

# Bobcat Bits

BOBCAT BITS

NEWSLETTER

## Fostering Education

### HEADING TOWARDS FEBR.

We are into the third quarter of school, it just doesn't seem possible. It seems like yesterday that I was welcoming the students back for the beginning of the school year. Progress reports will be coming home again very soon. It has been an excellent school year so far. I'm very proud of both students and teachers for all of their hard work and dedication. Our goal is to help each student reach and pass their potential. This can be achieved when teachers, students, and parents work together as one.

### 5 WAYS TO RAISE A READER

1. Make stories come alive for your child when you read. Be animated and use different voices.
2. Be patient - let your child read aloud at his or her own pace. Offer help only when needed.
3. Discuss what you read together. Ask questions, and listen attentively to your child's answers.
4. Continue reading together even after your child learns to read.
5. Take along your child's favorite books wherever you go.

### STATE WRITING

Grades 4, 8, and 11 will participate in the state writing. This takes place on Wednesday, January 30<sup>th</sup> and Thursday, January 31<sup>st</sup>. It will be extremely important that you mark these days on the calendar. Please help us by making sure that your child is in attendance.

### UPCOMING DATES OF INTEREST

Feb. 7<sup>th</sup> Progress reports sent home

Feb. 14<sup>th</sup> Valentine's Day

Feb. 18<sup>th</sup> - 1:00 p.m. Dismissal for all students

Feb. 22<sup>nd</sup> - Jump Rope for Heart 10:30 - 11:00 Big Gym

### SCHOOL WEBSITE

Please remember to visit our school website for the latest happenings. The address is: [www.hemingfordschools.org](http://www.hemingfordschools.org)

### KINDERGARTEN ROUND UP

We will be contacting parents who have children that will turn 5 years of age before the October 15<sup>th</sup> deadline. If you are new to the district and have a child who will meet the age requirement, please contact us at 487-3330. We will be having a meeting in April. Items you will need to bring to that meeting are the original or copies of the following: Birth Certificate, Immunization Records, and Social Security Number.

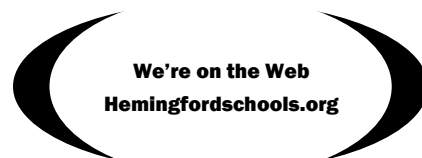
### BOX TOPS FOR EDUCATION

Please remember to save the box tops that are found on many different food items. They allow us to earn money for our school. This is another great way to help our school.

### COMMUNICATION

Together we can make a difference!

Call us with any questions at 487-3330.





# Thayer's Thoughts

Research suggests that academic success is correlated with parent involvement. Please continue to ask your child about assignments, projects, grades and behavior. This would be a good time to check your child's attendance and grades on K12 planet. Third (3<sup>rd</sup>) quarter is generally a better quarter for students and reflects in their grades—thus gives students a little cushion toward the semester grade. Thank you for your involvement. Activities are continuing in full swing. In the event of weather, please listen to the radio for announcements. Also changes are made throughout the month on the school website calendar. You have the most current calendar at the time of the mailing of the newsletter; however, we all know how events can be changed.



## Progress Reports

Believe it or not the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter is mid-way over. Progress reports are scheduled to be mailed out on February 7th. In between time, K12 planet is available for use to check the status of grades. Just a reminder that teachers may update

more than weekly; however, they were required only post grades weekly Monday morning which would mean that K12 planet grades would be new on Tuesday.

## School Wide Events – State-Wide Writing

A system-wide event is the State-wide Writing Day. The date is set for January 30th and 31st. Please mark your calendar—we need all students present at that time. The first day is set for students to do pre-writing. Students will have 40 minutes to develop ideas with a specific prompt. The second day is used to finalize writing. Again students will have 40 minutes. All grades will participate, however; grades 4, 8, 11 writing tests will be submitted to the state and will be scored by an independent group while the other grades plus grades 4, 8, 11 will be scored by the Hemingford faculty on the next assessment day in March. It is great to compare how the state scoring against faculty scoring. Our students had outstanding scores and were top in the Panhandle in last year's writing. The goal is match last year's success.

## Honor Roll

The honor roll can be found in the newsletter includes grades 4-12 for the 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter, 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter and 1<sup>st</sup> Semester. It will be published in the newspaper as well. The Distinguished List will include the names of those students who have earned all "A's". The Honor List will include the names of those students who have all "A's" and "B's" and have earned an average of 90% and above.

