



The *Bear Truth*



Tellico Plains High School
"Where Opportunity Meets Excellence"

Vol. 22 No. 5 Southern Association of Colleges and Schools December 2016/January 2017

Principal Notes....

Mr. Russell Harris

This is a very busy time at TPHS! On November 29, TNReady Part I exams will be given in English III and U. S. History block classes. Part II exams will be given in these classes beginning on December 6 as well as TNReady exams for Chemistry I, Geometry, and Biology I. Good luck and do your best! I know all of these students have worked hard and are ready to tackle the state-mandated exams. If your child is taking a test, he or she has already been informed and should be preparing for the exam.

These course exams account for a portion of the semester average. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact the Guidance Department.

Our Christmas Break will begin on December 20 at 10:00 a.m. Students will return to school on January 5, 2017.

Personal incomes often change from the start of the school year. Free or reduced lunch can be applied for at any time throughout the school year if your family's income changes. Free and reduced lunch forms can be picked up in the office during school hours. Currently, two-thirds of our students are on free or

reduced lunches.

Class scheduling information will be sent home with students before Christmas break. Students will have the opportunity to request to drop or add classes.

Please come support our Bears and Lady Bears basketball teams. We wish both our teams the best of luck this season. Your support for our athletic teams has allowed us not to increase ticket prices for several years.

Finally, I would like to wish everyone a safe and happy holiday season. May each of you have a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

From the Assistant Principal...

Mrs. Sharon McKinnon

What a great first semester this has been at TPHS! I would like to say thanks to our students for their good attendance; also to each parent, we thank you for supporting the administration and faculty at TPHS as we work diligently towards educating your child for his/her future. We owe you our deepest gratitude for your support and backing. Students, let me encourage you to work even harder to maintain your progress as we plunge into next semester!

Semester exams will be held on December 16, for periods 1,3,5,7, December 19 for periods 2, 4, 6, and 8, and December 20, we will dismiss at 10:00. Remember, if a student is not a maroon/white card holder, he/she can only miss one excused day in order to be eligible for exemption. If a student has had any unexcused day(s), been suspended, is failing a class, and/or had in-school suspension that student is NOT exempt from semester exams. I want everyone that has to take semester exams to do his/her best! Also, I would like to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Guidance Office Announcements

Mrs. Sarah Brown

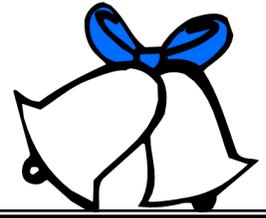
Seniors should have already applied to the college that they plan on attending. If you have not done this, please come by the guidance office and let us help you. FAFSA needs to be completed by January 17, 2017. The guidance department is available to assist parents with filling this out. We are available after school hours by appointment. The first mandatory TN Promise meeting will be on Thursday, March 2 at 5:30. Parents are encouraged to attend, but this is not a requirement. Seniors also need to be completing the mandatory 8 hours of community service. We will be helping seniors submit these hours online during the month of April. There are some scholarship opportunities in our office. Drop by for more information.

All juniors will be receiving their ASVAB scores before winter break. Someone from the military will be showing students how to interpret these results. ASVAB scores can assist students in making career choices, and it can also help them to see what they need to be working on to improve their ACT scores.

Cleveland State will be at the school on Tuesday, December 6 at 10:00 to register juniors and seniors that will be taking dual enrollment courses in the spring. Report cards for the first semester will be handed out on Wednesday, January 11, 2017. The next ACT test will be given on Saturday, December 10. All juniors will be given a free ACT test in March. You will not need to register online for this. If anyone needs more information about the ACT, help signing up for it, or downloading a photo to the site, please come by and let us help you.

The Guidance Department wishes everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year! May God Bless each of you!

Academics



English Department

In December, Coach Gary Tucker's English IV classes will be presenting five-minute oral reports. In January, students will be studying Shakespearean sonnets and the tragedy of *Macbeth*. Seniors will complete a sonnet notebook and a PowerPoint presentation on William Shakespeare.

Mrs. Cristal Harrill's English III classes are continuing to prepare for the TN Ready exam on November 29 (Part I) and December 6 (Part II).

Mrs. Lisa McDaniel's English II students will be completing a unit of poetry and concentrating on their writing skills more. English IV Dual Enrollment class will be writing an exemplification essay to finish the semester, and in Janu-

ary, they will begin a unit of short stories.

Mr. Chris Hollinghead's English II students continue a rigorous study of vocabulary while also finishing up an in-depth study of Shakespeare's *Julius Caesar*. Students will have also completed their sophomore research projects and turned their attention to Robert Frost's poetry.

Mrs. Sheann Graham and Mrs. Brooke Evans's English I classes have completed an extensive study of grammar focusing on agreement and pronoun usage. In addition, students have completed a unit over Abraham Lincoln's "Gettysburg Address" and the reading of the beloved screenplay, *To Kill a Mockingbird*. In January, students will continue TN Ready preparation and begin studying William Shakespeare's famous tragedy *Romeo and Juliet*.

Math Department

Happy Holidays from the Math Department. We hope all students end 2016 on a good note. Remember, the Big Guy is watching!

In December, we will have TN Ready and semester exams to endure, while January springs up new classes and schedules. The new year will no doubt be a fun-filled, packed second semester.

