



The *Bear Truth*

Tellico Plains High School
"Where Opportunity Meets Excellence"



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Principal Notes....

Mr. Russell Harris

The 2014-2015 school year has gotten off to a great start. I have the highest expectations that this year will be one that is full of learning, enthusiasm, and spirit. We always have and will continue to put your child first and to strive to make our school one that is safe and drug free. Parents, encourage your child to be here each day, work hard, join activities and clubs, and just make this year as successful as possible.

Parents, continue to insist that your child to do his or her best academically. Any student with all A's for the semester receives a maroon card. Maroon card holders may enter all TPHS

regular season ballgames, dances, or concerts free of charge. Any student with all A's and B's for the semester will receive a white card. White card holders may enter a total of five TPHS regular season ballgames, dances, or concerts free of charge. These cards are good for the next semester.

Another incentive to earn a B or higher average is the Hope Scholarship. This scholarship is available to all Tennessee high school graduates for most Tennessee colleges and trade schools. It is guaranteed for students with a B average or a 21 ACT score. All TPHS students have the ability to obtain a B average with some studying and hard work. It is the cumulative average, so don't wait until you're a senior to

start trying. The TN Promise Scholarship's deadline for all seniors is November 1. Please stop by and see Mrs. Sarah Brown in the guidance office and apply for this wonderful opportunity.

We would like to wish our fall sports teams (cross country, golf, soccer, volleyball, and football) our best as they close their seasons and start the playoffs. If you have not taken the opportunity to come to our sporting events, then you are missing a special season.

Please feel free to contact teachers and discuss your child's academic progress anytime. You may send a note or call the school at 253-2530. Each teacher has a daily planning time to call you back. I hope everyone has an outstanding and a safe Fall Break!

From the Assistant Principal...

Mrs. Sharon McKinnon

October brings a change of season, falling leaves, Halloween, and the first GRADE CARDS! The first nine weeks ends on the October 17, and grade cards go out October 24. Our students need to be in school everyday in order to receive the most effective instruction the teachers have to give. It is the mission of TPHS to establish a strong foundation across the curriculum with special emphasis on reading, writing, and mathematics by meeting or exceeding state standards of accountability. With that being said, it is truly an exciting time at TPHS, having received yet another Bronze award recognizing the school for having been named as one of the nation's top performing schools by *US News and World Report*. From the 21,000 high schools evaluated in 49 states and the District of Columbia, Tellico Plains High School was awarded a Bronze Medal for preparing its students for career and college readiness. So, calling all BEARS, let's shout to the world Tellico Plains High School's impressive achievement and newfound title, "aka" the BRONZE MEDALIST for three years running!

Guidance Office Announcements

Mrs. Sarah Brown

The guidance department has been working hard to make sure that our seniors are applying for the TN Promise Scholarship. If your student has not applied, please encourage him/her to do so. Seniors have to apply by November 1, 2014. They do not have to use this scholarship, but at least they will be eligible for it if they do decide that they want to take advantage of it. Every senior received a scholarship and financial aid packet from the guidance office. If anyone needs assistance in completing college applications or scholarships, please stop by the guidance office and we will be happy to help you in any way that we can. On October 14, Eric Farmer from the TN Student Assistance Corporation will be here to talk to parents and students about applying to colleges, financial aid, and scholarships. His presentation will start at 6:00 p.m. We hope to see you there!

All sophomores will be taking the ACT Plan test on October 1, 2014. We encourage everyone to do their very best. The scores from this test will be used to determine if students can take dual enrollment courses their junior year. If you are not familiar with dual enrollment courses, please stop by the guidance office, and we will explain to you how this works.

All juniors will be receiving a voucher to take one ACT test free. At this time those vouchers have not arrived. As soon as we know more about our ACT voucher system, we will be providing our juniors with this information.

We hope everyone has a safe and wonderful fall break!



Academics



Ghostly Greetings from the English Department!!!

Coach Gary Tucker's English IV classes are studying the Anglo Saxon Period, which includes *Beowulf*, and the Middle Ages, which includes *The Canterbury Tales*.

Mrs. Lisa McDaniel's English IV/Dual Enrollment students will be publishing their third essay over a variety of topics and will continue to write article summaries and practice documentation skills.

Mrs. Cristal Harrill's English III classes will continue their study of informative writing. Furthermore, students will read and analyze famous speeches in

preparation for the EOC in December.

Mrs. Lisa McDaniel's English II classes will be reviewing research skills and then using those skills to write research reports about famous authors. Parents, this report is a MAJOR grade, so please check daily with your child to make sure that he/she is completing the assignment!

Mr. Chris Hollinghead's English II classes are reading short stories and examining the elements of the short story. One of these stories is "The Monkey's Paw," a W. W. Jacobs THRILLER for Halloween!!!

