



CUB REPORTER

Cub Reporter Edited By
Simla Journalism Dept

Elementary
Valentines 07

Spring Break
Plans 09

Yearbook
Ordering 16

March Lunch
Calendar 23



📅 UPCOMING EVENTS

March 2
Monday School

March 9
Monday School

March 19
Band & Choir March
Madness @ Callhan

March 5
End of the 3rd Quarter

March 12-14
State Basketball @ Moby
Arena

March 21-30
Spring Break

March 6-7
Regional Basketball

March 16-17
State Knowledge Bowl

March 28
Prom Dress Drive

March 8
Daylight Savings Time

March 17
St. Patricks Day

March 31
NHS Induction





5



7



12



16



13



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TUCKER TIDBITS FOR ELEMENTARY

KATHY TUCKER ELEMENTARY



VALENTINES PARTIES

What a great time we had at our Valentine's Day parties!!!

The month of February is best known for Valentine's Day and is celebrated by sending cards and goodies to those who are special in your life. Take the time to let those who surround you know how much you appreciate them!

According to the article, "Parental Involvement is Key to Student Success" by Grace Chen, research overwhelmingly supports the following conclusions:

1. Academic achievement increases when parents are involved in their children's education.
2. Parental involvement leads to better classroom behavior.
3. Parents should stay involved from preschool through high school.
4. Reading together at home greatly improves reading skills.
5. Parental involvement lifts teacher

morale.

6. Parental involvement benefits children and parents.

TRUE SPORT

The annual True Sport games were held on Friday, February 13th for K-5 students. This event was provided by our high school True Sport athletes and Mrs. Montague. Our Cub's Den groups had a great time! Thank you, high school athletes and Mrs. Montague!





FATHER/DAUGHTER DANCE

The Father/Daughter dance was held on Saturday, February 28th. About 100 fathers and daughters attended for a night of special moments and making memories. Thank you, Mrs. Lally, for leading and organizing this event!



ELEMENTARY WRESTLING

Elementary Wrestling is now taking place! Our very own wrestling team, with the assistance of Mr. Frihauf and Mr. Brickell, will be teaching our students all about the fundamentals of wrestling. All proceeds will go to support our wrestling program. Thank you coaches and wrestling team!



EASTER PARTIES

Preschool will celebrate on Thursday, April 2nd, during their regular class times. On Friday, April 3rd, elementary parties will be held beginning at 3:00 p.m. Once again, thank you, parents, for the parties this year.

PRESCHOOL-KINDERGARTEN PARENT INFORMATIONAL MEETING

Preschool-Kindergarten Parent Informational Meeting on Tuesday, April 7th @ 6 pm in the school cafeteria. Parents, please plan to attend this meeting to learn more about your child's development, what they need to develop before attending school,

and why a cut-off date is so important.

CMAS TESTING

Accept the Challenge!!! State CMAS Tests 2026

In April, our 3rd, 4th and 5th grade students will take Colorado's statewide assessments for math, language arts/reading, and science. Third, fourth and fifth graders will take the math and ELA portions of the CMAS test. In addition, fifth graders will take the science CMAS test. This is a great opportunity for students to display what has been learned throughout the year. Students will have the chance to apply test-taking strategies they have learned during the test to earn points. If enough points are earned, then they will qualify for a trip to Air City 360 on May 2nd!

Bearcubs, accept the challenge and rock it!

MUFFINS WITH MOMS/SONS

Since fathers and daughters had the opportunity to spend time together,

now it's time for our moms and sons. Come join us on Friday, May 1st, 7 am-7:45 am for our third annual "Muffins with Moms/Sons" in our cafeteria. More details to follow.

KINDERGARTEN NEWS

Kindergarten graduation will be on Wednesday, May 13, 2026. This will be the last day of school for our kindergarteners. On the following week, Wednesday, May 21st, Kindergarten Roundup will take place. More information will follow in the upcoming months regarding registration.

ELEMENTARY COMMUNITY SERVICE

Elementary Community Service will be on Friday, April 24th. More details to follow.

