

The Cub Reporter

**Tucker Tidbits for Elementary
Kathy Tucker, Elementary Principal**

It's hard to believe that the holiday season is already here, and soon it will be time for Christmas break. The Christmas season always brings with it an appreciation for others. Parents, thank you for giving us the opportunity to teach your children. We appreciate all you do on a daily basis such as helping with homework, checking backpacks daily, signing Cub books, keeping kiddoes home when they are sick, communicating with teachers, and for just being there supporting and loving your children. Students, thank you for trying your best and striving to learn more. Remember to make learning a priority as we bring the first semester to a close, and thank your teachers for all they do for you on a daily basis. Teachers, thank you for always striving to improve as instructors, giving of yourselves continually, working hard and putting in extra time to achieve excellence, and for caring and loving our students. We are so blessed and thankful for the school/parent/community partnership that we experience here as Big Sandy Bearcubs!

Elementary "Family Night"

Our elementary "Family Night" Carnival was a huge success! The gym was filled with carnival-style math games, the cafeteria with yummy food, and the library with incredible books. Teachers went above and beyond in providing this extracurricular activity for everyone. Thanks to all who made this a memorable event for all of our students and their families!



Santa Visit

Santa Claus will be coming to visit with each elementary student on Thursday, December 9th. Please see the flyer on page 9 for more information and to order a picture.

YEARBOOK SPECIAL!!

2021/2022 Yearbooks can now be reserved at a discount! If you order and pay for your yearbooks no later than December 10, 2021 you will receive a \$10.00 discount on the high school yearbook and a \$5.00 discount on the Elementary/Junior High yearbook. Please fill out the order form on page 9 and return it to the school soon!



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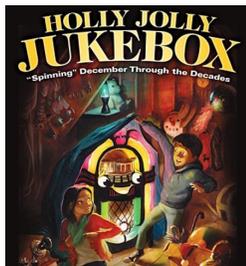
...Tucker Tidbits continued from page 1

Elementary Christmas Program

The elementary will be presenting their annual Christmas program on Wednesday, December 1st, under the direction of Mrs. Weber. Each program should last 30 to 45 minutes. The K-2nd program will be from 6:00 p.m. to 6:40 p.m. while the 3rd-5th grade will be 7:00 p.m. to 7:40 p.m. The students have worked diligently to prepare for this performance. Don't miss out on this opportunity to usher in the Christmas season!

Christmas is upon us again! With that, the Simla Elementary School has some wonderful plays to share with you this year!

Kindergarten, 1st, and 2nd will be putting on an adorable play about a new Christmas tale! Marty the Moose, played by 2nd grader, Jaran Zimmerman, desperately wants to be able to fly, just like the reindeer, but he can't because...he is a moose! Throughout the play, Marty is consistently trying to show us that he can fly, but he is always met with the same disappointing crash every time he tries. Will he be able to fly before time runs out on Christmas Eve? Come find out and see as the rest of the winter wonderland characters try to find a place for a moose in our holiday story!



3rd, 4th, and 5th grade is putting on a fun play that is specifically geared towards parents! The story starts out with kids prepping for the Christmas play, and they wander into an old storage area and find a jukebox, a Holly Jolly Jukebox to be specific, played by 5th grader, Trenna Kocerha. The Jukebox is horrified how little the kids know about older music, so it takes us through some wonderfully written, original to this play, songs that take us time traveling! Come see these kids take us through a holiday adventure through the 20th century! There might even be a special appearance by Mr. Claus...You'll just have to wait and see!

Come One, Come All for some yummy food!

Before the Christmas program, our Future Business Leaders of America chapter will be hosting a chili supper for all elementary students and their families. The dinner will begin promptly at 5:00 p.m. and will run through 7:00 p.m. The dinner will cost \$4.00 per person, and the money will help sponsor FBLA students at their district and state competitions. Come join us, sit back, relax, and enjoy visiting with your family and others!



Cub's Den is back!!!

We are excited to bring back our Cub's Den groups. In November, groups met for an introductory session so they could get to know each other. Each group is led by a 5th grader and comprised of different aged students K-5. They will meet once a month and will compete, together as a team, in various activities throughout the school year. In December, they will compete in the True Sport games together.