## Valentine's Day—Thursday, Febr. 14

It worked well last year, thanks to your support and flower shops to have flowers delivered to us after 1:30. It does help cut down on hurt feelings.



## High Plains Honor Band at CSC February 4 and 5

Selected students will participate at Chadron. This is a super opportunity for our students to work with other musicians and share their talents.

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## Scheduling for Next Year

The scheduling process for the 2008-2009 school year will begin late January—early February. Your son/daughter will be bringing home registrations forms. Please review these forms with your child and help them to choose classes that will best fit his/her needs. All parents must sign prior to entering a schedule. It may be beneficial to plot what classes the student wants to have completed by graduation time. Mrs. Hucke's transitions class (8<sup>th</sup> grade students) is a great start of planning. The web site for Hemingford contains the course descriptions along with what classes are required for each year. Web site address is <http://hemingfordschools.org>

# Distinguished, A/B Honor Roll



## Distinguished 1<sup>st</sup> quarter Honor Roll

6<sup>th</sup> grade - Blake Hansen, Kyle Kaman, Cali Rohrbouck; 7<sup>th</sup> grade - Makenzy Fernandes, Briley Hannaford; 8<sup>th</sup> grade - Katie Heitz, Sandra Mendiola; 9<sup>th</sup> grade - Baily Wood; 10<sup>th</sup> grade - Sandra Mendiola; 12<sup>th</sup> grade - Britt Anderson, Trace Armstrong, Kyle Huss, Megan Roland, Alanna Wacker

## A/B Honor Roll 1<sup>st</sup> quarter

4<sup>th</sup> grade - Brianna Harvey, Jacob Horstman, Anthony Huss, Lee Jespersen, Taylor Jespersen, Kelsey Klaes, Cody Laursen, John Manning, Toby Phillips, Brittany Thomas, Cole Walters, Cooper Weber; 5<sup>th</sup> grade - Hannah Fessler, Colt Foster, Lauren Jensen, Amelia Ludlow, Matthew Wood; 6<sup>th</sup> grade - Sarah Mracek, Christian Jensen, Alexis Phillips, Paige Phillips; 7<sup>th</sup> grade - Brady Horstman, Anna Hughart, Samantha Huss, Kyle Kumpf, Caleb Milne, Kelsy Wood; 8<sup>th</sup> grade - Hans Hansen, Rachel Kaman, Morgan Sutphen; 9<sup>th</sup> grade - Jose Campos Jr., Katee Folkerts, Mindy Gibbons, Zane Jaramillo, Andrea Michael, Bethany Wacker, Stephanie Whipple, Nick Wood; 10<sup>th</sup> grade - NaKaya Fester, Kayla Golka, Brooke Hannaford; 11<sup>th</sup> grade - Joe Haas, Katie Hughart; 12<sup>th</sup> grade - Shauna Fester, Gina Jespersen, Taylor Jespersen, Whitney Morava, Steven Overshiner, Todd Prochazka

## Distinguished 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter Honor Roll

4<sup>th</sup> grade - Jacob Horstman, Taylor Keegan, Cooper Weber; 5<sup>th</sup> grade - Matthew Wood; 6<sup>th</sup> grade - Blake Hansen, Paige Phillips; 7<sup>th</sup> grade - Makenzy Fernandes, Briley Hannaford, Kelsy Wood; 8<sup>th</sup> grade - Kaitlyn Heitz, Sandra Mendiola; 9<sup>th</sup> grade - Baily Wood; 10<sup>th</sup> grade - Karina Mendiola; 12 grade - Britt Anderson, Trace Armstrong, Kyle Huss, Gina Jespersen, Taylor Jespersen, Whitney Morava, Megan Roland.

