

BLUE HAWK NEWS

1st & 2nd Grade to Perform

Our 1st and 2nd grade students have been invited to sing the National Anthem at the home High School basketball games, **tomorrow, Friday, February 13th**. Performing students should arrive at the High School Gym by **5:00PM**. They will sing the anthem at the beginning of the first varsity game. The Blue Hawk High School girls' and boys' teams will challenge the Troy Trojans in double header action.

Early Learning Update

As mentioned in an earlier newsletter, we will be opening a 4 year old Early Learning Class (Pre-K) for the 2026-27 school year. Parents hoping to enroll their student or find out more information can call the Elementary School at 406.827.3592. We will be screening students in mid March, but we are gathering a list of students now. Enrollment spots are limited, so you will want to call soon.

Infinite Campus Alerts

As you know, we have turned on notifications to be sent to parents when a student has been listed as an "offender" for a behavior incident in Infinite Campus. The idea was to be more proactive and communicative regarding behavior issues at school. Feedback from parents has been both positive and not so positive. Again, we cannot control that Infinite Campus requires us to put a label on each student's involvement in a behavior incident. Those labels can have a negative connotation. We fully understand that the word "offender" seems a bit harsh. We also are aware that the alert to parents only allows a small bit of information to be available to parents until the behavior documentation is fully investigated and complete within the system. **While these notices will remain available to you in the Parent Portal, we are offering parents / guardians some options. If you would like to reduce the ways you are notified when your student receives a behavior referral, please take a moment to fill out the Behavior Notification Request Form, being sent home today, and return it to school with your student.** The form is also available on our website at fes.thompsonfalls.net/el-forms

Kindergarten Roundup

We are seeking the Class of 2039! Do you know a child who will be turning 5 years old, on or before September 10, 2026? We will be conducting our annual Kindergarten Round up on Tuesday, March 3rd and Wednesday, March 11th. Call 406.827.3592 now for an appointment.

No Trading Cards

As a reminder, our Student Parent Handbook says, **"Trading cards of any kind are not permitted at school for any reason."** Cards brought to school will be confiscated by staff and will need to be picked up by a parent or guardian.

Important Happenings

- 2/12 REACH (after school program for 3rd-8th) 3:15-5:00PM
- 2/13 Mid 3rd Quarter
- 2/13 Classroom Valentine Parties - in the afternoon
- 2/13 FUN FRIDAY - Neon Day
- 2/13 Early Dismissal - 2:05PM
- 2/13 1st/2nd Gr to sing National Anthem - 5:30PM- HS Gym
- 2/16-2/20 Random Acts of Kindness Week - sponsored by PTO
- 2/16 Kindness Week - wear bright colors
- 2/16 REACH (after school program for 3rd-8th) 3:15-5:00PM
- 2/17 Kindness Week - wear red or pink
- 2/18 Kindness Week - wear tie dye or hippie attire
- 2/18 School Spelling Bee - 2:15 - Band Room
- 2/18 REACH (after school program for 3rd-8th) 3:15-5:00PM
- 2/19 Kindness Week - Super Hero Day
- 2/19 Grange Coloring Contest entries due
- 2/19 REACH (after school program for 3rd-8th) 3:15-5:00PM
- 2/20 FUN FRIDAY - Stripes Day
- 2/20 K-8 Muffins with Moms-7:30AM - sponsored by PTO
- 2/20 PTO Popcorn Friday- sponsored by North Star Drilling
- 2/20 Kindness Celebration - Blue Hawks Are Kind Day!
- 2/20 Early Dismissal - 2:05PM
- 2/21 Winter Carnival - 11AM-3PM- TF Baseball Feild
- 2/22 Washington's Birthday
- 2/23 **NO REACH**
- 2/25 REACH (after school program for 3rd-8th) 3:15-5:00PM
- 2/26 5th-8th Gr Science Fair—12:40-1:55PM—Gym
- 2/26 REACH (after school program for 3rd-8th) 3:15-5:00PM
- 2/27 FUN FRIDAY - Blue Hawk Day
- 2/27 Early Dismissal - 2:05PM
- 2/27 County Spelling Bee—1:00PM—Courthouse
- 3/2 2nd Ski Trip for 4th-8th Gr
- 3/2 School Board Meeting - 6:00PM - Board Room

Thompson Falls Elementary

Mr. Len Dorscher,
Principal

School web site:
<https://fes.thompsonfalls.net>





Sweet Reading Tips

Resource Adapted from Cox Campus



A Storytime Valentine: The Magic of 3 “Think Aloud” Reads!

Books have the power to make a life-changing “impression!” When you read a favorite story to your little one three times (over a couple of days’ time), you’re giving them a gift that’s better than a box of chocolates. To make it even more magical, try a “Think-Aloud” Read where you talk out loud about what you’re thinking as you read. It helps your child’s brain “bloom” by showing them how to understand a story.

★ What is a “Think Aloud”?

A Think Aloud is like opening a window to your heart and mind! It’s when you pause the story to share your inner thoughts, like: “I wonder why he’s doing that?” or “Oh! That word ‘enormous’ must mean something huge!” You’re teaching your child how to be a ‘book detective’ and showing them the ‘key’ to unlocking their imagination!

♥ Read 1: Focus on Events & Excitement

Want to make your child’s brain ‘flutter’? Give that first read-through everything you’ve got! Dive into those big vocabulary words and use your tone to highlight the ‘heart’ of the story. Use expressions, fun voices, and point out the big story problems. Between the fun voices and the ‘think-alouds,’ your child will be ‘smitten’ with reading in no time. You’re doing a ‘heart-y’ job, parent!

♥ Read 2: Focus on Emotions & Vocabulary

On the second trip through the book, it’s time to play ‘matchmaker’ with new words! Use your think-alouds to bridge the gap between a tricky new word and what the character is feeling. If a character is ‘exhausted,’ explain that their heart and body are ready for a long nap. When you pair big words with big emotions and a lively voice, your child will fall ‘head over heels’ for language!

♥ Read 3: The Child Tells the Story

By the third time around, your child is the ‘sweetheart’ of the story! Pass them the microphone and encourage them to tell the story in their own words or read the parts that they can. Ask questions like, “What’s happening here?” to see if they can connect the big events to how the characters are feeling inside. It’s a ‘match made in heaven’ for building their confidence and their heart!



Happy Valentine's Day from us to you and yours! 🍫💌