True Sport

On December 16th, high school true sport athletes will be hosting our annual True Sport games. K-5 students will compete, in their Cub's Den groups, from 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. followed by junior high students who will compete from 3:00 to 4:00 p.m. It will be an exciting time to compete and also hear from some Olympic athletes! Thank you to Mrs. Montague for sponsoring the True Sport athletes.

Tucker Tidbits continued on page 3...

...Tucker Tidbits continued from page 2

Math Month

Several elementary students took advantage of a learning opportunity and participated in math month by sharpening the memorization of their math facts. Thank you, students! Remember: January is writing month!

Elementary Christmas Parties

Christmas parties will be held on December 17th. Classroom teachers will be hosting these parties.

First Semester

Our first semester ends on Friday, December 17th. Report cards will be sent home after we return from our Christmas break. If a teacher has a concern about a student's progress, then parents will be contacted. Please make sure to have your child read and complete his/her homework on time while making quality work a priority. School will resume on January 4th.

Accountability committee

Our district has several people who serve on this committee. It is comprised of students, staff, parents, community members, and business owners. We appreciate the time and effort that these folks give to help make our schools better! Our next accountability meeting will be on January 12, 2021 at 3:00 p.m. in the library.

Santa at the Fire Station

Santa will also be visiting the fire station in Simla on December 5th from 2:00 to 5:00 p.m. Chili and cookies will be served there.

Santa Claus to visit Big Sandy School

Santa Claus will be coming to our school on December 9, 2021. Thank you to our National Honor Society for making this possible.

Toys for Tots

A local family desires, once again, to make toys available to all students at Christmas time. This requires much time, hard work, and organization. Thank you, Kim, Kayla, and family, for helping our students and families!



<< DECEMBER STUDENT OF THE MONTH

J.J. Cheney was chosen by his teacher, Mrs. Ashmore, to be our December Student of the Month because he is a super student in all classes at school. He can be always be seen helping others, working hard at whatever the task, and just being an exemplary Bearcub! Thanks, JJ, for being such a great student!

JANUARY STUDENT OF THE MONTH >>

Mrs. Weber chose Sagelynn Allen as our January Student of the Month. Sagelynn has blossomed in music class showing much growth and confidence in her musical ability. She always participates in class and follows directions while always doing what she is supposed to do. Sagelynn is another great Bearcub to celebrate!



Thanks to...

- All veterans for serving our country
- Mr. Tucker and his class for providing the Veteran's Day video during lunch.
- All parents for being a support for your children and our school
- All elementary students for a great first semester of learning
- Accountability committee members
- All Big Sandy Staff for helping our students experience much success

Have a blessed holiday season! May it be filled with lots of laughter, hugs, and time spent with family and friends!

"No amount of money or success can take the place of time spent with your family." - Author unknown

From the Principal's Desk
Sammi Swennes, Secondary Principal

Year-to-Date

- Basketball season is well under way for our junior high teams. They will continue to have games in December and January, and the Black Forest League Junior High Basketball Tournament will be held in Simla on January 21st and 22nd.
- The High School Basketball teams start their season this weekend in the Limon Tournament. The girls will play at 7:00 p.m. and the boys game will follow.
- High School Wrestling will start their season on Saturday, December 4th in Fowler.
- Junior High and High School Choir and Band will be having a winter performance on December 8th at 6:30 p.m. The junior high and high school drama will be having their winter production on December 16th at 6:30 p.m.

Future Business Leaders of America

Congratulations to our new FBLA officers, Bethany Rasco and Ryleigh Tunink. And congratulations to all of the member inductees.



Bethany Rasco, newly inducted



Back row: Jayden Creighbaum, Dillon Easler, Dalton Hisle, Aiden Townley, J.T. Swennes, Treven Kocerha, Willie Swennes, Ryleigh Tunink. Front row: Cason Shults, Michael Champ, Jon Zimmerman, Serenity Cauthon, Tatum Nehl, Morgan Swennes, Charley Maranville, Bethany Rasco, Lauren Rector.



Ryleigh Tunink, newly inducted

We hope that Thanksgiving was a restful time for you and your family. We all look forward to the Christmas Season and the end of the first semester. The winter break will begin on December 18th and we will return to school on January 4th.

The administration and staff would like to wish you and your family a Happy Holiday season, we are blessed to work with your kids every day and appreciate everything that you do to support your child's education at Big Sandy Schools!