## A/B Honor Roll 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter.

4<sup>th</sup> grade - Devan Christianson, Lee Jespersen, Kelsey Klaes, Cody Laursen, John Manning, Toby Phillips, Cole Walters; 5<sup>th</sup> grade - Hannah Fessler, Colt Foster, Lauren Jensen, Amelia Ludlow, Christian Rozmiarek; 6<sup>th</sup> grade - Kaitlyn Bergfield, Tyler Huddle, Christian Jensen, Kyle Kaman, Alexis Phillips, Cali Rohrbouck; 7<sup>th</sup> grade - Cassie Elder, Kelli Frahm, Brady Horstman, Anna Hughart, Samantha Huss, Kaitlyn Jespersen, Kyle Kumpf, Taylor Michael, Caleb Milne, Logan Minich, Jesse Savala, Nichole Schekall; 8<sup>th</sup> grade - Hans Hansen, Rachel Kaman, Megan Stethem, Morgan Sutphen; 9<sup>th</sup> grade - Jose Campos Jr., Katee Folkerts, Zane Jaramillo, Andrea Michael, Bethany Wacker, Nick Wood; 10<sup>th</sup> grade - NaKaya Fester, Brooke Hannaford; 11<sup>th</sup> Grade - **Katie Hughart**; 12<sup>th</sup> grade - **Cassie Drake, Shauna Fester, Katie Frahm, Todd Prochazka, Alanna Wacker.**

## Distinguished 1<sup>st</sup> Semester

6<sup>th</sup> grade - Blake Hansen, Paige Prochazka, Cali Rohrbouck; 7<sup>th</sup> grade - Makenzy Fernandes, Briley Hannaford, Brady Horstman; 8<sup>th</sup> grade - Kaitlyn Heitz, Sandra Mendiola; 9<sup>th</sup> grade - Baily Wood; 10<sup>th</sup> grade - Karina Mendiola; 12<sup>th</sup> grade - Britt Anderson, Trace Armstrong, Shauna Fester, Kyle Huss, Gina Jespersen, Megan Roland, Alanna Wacker.

## A/B Honor Roll 1<sup>st</sup> Semester

4<sup>th</sup> grade - Devan Christianson, Jacob Horstman, Anthony Husa, Lee Jespersen, Taylor Keegan, Kelsey Klaes, Cody Laursen, John Manning, Toby Phillips, Rebecca Stone, Brittany Thomas, Cole Walters, Cooper Weber; 5<sup>th</sup> grade - Hannah Fessler, Colt Foster, Lauren Jensen, Amelia Ludlow, Christian Rozmiarek; 6<sup>th</sup> grade - Kaitlyn Bergfield, Christian Jensen, Kyle Kaman, Alexis Phillips; 7<sup>th</sup> grade - Kayla Christianson, Whisper Connor, Cassie Elder, Anna Hughart, Samantha Huss, Kaitlyn Jespersen, Kyle Kumpf, Taylor Michael, Caleb Milne, Nicole Schekall, Kelsy Wood; 8<sup>th</sup> grade - Hans Hansen, Rachel Kaman, Conni Rasmussen, Morgan Sutphen; 9<sup>th</sup> grade - Jose Campos Jr., Katee Folkerts, Zane Jaramillo, Andrea Michael, Emily Sample, Bethany Wacker, Nick Wood; 10<sup>th</sup> grade - NaKaya Fester, Josie Fletcher, Kayla Golka, Brooke Hannaford, Tylor King; 11<sup>th</sup> grade - Katie Hughart; 12<sup>th</sup> grade - Katie Frahm, Taylor Jespersen, Whitney Morava, Todd Prochazka.

# GIORGI'S GYM

February is heart month and our physical education classes will be focusing on the heart this month.



## JUMP ROPE FOR HEART

On Friday, February 22, Hemingford Elementary School will be participating in the American Heart Association's Jump Rope for Heart. These events are held at schools nationwide and not only help students learn about the benefits of regular physical activity and heart health, but also raise funds to support vital heart and stroke research as well as educational programs.

Each student will be bringing home a collection envelope with all the information about participating. There is even an online fund-raising tool found at [www.americanheart.org/jump](http://www.americanheart.org/jump). Click the link "I Am Ready" and your child can personalize his or her own Web page and include a message about why he or she is participating in JRFH. Next send e-mails to friends and family to ask for support. They can donate online by credit card and when you have completed raising money online, print your child's online donation report and include it inside the collection envelope. Refer to the collection envelope for more detailed instructions on online fund raising.

Fund raising is strictly voluntary, and all K-6 students will be participating in the event on February 22 from 10:30 - 11:00 AM. They will be jumping rope in the high school gym with the 9<sup>th</sup> grade PE class helping to organize the event.



## CPR CLASS

If a cardiac arrest happened to your loved one or a close friend would you know what to do? Nurse Judy will be teaching Family & Friends CPR to all the 9<sup>th</sup> graders during their physical education class this month. This class does not provide certification in CPR, but does teach the students how to perform life-saving CPR which can double a victim's chance of survival.