PRESCHOOL

With the passage of UPK in our state, some things have changed with regards to preschool. If you have a 3-year-old child who would like to attend our preschool, you can pick up a registration packet in the front office. If you have a



4-year-old, you will need to log onto <https://upk.colorado.gov/> and fill out the required information to register your child. Please call our front office at 719-541-2291 if you have any questions or concerns.



TOYS

Toys are not allowed at school unless previously approved by a teacher for classroom purposes.

CELL PHONES

Elementary students are not allowed to have cell phones out in the classroom. They can be brought to school and kept in a student's locker or in a designated area in the classroom. Teachers will allow students to check them periodically during the day. If you need to get in touch with your child at a certain time or if an emergency arises, please feel free to call the front office, 719-541-2291.

ACCOUNTABILITY MEETING

The next accountability meeting will take place on Tuesday, March 10, at 3:00 p.m. in the library. The April meeting, our last meeting of this year, will take place on Tuesday, April 14, 2026. Thank you, accountability members, for serving our district on this committee.

STUDENT DROP OFF/ PICK UP

Thank you, parents, for using the drop off areas. As a reminder, please do not park in the drop off lane in front of the elementary doors to walk your child into the school. This includes preschool students. Please park in a parking space as this will keep the lane moving without any interruptions.



THE MORE THAT YOU READ, THE MORE THINGS YOU WILL KNOW. THE MORE THAT YOU LEARN, THE MORE PLACES YOU'LL GO. —DR. SEUSS



THUMPERS RULE

In the elementary, we are working on following Thumper's Rule which is: "If you can't say something nice, don't say nothing at all."

Words are powerful, and we want to make sure that we are using them wisely.



Also, please do not leave a car unattended with the motor running in the parking lot or drop off areas. We want to keep all students safe. Thanks for your help!



MARCH STUDENT OF THE MONTH



Our March Student of the Month is Cody Woodall. Cody is a third grader in Mrs. Thieman's class. His teacher nominated him for the great work he has been doing in class and for making excellent choices. Way to go, Cody!



GET BACK TO CLASS! CAUGHT *RED* HANDED In The Hall



Aevry



Adam



James



Ava



Connor



Mr. Williams



Brody



Jayly: Celebrate her birthday



SPRING



BREAK



Logan: Go to Florida



Nolan: Fishing with the Brick



PLANS



Simla High school Students



Arian: See Family

COUNSELOR CORNER

CHAD THIEMAN &
SHANNON HOOPS



REMEMBER

Be kind! "No act of kindness, no matter how small, is ever wasted." Aesop

FINANCIAL AID

Seniors

Seniors - This is the time to be finishing up the Financial Aid process! Getting your FAFSA submitted in a timely manner is the key to being offered Financial Aid from prospective colleges. Work through the following steps ASAP:

1. Create an account at www.studentaid.gov. You will establish a username and a password to use when completing the FAFSA and as a signature when you have it finished and are ready to submit. The student and his/her parents need an account.
2. Complete the FAFSA online at www.fafsa.gov. Remember that the FAFSA has two parts— questions that apply to the student and questions that apply to the student's parents. I would be glad to help you work through the application if you have questions or are having problems. Be sure to include the colleges on your FAFSA that you want your financial information sent to. If you have applied to 3 colleges, indicate on the FAFSA that you want the results sent to all 3 of those specific colleges. You may always go back into your previously submitted FAFSA and add new colleges at any time.
3. Your FAFSA will be processed and you will be provided a student summary report. This report summarizes all of the information provided on your FAFSA. The key result from this report is your Student Aid Index (SAI). Carefully review your report. If corrections need to be made, go to www.fafsa.ed.gov and select "Make Corrections to a Processed FAFSA."
4. The colleges that you have been accepted to and who have received your financial information through the FAFSA process will mail you a Financial Aid Award Letter or post a document through your student account on their online portal. The college



takes the Cost of Attendance and subtracts the Student Aid Index resulting in your Financial Need. The award letter will list what the college offers you to help cover this need including: grants, work-study, and loans. They may also include certain scholarships given specifically by that college. Private scholarships are outside of this process. Remember – you are not required to accept loan offers. Check your online college portal regularly for updated financial aid information. I am available to help community members (not just our high school seniors) in this process as well. Feel free to call me at the school (719.541.2291) if you need assistance with college/trade school financial aid!

