

Bobcat Bits

HEMINGFORD PUBLIC SCHOOLS

October 2008 Issue

Thayer's Thoughts



I am so very proud of the way students worked during MAP testing; preliminary results indicate positive gains for our school. Students were challenged to raise their own individual score in the areas of math, science, reading and language arts. More information on individual results will be sent home with the students when available. Testing continues in the month of October. Juniors will participate in the ASVAB (Oct 30); and All students--Fall Writing (Oct 7 and 8)

Dress up Days

Monday-Punk Rock or Clown Day
 Tuesday— Renaissance or Patriotic Day
 Wednesday— Gender Switch or PJ/Stuffed Animal Day
 Thursday—School Spirit
 Friday—No School

Homecoming Week

THEME: Spirit through the Decades New this year will be the “car smash and “H” burning on Monday beginning at 7:30 pm at the fairgrounds. Friday’s activities include a parade beginning at 1:00 pm and a pep rally located in front of Gregory’s insurance. Each

class is given an era for their float themes. Various skits and coronation will take place. The elementary school will be invited to participate. In case of inclement weather the pep rally will be hosted in the gym.

Thursday's School Activities

8:20—Class Meeting and Float Building
 10:45 –Faculty Grilling (lunch)
 1:00—Parade
 3:00—JH FB vs Crawford
 4:30—JH VB vs Crawford
 6:00—V FB vs Crawford
 8:30-11:30 Dance

Fall Writing—Time to practice those writing skills. Each class will be given a prompt to write which will be either a narrative, descriptive or persuasive argument. Students have one hour for the rough draft and one hour the following day to polish the piece. During the Teacher Assessment Day on October 23 (no school for kids), the full K-12 faculty will use the 6-traits method and score the student work. These results will then go back into the classroom where teachers can polish areas of need. Fall writing is scheduled for the window of October 7-8. Hopefully there will not be much illness in the building and all students are present.



Parent/Teacher Conferences –for the Junior High and High School will be held on Wednesday, October 22 beginning at 2 pm and concluding at 8 pm. The office will provide a copy of your son/daughter schedule so that you can visit with each individual teacher. The conferences are held in the individual classrooms –no appointments are scheduled. If you feel that you need more than 5 minutes, you may want to think about scheduling a separate appointment on a different day. I hope that you can attend.



K-12 Planet

Thank you for your patience with K12 planet. As we all know technology is wonderful when it is working properly. I believe that all accounts are active and working. Again teachers are asked to update weekly, so the most current upload would be Tuesday morning. K-12 planet is uploaded daily to catch any updates teachers may put in during the week. The most current assignments are posted at the top. If you have signed up and have not yet received an email about your log-on you please email Mrs. Thayer at pthayer@panesu.org

ACT Prep Class

<http://www.actstudent.org/>

An opportunity that juniors and seniors are taking advantage is the ACT prep class. It has been incorporated into the school day during SSR (Sustained Silent Reading) time. Those individuals that plan on enrolling for the October ACT work on a ACT practice test twice a week in lieu of their reading time. After the practice test, the teachers from the various content areas go over the problem areas with the students. Also during this time, Mrs. Huckle is providing test taking strategies for the students. The plan is to provide these mini sessions prior to each testing period. Students can also go out to the ACT website (address above) for additional questions. First test date is October 25. Registration deadline was September 19 with date registration open from Sept 20-October 3.



It's time to be ordering items for seniors and to show the sophomore's class rings. Jostens will be here on Monday, October 13 to provide the information and then they will return on Monday, October 20 for the orders. For seniors, you need to be thinking about announcements and quantity if you plan on ordering. There are many options for seniors and the school does not have a requirement about graduation announcements format.

No School –October 3 Teacher Inservice

Oktoberfest—Music in Sidney

The band will be marching in the parade. This is a great experience for students to see other schools march and perform. Oktoberfest is held on Saturday, October 4th.



OCTOBER HAS ARRIVED

We are off to another fantastic start to the school year. It is hard to believe that we are into October and almost done with one quarter of school. The kids have done a great job of adjusting to their new classrooms and teachers. The teachers are constantly striving to help each child reach their fullest potential. I'm very pleased with how things have started.