Superintendent/Board Notes
Steve Wilson, Superintendent

School Board Election

In the November school board election, Chad Maranville and Greg Mitchell were reelected for another 4-year term; they will continue with Nancy Sotomayor, Tika Ethridge and Kevin Braun.

Successful In-Person Learning

We continue to have good success with in-person schooling. Thank you parents/guardians and students for not coming to school sick! Again, thank you for working hard and doing your extra parts in helping to keep our school open!

Veteran’s Day Assembly

Our students remembered our veterans on Veterans Day; thank you to Mr. Tucker, Mrs. Hamacher, Mrs. Creel, teachers, principals and students for making this day special.

Lower Bond Payment Rate
On November 3rd, the Big Sandy School Board unanimously voted to lower the BEST (Building Excellent Schools Today) Bond Payment Rate from 4.118% to 1.977%. The original agreement was amended and will save the Big Sandy School District taxpayers over \$222,000 during the remainder of the bond payment period.



Trunk or Treat

Thank you Mrs. Tucker and community members that helped make the Trunk or Treat event a fun time for our students.

Governor’s Preliminary Budget

The Governor’s Preliminary Budget was introduced in November. He proposes to cut the Budget Stability Factor by \$150 million...this would still leave over \$400 million being taken away next year from K-12 schools from what was put into Colorado’s Constitution, passed by Colorado voters in the 2000 election. The legislative session will take the current Governor’s Budget as a starting point and then will be working on it throughout the legislative session which will start in January.

Superintendent/Board Notes continued on page 6...

...Superintendent/Board Notes continued from page 5

School Safety

Surely, we will be getting some moisture soon. When that time comes, please be careful when driving and walking around the school as we get into the snowy season. Although our custodians do a great job with snow removal, please let our children know to use extra caution on inclement weather days.

Contact Information Changes

Please also let Alisa Easler in the office know of any contact information changes in phone numbers or e-mail addresses so that we can keep in contact especially with short notice communications such as school late-starts or cancellations.

We look forward to the many school activities this winter. We are very thankful for the good start to our school year and thankful for our students and staff at Big Sandy Schools!

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year! Go Cubs!

Counselor Corner
Chad Thieman, Counselor

SENIORS

It's the first of December! Hopefully seniors have applied to their top choices for college and have been receiving notifications of acceptance. I encourage all of our seniors to work hard in the weeks before Christmas to get their applications submitted.

Senior Seminar

In Senior Seminar, our Senior Projects are wrapping up! 10-page research papers will be handed in soon! Based on their research, each student is also creating a PowerPoint presentation to give before a panel of judges from our community December 14th & 15th. The senior who is judged to have the best overall presentation will win a gift card! This year we again required a job shadow experience for each senior. I hope that this was a valuable time in helping our students get a first-hand and practical look at the day-to-day requirements of their career choice. Parents – thank you for helping your student complete this requirement! In January we hope to begin a Personal Finance unit in conjunction with Farmers State Bank as well as continuing to work on scholarship applications.

FAFSA

The Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) is available now online at www.fafsa.ed.gov. Financial information needed to complete the FAFSA comes from your families completed 2020 tax forms. This is a free process so if you encounter any charges being requested then you have accessed the wrong site. In order to sign your completed FAFSA you will need a FSA ID. The process for obtaining this is found at www.fsaaid.ed.gov. I am always willing to help you go through these applications and provide as much guidance as I can!

Free School Lunches

Because of a federal grant, we hope to continue to be able to serve free lunches to **all** of our students throughout the entire school year.

ACT

The next test date for the ACT is February 12th. The regular registration deadline for this test is January 7th. Register at www.actstudent.org. The test fee for the ACT is \$60.00. See Mr. Thieman to see if you qualify for a fee waiver.

SAT

The next test date for the SAT is March 12th. The regular registration deadline for this test is February 11th. The test fee for the SAT is \$55.00. Register at www.sat.org. See Mr. Thieman to see if you qualify for a fee waiver. All juniors will be taking the SAT at Simla on April 13th at no charge.

Counselor's Corner continued on page 7...

ALL SECONDARY STUDENTS – CHANGING YOUR SCHEDULE

December 17th marks the end of the 1st semester! If you would like to change your schedule for the 2nd semester, you must pick up a schedule change form from my office. 4 signatures are required: Teacher from the class that you are dropping; Teacher from the class that you are adding; Parents; and Counselor. Forms will need to be handed in by Friday, December 10th.