SCHOLARSHIPS

Seniors should continue to work on scholarship applications. Parents – check with your student to see what progress he/she is making in this area. We are in the "busy season" for scholarships so it is important that seniors stay organized and keep track of due dates. It is important to know whether a scholarship application is due to the recipient by a certain date or if it only has to be postmarked by that date. Check out the school website at www.bigsandy100j.com and click on the "Counselor" tab and then "Scholarships" for a listing of scholarships. Many of our local scholarship

applications, including the Mary Casey Lasater Memorial Scholarship, the Alan Lasater Outreach Foundation, the Glenn & Jennie Kimble Memorial Scholarship, the Simla Cubs Booster Club Scholarship, the Big Sandy Alumni Scholarship, and the T.R. & Bonnie Hamacher Memorial Scholarship, are due soon!

PERSONAL WORK-FORCE READINESS (SENIOR SEMINAR)

We are finishing up a unit using "The Job Hunting Handbook". We are working through the process of finding a job to apply for (a fictitious JH Tutor position), completing the written application materials, and our students are currently sitting for an interview. This unit ends with discussions about important qualities of a successful employee, etiquette in business/social settings, and understanding what constitutes harassment in the workplace.

We have also partnered with Farmers State Bank to teach important "Money 101" topics. Each senior is given an "occupation" by the bank and then receives a working debit card on which their paychecks are deposited and debits for regular expenses are posted. Thanks to FSB for their contributions to our

students!

The 4th quarter in Senior Seminar includes finishing the FSB Money unit, completing scholarship applications, and practicing public speaking through various types of speeches.

JUNIORS

Colorado Boys State will be held at NJC in Sterling May 31 – June 6. This is a chance for junior boys to “experience real life America while they create and operate their own cities, counties, and state governments.” The full cost is covered by the American Legion. Register at: www.CoLegionBoysState.org by May 1st.

Colorado Girls State will be held at NJC in Sterling June 7-13. This is a chance for junior girls to “run for mock public office, write, debate, and pass bills, engage in a mock trial exercise, and attend panels consisting of guests from every level of Colorado government and beyond.” The full cost is covered by the American Legion Auxiliary. Register at: www.alacolorado.com/girls-state by May 1st.

SAT

All Big Sandy juniors will be taking the SAT on April 15th. The best preparation for SAT testing is to take rigorous classes and to work hard in each of them. 11th graders will also be taking the

CMAS Science test in April. There is no cost to take this School Day SAT.

ACT

The next ACT national test date is April 11th and the regular registration deadline for this assessment is March 6th. The late registration deadline is March 24th. More information is available at www.act.org.

PSAT

All Big Sandy 9th and 10th graders will be taking the PSAT on April 15th. The PSAT 9 & 10 are administered to all public school 9th and 10th graders in Colorado.

CMAS

The CMAS test window is April 6th – 24th. All 3rd – 8th graders will be taking English Language and Math assessments. 5th, 8th, and 11



th graders also take Science assessments. Testing is completed online.

REPORT CARDS

3rd quarter report cards will be sent home in March (the quarter ends March 5th). Please remember that this report card serves as a mid-term progress report. Students have through the end of the

semester to raise their percentages. Only the final semester grades (May 21st) are posted on the student's high school transcript and count toward cumulative grade point averages. The coming warm weather can bring with it the temptation to “slack off” in the classroom. Remind your student(s) to finish the year strong by earning the best grade that they can in each course. I've heard many seniors say that they



wished that they had gotten better grades when they had had the chance. Grade point average and SAT/ACT scores play an important role in college admissions and scholarship contests

PORTFOLIO ITEMS

As we finish the school year and many award certificates are given out, please have your student keep their certificates to put in a cumulative folder. When your students are seniors they will be glad to have a folder full of examples of accomplishments that they can use when applying for scholarships. It is also a good idea to keep a list of community service activities completed that shows what service was completed, when the service was completed, the amount of time spent on the service, and a name and address that can be used for a reference pertaining to the service completed. All of these items can be scanned for use in an electronic portfolio as well.

