CHEROKEE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

HOWLER

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Cherokee Elementary Earns National Honor

Pictured above, Jonathan Kinnick, Richard Hutson, and Dr. Steve Barnett *Photo by JC Schools Staff Photographer*

Cherokee Elementary School earned national recognition in 2024, as it was named one of only two National ESEA Distinguished schools in Tennessee. The distinction is awarded to up to two federally funded schools in each state selected by the state's education agency for exceptional student achievement.

"Being recognized as an ESEA Distinguished School is a tremendous honor and a testament to the concerted work of all our stakeholders at Cherokee," Principal Richard Hutson said. "We are very proud to accept this recognition in academic achievement and appreciative of the tremendous support we receive from the city of Johnson City, our school board, central office staff, and our community."

The National Association of ESEA State Program Administrators (NAESPA) — formerly the National Title I Association — has been recognizing exemplary federally-funded schools through the National ESEA Distinguished Schools program since 1996. The program acknowledges the success of hundreds of schools each year in one of three categories:

- Category 1: Exceptional student performance and academic growth
- Category 2: Closing the achievement gap between student groups
- Category 3: Excellence in serving special populations of students (e.g. homeless, migrant, English learners, etc.)

The 2024 National ESEA Distinguished Schools will be honored February 19-21, 2025, at the 2025 National ESEA Conference.

Article retrieved from http://bit.ly/4gX-7kYB

Braves Win CES Kickball Intramural Tournament

By David Cross

Once again, the Braves are the Kings of Kickball! It was a great day for everyone involved, and both the students and the staff had a great time! See more photos inside of the tournament inside this edition.

Look for Intramural Dodgeball at Cherokee beginning in January!

Calendar of Events

Dec 2
Secret Santa Begins
Dec 5
Faculty Meeting
Dec 9
4-H Meeting
Howler Meeting
Dec 10
PTA Board Meeting
Dec 11
Spelling Bee @10am in Theater
Dec 13
Writing Checkpoint
Fa-la-la Friday
2nd & 3rd Grade Program 6:30-7:30
Dec 16
ELA Checkpoint
Dec 17
Math Checkpoint
Dec 18
Science Checkpoint
RTI Meetings
Dec 19
Howler Meeting
Dec 20
1/2 Day
Jan 6
Admin Day
Jan 7
School Starts
Jan 9
Howler Meeting
Jan 10
Fall Yearbook Sale Ends
Jan 13
4-H Meeting
Jan 15
Site-base Meeting
Jan 20
Martin Luther King Jr Day No School
Jan 21
PTA Board Meeting @4pm
Jan 22
Grade Level Meetings
Jan 23
100th Day Of School
Howler Meeting
Jan 29
RTI Meetings
Jan 31
Valentine's Dance Pre Paid Ticket Orders due

Catching Up With....Mr Owen

Interviewed by Emerson Blouin

Mr Owen *Photo by Olivia Fleenor*

Our staff recently met up with Mr Owen, our third-grade math teacher. We would like to share some of his responses.

Q: What is your favorite sport? Football

Q: What is your favorite holiday? Thanksgiving

Q: What is your favorite animal? You might think I would say a duck, but my favorite is actually the Rocky Mountain Elk.

Q: What's your favorite food? All different kinds, but it's hard to beat a good hamburger or taco.

Q: What is your favorite book? As a kid it was Where the Red Fern Grows by Wilson Rawls. As a teacher, I like anything written by Christopher Paul Curtis.

Q: What is your favorite movie? I like inspiring sports movies like McFarland, USA or Remember the Titans.

Q: Where were you born? I was born in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma

Q: Who inspired you to be a math teacher? My dad was an elementary school teacher, and I wanted to be just like him.

Q: How long have you been at Cherokee? This is my 20th year at Cherokee.

Q: What is your favorite season? Fall

Q: What was your favorite subject in school during your childhood? Math and Science

Q: Did you play any sports when you were a kid? I played football, basketball, and ran track in high school.

Q: Who is your favorite Oregon player? My favorite former player is Justin Herbert. He is now a quarterback in the NFL.

Q: Have you taught at any other school before? Yes, I taught at Mountain View for 8 years and Liberty Bell for 1 year.

Q: Did you ever play a musical instrument as a kid? Not very well. I tried learning the guitar and the trombone.

Q: Where did you grow up? I grew up in Lakeview, Oregon. It is a town with less than 3,000 people.

Q: When is your birthday? December 23rd.

Meet Our 5th Grade Math Teacher... Mrs Pugh

Interviewed by Oliva Fleenor

Mrs Pugh *Photo by Hagan Kelley*

Continuing with our staff interviews, we were able to talk with Mrs Pugh in fifth grade. Here are some of her favorite things.