MAPS TESTING

The students just finished with their MAPS testing that we do in the fall of each year. **I was very impressed and pleased with the effort that I saw. I'M VERY PROUD OF THE STUDENTS AND STAFF!** The preliminary results have been very positive.

OCTOBER HAPPENINGS

2nd – Participate in Homecoming activities downtown at 1:00 p.m.

3rd No School – Teacher In-service

7th – 8th The kids will continue to practice their writing skills using a fall prompt. We are following the state writing format that will be used in the spring. Please make sure they are in attendance.

15th End of the 1st quarter

22nd – **Kids will be dismissed at 1:00 p.m. today.** Parent/Teacher Conferences will run from 2:00 – 8:00 p.m.

23rd – No school for kids. Teachers will score the students' fall writing samples.

24th – No school for kids or staff.

31st – Halloween parties from 2:00 – 3:00 p.m. (A letter will be forthcoming.)



PARENT/TEACHER CONFERENCES

Please plan to attend your child's parent/teacher conference on Wednesday, October 22nd. Conferences will run from 2:00 – 8:00 p.m. This is a great time to discuss with the teacher your child's strengths and any concerns you may have. I hope to see all of you in attendance. Thanks for your support! **Remember it takes all of us working together to help your child.**

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.

The first submission of box tops will be October 31st.



ACCELERATED READING

We use the accelerated reading program to supplement their reading in the classroom. I used this program when I was a teacher. I found it provided the kids with great opportunities to enhance their reading. You can help by asking your child questions about their AR book or letting them read to you.

Let's continue the great communication that we have established. Please feel free to contact us with any concerns.

Mr. Ron Foster, Principal



What have we been doing in Family and Consumer Sciences?



Living arts have finished their sewing projects and now are doing a unit on "Culinary arts".

Foods II. Has been studying customer service, food safety and will soon be learning how to prevent accidents and injuries in the work place.

Foods I. Just finished teaching the 3rd graders about the six essential nutrients and will soon be learning about the food guide pyramid.

Senior Foods have been learning about preparing for the workplace and learning basic food preparation.

Life Skills have been learning about "goal setting", values, and personality and will soon start citizenship activities.



FCCLA:

FCCLA members are currently selling Magazine and gift sales. If you would like to support your local FCCLA, contact a FCCLA member.

Big brother/sister: Next dates are September 24 and October 29th. Members need to pay their dues prior to participating in BB/BS.

Halloween Dance: November 1



Districts: November 5th in Gering. Members may wear Jeans for \$5.00. Proceeds will go towards the SAM Spady foundation.

7th Grade Students to Attend Author Performance with Natasha Friend



On Tuesday, October 7th, students in 7th grade will leave at 9:00 am to travel to Chadron State College to attend an hour school presentation by Natasha Friend, author of three award winning books – Perfect, Lush and Bounce. She just recently finished *Night Swimming* with a release date for next summer. Following the performance, students will enjoy a sack lunch in the park before returning to school for afternoon classes.

This is the 6th Children's Author Program tour presented and sponsored by the Panhandle Library System. Students who have attended past author presentations have enjoyed having the opportunity to learn about the writing and publishing process - how authors get their ideas, how they write, the process of editing and publishing, etc.

The PLS tries to select an author for a different grade level every two years so when students graduate, they will have had the opportunity to attend several of these events, but this is the first time for a young adult author and the PLS is really excited to have Natasha Friend.

Families are invited to hear the author at two free public appearances scheduled at Bayard High School Auditorium on October 7th at 7 p.m. and Scottsbluff High School Auditorium on October 9th at 7 p.m. Books may be purchased and autographed at these public performances.

Math Corner



be happy. do math.

