



BOBCAT BITS

HEMINGFORD PUBLIC SCHOOLS

December 2008



Thayer's Thoughts



Did you breathe easier during the month of November? It seems like the pace was lighter, however I am still not sure where the month went. December is here and I would like more of November back (minus the wind). Please take time during the break to visit with your children about what is happening in their lives whether it be friends, work, grades, aspirations, or stressors. They do have a lot to deal with on a daily basis.

Academic Information

Progress Reports

Progress Reports are an indication of what changes may need to be made for your student for the remaining of the quarter. Some are meeting the academics standards while some students may need to push to maintain a passing grade. Teachers are available for students either in the morning or after school. If a student is part of an activity and receives help after school, the teacher will provide a note for the coach or sponsor so they are excused. Also feel free to contact the teacher via phone or email.

Semester Testing

December 18th and 19th will be reserved for final testing. Periods 4, 5, 6 and 7 will be tested on December 18th and Periods 1, 2, 3 will be tested on December 19th. Students will be taking semester test during their regularly scheduled periods. School will be dismissed for Christmas break at 1:00. Lunch will be served that day. A slight change in the testing schedule to accommodate students leaving for basketball in Bridgeport.

Schedule Changes

All 7-12 schedule changes must be completed prior to leaving for Christmas break. If a student is thinking about re-arranging their schedule, they will need to stop in the guidance office and pick up the add or drop form to be signed by a parent.

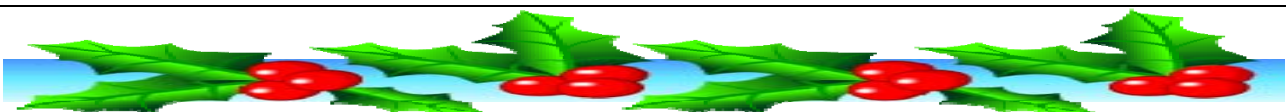
ACT Testing Date—Students have the opportunity during their SSR reading period to work through a practice test. Each section is reviewed by a faculty member.

---February 7, 2009 (Registration Deadline January 6)

---April 4, 2009 (Registration Deadline February 27)

Report Cards

Report Cards for the 2nd quarter/1st semester will be mailed out upon returning from the Christmas break. The tentative date for mailing will be the week when school resumes.





Thayer's Thoughts Cont.



School Activities



One-Act Competition—Public Performance—December 2

Prior to leaving for District competition on Wednesday, December 3 will be a public performance of the One-Act Play. The play is entitled "The Remarkable Susan". Curtains will open at 7:00 pm under the direction of Tabi Bryner and Kelly Thompson.

Music—Christmas Concert

Since the feedback was positive and patrons seemed to enjoy having the Christmas Concert as an one evening joint venture; Hemingford is again planning to combine the events to be held on Thursday, December 11th. There will be a short break to reset needed areas.

- **Elementary Christmas Concert –at 6:00 pm**

High School Christmas Concert—estimated: 7:30 pm

Winter Activities

December starts the 9th, JV and Varsity schedules for speech, wrestling, and basketball. Please check the school calendar found on the website for dates, location and times. Some have changed since the Booster Calendar was printed.

No Activities



NSAA has placed a 5-day moratorium on students in school activities starting Wednesday, December 24th running through Sunday, December 28th. No practicing or coaching is allowed in the facility during this time.

K-12 Planet

I appreciate the phone calls if you encounter problems trying to access K12 planet. Sometimes this is the only way the we find out there is a glitch. It may be possible that the program runs differently off-site than in-house. It is wonderful that parents and students are using this site as a source of information. If you have any questions, please contact Ms. Thayer at pthayer@panesu.org The website for K12 Planet will be a link off the school's web page which is located at www.hemingfordschools.org



Fostering Education



HEADING TOWARDS DECEMBER

We are over half way into the second quarter of school already. Progress reports have come home again for a second time; I hope you are pleased with them. Please don't hesitate to contact your child's teacher with any concerns. Please ask your child about their day at school when you see them. I know that they will be excited to share with you. We hope your child is as excited about learning as we are about teaching them. I believe that we are making wonderful progress each day, but can always strive for more. **Our goal is to help each student reach and pass their potential.**

6th GRADE DIME CARNIVAL

The 6th grade students will be holding a dime carnival on December 5th to raise money for their spring field trip. Please ask a 6th grade student for more details about this exciting upcoming event.

