr. Van Manen



*"Together we learn and grow"*



## **From the Library**

Julie Kriz, Library Technician



Battle of the Books Season is almost upon us. Our kickoff week is November 26-30<sup>th</sup>. Students in grades 3 through 5 who have turned in a permission slip are allowed to participate. The participants read from a list of ten books. They must read a minimum of 2 books to qualify to be on a team. Teams will be formed by randomly selecting a third, fourth and fifth grade student for each team. The students then continue to read at least another two books from the list in order to stay on their team and be able to compete in the Battle. The goal is for the whole team to cover all ten books, even if each student has not read all ten. The “Battle” competition consists of the teams answering questions about the ten books, and collecting points for correct answers. At the end of the preliminary rounds, the top three to four teams go on to compete in a final round in front of the whole school. The top two teams from the final round will go on to compete in the District Battle of the Books competition, which will also be held at Highland this year. Below are important dates:

- November 30: Permission slips due
- January 11: Two books read and AR tests passed at 80% or higher.
- January 8 First team meeting to learn who is on which team
- February 8: Team Practice and the deadline to have four books read and AR tests passed.
- February 22: Highland’s Battle of the Books Competition, 8:30-10, and 1:15-2pm (final round)
- March 6: District Battle of the Books Competition, Highland Elementary (2:45-5pm)

Thank you to everyone who participated in our birthday book program this year. The response this year has been terrific. The program is now closed to new donors (all donations were due at the end of September). Our November/ December birthday book recipients are: Noah Smith, Mason Venecamp, Maya Johnston, Abby Smith, Adelai Sanborn, Josephine Hicks, Johanna Williams (November); Kylie Oliver, Ian Everson, Isaac Glass, Gracee Jack and Zayne Jack.

### **PUBLIC ADVERSE CHILDHOOD EXPERIENCES STUDY (ACES) PRESENTATION NOVEMBER 5 AT THE HIGHLAND ELEMENTARY SCHOOL LIBRARY DINNER IS AT 5:30 PM AND CHILDCARE IS PROVIDED FOR CHILDREN AGES 3 TO 10**

The Grants Pass School District is pleased to invite the Grants Pass community to public presentations on the Adverse Childhood Experiences Study, or ACES for short. This 90 minute presentation will cover what the study was, what we now know about the amazing ways we as humans adapt to our world, why ACES play a significant role in the quality of our health as adults, and most importantly, what we can do together to reduce adversity in our community and improve our overall health and quality of life.

We will serve a pizza **dinner at 5:30 pm** to everyone who can come. We will also be providing childcare for ages 3 to 10. We encourage you to bring your children to dinner. After dinner, our Grants Pass high school leadership students will be providing childcare for you. While they play, you can come to the presentation to learn about ACES, how it impacts most of us, and how we can become resilient through our adversity. The presentation will begin at 6 pm.

Interested? No problem. Let us know you are coming by calling (541) 474-5715 (press 1 at the voice message).





# Holiday Food Drive

*Dear Highland Families:*

The holidays are upon us, and with our busy lives sometimes we can lose sight of that which we have to be truly thankful. Highland is not just a school, it is a larger family. In order to help some of our families have a better holiday season, we will be sponsoring a Food Drive beginning Thursday, November 1<sup>st</sup> through Friday, December 7<sup>th</sup>. If you, or a family you know, are in need of either, a Thanksgiving food basket or collected food items, please contact the Highland office at 541-474-5765 by November 9<sup>th</sup>.

Donations of canned or boxed food items will be lined up on both of the upper and lower grade hallways respectively. Grades K, 1 & 2 will be competing with grades 3, 4 & 5 to bring in the most food items. The winners will be awarded the coveted Golden Can Trophy. Your generosity is greatly appreciated.



Golden Can Trophy

## Decemember 12<sup>th</sup> Holiday Meal

Tickets will be sold at the door.

ADULTS: \$5.00

PRESCHOOL: \$2.50

Highland students do not have to pay for their meal.

