



# The Bear Truth



Tellico Plains High School  
"Where Opportunity Meets Excellence"

Vol. 22 No. 2 Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Accredited October 2016

## Principal Notes....

Mr. Russell Harris

The 2016-2017 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 does 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 activities 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 activities 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 18, and grade cards go out October 25. 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 five 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 child has not applied, please encourage him/her to do so. Seniors have to apply by November 1, 2016. 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 information about FASFA. If anyone needs assistance in completing college applications, scholarships, and financial aid (FASFA), please stop by the guidance office and we will be happy to help you in any way that we can.

Seniors must attend the first TN Promise meeting on Monday, October 10 at 1:00. This is mandatory. Parents do not need to attend this first meeting. FASFA opened October 1, 2016 and needs to be completed by January 17, 2017. The guidance department is available at anytime to assist seniors and their parents with this process.

The ACT will be given on October 22. Students need to remember to bring photo identification and their ACT ticket, along with some #2 pencils. Juniors will also be taking the ASVAB test on October 17. Any sophomore or junior wanting to take the PSAT needs to stop by the guidance office by October 14.

Grade cards will be going home to parents/guardians on October 25. If your child needs any help with tutoring, please visit or call the school to check out tutoring schedules. We hope everyone had 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 Geoffrey Chaucer's *The Canterbury Tales*.

Mrs. Lisa McDaniel's English IV/Dual Enrollment class will begin their argumentative research papers over a topic of their choosing. Focus will be placed on MLA documentation and formatting.

Mrs. Lisa McDaniel's English II students will continue to practice their writing skills as they focus on close readings of nonfiction materials and referring

back to them in original paragraphs and essays.

Mr. Chris Hollinghead's English II classes will be reading short stories and examining the elements of the short story. One of these stories is "The Monkey's Paw," a W. W. Jacob's thriller for Halloween! We will also soon begin a study of the Shakespearean tragedy *Julius Caesar*.

Finally, Mrs. Brooke Evans and Mrs. Sheann Graham's English I classes are finishing their first writing project. The next unit of study will consist of famous short stories, which illustrate many of the literary ele-

ments students are required to know for the TNReady 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!

**"THE FAULT,  
DEAR BRUTUS,  
IS NOT IN OUR STARS,  
BUT IN OURSELVES."  
-SHAKESPEARE**

## Math Department

The TPHS math department would like to wish everyone a "beary spooky fall season." Algebra I, geometry, and Algebra II students continue to work toward 2016-2017 TNReady Assessments. These assessments will consist of 3 subparts that will include multiple choice, multiple select, equation editor, matching tables, and graphing representations. {Algebra I, Algebra II, Geometry - Subparts 1-3: 35-55 minutes each}

TNReady tests are designed to assess true student understanding and not just basic memorization and test-taking skills. They measure student understanding of our current state standards. The State of Tennessee is working with Questar, an innovative large-scale K-12 assessment solutions provider, to provide writing or online options for these assessments. Districts may select from the following testing window for these assessments: For November 28 – December 16 (fall block schedules): April 17 – May 5 (for full year and spring block schedules). For more information about the 2016-2017 TNReady, you can go to the following web address: <https://www.tn.gov/education/article/assessment-faq>.

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

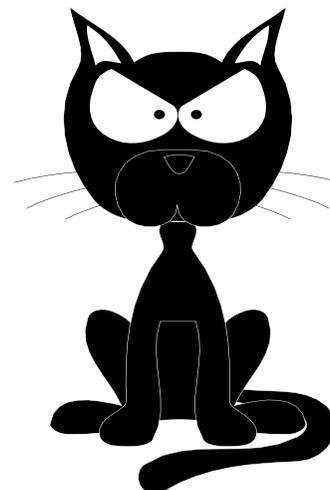
Trick-or-Treat Problem: If every fourth trick-or-treater is a vampire, and every 6th, a witch, how many of each will you see if seventy-five trick-or-treaters come to your door?

Answers: 18 Vampires & 12 Witches

## Special Education Department...

The special education department is working to make sure all fall IEP meetings are scheduled. We always appreciate our parents for being a part of these meetings. Our year has gotten off to a great start, and our students are doing well in their classes, and we are very proud of all their progress.

**FALL  
BREAK  
October  
3 - 7**





# Academics



## Science Department

During the month of October students will be studying chemical reactions, how to predict reactions, and how to balance these reactions. Reactions are an important part of everyone's day. The estimate of cells in the human body ranges from 100-200 trillion. If every cell did at least one chemical reaction per second, than the number of reactions must truly be higher than 400 billion. Cells perform thousands, if not millions, of chemical reactions in every cell every second. We will be performing experiments to reinforce the concept of chemical reactions, and we will also have a fun project at the end of the reactions chapter.

### Fun Science Facts:

- ⇒ If you could drive to the sun at 55mph 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.

## Fine Arts Department

Spanish I classes are on their way to learning how to communicate in Spanish. Their vocabulary is expanding as we learn by song. Your children are great singers! Just ask them to sing the alphabet song, days of the week song, or the months of the year song. You'll be as impressed as I was to hear how well they sing.

I am blessed to have such good students this year. I want to thank you parents who encourage your children to be respectful and try to learn as much as they can. Fall break is over, so I hope your children and you had a great time of fellowship and fun!

Spanish II class is great! The students in this class work so well together. Their personalities make learning so much easier. Reviewing the past tense of regular and irregular verbs will be undertaken before we delve into the imperfect tense. The fiesta before fall break was great. Now it is time to get back to work and focus on Spanish!

## Social Studies Department

Happy Halloween! Government classes have become familiar with the origins of government, other world structures, and how we came to have the Declaration of Independence. This month the writing of, meaning of, and reasons for, and the founders behind the United States Constitution, will be explored.

Psychology will be studying how human behavior is connected with biology and the different aspects of sensation & perception.

U.S. history will be focusing on the Progressive Era from 1890-1920. This era includes the drive for reform in the United States, how women made progress and fought for the right to vote, the struggle against discrimination of African Americans, and how President Theodore Roosevelt changed the government's role in the economy.

-- SENIOR ALERT --

TN Promise  
Application Deadline  
November 1, 2016

## Media Center

The TPHS Beta Club will be participating in several activities during October. Several members attended the National Beta Club Leadership Conference in Sevierville. Now, 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.



# October 2015



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1 FAFSA Opens for 2017-2018
2	3 FALL BREAK JV Football (H) Meigs Co.	4 FALL BREAK	5 FALL BREAK	6 FALL BREAK	7 FALL BREAK Football (A) Sweetwater	8
9	10 JV Football (H) Polk Co. Senior Civics Exam	11	12 Jostens Returns 7:30 - 8:30 a.m.	13 Cross Country at Fort Loudon	14 Football (H) Oliver Springs PINK OUT	15
16	17 All Juniors Take ASVAB	18 End of 1st Nine Weeks	19	20 Cross Country at Baylor	21 Football (A) Grace	22 ACT Given At TPHS
23 30	24 JV Football (A) Sweet- water 31 Happy Halloween	25 Grade Cards Go Home	26	27	28 Football (H) vs. Rockwood Senior Night Armed Service Night	29