Learning basic math facts can be boring and tedious. Make learning math facts fun by trying out the following game:

Salute

by Laura S. Sgroi



Need:

Playing cards with the face cards removed

3 people

To play:

1. Choose one person to be the General and two people to be the soldiers.
2. Evenly divide the cards and place face down in piles in front of the two soldiers.
3. Each soldier takes a card from the top of their pile and without looking at it holds it to their forehead, as if saluting the General.
4. The General calls out the sum of both cards, and the first soldier to identify his or her own card keeps both cards. So, for example, if one soldier sees the other soldier holding a 4 and hears the General say 9, the reasoning is that his or her own card must be a 5.
5. You could also use multiplication facts and play it the same way.



FITNESSGRAM SENT HOME



The Fitnessgram, which was sent home in September, is a print out of your child's fitness scores. The fitness tests include: Mile run/walk (Aerobic capacity), Curl Ups and Push Ups (Muscle Strength and Endurance), Trunk Extension and Sit & Reach (Flexibility). These components of physical fitness are important because of their relationship to overall health and optimal function. For each of the above tests, a Healthy Fitness Zone has been identified depending on the child's age. This is a national norm for all children of that age and means that is the score found necessary for good health and improved function. During each PE class, the students work on improving their fitness.

From 4th grade on, students receive a percent grade in physical education. The fitness test is one component of that percent grade. There is a possible 10 points for the fitness test - 2 points for each test score in the Healthy Fitness Zone. There is also a daily grade of a possible 10 points, health tests and skill tests for the total PE grade. Fitness testing is done 2-3 times a year.

LEVEL 2 SKIP'N CATS



Level 2 Skip'n Cats will have their first practice in October. Each rope skipper will be notified personally of the starting date and time. Level 1 Skip'n Cats will not start practice until after Christmas.

Be sure to keep checking the Hemingford Schools Website for physical education news, curriculum and grading.

PE HAPPENINGS IN OCTOBER

K - 2 nd	Playground balls, balloons, movement skills, Gymnastics
3 rd - 4 th	Playground balls, Tug-of-War Ropes, Relays, Gymnastics
5 th - 6 th	Gymnastics, Soccer, Recreational Activities

Keep on moving!

Mrs. Giorgi

CO U N S E L O R ' S

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Murray the Mannerly Mouse will make his debut in the third grade during the month of October. The fourth and fifth grade will be working with lessons on their personal and social development.

The Juniors and Seniors need to listen to announcements and sign up on my door if they want to attend the college representatives coming to school.

Seniors make sure and check your mail box for the scholarship listing that comes out. If you need a hard copy of a certain scholarship, check in Mr. Chatelin's room, Mrs. Horstman's room or the counselor's office.

Sophomores, Juniors, and Seniors – Make sure and attend the college night that is being held Monday, October 13, 2008, at Alliance High School at 7:00 p.m.

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



News from Title 1 Reading



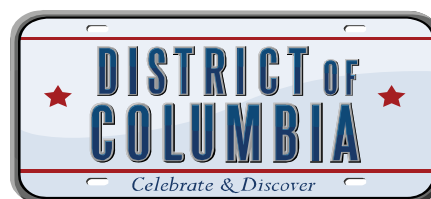
Title 1 Parents are invited to an informational meeting on **Wednesday, October 1, 2008 at 2:30 pm in the Curriculum Room**. The Curriculum Room is located on the 2nd floor of the Elementary Building.

Parents of Title 1 students should have received a packet with information about the 2008 Statewide Parent Involvement Conference. It will be held in Kearney, Nebraska on Saturday, October 11, 2008. **Registrations are due by October 1, 2008**. If you would like to attend, please call 487-3330 and ask to speak to either Mandy Plog or Sally Engelhaupt.

Wades World



WorldStrides - the \$250 deposit is due **BY** November 1st. Tally sheets have been handed out letting the students know the balance in their accounts. The D.C. kids have been working hard and the tallies are rising! The students will be selling Christmas wreaths, the orders are due on October 27th, just after Fall Break. If you are not contacted and would like to purchase some greens, contact Mrs. Wade at the high school, 487-3328, or at home, 487-3891.



MATH CORNER

Do you have a deck of cards at home?

Try some of these math games with your child. You can play simple games to reinforce number recognition, more than and/or less than.