## SKIP'N CATS START

Level 1 Skip'n Cats started on January 9. Twenty nine Level 1 jumpers joined the thirteen Level 2 Skip'n Cats who will be teaching jump roping tricks to the Level 1 group. **Level 2 Skip'n Cats will be performing during the varsity girls 1/2 time on Friday, February 8.**

Keep your heart healthy!

### Option Enrollment

Option enrollment (student requesting a transfer to attend a school district other than the district of residence). Between of September 1st to March 15th, the application must be sent or delivered to the **Option School District**. If after March 15, this application **Must** be accompanied by a **Written** release (waiver) from the Resident District. For Athletics, transfer date for 2007-2008 will be March 15, 2008. Enrollment Option transfers, transfers from public-to-private, private-to-private, intra-district, and transfers from out-of-state must be completed by March 15 (for fall enrollment), and the school receiving the transfer student must notify the NSAA in writing, postmarked no later the March 15, in order that the student can be eligible in the fall. Failure to meet this March 15 deadline will result in a 90 school days ineligibility period for the transfer student. Schools are encouraged to notify students and parents about this date.

## Wade's World—

Wow! Where does the year go?! The 19 juniors traveling to Washington, D.C., have made their final deposits and are ready to leave on March 15. I am especially proud of this group. Eight students earned all their money through the fundraisers. Others had regular jobs during the summer so were not able to participate in all the events, but everyone had their final payments in a timely fashion! At \$1858 each, the total cost was over \$35,000 of which we raised about \$23,000. Good job! We would really like to thank the Country Club for sponsoring the very successful Italian Buffet. Dave, Tori and Helen do a lot of work and planning for us. It is a very generous effort on their part. We also thank Bob and Lisa Haas for being in charge of the wreath sales and for all of you who purchased them. It was another successful endeavor!

The sophomores have anxiously been asking when they start their trip. We will have an organizational meeting at 7:00 p.m., March 4, 2008, in the high school science room. All interested sophomores OR juniors who have not attended before, please attend WITH A PARENT.

As spring approaches, the art classes prepare for the student art shows. Entries for the Box Butte Art Society Show at the Carnegie Arts Center in Alliance are due February 29. Students must be a member, which they can be for a minimal membership fee payable at Steph's Studio in Alliance. Senior entries for the Marg Ustohol Memorial Scholarship are due at this time also. Marg was a former resident of Hemingford who loved art and her family has honored her memory each year since 1979 with this scholarship.

MWade

Save the date for the Dinner Theater!

February 29<sup>th</sup>, March 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup>

Come see two great plays:

**Cinderella**  
in  
**NEW YORK**

and

**The Senior Play**

The shows are cast starring Hemingford's finest 7<sup>th</sup> graders thru seniors! Rehearsals for *Cinderella in New York* are underway and the seniors are days away from selecting a play! We are very excited to get these productions up and running; they promise to provide a night of wonderful entertainment for all ages!

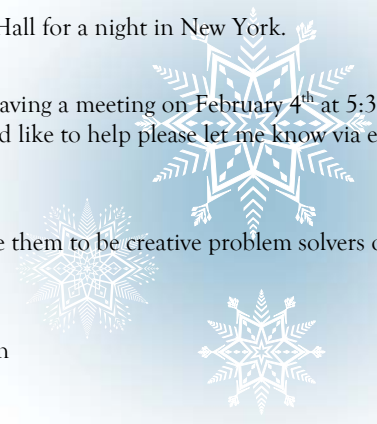
Tickets will go on sale February 15<sup>th</sup>!

We hope that you are able to join us at the Multipurpose Hall for a night in New York.

Parents and Friends of the Drama Department – We need your help!! We will be having a meeting on February 4<sup>th</sup> at 5:30pm in the Library to discuss plans for the dinner theater. If you are unable to attend but would like to help please let me know via email [tbryner@panesu.com](mailto:tbryner@panesu.com) or call me at 308-760-1120.

Thank you for supporting the students' involvement in the arts! We hope to inspire them to be creative problem solvers on and off the stage!

Mrs. Bryner & Mrs. Thompson





## ***FCCLA STUDENTS TAKING ACTION WITH RECOGNITION!!!!***

Wow! I am so proud of our FCCLA STAR participants! They ALL performed wonderfully at district STAR! I am happy to announce that Hemingford will have 5 students that will advance to State! Here are the results:

### ***State qualifiers are:***

**Illustrated talk Sr.:** Megan Roland, Britt Anderson, and Alanna Wacker received a Gold with their presentation on Energy drinks.