**Everyone is invited, so please join us!**



## **HOLIDAY LUNCH SCHEDULE:**

**KINDERGARTEN ~ 10:30-11:00**

**1ST GRADE ~ 11:00-11:30**

**2ND GRADE ~ 11:30-12:00**

**3RD GRADE ~ 12:00-12:30**

**4TH GRADE ~ 12:30-1:00**

**5TH GRADE ~ 1:00-1:30**



## **MENU:**

**TURKEY GRAVY**

**MASHED POTATOES**

**STUFFING**

**GREEN BEANS**

**ROLL**

**PIE/COOKIES**

**CRANBERRY SAUCE**

**COFFEE**





**General Music with Mrs. Banister**

Concert Reminders:

**Thursday, November 8<sup>th</sup>** Highland fifth grade students will perform a Disney themed concert. Student call time is 6:15 in their classrooms. Concert begins at 6:30. More details will be sent home with students a week before the concert.

**Thursday, December 13<sup>th</sup>** Highland third and fourth grade students will perform a holiday concert titled "Everlasting Fruitcake and Other Festive Fun". Student call time is 6:15 in their classrooms. Concert begins at 6:30. More details will be sent home with students as we get closer to concert time.

After-school choir (4<sup>th</sup>/5<sup>th</sup> grade students only) will have a fieldtrip in the last week of school before winter break. They will miss a half day of school, but will be caroling at some of our local nursing homes and the district office. It is a wonderful opportunity to spread good cheer!

Volunteers are needed to decorate for our concerts, chaperone the caroling fieldtrip, and to set up goodies for the choir after caroling. If you are interested in any of these things please contact me ☺

Thank you!



Mrs. Banister    jbanister@grantspass.k12.or.us    541-474-5765 ext. 65142

**Spirit Week**  
November 13<sup>th</sup> – November 16<sup>th</sup>

Highland Elementary is celebrating student grit and determination by dressing up and showing our Hawk Spirit!



Monday: Holiday – no school  
Tuesday: Red, white and blue  
Wednesday: Wacky hair day  
Thursday: Throw on your neon  
Friday: Civil war/ favorite team

**Mindful Minute**

With the pace that we face every day both as students and adults, one of the simplest ways to reset and refocus is to simply stop and take a couple of deep breaths. Next time you are feeling a little overwhelmed, stop and breathe.

**TARDIES, EARLY DEPARTURES & ILLNESSES**

Tardiness and early departures can affect a student’s learning. A student is marked tardy if they arrive after 8:00 a.m. or leave before 2:15 p.m.

Additionally, please call the office by 8:00 a.m. if your child is ill and will not be attending school that day.

**ON-SITE CHILD CARE**

Day Care is offered after school on campus by On Campus Kids in the cafeteria. For information call On Campus Kids After School Enrichment program at (541) 761-6949 or email at oncampuskidsenrichment.com





**NURSE’S NOTES NURSE’S NOTES NURSE’S NOTES NURSE’S NOTES NURSE’S NOTES**



It’s that time of year when the weather turns cold and illness tends to increase. What can we do to avoid being sick...the fevers, coughs, runny noses, sore throats, aching and headaches?

Good health habits can help you and your family stay well: 1) Avoid contact with people who are sick, 2) Stay home when you are sick, 3) Cover your nose and mouth with a tissue when coughing or sneezing, 4) Clean your hands by washing often and 5) Avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth. Getting a flu vaccination can also help prevent illness. Healthy habits can protect everyone from getting germs or spreading germs at home, work, or school. Look at the following web sites with your family to learn more about staying well.

<http://www.cdc.gov/flu/protect/stopgerms.htm>

[http://www.cdc.gov/ounceofprevention/docs/ooop\\_brochure\\_eng.pdf](http://www.cdc.gov/ounceofprevention/docs/ooop_brochure_eng.pdf)

<http://www.cdc.gov/CDCTV/WashYourHands/index.html>

Martha Covrig, RN, BSN, MPH, GP#7 District Nurse

**CAMPUS CLOSET**

Campus Closet is a program supported by United Community Action Network (UCAN) and the many volunteers in the community that make this service possible. It serves students from families with limited income or other emergency needs. It is located at the United Community Action Network building, on the corner of 7<sup>th</sup> and Manzanita, 125 Manzanita Ave, in Grants Pass. The entrance to the program is located on the left hand side of the building at the R.S.V.P entrance. Rebecca de Greyt, RSVP Program Manager and community volunteers operate this program. They only have the capacity to serve students enrolled in grades K-12. (Sorry no preschooler or infant clothing is available).