The Mathematics Department continues to offer before and after school tutoring. Contact the front office for more information

The Student Council Representatives and the Planet Club Members have been invited to participate in the upcoming Tellico Plains Christmas Parade on December 17 at 3:00 p.m. The parade is sponsored by the Tellico Plains Kiwanis Club. If your student would like to participate in this holiday festivity, please encourage them to see Mrs. Lynn about the details.

Fine Arts Department

Spanish I classes are learning new conjugations of verbs to help them communicate better in the Spanish language. With Thanksgiving almost here and Christmas soon to follow, I hope all students have a wonderful time with their family and friends as they celebrate together. Planning a fiesta for Christmas will have to be quick before time runs out.

Spanish II classes are reviewing imperfect and future tenses to help them increase their communication skills in the target language. Before Thanksgiving or Christmas break, we hope to celebrate with a fiesta in Spanish.

TNReady Testing Dates

November 29 - English III (Part I)

November 30 - U. S. History (Part I)

December 6 - English III (Part II)

December 7 - Geometry and Chemistry I

December 8 - Biology I and U. S. History (Part II)

Academics



Science Department

All science classes are very busy this time of year. Physical science students are studying work and power. They are conducting labs in order to gain a better understanding of these concepts. Mr. Carroll's Biology I class has just finished its unit on cells and is beginning to discuss genetics.

Mrs. Brown's Chemistry I classes are having fun balancing chemical equations and learning about chemical reactions.

Mr. Witt's Biology classes have just completed a genetics unit and are going to begin talking about the Theory of Evolution. TNReady for Biology and Chemistry are coming up in December. These are very important tests and make up 25% of students' grades. So, study hard and let's finish strong! All Biology I and Chemistry I classes end for the first semester, and there will be some fresh new faces after the New Year. These students should be well rested after the holidays and ready to learn.

Career Technical Education

All fruit and nuts have arrived, and the FFA is distributing orders on December 3. Contact Travis Hamilton to see if any extra items are available. The FFA also competed in the district opening/closing and Parliamentary Procedure CDEs. Both teams placed fourth in the district; FFA is also participating in the Christmas Parade. We are busy, busy, busy!

Mrs. McJunkin's Diagnostic Medicine class is coming to an end in December. Students have learned all the ways to diagnose a patient. The Health Science class is beginning to study the spread of diseases. During second semester the students will learn medical assistant skills. This will include taking blood pressures, temperatures, pulses and respirations. Also, Anatomy and Physiology class will begin in January. We wish everyone a safe holiday season and a Merry Christmas!

Mr. Harrill's Computer Application classes are beginning a unit on MLA style reports. This unit will assist students in their English classes. Business communications is currently working on flyers and then begin a brief unit on resumes. Advanced Computer Applications class is also working in Microsoft Word preparing tables.



Merry Christmas and Happy New Year
from the faculty/staff at TPHS!



Social Studies Department

American Government classes will wrap up the semester with the duties and activities of the judicial branch. In January, the new senior classes will focus on the origins of government.

American history studies for December will include The Cold War, WWII, the Civil Rights Movement, and the Vietnam War. In January, the new junior classes will have a short study about the western frontier and the Indian Wars. They will then delve into the issues of Reconstruction and Industrialization in the late 1800s. This will be followed by the issue of immigration to the U.S. at Ellis Island and Angel Island.

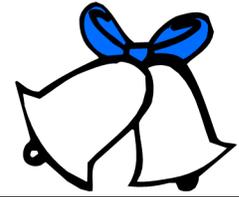
Psychology students will finish their studies on consciousness, sleep, and drugs that affect con-

sciousness. In January, the class will look at the physical and social development of adolescents and how they form their identities, as well as describe the challenges of adolescence.

Ms. Martin wishes everyone a safe and happy holiday season and a happy new year. She also encourages parents and students to check her website on the school's web page to keep current on weekly agendas in her classes.



December 2016



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2 Dedication of TPHS Coach Tucker Court Basketball (H) Midway	3
4	5 Basketball (H) Harriman	6 Basketball (H) Sweetwater	7	8	9 Basketball (A) Meigs	10
11	12	13 Football Banquet at 7:00 p.m. Eighth Grade to TPHS	14	15 Semester Exam Review Day Basketball (H) Polk	16 Semester Exams for Periods 1, 3, 5, & 7 Basketball (H) Grace	17
18	19 Semester Exams for Periods 2, 4, 6, & 8	20 Dismiss at 10:00 a.m.	21 Winter Break	22 Winter Break	23 Winter Break	24
25 Merry Christmas	26 Winter Break	27 Winter Break	28 Winter Break Lady Bears Christmas Tourney at Harriman	29 Winter Break Lady Bears Christmas Tourney at Harriman	30 Winter Break Lady Bears Christmas Tourney at Harriman	31 



January 2017



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 Happy New Year	2 Winter Break	3 Winter Break Basketball (H) Concord	4 NO SCHOOL Staff Development	5 Students Return	6 Basketball (H) Greenback	7
8	9 Homecoming Week	10 Basketball (A) Midway	11	12	13 Basketball Homecoming vs. Rockwood Maroon/White Day	14
15	16 Martin Luther King, Jr. Day NO SCHOOL	17 Basketball (A) Rockwood	18	19	20 Basketball (H) Meigs	21
22	23 Basketball (A) Loudon	24 Basketball (A) Polk	25	26	27 Basketball (A) Greenback	28
29	30	31 Basketball (A) Concord				