Message from the Principal...

March and early April will be filled with many events so please continue to read the remainder of the newsletter for news on CMAS (State Standardized Testing for grades 3rd-8th) and other important information. Please also check the school’s website and calendar for important dates, as well as the HPS Facebook page. For school specific expectations please check out the Parent-Student Handbook on the school’s website.

“When you’re curious, you find lots of interesting things to do.” -- Walt Disney

See you in the morning!

Sincerely,

Danielle Feeney
Principal, High Plains School
CMAS

The week of March 25th-29th third through eighth grade HPS students will participate in Colorado Measures of Academic Success (CMAS) for English Language Arts and Mathematics. The week of April 8th-12th fifth and eighth grade HPS students will participate in CMAS tests for Science. Please avoid scheduling appointments or taking students out during this window. A specific testing schedule for both CMAS windows will be communicated via email and on our website page. To learn more about CMAS please go to https://www.thompsonschools.org/Page/20134

Thompson School District is in the business of educating students. We are preparing our students to have the knowledge and skills for their future college and career choices. The results from the CMAS assessments provide:

- Valuable information about student achievement toward grade level expectations
- Evidence of student growth from one school year to the next
- Evidence of the skills and competencies necessary for college and career readiness

The results of the assessment are utilized by the Thompson community in the following ways:

- Students and parents can identify areas of strength and improvement
- Schools use the results to assist in accelerated/intervention course placement
- Teachers make decisions to better support individual students during instruction
- District-level administration utilizes the results to determine the effectiveness of curriculum and instructional practices which support decisions that are made with regard to professional development and the use of resources.
Bison buck winner

Daniel Wolfgang, a 4th grader in Mrs. Knutzen’s class, was recognized for showing Bison R.E.S.P.E.C.T.! He received a Bison Buck and had his name drawn. Great job being Responsible, Empathetic, Safe, Persevering, Empowered, and Trustworthy! Congratulations, Daniel!

Lost and Found

Lost and found is overflowing! Whatever is left over after parent teacher conferences will be donated on March 15th so have your student take a peek before then!
**Penny Wars**

Grab your nickels, pennies and dimes, it time for the HPS Penny War! The Penny War will be from March 4- March 15th!

The High Plains Student Ambassadors are proud to be raising money for the Pennies for Patients Leukemia and Lymphoma Foundation. Classes will be competing to win a Cartoon and Cereal Party in class with their favorite Saturday Morning Cereals!

Our Goal is to raise $2,019! We can do it!

Here are the rules for the Penny War! Each piece of money donated will have a point associated to it.

- Penny- 1pt
- Nickel- 5pts
- Dime 10-pts
- Quarter-25 pts

HOWEVER! This is what truly makes it a Penny War! Any money in paper form is worth Negative points! Which means that you can help your class win by putting more dollar bills in other class's buckets!

It's a race to see who can raise the most money and stay on top!

Thank you for support and helping the Student Ambassadors raise money to help people and show how much the HPS Bison truly care about others.

Questions? See Ms. Salmon or Mr. Waido
**Spirit week!**

As the 3rd Quarter Comes to a close, let's celebrate by showing our Bison Pride!

Spirit Week will be March 11-15th

- **Monday**- Dress As Your Favorite Character (book or movie)
- **Tuesday**- Back to the Future (Dress like someone from your favorite decade!)
- **Wednesday**- Bison Gear Day!
- **Thursday**- Lucky Charms Day! Every grade level will be given a color so that we can make a rainbow!
- **Friday**- Switch Day! (Teachers dress like students and students dress like teachers!)

For Lucky Charms Day, see the following to see what color to wear!

- Preschool/Kindergarten- Red
- 1st Grade- Orange
- 2nd Grade- Yellow
- 3rd Grade- Green
- 4th Grade- Blue
- 5th Grade Purple/Violet
- 6th Grade- Bison Blue
- 7th Grade- White/Silver
- 8th Grade- Black

Go Bison!
2018-2019 Calendar of Music Events

Students who are performing need to arrive 30 minutes before the concert time, unless otherwise stated by Mrs. Lemons. Note: Dates and times are subject to change for any reason. You will be notified as soon as possible.