My favorite color...

I love lots of colors, but my favorites are sky blue and spring green. I love being outside, so these colors are some of my favorites that remind me of nature!

My favorite food...

I love lots of foods with lots of flavors, including Indian or Thai. But sometimes a good juicy hamburger is what I'm craving.

My favorite candy...

I absolutely love milk chocolate. I love it plain or in a Twix or KitKat.

Favorite grade to teach...

There is something magical about every age... I love watching kids at different ages learn different things: Younger kiddos learning to read is amazing! Older kiddos learning to reason through difficult math problems is awesome!

Favorite movie...

The Sound of Music! I grew up watching and loving this movie, and I still love to watch it with my own daughters. The songs are beautiful, and I love learning about the period of history that is the setting of this movie, World War II.

Favorite childhood show...

I loved watching The Muppet Show with my family when I was growing up. I still think the humor on that show is hilarious. When my daughters were younger, I realized that I love the show, Good Luck, Charlie. The mom, especially, cracks me up. We all love the show so much that during a family trip to California, we found the house that is shown as the setting, and took our own pictures in front of it!

How To Decorate Cookies for the Holidays!

By Natalie Reed

Some years people bake cookies for Christmas and other holidays. They don't how to decorate them so they leave them plain. Here are some easy steps to decorate your cookies.

You will need:

Any color icing you want, Skittles or M&Ms, and chocolate chips and any candy you want.

Step 1:

First you want to start with figuring out how you are going to decorate. If you can not decide you can do a heart, a snowflake or whatever you want. You can also skip the icing and just add sprinkles or small candies before you bake them.

Step 2:

After you have finished your icing design, you will decorate it with the candy that you have.

What do you do with the cookies?

You can either eat the cookies or you can do whatever you want with them; I like to share them with a friend.

Remember, decorating your cookies is more fun when you use your creativity or you do it together with your friends or family.

Photo from https://sallysbakingaddiction.com/decorated-sugar-cookies/

Kickin' It Old School: Teachers vs. Students Kickball Showdown

CES staff enjoyed playing against the reigning kickball champs, The Braves for the last game of the season before the holiday break. The competition was fierce with a final score of 12 - 7, teachers coming out on top! Everyone had a great time cheering on their favorite team.

Animal of the Month ...Artic Fox

By Annabell Cluff

The animal of the month is... an arctic fox! I know what you are thinking, I love arctic foxes! Doesn't everyone?

Now like I can read your mind, [this probably will be mind blowing] arctic foxes do not hibernate. And, some of you might be saying, what is hibernating? Hibernating is when an animal goes into something like a long sleep, where you sleep the whole winter to store your energy, remember arctic foxes do not do this.

When the spring comes arctic foxes have their pups [they are adorable!] and their mother feeds them milk while the father hunts for food in return for the mother.

Then [do not suspect this for most animals], in the summer, arctic fox's fur turns brown! Now we all know that arctic foxes are white, right? So do not think that they will turn purple or yellow in the fall or winter because they do not, and not to disappoint you, but they are only brown for spring and summer, they are [mostly] white for autumn and winter.

That is all that I have for you today, but if you like this part of the HOWLER then you can always see next month. Make sure that you keep searching up fun, fantastic, and interesting animals! And check out more of the HOWLER!

Animal of the Month ...Arctic Fox DIY Activity

By Annabell Cluff

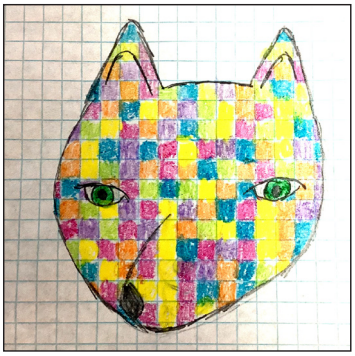
To go along with the Animal of the Month, we will have an activity! Remember that you can always find this below the Animal of the Month. Our activity is... a pixelated arctic fox face!

These are the things you will need:

- One piece of Grid paper.
- A million colorful crayons or pencils.
- One plain pencil.
- Something to hold up the newspaper, [so you will not break your neck] like a book.
- One Sharpie or black marker.

All right you are ready to go! Follow the directions below. The first step is to draw an arctic fox face you can copy the picture below:

After you have drawn the arctic fox face on the grid paper then you can pick five or seven of your favorite crayons. After you have picked your favorite colors then you can color in the little squares on the paper. You can do a pattern or just random. If you do not have a grid paper then you can draw squares yourself. After you are done it [hopefully] will look something like this:



December Kickball Tournament Shenanigans

The students wore red or green to support their favorite team.