**Family Challenges and Issues Sr.:** Katie Hughart, Alysha Kittelmann, and Jessica VanCopenolle

(who filled in for Katie) received a Gold on their presentation on Teen pregnancy.

### ***Other Medalists:***

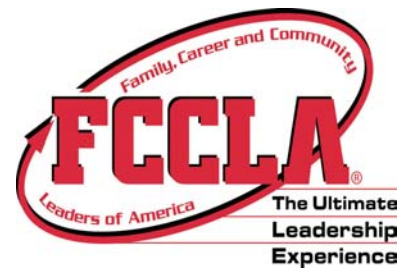
**Health and Wellness Jr.:** Bethany Wacker and Stephanie Whipple received a silver.

**Health and Wellness Sr.:** Shaylea Hinojosa and Allison Ludlow received a gold on their presentation on Cutting.

**National Programs and Action Sr.:** Josie Fletcher and Jessica VanCopenolle received a silver on their Families First presentation.

### ***District officers:***

District President, Taylor Jespersen handed out awards at the district STAR competition. Gina Jespersen was unable to attend due to illness. Hemingford students who are running for a district officer for next year include Katie Hughart, Josie Fletcher, and Alysha Kittelmann.



## **C O U N S E L O R ' S**

## **O R N E R**

### **It' FAFSA Time!**

College-bound seniors, it's time to get serious about the FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) - the application for state, federal and college-specific financial aid. February is typically the time to apply as many colleges have a March 1 priority filing date. (Contact the colleges you applied to and ask about their priority date.)

There are FAFSA Completion Days scheduled @

Alliance - February 25, 2008

Chadron - February 28, 2008

Gordon/Rushville - February 29, 2008

All you have to do is call Education Quest and make an appointment. The number is (800)666-3721.

### **Junior Registration**

The junior class will be registering for classes on January 29 and 31. All parents are requested to sign the registration sheet and send it back with their child. If any questions arise, please don't hesitate to call. They need to know what course requirements are required to graduate from high school and also what course requirements are required to attend their prospective college.

## How to Increase Your Child's Vocabulary

Expanding vocabulary is a lifelong process that begins during a child's earliest months. Long before a child can speak in simple words, phrases, and sentences, the child is forming an extensive vocabulary of words he or she understands.

This learning takes place every time you name things for your child, sing a song, talk recite nursery rhymes, and describe the world as he or she goes through daily activities. Your child's ability to produce vocabulary either verbally or through writing (or signing) follows quickly. A child's vocabulary grows rapidly to around 2,000 words by his or her fifth birthday. Your child learns that words represent objects and actions. Later, a child learns that combined words can be used to change the actions of other people, to reflect on the past and project to the future, and to express feelings and ideas. Parents enrich a child's vocabulary by continually exposing a child to new words and reinforcing the new words by using them in everyday conversation.

You can help to expand your child's vocabulary if you...

- talk, read, and sing to your child, starting at birth

- teach the names of everyday objects as you experience daily activities

- provide experiences to stimulate new vocabulary - go to the park or zoo, go

  - grocery shopping and talk about what you could make with the items and

  - describe the appearance and taste of foods, have a picnic, take a walk, clean

  - the house together, plant a garden

- use a variety of words in your everyday conversation so the child is exposed

  - to a rich vocabulary

- repeat new words until the child uses them

- add new information to expand on what your child is saying and ask questions

  - to stimulate thought and language

- give your child objects to smell, touch, hear, and see while describing them; name

  - the sounds things make (i.e., "Listen to the crinkle of this waxed paper.")

- read often, showing enthusiasm as you explore the pages together

- play children's recordings and sing along with your child

- describe your movements (for example, "Watch how I jump quickly over

  - the ball, but walk slowly to the tree.")

- have your child imitate new words until he or she can say them easily

- make a scrapbook of pictures your child likes and write the names on the pictures

- help your child describe a simple object in as many ways as possible (for example, an

  - apple is round, smooth, cold, red, shiny, wet, crunchy, sweet); then introduce

  - another object (for example, an orange) and discuss how the two are alike and

  - different

- teach opposites (for example, **push** and **pull**, **throw** and **catch**, **big** and **little**)

- take turns naming (or sorting) things in categories (for example, foods you like,

  - clothes, animals, furniture, people's names, cartoon characters, drinks, book titles)

- talk about how two things are similar and different