An easy and fun game to play is called "War". Deal all 52 cards out. Do not look at the cards. Each player turns over a card and the highest card wins. Visit <http://fun.familyeducation.com/games/card-games/45732.html> for further details.

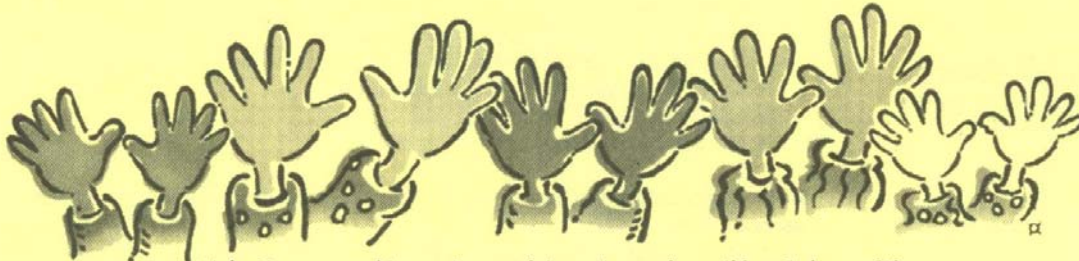
There's always the traditional "Go Fish". Using 5 card hands, ask for specific number in your hand to match opponent. To increase the difficulty of this game, choose a number before the game starts to be the sum. Use a number in your hand and then call for the card that would complete the sum. EX. Number chosen for sum is "5". You have a three in your hand and you call for a two. $3+2=5$. This can work with subtraction, multiplication, and division for upper grade levels.



Does your child need health coverage?

Toll free 1-877-632-5437

<http://www.dhhs.ne.gov/med/kidsconx.htm>



Kids Connection - Reaching for a healthy future SM

Health Care Coverage for Nebraska Children

Kids Connection Health Care Coverage for Nebraska Children SM

Toll free

1-877-632-5437

<http://www.dhhs.ne.gov/med/kidsconx.htm>



What is Kids Connection?

Kids Connection is health care coverage for qualified children developed by the State of Nebraska. It includes both the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) and the Nebraska Medical Assistance Program (also known as Medicaid).

What does Kids Connection Cover?

Kids Connection provides well care for your child in helping prevent diseases, finding and treating problems early, and maintaining good health and development.

Regular check-ups include:

- baby check-ups and baby immunizations
- yearly check-ups for school-age children, including school/sports physicals
- immunization for school-age children
- vision and hearing testing
- dental check-ups and dental sealants

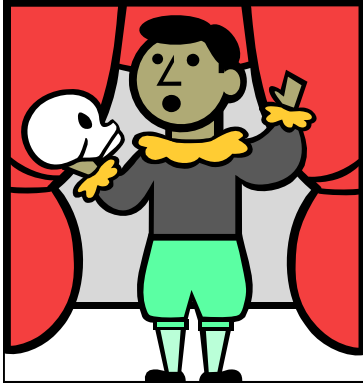
Kids Connection also provides medical care for injuries and illnesses as early as possible.

- Treatment includes:
- | | | |
|---|--|-----------------|
| • doctor's visits | • medications | • hospital care |
| • lab tests/x-rays | • dental treatments | • eyeglasses |
| • counseling | • specialty services for children with disabilities or chronic health conditions | |
| • mental health and substance abuse assessment and treatment services | | |

08-16

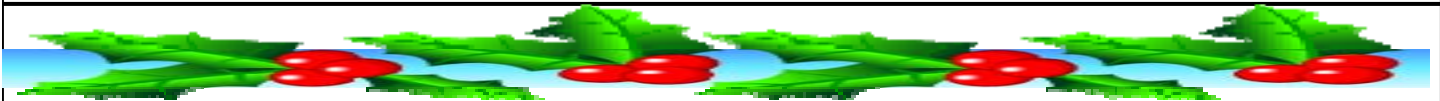
ONE ACT is just around the corner . . .

and we have two really strong plays we are having trouble choosing between! They both promise to challenge the students and bring a great production to the stage. We hope you are able to join us for our public performance on Tuesday, December 2nd at 7pm.