Savannah won popsicles for her class during an inning break.

Donga Donga planning their game strategy.

Christian, Arlington, Naomi, Tripp and Erilyn are ready to cheer on the Braves.

Mia, Natalie and Will are ready to cheer on their team.

Things To Do During A Snow Day

By Angel Ramos Flores and Miquel Naranja Flores

Some common activities people may enjoy during a heavy snowfall include: Building a snowman or having a snowball fight Baking or cooking comfort foods, like soup or hot cocoa Watching movies or reading a good book under a blanket Playing board games or doing puzzles with family or friends Shoveling snow from the driveway or sidewalk can turn into a mini workout party—who knew? Picture this: sledding down a hill, wind whipping your face like a frosty fan as you zoom over the sparkling snow! Then there are snow angels, flopping around like a happy starfish in the fluffy white stuff, soaking in the winter wonderland vibes. Fancy a stroll? A brisk walk through the serene, snowy paradise brings a blissful kind of quiet. Or just kick back with a steaming drink, cozied up by the window, watching snowflakes twirl and swirl like nature's confetti—pure gratitude for that snug warmth inside!

All About DodgeBall!

By Ethan Clement

The intramural sport for this semester is dodgeball. Dodgeball is a fun and intense game where you try to get people from the other team out. If you get hit by the ball you are out. If you hit someone in the head YOU are out.

The teams that will be competing are Strike Force, Wizards, Duolingos, Gummy Bears, Artful Dodgers, Party Animals, Delta Force, Queen Duckers, Donga Donga Elite, Savannah Bananas, Jalapeno, Biggy Cheeses and the Runners.

It's going to be a great intramural season at Cherokee Elementary.

A House Full Of Mystery

A Short Story by Miguel Flores

A long time ago there was a house that was left behind, everyone thought the house was normal until one day on a dark night when everything feels abandoned the house seemed to be alive The house was like a hungry monster searching for something that had been taken from him. He wanted to search for it but how it could search if he can't walk?

Chapter 1: The search of the Lost House

The next morning the house had disappeared, and the residents of the neighborhood searched for the house for days. On the 19 of November of 2012 at 3:55 AM the house appeared out of nowhere but this time it was in another place. The house seemed sad like if somebody ruined his day, the windows were broken, even the old piano was broken like if criminal had been mad and ransacked the house.

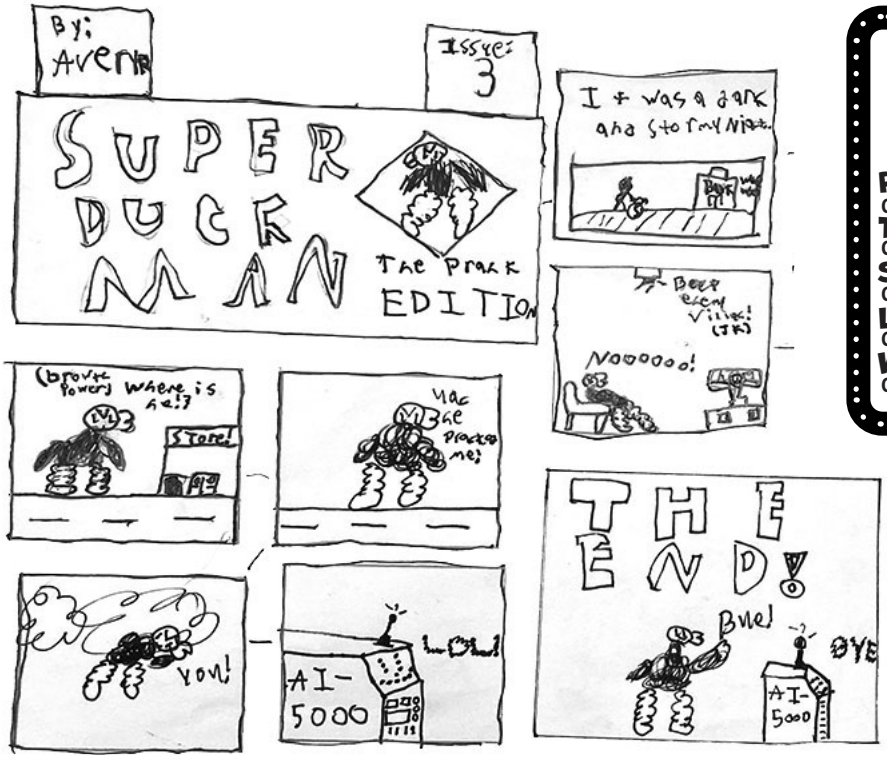
Chapter 2: The night that change everybody's life.