- March 1, 2, 8 and 9 [multiple day event opportunities - not required for any student to attend] - MVHS Theatre presents "The Little Mermaid" @ MVHS
- March 5 [Tuesday] all day event - "A Day in the Arts" 8th ONLY Grade Feeder Day @ MVHS
- March 9 [Saturday] 8 am-4 pm - HPS Instrumental Solo & Ensembles Festival @ HPS (only offered for 6-8th grade Band students- this is a required PBL project)
- March 27 [Wednesday] 4-7 pm - Instrument Rental Event for 5th grade Band with Music & Arts @ HPS Music Room
- April 17 [Wednesday] 6:30 pm - Kindergarten & 1st Grade Spring Program @ HPS Gym (order a music shirt for $6 from Mrs. Lemons if you do not already own one)
- April 25-27 [Thursday-Saturday] three-day festival - UNC Jazz Festival @ UCCC Greeley (Jazz Band Field Trip- most likely on Friday)
High Plains PTCO
What’s Up!

Mark Your Calendar!

- PTCO Meeting – Tuesday, March 12th at 6:30 pm – Childcare will be provided!!!
- Chipotle Fundraiser Night – March 11th
- Spring Carnival – April 5th from 5:30-7:30 pm

We Appreciate Your Support

- Thank you to everyone who participated in the Studio Vino fundraiser! We raised $150 for our school!
- Movie Night was a success! Thank you to all our volunteers, Puss and Boots had a good turn out and everyone had fun!
- Thank you to everyone who brought in food for our teachers during conference time! The entire staff was grateful and loved the food!

Caps4Cash - Morning Fresh Dairy Products

- You can earn cash for our school by drinking milk or juice! Caps4Cash is a Morning Fresh Dairy program where High Plains School can earn cash by collecting caps from Morning Fresh Dairy bottles.
- Each bottle cap earns 5¢ for our school and all you have to do is save your bottle caps, bring them to school and drop them off in the collection bucket located in the office!
- We can earn even more money by getting our friends and family involved! Ask them to save Morning Fresh bottle caps for our school too!

King Soopers Gift Card fundraiser - Sign up online to get your card

- Simply load your card before purchasing groceries or gas
- 5% of your everything you spend will benefit the High Plains PTCO
- Get more details and sign up at www.highplainsptco.org/fundraising

continued on next page
Amazon Smile

Did you know you can earn money for High Plains School while shopping on Amazon?? AmazonSmile is the same Amazon that you know. Same products, same prices, same service. Follow these 3 easy steps and Amazon will donate 0.5% of the price of your eligible AmazonSmile purchases to the High Plains PTCO. Thank you for helping support our school!

- Go to smile.amazon.com and login to your amazon account.
- Search for and select High Plains PTCO in Loveland, CO.
- Start Shopping!! The same Amazon products you love will be available!
- ** In order to support the PTCO you must always start your shopping at https://smile.amazon.com/

Volunteer Opportunities

- All Volunteers must register online: www.thompsonschools.org/volunteer
- Current Opportunities: www.highplainsptco.com/volunteer

The High Plains Parent Teacher Community Organization (PTCO)

- Visit our website to learn about who we are, why we are here, and how you can help! www.highplainsptco.org
- Have questions? Would like to volunteer? Shoot us an email! highplainsk8ptco@gmail.com
- Like us on Facebook for up-to-date information!

The purpose of the High Plains PTCO is to enhance and support the educational experience, to develop a close connection between school, home and community by encouraging parental involvement, and to improve the environment at High Plains School through volunteer and financial support.
**Thompson School District**

**2018-2019 Spelling Bee Winners**

This past month we sent 11 elementary students and 4 middle school students to the Thompson School District Spelling Bee to represent High Plains School!!! If you see the following students, please wish them congratulations:

Natallia L., Nathaniel L., Zoey H. and Jay H. all passed the written round, advanced to the oral round and placed in the top 25 for Elementary students!!

Anderson H. passed the written round, advanced to the oral round and took home the 3rd place trophy for Middle School students!! He will be advancing to the State Spelling Bee held in Denver this March! Wish him luck!

Congratulations to all of our participants, thank you for having the courage to challenge yourself and for representing High Plains well!!! Everyone should feel proud, as we are very proud of you!! Go Bison!!!

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**Talent show**

HPS Talent Show is coming back to High Plains!!

Do you have a special interest or talent you would like to show off and share? Start practicing now!