SUPERVISION

Parents our elementary school hours are from 8:15 a.m. – 3:18 p.m. We provide supervision from 7:45 a.m. – 3:30 p.m. All children are expected to leave the school grounds by 3:30 p.m. There will be no supervision after 3:30 p.m. on any area of the school grounds including the playground, thus we don't want any children here after 3:30 p.m. The school will not be responsible for any injuries that may occur after this time. Please make prior arrangements if you have younger children waiting for older siblings to finish their athletic practice. Your child's safety is our number one concern.

COATS

Please make sure your child has the appropriate clothing for the weather. **We miss them when they are absent from school.** Even though we try to make up their work, they have missed that interaction with their peers and teachers. **Also, please label their jackets, hats, and gloves with their name.** We don't want anyone to lose their winter clothing items.

UPCOMING DATES OF INTEREST

***December 11th --- K - 12 Christmas program starting at 6:00 p.m. ***

PLEASE NOTICE: The program will start at 6:00 p.m. with the elementary, have a short break, and conclude with the high school program.

December 5th ----- 6th Grade Dime Carnival

December 19th ---- 1:00 p.m. Dismissal

December 20th – Jan. 4^h --- (Christmas Break)

Jan. 5^h ---- School Resumes



COMMUNICATION

Together we can make a difference ☺ Call us with any questions at 487-3330.



Student Effort Award Fall 2008

K-3 Kaitlyn Fritzler (1)

4-6 Kaitlyn Kumpf (4), Lee Jespersen (5), Keelie Campbell (5), Brooke Hinojosa (5)

7-8 Miguel Rodriguez (7), Cassie Elder (8)

9-12 Emily Sample (10), Jessica Van Coppenolle (11), Jacob King(12), Dalton Hunger (12)

Congratulations on your effort and keep up the great work!



If you have any questions about the student effort award, please contact Mandy Plog, 487-3330.



Math Corner– 2nd Grade



Keep math part of your holiday tradition!!

Shopping:

With shopping for the season, ask your child to use his or her math know-how to find the best bargains in the store. Your young helper can bring along a notepad and pencil to calculate the actual costs of items per unit (for example, the price of a single item when a dozen costs two dollars). Using his or her figures, your child can advise you about such issues as which brands are the best buys and whether to buy bigger or smaller packages. Your child can also work on percentages, decimals and money when shopping for those special Christmas items.

In the Kitchen:

Being in the kitchen is not only a great time to spend some quality time with your child; it is also a great time to work on fractions. You can take a recipe and re-write the ingredients list depending on the concept you want to teach. For example, if you want to work on adding fractions you might write that a recipe calls for $\frac{1}{4}$ plus $\frac{1}{4}$ cups of sugar or doubling a recipe would be a great way to add fractions also.

Creating Holiday Crafts:

When creating holiday crafts with your children, there are endless ways to incorporate math into your craft. Talk about shapes and patterns. Practice measuring with a ruler or a yardstick. Practice multiplication by multiplying the number of items needed for one project times the number of projects to construct. (Ex. 2 eyes for one project, 6 eyes for three)

Check out these Fun Math Websites:

www.coolmath4kids.com

www.funbrain.com





Giorgi's Gym



New Guinness World Record Set!

On Thursday, November 13, one hundred thirty six students at Hemingford Schools took part in the 3rd annual World Sport Stacking Association (WSSA) STACK UP! during their physical education class. This worldwide effort included stackers from across the United States and around the world including 25 other countries. A new Guinness World Record was set with 193,501 people sport stacking at multiple locations in one day.

SPEED STACKS FOR SALE

I will be taking Speed Stack (Cup Stacking) orders until December 5. Interested students will be bringing an order form home. Orders may be made online or the order form filled out and returned to school with a check made out to Speed Stacks Inc. These would make a great Christmas gift!

SKIP'N CATS STARTING

Level 1 Skip'n Cats starts Wednesday, January 14, 2008, at 7:45 am in the Elementary Gym. The Skip'n Cats Rope Skipping Team is open to any 2nd - 12th grade student. Handbooks and medical release forms can be picked up from Mrs. Giorgi after Christmas break and must be signed and returned on the first day of practice.



Merry Fitness!