The night of 24 of November the house was destroying everything, house by house especially the home of the criminals who had robbed and stole from him. "What is happening now?" said the banker with a scared tone. Then everyone fell asleep even in the streets! The next morning, the people woke up and they were confused, the house had destroyed the whole colony, everywhere was destroyed but there was a letter that said "I WILL COME BACK FOR ALL THE CRIMINALS IN THIS COLONY!"

Chapter 3: The Revenge of the Monster House.

Almost Midnight of the 4th of December, a creepy sound was heard from the old spot of the haunted house, but nothing was there, so the residents went back to sleep. It is always the worst at night, so everyone wanted to leave the town they forgot about the letter that was sent the same day ."NOBODY WILL LEAVE WITHOUT MY PERMISSION AND IF SOMEONE ESCAPES WITHOUT PERMISSION THEY ARE GOING TO SUFFER THE CONSEQUENCES".

To Be Continued



COMING SOON

KID FRIENDLY MOVIES RECOMMENDED BY NATALIE REED, FIFTH GRADE

PADDINGTON IN PERU .. RATED PG
COMING 2/14

THE UNBREAKABLE BOY RATED PG
COMING 2/21 *HIGHLY RECOMMEND

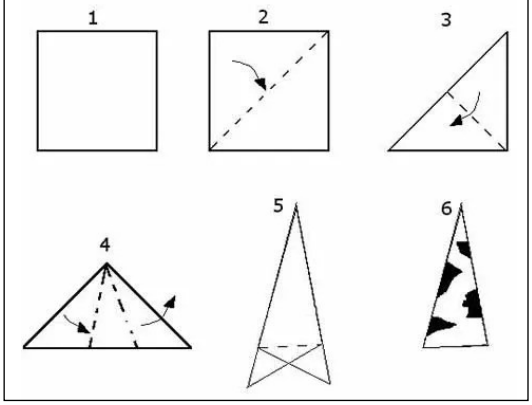
SNOW WHITE..... RATED PG
COMING 3/21

LILO & STITCH ..... RATED PG
COMING 5/23

WICKED 2 ..... RATED PG
COMING 11/21

HOW TO MAKE PAPER SNOWFLAKES

Make sure to get your parents permission and use proper scissor safety before you start.



JOKES

By Avery Roden

Q: What reindeer is the rudest?
A: Rude-Olph!
Q: What did john say at Christmas dinner?
A: I love HAMilton!
Q: What did the icicle under the car say?
A: I'm sick of being iced up here!
Q: What did the theif that stole a advent calendar get?
A: 25 Days!
Q: What did the snowman eat for breakfast?
A:Frosted flakes!
Q: What rocket went into space on christmas?
A: The missleToe5!
Q: What does Frosty's mom put on her face at night?
A: Cold cream.
Q: What's the difference between ice and icicle? A: Ice has noel.
Q: Why did the husband pour warm water on his computer?
A: He had asked his wife what to do if windows froze.
Q: What can you catch in the winter, even with your eyes closed?
A: A cold.

WORD FIND SOLUTION

Word Find

F	S	S	N	I	C	U	W	X	S	J	C	K	J	L
R	L	G	B	W	C	I	Q	S	Q	T	J	K	A	E
O	S	U	I	F	M	I	T	T	E	N	S	F	C	N
S	Q	N	R	D	I	X	C	C	T	G	R	E	K	N
T	D	A	O	R	E	V	D	L	R	E	Z	K	F	A
Y	C	N	D	W	Y	L	E	W	E	A	S	A	R	L
S	P	L	I	S	S	O	S	O	D	W	N	L	O	F
G	O	V	L	U	H	U	I	O	R	I	O	F	S	S
C	D	E	C	S	G	N	I	L	A	N	W	W	T	P
Y	E	K	W	I	G	N	L	T	Z	T	M	O	O	I
T	T	O	R	E	Z	D	E	N	Z	E	A	N	Z	R
K	N	Z	Q	S	K	I	S	P	I	R	N	S	T	E
S	H	H	W	O	O	L	G	I	L	R	F	E	C	I
N	O	R	T	H	P	O	L	E	B	D	W	Z	W	G
I	V	B	B	X	F	R	J	W	Y	P	Q	A	W	N

SLED
SNOWFLAKE
SCARF
MITTENS
FLURRY
JACK FROST
FREEZING
ZERO
PENGUIN
BLIZZARD
SNOWSHOE
SKIS
ICICLE
WINTER
WINDY
IGLOO
ARCTIC
FLANNEL
NORTHPOLE
SNOWSUIT
FROSTY
SLEET
ICE
COLD
SNOWMAN