Parents must first obtain a voucher from their child’s school, and may make two (2) visits during the school year. Campus Closet is always in need of **clean gently used school clothes that are in current style.**

We also accept cash donations and can provide a receipt for tax purposes. You mail your checks to RSVP-Campus Closet C/O UCAN-Rebecca de Greyt, 125 NE Manzanita, Grants Pass, OR 97526. Cash donations are used to purchase new socks and underwear, as well as other items of clothing or shoes.

If you are interested in volunteering with Campus Closet, please contact Rebecca de Greyt at 541-956-4474 or by email at [rebecca.degreyt@ucancap.org](mailto:rebecca.degreyt@ucancap.org). There are many opportunities for sorting clothing donations, washing or mending, and working at Campus Closet during our shopping hours.

**END OF THE DAY CHANGES TO DISMISSAL PLANS!**

Just a friendly reminder that if your child is going to have a change in ANY way to how they will be getting home each day, please let the office know NO LATER than 1:30 p.m. The dismissal notes go out to the teachers shortly after that ensuring your children get to where they need to go properly and safely! The end of the day can be a hectic time, and we surely appreciate your understanding and support with this! If you have any questions, please feel free to call the office at any time.





## November/ December

## 2018 Calendar

### NOVEMBER, 2018

- 01 – Highland Choir 2:15 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. (Room 22)
- 02 – Grades 3-5 Jog-a-thon Party @ Motion Matrix 2:15 p.m. – 5:30 p.m. (meet in gym after school)
- 05 – ACES Parent Night 5:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m. (dinner in cafeteria/ presentation in library)
- 06 – Lego Robotics 2:15 p.m. – 3:30 p.m. (Room 17)
- 06 – Highland Choir 2:15 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. (Room 22)
- 06 – PTA Meeting 2:30 p.m. – 3:30 p.m. (Library)
- 08 – 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Music Program 1:30 p.m. – 2:00 & 6:30 p.m. – 7:00 p.m. (gym)
- 12 – **No School** - Veterans Day
- 13 – Highland Choir 2:15 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. (Room 22)
- 13 – Lego Robotics 2:15 p.m. – 3:30 p.m. (Room 17)
- 15 – Highland Choir 2:15 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. (Room 22)
- 19 – **No Classes** – Clerical Day
- 20 – **No Classes** – ½ day Clerical/ Evening Conferences
- 21 – **No Classes** – Conferences
- 22 & 23 – **No School** – Thanksgiving Break
- 26 – Battle of the Books Kick off
- 27 - Highland Choir 2:15 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. (Room 22)
- 27 - Lego Robotics 2:15 p.m. – 3:30 p.m. (Room 17)
- 30 – Battle of the Books Permission Slips Due

### DECEMBER, 2018

- 04 – Highland Choir 2:15 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. (Room 22)
- 04 - Lego Robotics 2:15 p.m. – 3:30 p.m. (Room 17)
- 11 – Highland Choir 2:15 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. (Room 22)
- 12 – Holiday Meal 10:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m. (gym)
- 13 – 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Grade Music Program 1:30 p.m. – 2:00 p.m. & 6:30 p.m. – 7:00 p.m. (gym)
- 21 – Holiday Sing-A-Long 8:15 a.m. – 9:00 a.m.
- 24 – 7 **No School** - Christmas Vacation (school resumes January 7<sup>th</sup>)

### JANUARY, 2019

- 07 – Classes Resume

### HIGHLAND WEB PAGES

If you have access to the internet, take a look at: <http://grantspass.schoolwires.net/Domain/9>

You will find current information, photos of events, school calendar, parent information, and links to other resources.

# Highland Hawks!



*“Together we learn and grow”*