Mrs. G



Math Corner-Lisa Janssen



The Holiday Greeting Problem

Solve the following equation for Z:

$$\frac{XMZ}{ERM} = \frac{RY}{AS}$$

(Hint: Don't divide out common factors!
Do rearrange letters...)

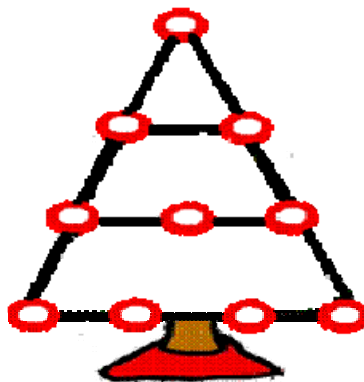
ANSWER:

$$Z = \frac{MER^2Y}{XMAS}$$

The Christmas Tree / Hanukah Bush Problem

Place each of the numbers from 1 to 10 on the ornaments below so that every line adds up to the same number. There are five lines (there are three lines containing four ornaments, one line with three ornaments, and one line with just two ornaments).

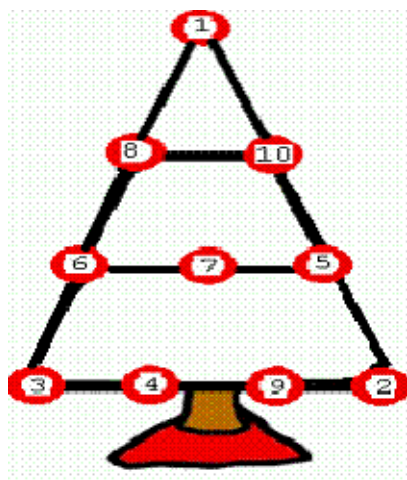
Here is the tree without the trimmings:





Math Corner-Cont.

Solutions



Other configurations

```

      1
    10  8
  5    7    6
2    4    9    3
  
```

```

      1
    10  8
  5    7    6
2    9    4    3
  
```

```

      1
    8    10
  6    7    5
3    9    4    2
  
```

WorldStrides



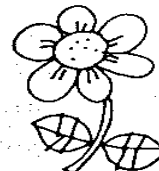
WORLDSTRIDES – The WorldStrides group has been busy with wreath sales and other activities. Wreaths will be in shortly after Thanksgiving. Maria Ramos tells me she is planning to do a Mexican dinner so watch for details on that – it is always great food! Also, the last fundraiser is the Italian Buffet which will be January 17. The students will be out selling tickets for that in the near future.



Mr. Olson-Speech -Language Pathologist



If You Think Your Child Has a Speech Problem



Your child's speech begins with early vocalizations at 2 or 3 months, followed by babbling (playful, vocal sound) around 5 to 7 months, and then jargon (strings of sounds or syllables produced with a variety of stress and intonation) from 8 to 24 months. These various types of vocalizations usually continue through the child's first 50 words. By 12 months, the child is starting to string the sounds together to form "true" words.

How intelligible is your child's speech to a stranger during his early years? There is a broad range of normal, but typically a child at 19 to 24 months of age is 25% to 50% intelligible to strangers. At 2 to 3 years, the child is 50% to 75% intelligible. At 3 to 4 years, the child is 80% intelligible. At 4 to 5 years, the child is 90% to 100% intelligible to a stranger, though a few articulation errors may be present.

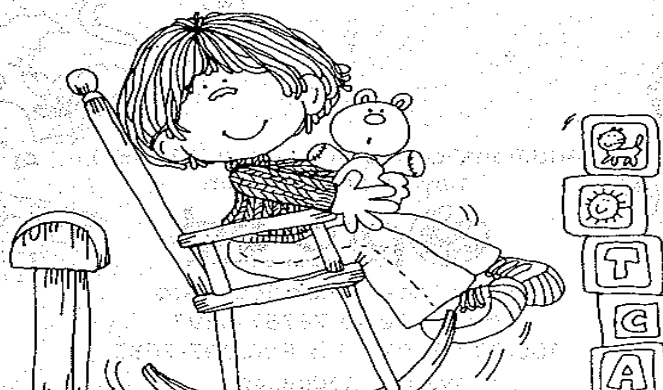
Individual speech sounds are developed gradually. Many studies have reported the ages at which children typically produce each speech sound in the first or final position in words. A child may produce a sound correctly 50% of the time for months and sometimes a year or two, before the sound is always correct. According to A. Peña-Brooks and M. Hegde, in *Assessment and Treatment of Articulation and Phonological Disorders in Children* (2000; Austin, TX: PRO-ED), the following sounds can be expected to be produced correctly at these ages:

By age 3: *h, w, m, n, b, p, f*

By age 4: *d, t, y* (as in *yes*), *k, g, ng*

By age 6: *l, j* (as in *jump*), *ch* (as in *chair*), *sh* (as in *shoe*), *v* (Errors with *r, s, z, th* (as in *thing*), *th* (as in *father*) and *zh* (as in *garage*) may persist.)