Enclosed is a copy of the rehearsal schedule. We will do our best to minimize the changes and stick to the times as much as possible. We want to thank you in advance for supporting your students in this activity. We hope to inspire them to be creative problem solvers on and off the stage!

Mrs. Bryner & Mrs. Thompson



Be apart of Hemingford's first annual Holiday Play!

The Best Christmas Pageant Ever

Actors and Technicians off all ages needed!

There is no one to old and if you are in school or have a parent involved you are old enough!

Come and audition at the Multipurpose Hall, October 29th between 4p-8p.

Callbacks will be on October 30th from 4p-6p.

If acting is not your cup of tea but you would like to be involved give me a call!

I am thrilled to be able to share this wonderful story and my love for theater with the community!

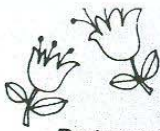
Tabi Bryner

One Act 2008 Rehearsal/Performance Schedule

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
All rehearsals are mandatory. If you have conflicts with any of these rehearsals. Let us know at auditions. Thanks		7a-8a	7-8am	CSC Theater Day		
		Auditions Tech Sign Up Mrs. T's Room	Auditions Mrs. T's Room	Leave 7a - Back 4p		
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
		6-8pm Callbacks On Stage	7-8am First Read On Stage	7-8am Rehearsal On Stage		
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
	7-8a Rehearsal On Stage	7-8a Rehearsal On Stage	7-8a Rehearsal On Stage	No School	No School	
26	27	28	29	30	31	1-Nov
		7-8a Rehearsal Off Book On Stage Set Complete	7-8a Rehearsal On Stage	7-8a Rehearsal On Stage	7-8a Rehearsal On Stage	
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
	4-6p or 6-8p Rehearsal On Stage	4-6p or 6-8p Rehearsal On Stage Add Sound	7-8am or 4-6p Rehearsal On Stage	4-6p or 6-8p Rehearsal On Stage	4-6p or 6-8p Rehearsal On Stage	
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
	4-6p Rehearsal On Stage	4-6p Rehearsal On Stage	4-6p Rehearsal On Stage	6:30-8p Rehearsal On Stage	4-6:30p Tech Rehearsal On Stage	
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
	7-8a Tech Rehearsal On Stage	7-8a Tech Rehearsal On Stage	7-8a Tech Rehearsal On Stage	7-8a Tech Rehearsal On Stage	7-8a Tech Rehearsal On Stage	
					1:30p EL Perf 2:30p HS Perf	
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
2-5pm Brush up Rehearsal	Time TBA PC @ Harrison	Time TBA WTC @ Morrill				
			No School	Thanksgiving No School	No School	
30	1-Dec	2	3	4	5	6
	7:30a Line Thru Mrs. Thompson's	6pm Call Call	Time TBA Districts @ TBD		*This is a tentative schedule subject to change.	
	6:30p-8p Tech Rehearsal On Stage	7pm Public Perf 8pm Strike and Load			*Tech is required at highlighted rehearsals.	

Calendar subject to Change

Updated 9/24/2008



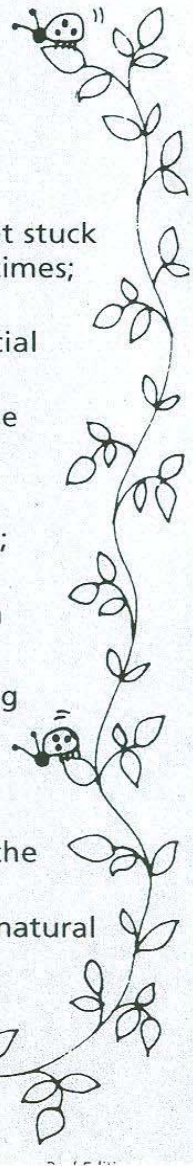
If You Think Your Child Stutters



Between the ages of 2 and 6 years, almost all children will begin to repeat sounds, syllables, and whole words when they are speaking. This is not stuttering but rather normal, nonfluent duplications in speech. The amount of repetition will vary from child to child and from situation to situation. The behavior may last from several weeks to several months. It may disappear for a time and then reappear later. It may worsen when the child is tired, excited, or stressed. Eventually it will probably disappear altogether. Patient acceptance of your child's speech at this time is most important.