SPRING BREAK TRAVELS

If your Spring break plans involve traveling, find an opportunity to visit a college campus that may be nearby. Learning about and setting foot on a college campus helps students to see themselves being in a place where they can earn a post-secondary degree. If your student is leaning toward a trade, set up a work-site visit to learn what a day in that trade looks like. These experiences help our students to think ahead about their future possibilities and then connecting what they need to learn in high school to be successful in their next steps.

ELEMENTARY

The March elementary counseling theme will be "self-esteem". Mrs. Hoops will be teaching a lesson on this topic in our elementary classrooms.

PERSONAL COUNSELING

As always, if Mrs. Hoops and/or I can be of assistance in any way, please let us know. We are available to talk to students and members of the community one on one and ensure confidentiality. Please remember, the only information that we are unable to keep confidential would pertain to potential harm to self or to another person. Thanks for your trust in us!



SECONDARY PRINCIPAL NOTES:

SAMMI SWENNES

**STUDENT HONORS
HIGH SCHOOL WRESTLING**

Great job to all of our wrestlers this season. They wrestled hard at regionals and represented Simla well all season long! Way to go Cubs!!

JUNIOR HIGH WRESTLING

The fast and furious junior high wrestling season is underway. Good luck to those wrestlers this season.

BASKETBALL

Our high school basketball teams are starting the post season, which will start the first week in March.

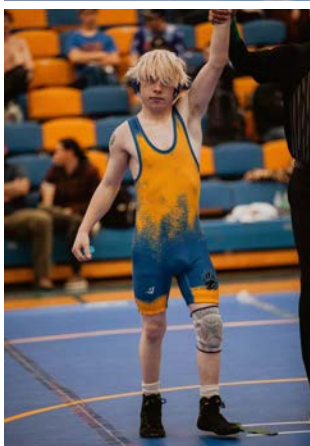
FBLA

Congratulations to all of our State Qualifiers that will compete in April!

MATCHWITS

Congratulations to the Simla Matchwits team, they will be attending the State Knowledge Bowl in Greeley on March 16th and 17th.

Good luck to all our state qualifiers!!

**CHOIR & BAND**

Great job to our high school and junior high choir and band students who participated in the Solo and Ensemble.

**DRAMA**

Be ready to be entertained in April with the talents of our performing and musical arts students. On April 8th at 6:30 p.m. will be the spring concert. On April 22nd the drama class will be performing The Little Mermaid. Both performances will be amazing, so be sure to mark your calendars!!

SPRING BREAK

Just a reminder that Spring Break will be from Saturday, March 21st to Monday, March 30th. School resumes on Tuesday, March 31st.

SPECIAL SCHOOL DAYS

Don't forget we will be having Monday School on March 2nd and no school on Friday, March 6th. We will also be having Monday School on March 9th and no school on Friday, March 13th.

PARENT/TEACHER CONFERENCES

The second semester conferences were on Thursday, February 19th from 3:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. If you were unable to attend, and you are concerned about your student's progress, please call your child's teachers, to request a time to sit and discuss your concerns. This proactive approach is encouraged and will be a meaningful avenue of communication for both the parent and teacher.

SAFETY

As part of our school safety program, we are asking that you please remind your children to always keep their safety as a priority at home and at school. We encourage parents to monitor what their children are viewing on the internet, and to pay special attention to whom their children are spending time with, away from school. Parents, please consider getting an internet filter, to limit what your children can be exposed to and ensure their internet viewing safety.

PROM

The juniors will be hosting prom on April 25, 2026. More details will be coming out soon



JUNIOR HIGH DANCE

The Cubs Crew will be hosting the annual junior high dance for all Simla 6th – 8th grade students. You do have to be a Simla student to attend and no outside dates will be allowed. The dance will be from 6 p.m. – 8 p.m. and will be semi-formal in dress (please be school appropriate and look nice). There will be some snacks to each and drinks available to purchase.