By age 8 to 9: Child matches the adult standard for the production of all consonant sounds.





You can help your child speak more clearly if you . . .

- use short sentences but don't use baby talk
- model correct speech for your child
- pronounce words slowly and correctly for the child to hear and imitate
- look at your child when you both are talking



- let the child watch your face, lips, and tongue as you form sounds and words, prolonging the speech sound the child has difficulty saying (for example, "Where is your sssock?")



- repeat new words and sounds over and over, and use them often in your conversation with the child

- make a scrapbook with your child; cut out and paste pictures of objects the child learns to say or recognize

- give cues or prompts, such as "Try that name again," or "It's not 'boap,' it's (soap)."

- praise your child when sounds are correct, especially if the sounds were previously difficult for the child



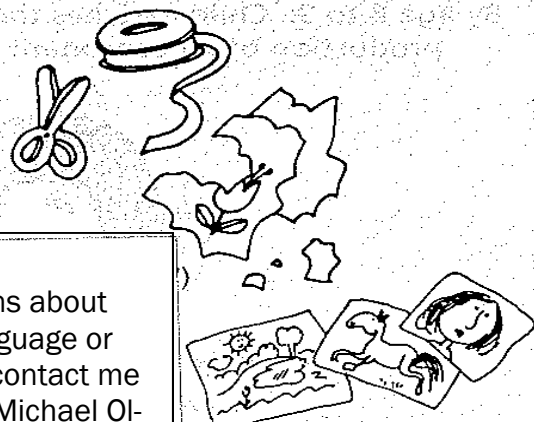
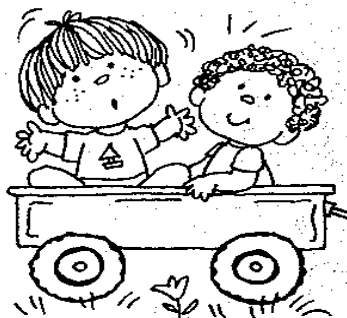
You should take your child to a speech-language pathologist if . . .

- your child does not produce speech sounds appropriate for his or her age
- strangers have difficulty understanding your child's speech if he or she is 3 years or older

- your child's teacher reports that other children make fun of your child's speech

- your child shows frustration with his or her speech

Contact the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association to assist you in locating a professional speech-language pathologist in your area (www.asha.org).



If you have any questions about your child's speech, language or any other area, please contact me at school- 487-3330. Michael Olson, Speech-Language Pathologist.



COUNSELOR 'S

O
R
N
E
R

Seniors – Education Quest is conducting statewide financial aid programs that explain the types of financial aid, how to complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA), how colleges award financial aid, and the student loan process. The programs are free and open to the public. The financial aid program for Hemingford will be held on January 13 at 4:00 p.m. More information will be forthcoming.

Juniors – Juniors need to attend the financial aid program also. Check the senior section to see what the program is about.

I will be conducting 15 minute individual academic conferences with all the juniors concerning next year. These conferences will be held during the month of December. We will be discussing many different topics. These topics include transcripts, drop/add, academic requirements, plans for life after graduation, and many other topics as well. If you have any questions, don't hesitate to call me at (308)487-3328.

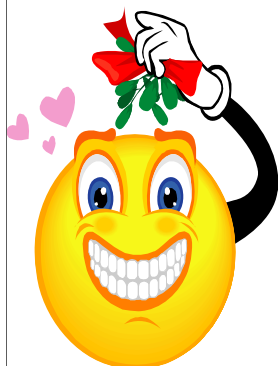
The next registration date for the ACT is January 6. The test date is February 7.

The third through fifth grade will again be working on social and academic responsibility. The sixth grade is continuing with leaning social responsibility.

As parents, students, and educators, we need to remember to treat each other with respect so that we can receive respect back.