We will also soon begin a study of the Shakespearean tragedy *Julius Caesar*.

Finally, Mrs. Brooke Evans and Mrs. Sandy Childress's English I classes are finishing their research project. The next unit of study will consist of famous short stories, which illustrate many of the literary elements students are required to know for the English I EOC test. Just in time for Halloween is the famous short story by Edgar Allan Poe entitled "The Cask of Amontillado" – *In pace requiescat!* Students, be VERY, VERY afraid!

Math Department

The TPHS math department would like to wish everyone a "Beary Spooky Fall Season". The Algebra I students are continuing their way through a plethora of objectives with our sights set on the EOC exam in May. Algebra students will be taking the first of three "Thinklink" exams in October. MUCH TO DO, MUCH TO DO! MAHA-HAHA!

If your student is struggling in their math class, we do offer morning and afternoon tutoring here at the school. The end of the 1st nine week period is this month; therefore, students in other classes that are only one semester or a block class will only have one more nine week period to improve their grades. Everyone needs to be studying really hard.

Trick~or~Treat Problem: If every fourth trick-or-treater is a vampire, and every 6th, a witch, how many of each will you see if seventy-five trick-or-treaters come to your door?
Answers: 18 Vampires and 12 Witches

Special Education Department...

Our year has gotten off to a great start. Students are settling into their schedules and our freshmen seem to be making themselves right at home. We have had to make some changes to students' IEPs due to changes in the master schedule. If your child's IEP requires a change he/she will be bringing home a letter in the next few days explaining what needs to be done. We want to make sure our students' IEPs reflect the services that we are providing them at all times. Thank you in advance for all your cooperation and support throughout the school year. As always, if at any time you feel your child needs help or a change needs to be made please contact us at once, and we will do what we can to help.

NO SCHOOL

FALL BREAK: October 6 - 10





Academics



Science Department

In chemistry class students will be studying on how to name formulas, calculate the amount of substance, and writing chemical formulas. Students will be participating in labs which involve observing changes in state, and temperature. Students will also do some calculations on the amount of substance gained or lost during an experiment.

I would like to remind all parents and students to take advantage of my website. It contains the schedule for the week and also links to my classroom notes. This website can be accessed through the schools website. If you have any concerns, or questions about your child's performance in my class, please don't hesitate to email, call, or schedule a meeting time.

Fun Science Facts:

- If you could drive to the sun at 55 mph, it would take about 193 years.
- It is impossible to sneeze with your eyes open.
- The human eye blinks an average of 4,200,000 times a year.
- Only female mosquitoes bite.
- The average human produces a quart of saliva a day, about 10,000 gallons in a lifetime.
- Sharks are immune to cancer.
- Each person sheds 40 pounds of skin in his or her lifetime.

Media Center

Some wonderful activities having been taking place in the TPHS Library. Between researching various types of trees for Mr. Mitchell Witt in order to create different Microsoft Excel projects for Mr. Kyle Parks, the freshman classes have completed their first research paper. I would like to commend this class on their enthusiasm and hard work! This activity prepares students for future research papers that must not only be written while in high school but also in college. We are preparing for the future!

The TPHS Beta Club will be participating in several activities during October. They will be volunteering and gaining service hours at both the TPES Fall Carnival and RVS Fall Festival. I know they are excited about seeing former teachers and helping them raise money for these schools.

Fine Arts Department

In Spanish I classes students are continuing to learn more vocabulary to increase their ability to communicate with others in the target language. After learning numbers, days of the week, telling time, and weather expressions, students are practicing the use of adjectives to aid in their communication. Some classes have already had a "fiesta" and others are awaiting the event. The best tacos in the world have been enjoyed in the class "fiestas." I believe the students will attest that statement. Spanish I classes are very large this year, but with so many respectful students I am enjoying teaching them! Thank you parents!

Spanish II has been reviewing verbs SER and ESTAR as well as when to use them correctly. Before moving on to the past tense review, students will master the stem-changers. Most students will benefit from the review since it will help them to improve their communication skills. "ole!" The second year Spanish skills are "un poco mas dificil" but I am confident that with a little more studying and paying attention in class, the students will conquer the language of Spanish once again.

Social Studies Department

We hope everyone has a restful Fall Break and will come back rejuvenated and ready to learn. In U.S. history the students are studying the Progressive Era, American Imperialism, and World War I. In ancient history the students are learning about the early Indus River Valley civilizations and early East Asian civilizations. In world history the students are studying the Age of Exploration.

PLEASE continue to keep a watchful eye on your child's progress in ALL of his/her classes. Thank you so much for your involvement as parents and dedication to your child's education. We can not effectively do our job as teachers without your participation in your child's life.