ALL SECONDARY STUDENTS - ASVAB

The ASVAB (military readiness assessment) will be offered at the school Monday, January 10th. High school students can sign up in my office to take this optional assessment. There is no cost.

In your holiday traveling, make time to stop and visit some college campuses along the way. One of the best ways to learn about a college is to set foot on campus. Remember that my office is always open to talk about whatever that you would like. Stop by anytime! May you all have a Merry Christmas and I am looking forward to a great New Year!



By Pat Cook
Produced by special arrangement with Eldridge Publishing Co.

Come join the High School and Junior High drama students for ***The Little Town of Christmas***, on Thursday, December 16th at 6:30 p.m. (doors open at 6:00 p.m.)

Get ready for an evening of holiday entertainment! In this cozy little town everyone is friendly and funny and you will meet them all, including Skeeze and Sylvester, an elf comedy team that is short in stature but long in laughter. You will also meet Dancer, a whacky reindeer, Mrs. Claus the REAL boss of the outfit, and a hilarious street corner Santa, tested and bested by one tough kid with a sticky sucker. Also included are old favorite stories such as, "'Twas the Night Before Christmas" and "A Christmas Carol," updated and aimed right for the funny bone, of course. Throw in a wandering group of carolers who cough and sneeze on cue, three kids trying their best to be wise men in the Christmas play, and a riotous lecture on Christmas etiquette, and you're in for an evening of holiday laughter and warmth.

Congratulations to the following students for placing in the Sixth Grade Double El Soil Conservation Poster Contest! Haylee Easler placed first and was Grand Champion for the district, so her poster advanced to the State Level Competition and will be competing against all of the other poster winners within the state of Colorado. Ava Leininger placed second and was Reserve Champion for the district, and Adrihanna Kerst placed third. Each winner was recognized at the 49th Annual Double El Soil Conservation District Meeting and Dinner where they each received cash prizes, and the top two district winners received personalized jackets! In addition, every sixth grader who participated in the Poster Contest will receive a seedling tree in the spring to plant! Thank you to Double El Soil Conservation District for all that you do for our community and for helping teach our students about conservation.



Yearbooks are on Sale!



The 2021/2022 yearbooks are on sale now!

These will be on a pre-order basis, so be sure and reserve your copy early.

The High School Journalism/Yearbook classes are hard at work on an 88-page, High School-only yearbook and a 40-page, soft-cover, Preschool through Eighth Grade yearbook. Both books are cover-to-cover color. We know you will not want to miss getting your copy! Please fill out the form below and return it to the school with your check made payable to Big Sandy School Yearbook.

Please reserve a 2021/2022 Yearbook in my name:

Name: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Phone Number: _____ Grade: _____

HIGH SCHOOL YEARBOOK

Please Check One:

- _____ \$40.00 by December 10, 2021 or
- _____ \$50.00 after December 10, 2021 or
- _____ \$30.00 now and \$30.00 when the yearbook is delivered.

PRESCHOOL THROUGH EIGHTH GRADE YEARBOOK

Please Check One:

- _____ \$25.00 by December 10, 2021
- _____ \$30.00 after December 10, 2021

****Yearbooks will be available for pick-up in August 2022****

November 30, 2021

Dear Elementary Parents,

Santa Claus is coming to Big Sandy School on Thursday, December 9, 2021. Your child will have the privilege of visiting with Santa. To remember this special time in your child's life, the NHS chapter is offering to take pictures of each child with Santa Claus. If you wish to purchase a 5 x 7 picture, please attach \$5.00 per picture and return this to your child's teacher.

Thank you,
National Honor Society
Big Sandy School Chapter



NHS Santa Pictures

Your Child's Name: _____

Child's Grade: _____

Number of pictures: _____

Total Cost (\$5.00/picture): _____



Please make all checks payable to Big Sandy School.

(Families may pay in one check.)

YOU'RE INVITED!

December 14th, 2021
FREE Mobile Food Market
9:00 a.m.

SECORCares is bringing food to Simla!
People can receive groceries (for free) from
this free walk up event.

*if you have reusable bags, please bring them to shop!



First come
first served
until food runs
out!

