

## Calendar      No School November 21-25    Happy Thanksgiving!

<b>Monday, Nov. 28</b>	Piano Lessons- Community Ed.	4:00-7:00	Room 5
	Highlands CP Council	7:00-9:00 PM	Media Center
<b>Tuesday, Nov. 29</b>	Highlands Choir	8:30-9:15	Room 10/11
	Sport Stacking	8:15-9:10	Gym
	Real World Spanish - Community Ed	3:55-4:55	Room 28
	Science Comes Alive – Community Ed	3:55-4:55	Room 3
<b>Wednesday, Nov. 30</b>	Sport Stacking	8:15-9:10	Gym
	Video Game Design-Community Ed	3:50-5:20	Room 3
	Lego X- Community Ed	3:55-5:10	Room 9
<b>Thursday, Dec. 1</b>	Sport Stacking- Community Ed	8:15-9:10	Media Center
	Chess Club	4:00-5:00	Room 4
	Clay Play- Community Ed	3:55-4:55	Room 28
	Chinese- Community Ed	3:55-4:55	Room 3
	Kindergarten Information Night	7:00 PM	Cafeteria
<b>Friday, Dec. 2</b>	Young Rembrandts-Community Ed	3:55-4:55	Room 28

## Field Trips - No field trips this week

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## LINKS

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### *Notes from the Principal*

**11/18/11**

At Highlands we use a blend of three programs to help create our learning environment. These programs are Restitution Self Discipline, cooperative learning and Integrated Thematic Instruction (ITI). It is interesting to know what students say about the impact of these programs.

Restitution is a program that helps students develop responsibility. Part of Restitution is using questions like: "What is your job now?" and "It looks like you need help in getting started, can I help?"

Students have reported that this approach has many benefits including:

- You feel more comfortable to talk to an adult
- You will be more patient when other people make mistakes
- It will make you more like your own person
- Kids know what their job is without an adult telling them
- It teaches kids to help others fix mistakes
- Kids can figure things out alone when they need to
- Kids know that they're doing something wrong without feeling bad about it

Part of the (ITI) program is learning about LifeSkills and Lifelong Guidelines. Students tell us that they benefit from this in a variety of ways including:

- They teach you to be courageous; to ask your boss for a raise
- Helps being a role model for younger kids who have not learned about them
- Helps kids be an easier person to work with
- People get better at them
- When you grow up you can work with your co-workers better
- You can work better with people and yourself
- It will help us do our personal best everyday to use perseverance to keep at it even when it's hard
- Kids use the Lifeskills
- Students have more dignity
- Students trust each other more

Teachers at Highlands have students work together in cooperative learning groups and learning conflict resolution skills. Student told us the following benefits from these experiences:

- Groups let you bond
- When they work in small groups past Highlands's students will know what they're doing
- When kids become adults then they will know how to work as a team
- Teach kids to work with people who might not be his/her friend
- You can learn from others and get more ideas
- You learn more about each other
- We learn how to work together
- We can hear other points of views
- Kids get better at working with other kids

Conflict Resolution is a natural extension of the work we do with cooperative learning. Conflict Resolution helps students learn how to solve conflicts in a peaceful manner.

- Kids know that there are other ways to figure out a problem than yelling at each other
- Because it is a good resolution
- So you can use those steps without a teacher
- So we can teach it to our friends and family
- Helps us as an adult

- So we will know how to stop arguments at work
- Kids get better at solving conflicts

The Highlands Way has been carefully developed over many years at Highlands. It is great to hear from students about the impact it has on them.

*Peter Hodne*

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## **ImpactLives Day - December 15**

In order to pack the number of meals we hope to this year, our goal is for each student at Highlands to raise about \$15. Believe it or not, that small amount pays for **100 meals!**

Over Thanksgiving, talk to your student about the value of helping others. Consider taking up a collection around the table as you consider what you're thankful for, and what the people of Haiti are lacking.

**There are jars in each classroom for collecting money.**

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## **Notes from the Health Office**

"Calling all ANNUAL HEALTH INFORMATION FORMS; please report to the health office."

There is still only 50% compliance getting these forms completed and turned into the health office - our goal is 100%.

These forms are not only used to update any student health concerns and number/address changes, but serve the health office staff and substitutes as a quick reference. It can be found on the Highlands Webpage under useful links. It is an annual form, but does not require a physical or MD signature. The form can be completed and signed by the parent/guardian. The form can be mailed, faxed, e-mailed or handed to the teacher, office personnel or health staff. However with over 300 forms still out there and coming in, book-bags are not going to be the best choice for mail delivery.

Have a safe, health and Happy Thanksgiving.

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### **You Can Still Order a Highlands Yearbook!**

It's not too late to order a Highlands Yearbook for the 2011-2012 school year. Yearbooks are only \$15 each. Checks should be made out to Highlands PTO. Simply put your check with the name/class of each student who is purchasing a yearbook in an envelope and leave it with your child's teacher. Or, you can drop it off at the office in the Yearbook Mailbox. Questions can be directed to [highlandyearbook@gmail.com](mailto:highlandyearbook@gmail.com).

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## **Thanks for making the Great Gathering 3 ROCK!**

Thanks to everyone who made this year's Great Gathering a HUGE success. Over 325 people attended, 2 bands rocked, over 375 people are signed up for fun small gatherings throughout the year and we raised over \$30,000 to directly support our school! For those who attended AND those who did not, it's your turn to tell us your thoughts, ideas, suggestions to make future fundraising events even better!

GG3 t-shirts are still available for purchase at a reduced price of \$10 in the office...ladies tees can also fit youth! Get yours while they last!

Please take just a few minutes to complete this short survey:

<http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/CRKF228>

On behalf of the entire GG3 committee, we thank you for your contributions and we hope you had a rockin time!

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## **Recycling Holiday Lights**

It's that time of year when we're hauling out the holiday decorations. Ever find yourself untangling a ball of lights then they don't work? Instead of throwing them out, you can recycle them. Collection will occur Nov 15 - Jan 31, 2012.

Our local drop off site is Edina City Hall. For more information go to:

<http://www.cleanenergyresourceteams.org/campaigns/ryh-11-12#map>

or

<http://www.recycleminnesota.org/index.php/programs/recycle-your-holidays>

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*Be sure to check Community Opportunities for Youth on the [EPS Facebook page](#)*

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## **ALICE'S ADVENTURES IN WONDERLAND – DEC 1-3 @ 7PM**

Valley View Middle School is pleased to present "Alice's Adventures in Wonderland" on December 1-3 at 7:00p.m. in the Edina Performing Art Center. All tickets are general admission and can be purchased at the box office 1 hour prior to the show. Ticket prices are \$8 for Adults and \$6 for students and seniors.

In the show, Alice is off on a madcap adventure as she follows the White Rabbit and meets other characters like Caterpillar, Talking Flowers, a Duchess and her Cook, and the Mad Hatter. All ages will enjoy Alice's fantastic journey through a wonder-filled world.

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## **Trivia Corner**

The word "dude" was coined by Oscar Wilde and his friends. It is a combination of the words duds and attitude.

America purchased Alaska from Russia in 1867 for \$7,200,000 — about 2 cents an acre.

Cattle branding in the United States did not originate in the West. It began in Connecticut in the mid-19th century, when farmers were required by law to mark all their pigs.

## **On this Day in**

**1820** - United States Navy Captain Nathaniel B. Palmer discovered the frozen continent of Antarctica

***"Never let the fear of striking out get in your way."  
- Babe Ruth***