Christmas Program K-12



December 11, 2008

Christmas Program K-6 at 6:00 p.m.

Short Break

High School-estimated time at 7:30 p.m.



Inside Story Headline

This story can fit 150-200 words.

One benefit of using your newsletter as a promotional tool is that you can reuse content from other marketing materials, such as press releases, market studies, and reports.

While your main goal of distributing a newsletter might be to sell your product or service, the key to a successful newsletter is making it useful to your readers.

A great way to add useful content to your newsletter is to develop and write your own articles, or include a calendar of upcoming events or a special offer that promotes a new product.

You can also research articles or find

This story can fit 150-200 words.

One benefit of using your newsletter as a promotional tool is that you can reuse content from other marketing materials, such as press releases, market studies, and reports.

While your main goal of distributing a newsletter might be to sell your product or service, the key to a suc-



Caption describing picture or graphic.

cessful newsletter is making it useful to your readers.

A great way to add useful content to your newsletter is to develop and write your own articles, or include a calendar of upcoming events or a special offer that promotes a new product.

You can also research articles or find "filler" articles by accessing the World Wide Web. You can write about a variety of topics but try to keep your articles short.

Much of the content you put in your newsletter can also be used for your Web site.

Inside Story Headline

This story can fit 100-150 words.

The subject matter that appears in newsletters is virtually endless. You can include stories that focus on current technologies or innovations in your field.

You may also want to note business or economic trends, or make predictions for your customers or clients.

If the newsletter is distrib-

"To catch the reader's attention, place an interesting sentence or quote from the story here."

This story can fit 100-150 words.

The subject matter that appears in newsletters is virtually endless. You can include stories that focus on current technologies or innovations in your field.

You may also want to note business or economic trends, or make predictions for your customers or clients.

If the newsletter is distrib-

uted internally, you might comment upon new procedures or improvements to the business. Sales figures or earnings will show how your business is growing.

Some newsletters include a column that is updated every issue, for instance, an advice column, a book review, a letter from the president, or an editorial. You can also profile new employees or top customers or vendors.

Inside Story Headline

This story can fit 75-125 words.

Selecting pictures or graphics is an important part of adding content to your newsletter.

Think about your article and ask yourself if the picture supports or enhances the message you're trying to convey. Avoid selecting images that appear to be out of context.

Microsoft Publisher includes thousands of clip art images from which you can

This story can fit 75-125 words.

Selecting pictures or graphics is an important part of adding content to your newsletter.

Think about your article and ask yourself if the picture supports or enhances the message you're trying to convey. Avoid selecting images that appear to be out of context.

Microsoft Publisher includes thou-



Caption describing picture or graphic.

choose and import into your newsletter. There are also several tools you can use to draw shapes and symbols.

Once you have chosen an image, place it close to the article. Be sure to place the caption of the image near the image.



MERRY CHRISTMAS FROM ALL THE STAFF OF HEMINGFORD PUBLIC SCHOOLS

*Casper Ningen
Peggy Thayer
Ron Foster
Cindy Ahrens
Gina Benda
Sue Benzel
Kassy Broadway
Tobie Buchheit
Deb Campbell
Amanda Chancellor
Jeanette Chasek
David Chatelain
Ann Chesley
Joseph Collins
Joi Cullan
Brenda Davies
Sally Engelhaupt
Cathy Fingar
Linda Folkerts
Jennifer Gasseling
Nancy Giorgi
Lisa Haas
Sandy Haas
Dee Hannaford
Angie Harvey
Randy Hiemstra
Kay Horstman
Jeanette Hucke
Ramona Hucke
Pamela Huddle
Lisa Janssen
Phyllis Jesse
Gordon Karney*

*Joyce Klemke
Cindy Lanik
Tim Lanik
Karla Mapes
Kerri Morrison
Brienne Moudry
Suzannee Neefe
Christy Ningen
Brad Olson
Michael Olson
Michelle Osmotherly
Shawn Phillips
Mandy Plog
Robyn Prochazka
Brenda Robb
Patrick Robinson
Dorothy Rowe
Sue Shaver
Marv Spath
Brandy Stark
Judy Stewart
Tre Surbeck
Kelly Thompson
Pat Vogel
Marla Wade
Rozie Wax
Lynn Weldon
Kim Wills
Kim Yardley
Nancy Yardley
Dennis Zajic
Nancy Zajic*