Location:
Simla School
Overflow parking lot
18091 Co Rd 125,
Simla, CO 80835



SECOR
CARES

Making a "Change"

Attention all Bearcubs: One of our very own Simla Bearcub families is in need of our support and generosity at this time. In an effort to raise support for this Bearcub family, we will have a districtwide, PreK-12, coin drive competition.

Each grade will have a jar to collect their change, and jars will be available for students to contribute at lunchtime. Pennies will each count as one point. You may also "deduct" points from other classes' by placing silver coins or cash in their jars. Silver coins/cash will cancel the same amount of pennies. The top classes in high school, jr. high, and elementary school will be awarded a pizza party. The competition will begin tomorrow, Tuesday, December 1st and will end on Thursday, Dec. 9th. All proceeds will go to support the Revis/Leffingwell family.

Bring your change beginning tomorrow!





DECEMBER 2021

Big Sandy 100J

This Institution
Is an Equal Opportunity Provider

Monday

Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday

Friday

6

Pig in a Blanket
Baked Beans, Chips
Salad Bar, Fruit
Milk

7

Vegetable Beef / Chicken soup
Cheesy Bread sticks
Carrots, Celery
Salad Bar
Fruit, Milk

8

Sloppy Joe
Hash Brown
Fruit Salad, Salad
Salad Bar
Milk ☺

9

Turkey, Cranberry Sauce
Whipped Potatoes w/ Gravy
Green Bean Casserole
Salad Bar, Dinner roll
Fruit Salad
Milk

10

Chicken Patty Sandwich
Tater Tots, Broccoli
Salad Bar, Fruit
Milk

13

Tostada
Lettuce, Cheese, Salad Bar
Cinnamon Apples
Churro
Milk

14

Break

15

Break

16

Break

17

PB / Turkey Salad Sandwich
Chips, Baked Beans
Carrots, Celery
Salad Bar
Fruit, Milk

20

Break

21

Break

22

Break

23

Break

24

Break

27

Break

28

Break

29

Break

30

Break

31

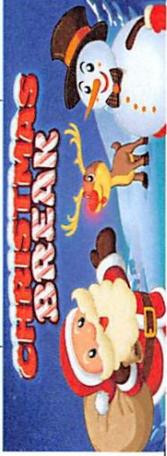
Break



Menu Subject To Change
Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays

December 2021



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 -FBLA Chili Dinner 5pm -Elementary Program -K-2nd 6pm -3rd-5th 7pm	2	3 -HS Basketball-Limon Tournament	4 -HS Basketball-Limon Tournament -HS Wrestling-Peyton Invitational -JH Basketball-Simla @ Limon 9am
5	6 -JH Basketball-Elbert @ Simla 4:30pm -HS Matchwits-Simla @ Miami Yoder 5:30pm	7	8 Choir/Band Concert 6:30pm	9 -Elementary Santa Visit -JH Basketball- Liberty Tree @ Simla 6pm	10 HS Basketball-Simla @ Akron 4pm	11 -HS Wrestling-Limon Invitational -HS Basketball- Merino @ Simla 2pm
12	13 JH Basketball-Calhan @ Simla 4:30pm	14 HS Basketball-Simla @ Calhan 5pm	15 BOE	16 JH/HS Little Town of Christmas Play 6:30pm	17 -End of 2nd Quarter -End of 1st Semester -Elementary Christ- mas Parties 3pm	18 HS Wrestling-John Mall Invitational
19	20	21	22 	23 	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

JANUARY

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
		Back to School	-Girl Scouts 4pm -BOE	JH Basketball-Simla @ Kiowa 4:30pm		HS Wrestling-Lamar Invitational
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
	-JH Basketball-Hanover @ Simla 4:30pm -HS Matchwits-Simla @ CSS 5:30pm	HS Basketball-Byers @ Simla 4:30pm	-Accountability 3pm -SAC 4:15pm		HS Basketball-Simla @ PPC 5pm	HS Wrestling-Wiggins Invitational
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
	JH Basketball-BFL Pigtail game	JH Basketball-BFL Tournament-Higher Seed	-Girl Scouts 4pm -BOE	HS Basketball-Miami @ Simla 5pm	JH Basketball-BFL Tournament @ Simla	-JH Basketball-BFL Tournament @ Simla -HS Wrestling- Strasburg Invitational
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
			HS Basketball-Limon @ Simla 5pm		HS Basketball-Simla @ Cheraw 4pm	HS Wrestling-Stratton Invitational
30	31					