You can help your child during this time if you . . .

- make sure your child knows he or she is loved for who he or she is
- give your child plenty of time to talk without interruption, and give him or her your full attention
- model slow, unhurried speech, with many pauses, so your child feels relaxed
- try to relieve all tensions in the home
- avoid telling your child to slow down, take it easy, or repeat without stuttering
- reassure your child using comments such as "Many people get stuck on words . . . it's okay," or "I know it's hard to talk sometimes; let's sit down together and talk"
- try not to call attention to your child's repetitions by your facial expressions, words, or deeds
- ensure that your child is getting proper rest, diet, and exercise
- do not interrupt the child as he or she stutters
- try not to change a child's handedness
- avoid finishing your child's words or sentences for him or her; don't interrupt
- try not to be impatient or embarrassed by your child's speech
- maintain eye contact while your child is talking
- try not to expect your child to be a "little adult" in everything he or she does
- be calm in your discipline
- avoid asking your child to "perform" for other people
- enlist the help of the entire family and important people in the child's daily life
- remember that short hesitations and repetitions are perfectly natural in a child's early speech and may continue for some time



You should take your child to a speech-language pathologist if others exhibit impatience with your child's speech or if he or she . . .

shows frustration or struggles when speaking

exhibits grimaces or bodily tension when attempting to speak

stutters with considerable tension and effort

avoids stuttering by changing words and using extra sounds to get started

stutters on more than 10% of his or her speech

stutters for 6 months or longer



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

HEMINGFORD PUBLIC SCHOOLS

EMPOWERING individuals to be
RESOURCEFUL, RESPECTFUL, and
RESPONSIBLE... Lifelong learners

Casper Ningen, Superintendent
Mrs. Peggy Thayer, High School
Principal
Mr. Ron Foster, Elementary Principal
Mrs. Mandy Plog, Special Education
Director

PO Box 217
911 Niobrara Avenue
Hemingford NE 69348

Phone: 308-487-3328 High School
Phone: 308-487-3330 Elementary
Phone: 308-487-5252 Distance Learning
Fax: 308-487-5215

Check out our
Website:
<http://www.hemingfordschools.org>

Communication Sources

In an effort to maintain all possible communication links, Hemingford Public Schools will offer numerous ways for parents, students, community members and all other interested citizens to stay abreast of happenings at the schools. Some ways to communicate are: Hemingford Public Schools Website
<http://www.hemingfordschools.org>

Hemingford Ledger - Important information is posted in the Briefs. Sports info and other needed school info can be found here as well.

Monthly newsletter - Mailed to every patron in the district each month.

Also can be found on the webpage.

Notices sent home with students

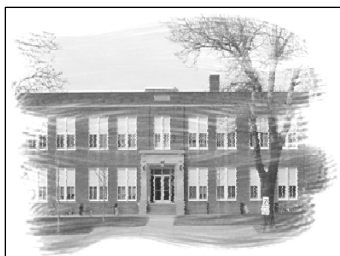
Information sent home with reports cards.

Phone calls to students' homes when necessary.
K-12 Planet for attendance, grades and other notes to students and parents found on the Hemingford Schools webpage.



Equal Opportunity

Hemingford Public School District #10 will not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, sex, disability, or marital status in admission or access to, or treatment or employment in its programs and activities



Inclement Weather Information

The Superintendent of Schools is authorized by the Board of Education to close public schools in case of severe weather. The Superintendent's will notify local news media when inclement weather warrants such action. The **information is broadcast regularly by radio stations, (KCOW AM 1400, KQ 106 & 97.5 FM, KMOR 92.9 FM), our web site (www.hemingfordschools.org), and Mobius web site (www.bbc.net).**