TESTING

April is the month for Simla to show their knowledge!! Junior high students will be taking the CMAS state testing and high



school students will be taking the PSAT 9, PSAT 10 or SAT.

END OF THE SCHOOL YEAR

It is hard to believe that we are just 12 short weeks away until the end of the school year. Please look in the May Cub Reporter for dates and information on Decision Day, 8th grade graduation, and Academic and Athletic Awards night. Also, there will be information on the Class of 2026 Graduation Ceremony.



Im Lucky To Have



J
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His mustashe



A
V
A

Family



Z
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e
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Her own room



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Supporting community
and family

SUPERINTENDENT BOARD NOTES

DAVE ROBINSON

Happy March Bear Cubs!

We are moving through the school year at a blistering pace! Over 100 days have gone by and we are having a grand time!

ACTIVITIES

Basketball, Cheer, Wrestling, TrueSport, Theater, Band, FBLA, Track, Baseball and Matchwits, we have had students representing our school in some amazing ways.

AWESOME STUDENTS

As a district we have had so many compliments of how well our students conduct themselves when they are on a trip. This speaks of how well our students live up to expectations!



FINISH STRONG

With the academic year winding down into the 4th quarter, it's time to ramp up and help your students finish strong!

SUPPORT

Spring is upon us, there are several ways to come out and see our students representing our school, so make sure you get out and support your Cubs.

Big Sandy Schools will...
Inspire academic excellence...
Cultivate citizens of character...
Thrive in an ever-changing world!





2025 Wrestling 2026

I shoot, I score-You shoot, I score



PROM DRESS DRIVE

Our Prom 2026 dress drive, sponsored by our local SADD group, will be held March 28th from 10 a.m. – 1 p.m. and March 29th from 1 p.m. – 4 p.m. in the school cafeteria. This is a chance to find a free dress for Prom. If you have “gently used” Prom dresses to donate, please contact Mrs. Hoops. This effort was born as a nation-wide movement known as Becca’s Closet. Find out more about their work at: beccascloset.org.

2026 YEARBOOK ORDERING IS LIVE!

Get your 2025-2026 Yearbook now before its too late. You can order online by using the QR code or you can fill out an order form with Mrs. Sedlak. gYearbooks are \$55 and can be customized with your name and icons if you order online. The Journalism classes are working to make this the best yearbook yet so don't miss out!





Teacher of the Month



Month

Get to know our middle school history teacher and football coach, high school matchwits coach and assistant baseball

coach...

Mr. Lund!



What high school/ college did you attend?

High school: **Chaffield Minnesota**, College: **Winona State University**

What is your favorite class you have taken?

"Physics for future Presidents"

What is a quote you live by?

"You miss 100 percent of the shots you dont take"
- Wayne Gretzky

What is a fun fact about yourself?

"Due to gravity change, I grew a quarter of an inch when I moved from Minnesota to Colorado."

What advice would you give your 16 year old self?

"Don't care what other people think. Just be yourself!"



CONGRATULATIONS!

Made by: Reese Baker



True Sports

By Anna Kerst



Favorite St. Patty's Traditon



Catching the Leprechaun- Willow 1st



Setting up the Leprechaun trap- Cody 3rd



Pinching those who dont wear green- Prairice 1st



Catching the Leprechaun- Cora 3rd

Easter OR St. Patrick's Day



Kami
Easter, because Family



Emma
Easter, because food



Jayly
Easter and St. Patricks Day,
because she just can't pick



Mr. Williams
St. Patricks Day, because
he's partially Irish

SCHOOL NURSE

FROM THE SCHOOL NURSE

MARGARET (MAGGIE) VOLOSIN, BSN, RN

MVOLOSIN@BIGSANDY100J.ORG

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First, I would like to thank all of our Bear Cub families for your timeliness in ensuring your children are compliant with state immunization requirements. Your efforts and attention to this are greatly appreciated and help make tracking immunization compliance across the district much easier.