Information on tryouts will go out the week after March Break. Tryouts will be the week of April 8th. There will be 4 ‘show us how you are doing’ practices, a dress rehearsal, and then the show the middle of May.

So start practicing!
Reading Matters!

HERE’S THE IMPACT OF READING 20 MINUTES PER DAY!

A student who reads 20:00 minutes per day will be exposed to 1.8 MILLION words per year and scores in 90th PERCENTILE on standardized tests.

A student who reads 5:00 minutes per day will be exposed to 282,000 words per year and scores in 50th PERCENTILE on standardized tests.

A student who reads 1:00 minute per day will be exposed to 8,000 words per year and scores in 10th PERCENTILE on standardized tests.

Source: Nagy, Anderson and Herman, 1987
News from the Library

A Reminder on the Value of Practice

Students at High Plains are fortunate to have a wealth of digital resources at their fingertips. Thousands of ebooks can be accessed at any time by following these five easy steps:

- Visit our school's website (highplainsschool.org)
- Select "Library" under the "Resources" tab.
- Click on the Follett Destiny icon in order to search our catalog and read or borrow ebooks.
- Choose to log in using Google SSO if in district or by entering district credentials:
  - **Student user name**: student’s district username (if an email address is requested, simply add @thompsonschools.org to the username)
  - **Password**: student’s district password (student number preceded by three student-specific numbers/letters) *(Note: You can find your child’s username and password on Parent Portal. Please contact Megan McGee at megan.mcgee@thompsonschools.org if you have any questions.)*

Happy Reading!

Wellness celebration

High Plains: Mark your calendar for our first Family Wellness Celebration.

All are invited to come and enjoy friends, food, and wellness activities including 100 Mile Club laps and information, yoga classes, UC Health programs, Healthy Hearts Club, bicycle safety, self-care, prizes, and more.

**Tuesday, May 7th, 2019 5:00 - 7:00 pm**

More information will be coming as we get closer to this great opportunity to celebrate wellness with your High Plains family.
Our Mission Statement

High Plains School’s Give Next class wants to help prevent child abuse and help support child welfare. With the generous funding from local community donors, we hope to promote child welfare and aim to stop child abuse with the support of local nonprofit organizations.

We are continuing to read through the 17 grant applications we received. We hope to have them all read and rated before we go on Spring Break.

Valentine Fundraisers

A BIG ❤️ THANK YOU to everyone who purchased a valentine during our Valentine fundraiser. We ended up making almost 300 Valentines! As of this printing we are still figuring out how much we made.

Valentine FUN

Our class had so much fun helping the 1st grade make their Valentine boxes.
**Hot Chocolate**

Our class will continue to sell hot chocolate on Thursdays until March 14 – after school near the flagpole. 50 cents will buy a cup of hot chocolate and 75 cents will buy a cup of hot chocolate with marshmallows. Stay warm and drink hot chocolate.

**Thank you**

- To all of you who purchased a Valentine or a cup of hot chocolate
- To all of you who donated MORE THAN necessary
- We truly appreciate the additional funds

Thank you ~ Thank you ~ Thank you
Hello from the Art Room! We have exciting things happening soon. The Thompson District Art show will be taking place this year at the Loveland Museum from March 9- April 21. The opening reception will be Friday, March 8 from 4pm-6pm. The following students will have art on display for this show.

Saydee Francis-Louy
Annie Farrington
Joy Mellott
Malia Joshi
Taylor Paterson
Jordan Sorge
Charli Scofield
Lacey Berg
Alex Ellis
Tyler Joshi
McKenna Odorizzi
Miles Williamson
Brodie Hundertmark
Cooper Roderick
Levy Cole
Zahara Herman
Monique Ennis
Jackson Stewart
Quentin Culbertson
Aven Hernandez
Hunter Jackson
Elizabeth Shelburn
Izabella Atwood
Viviana Tomasini-Keever
Davia Krause
Daniel Tyszko
Delaney Uhrich
Keira Deboodt
Emme Criste
Emery Moore
Kendall Neely
Layne Rabon
Camille Thompson
August Gilioti
Delaney Clark
Charis Howe

Congratulations Bison!
Come check out their amazing work! There will also be an Art Teacher art exhibit at the museum at the same time as the student show.
Thank you,
Alicia Thompson
**Counselor’s Corner**

We are working hard at High Plains to support our students’ social-emotional learning. Managing emotions, resolving conflict, making decisions, and showing empathy are all part of our social-emotional development, and it takes time and practice to develop these skills. We have several things in place at High Plains to help support this area of development!