Although our weather has been relatively mild so far this winter, we know that can quickly change as we head into February and March. December was a challenging month for illness, particularly viral infections such as Influenza A. The good news, according to Children's Hospital Bug Watch, is that Influenza A cases in Colorado appear to have peaked and are now steadily declining.

That said, it remains important that we continue to be diligent with cleaning habits and respiratory hygiene. Please remember to wash your child's water bottles regularly, as well as coats and backpacks. Encourage frequent handwashing—especially after coming in from outside, before eating, and after using the restroom. Our classroom teachers do an excellent job reinforcing these habits during the school day, and continued reinforcement at home is very helpful.

Lastly, to minimize the spread of illness within our school, it is essential that children and adults stay home when they are sick. Sending a sick child to school not only increases the risk of spreading illness to others, but it may also prolong your child's recovery. Viral illnesses cannot be treated with antibiotics; rest and hydration are key to recovery. A typical viral illness may last 7–10 days. While over-the-counter medications and fever reducers can help manage symptoms, they do not prevent the spread of illness. Staying home and resting truly is the best medicine. As always, please contact your family's primary care provider for individualized medical guidance.

If you are unsure whether your child is well enough to attend school, please refer to the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment's "How Sick Is Too Sick?" guidance for specific details.

ChildCare_How_Sick_Is_Too_Sick_English (r2505).pdf - Google Drive

Thank you for your continued partnership in keeping our school community healthy.



Preventing Colds and Flu



Cold and Flu season is upon us. As the weather gets cooler and we move inside, so do germs. Children need reminders to decrease the risk of colds and flu at school and home by:



- **Washing hands often**
- **coughing/sneezing into their elbow**
- **Keeping hands away from nose/mouth**
- **not sharing food/ drinks with others**



To help limit the spread of germs, please keep your child home from school and activities if they are feverish, coughing a lot, have thick yellow or green boogers, or are otherwise unwell. Remember:



- **handwashing is the most effective way to stop the spread of germs that cause colds and flu**
- **wash hands before and after eating or handling food, after using the toilet, handling pets, coughing, sneezing, or wiping noses**
- **the most effective treatment for a cold is rest and fluids**
- **If you do catch a cold or the flu, try to stay away from others to avoid spreading it**





MARCH 2026

Big Sandy 100j

This Institution is an Equal Opportunity provider. Menu subject to change.

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
<p>2 Chicken Tenders Mac-n-Cheese Broccoli, Salad bar Fruit, Milk</p>	<p>3 Grilled cheese sandwich Chicken/Tomato soup Carrots, Celery Salad bar, Fruit Milk</p>	<p>4 Super Nachos Lettuce, Salad bar Fruit, Brownie Milk</p>	<p>5 BBQ Pork sandwich Chips, Baked beans Carrots, Salad bar Fruit, Milk</p>	<p>6</p>
<p>9 Hot Dog French Fries Green beans, Salad bar Fruit, Milk</p>	<p>10 Lasagna Bread stick, Salad Salad bar, Fruit Milk</p>	<p>11 Burrito Green chili w/pork Lettuce, cheese Salad bar, Fruit Cowboy cake, Milk</p>	<p>12 Taco Burger Lettuce, cheese Cinnamon Chips, Fruit Salsa Salad bar, Milk</p>	<p>13</p>
<p>16</p>	<p>17 Chicken Ala King Biscuit, mixed vegetable Salad bar, Fruit Milk, JELLO</p>	<p>18 Spaghetti Cheesy Bread stick Lettuce, Salad bar Fruit, Milk</p>	<p>19 Ham/Turkey sandwich Tater Tots Lettuce, Tomato Salad bar, Fruit Milk</p>	<p>20 PBJ/ Tuna sandwich Chips, Carrots Cheese stick Fruit, Milk or Juice</p>
<p>23</p>	<p>24 Spring Break</p>	<p>25 Spring Break</p>	<p>26 Spring Break</p>	<p>27 Spring Break</p>
<p>30</p>	<p>31 Chili Cinnamon Bread stick Lettuce, Cheese Salad bar, Fruit Milk</p>			



May the mist of Irish
Magic shorten every
Dread and every sorrow