This semester, we are excited to welcome Quinn Hutchinson to the counseling team! Ms. Hutchinson is a master’s student at Colorado State University in the Counseling and Career Development program. Last semester, she completed a full time internship at Turning Point Center for Youth and Family Development as part of her Mental Health specialization for her graduate program. This semester she is completing her internship at High Plains for her School Counseling specialization. Ms. Hutchinson is a great resource and is excited to support our students’ social-emotional development. Welcome, Ms. Hutchinson!

**Second Step Spotlight!**

In Second Step, your student is learning how to identify emotions in themselves and others, which helps students build empathy and resolve conflicts. You can support this learning at home. Ask your child’s teacher for Second Step resources you can use at home. The poem below is from the 4th grade Second Step. Ask your student what they think these lyrics mean, and what empathy looks like in action!

**4th Grade Second Step:**

*You gotta walk, walk, walk*

*Walk in their shoes*

*Take a look and see what they’re seeing*

*Walk, walk, walk*

*Walk in their shoes*

*Try to understand*

*What it would feel like to be them*

*You gotta walk, walk, walk*

*Walk in their shoes*

*Empathy is what we’re saying*

*Recognize those feelings*

*You’ve felt them too*

*That’s empathy*
A Family-Based Approach to Self-Harm and Suicide Prevention

Presentation by Dr. Eddie Mockus, Ph.D., LP

Dr. Eddie Mockus is a Licensed Psychologist and received his Ph.D. in School Psychology. Eddie has provided mental health and therapeutic support to children and families since 2006. His combination of clinic- and school-based training has provided experience and expertise working with families, schools, and primary care providers.

**Intended for all Parents/Guardians/Family Members of Adolescents; as well as Educators and Community Members and other Youth Serving Individuals**

**Wednesday, March 6th, 2019**
Bill Reed Middle School
370 W. 4th Street, Loveland

5:45pm-6:15pm District & Community Resources & A Light Dinner, Refreshments will be available

6:15pm-7:30pm Adult Session: Dr. Eddie Mockus

6:15pm-7:30pm Youth Session: “How Do We Rest Our Brains?” (**Details Below)**

Youth Session: "How Do We Rest Our Brains? Join us for some super fun activities and learn about Mindfulness, Healthy Coping Practices, Better Ways to Handle our Stressful Lives, and Practice Some Brain Break Techniques. You will be able to walk away with new strategies for everyday life." Presented by: Amy McFall, LCSW and Kayleanne Murdock, MSW

For Additional Questions or Information Please Contact Jessica Shiveley at Jessica.shiveley@thompsonschools.org
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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
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<tr>
<td>March 1st</td>
<td>No School</td>
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<tr>
<td>March 4th – 15th</td>
<td>Penny Wars</td>
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<td>March 4th</td>
<td>Track &amp; Field Parent Meeting 5:15pm</td>
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<td>March 5th</td>
<td>8th Grade “Arts” Feeder Day (MVHS)</td>
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<td>March 6th</td>
<td>Late Start 9:20am</td>
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<td>March 9th</td>
<td>HPS Instrumental Solo &amp; Ensembles Festival 8:00am – 4:00pm</td>
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<td>March 11th – 15th</td>
<td>Spirit Week</td>
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<td>PTCO Meeting 6:30pm</td>
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<td>March 13th</td>
<td>Late Start 9:20am</td>
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<td>March 18th – 22nd</td>
<td>Spring Break</td>
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<td>March 25th – 29th</td>
<td>3rd-8th CMAS ELA and Math Assessments</td>
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<td>March 27th</td>
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<td>March 27th</td>
<td>Instrument Rental Event 4:00pm – 7:00pm</td>
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<td>April 3rd</td>
<td>Late Start 9:20am</td>
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<td>April 5th</td>
<td>Spring Carnival 5:30pm – 7:30pm</td>
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<td>April 8th-12th</td>
<td>5th &amp; 8th CMAS Science Assessments</td>
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<td>April 10th</td>
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<td>April 16th</td>
<td>PTCO Meeting 6:30pm</td>
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<td>April 17th</td>
<td>Kindergarten/1st grade Music Concert 6:30pm</td>
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