



Central Heights Elementary School

Home of the Cougars

"Nurturing Knowledge Now and Forever"

November 2011

Bob Barone,
Principal

120 Lexington Drive
Billings, MT 59102
(406) 281-6209

Calendar of Events

- November 1 ----- PTA meeting at 3:45 PM
November 2 - 3 --- Individual parent-teacher conferences
November 16 ----- LifeTouch picture retakes 8:30 am
November 22 ----- Early dismissal at noon
November 23-25 --- Thanksgiving vacation (no school)



Congratulations!!!!

Purple Hands Pledge

Classroom Honorees

Mrs. Goyette's—Saphora Brown
Ms. Lenhardt—Seth Hanson
Mrs. Reinhardt's—Leyton Moore
Mrs. O'Brien's—Kayla Taylor
Mrs. Richmond's—Jaxon Straus
Mrs. Woods' - Addison Ault
Mrs. Wilbert—Kimberly Arellano
Ms. Kroll—Jose Cruz-Roman
Mrs. Wise—Faith Landwehr
Mr. Herron—Emma Beckman
Mrs. Brahana—Olivia Olson
Ms. Twichel—Chloe Townsend
Mrs. Whitney—Skylar Zimmerman
Mrs. O'Neil—Brayden Arnold
Mr. Astle—Madison Hansen
Mrs. Putnam—Jaylee Erickson
Mrs. Wambeke—Dillon Miller

Grand Prize Winners

K-3rd grades—Gunnar Burk from Mr. Herron's class
4th-6th grades— Claire Rogers from Mr. Astle's class

"I will not use my hands or my words for hurting
myself or others"

Bookfair

Our fall bookfair is returning during the days of parent/teacher conferences on November 2, 3 and 4. The bookfair is sponsored by Thomas Books. Many new releases will be available. Please join us Monday—Thursday before and after school and Friday morning in the library to browse and purchase! Profits enable us to purchase new books for our library.

Also we will be hosting a book-walk during the spring carnival. A donation box for gently-used books or new books will be placed in the library during the bookfair.

Bookfair hours

Monday and Tuesday

8:00—8:25 am and 2:25—4:00 pm

Wednesday and Thursday

8:00—8:25 am and 2:25—5:15 pm

Friday

8:00 —8:30 am

Thank you and hope to see you there!

Homeworkmt.org

Safe and Secure Sessions

Homeworkmt.org's (powered by Tutor.com) top priority is to provide a safe and secure learning environment for students. Our learning solutions, including Live Homework Help® and LiveTutor®, are designed for students to get help anonymously from a professional tutor online. No personal information is shared between the tutor and student, and the sessions are reviewed to ensure the highest standards of expertise, safety and quality.

Professional, Expert Tutors

We have thousands of tutors, all of whom are carefully screened experts and include certified teachers, college professors, graduate students, select undergraduates from accredited universities and other professionals. The majority are based in the US and Canada with some bilingual specialists located internationally.

Every Tutor is Screened, Certified and Background Checked

All of our tutors must complete a rigorous application process and pass an extensive background check to become a certified tutor.

Safe, Quality Sessions

Tutor and student work in a secure online classroom, and no personal information is exchanged between tutors and students. Sessions are recorded and reviewed for quality control.

- * Our matching system pairs an incoming student to the next available tutor based on the student's grade level and subject they need help with.
- * No personal information is shared. Students only see a tutor's first name and last initial. Students are anonymous to the tutor.
- * Tutors are strictly prohibited from discussing anything personal with students and from exchanging any personally identifiable information.
- * All sessions are recorded, including all typing, whiteboard work, websites researched and files shared between tutor and student.
- * Sessions are scanned for inappropriate words and phrases, and reviewed by Tutor.com staff to confirm if there is a problem with the session, or just a student using inappropriate words.
- * Students can leave comments after every session, which provide us with feedback to continue to enhance the service.
- * Compliant with Children's Online Privacy Protection Act (COPPA) and Children's Internet Protection Act (CIPA).

- Comprehensive Application. All tutors must demonstrate their tutoring skills and subject expertise during the application process.
- Background Checks. Every tutor must complete a third-party background check, which includes a criminal background check and verification of their educational background and degrees.
- Practice. Each tutor leads mock tutoring sessions to become an expert with our online classroom tools.
- Mentoring. Ongoing mentoring and professional development allows tutors to continually develop their skills.

CONGRATULATIONS

The following Central Heights' students have been chosen to be members of the West End Honor Band.

Jack Christie
Brittany Whalen

CONGRATULATIONS

The 2011 Yellowstone Valley Elementary Cross Country Meet at Pioneer Park was a fun filled afternoon with 45 schools represented and 600 participants. Congratulations to the five students from Central Heights listed below with their times.

Dustin Gray — 7:37

Dawson Gray — 7:56

Phoebe Swan — 9:05

Mia Smith — 10:21

Devin Bear Claw — 10:22

GET THE MOST FROM PARENT-TEACHER CONFERENCES

When parents and teachers work together, they make an unbeatable team... and parent conferences can help build the teamwork that helps kids learn better. Some planning by parents can help make a conference a success.

Think about what you want to learn in the conference (Prepare some questions)

- How is my child doing in class?
- Does my child use time well?
- Does he/she have good work habits?
- Does my child usually turn in homework?
- Does he/she have missed assignments?
- Does my child have friends?
- How well does he/she get along with others?
- What can I do at home to support what you are doing?



Talk with your child

Ask what he/she thinks the teacher will say. Ask if he/she has any concerns and talk about likes, dislikes, problems, and successes.

Ask the teacher to explain anything you don't understand

Their initials sometimes refer to special programs for children.

Be prepared to talk and listen

Tell the teacher what you see at home. Talk about your child's interests. Tactfully ask about any concerns and be sure to let the teacher know about anything that might affect your child's learning.

Follow up

Stay in touch with the teacher. If you think of a question you didn't ask, write a note.



**“Childhood Should Be
A Journey . . . Not A Race”**

Children Learn Best

When They Feel Good About Themselves!



Counselor's Corner

Conflict occurs as a part of everyone's life, but how we deal with conflict will determine whether we reach a successful solution or create a bigger problem. School Counselors play a vital role in teaching students the important skill of problem solving. Our goal as educators is to give students the necessary tools to deal with conflict situations and these tools once learned can then be used throughout their life. At first it is likely your child will need an adult's help to think through the problem solving process. Throughout the year School Counselors will be in classrooms doing presentations that encourage students to make positive decisions when they are involved in conflict. The students are taught that when conflict with another student occurs this is one of the strategies they may choose to follow:

1. Stop the negative action
2. Listen to each other
3. Name the problem
4. Think of possible solutions
5. Pick a solution and try it
 - ✧ Choose a win-win plan
 - ✧ Carry out the plan
 - ✧ Evaluate how well the plan worked
 - ✧ If the plan didn't work try something else!

A child who is taught to look at problems and seek solutions will be able to resolve their problems in a positive way.

Families make a difference!

Parental support is a key building block in helping your child deal with conflict or bullying. Children are more likely to grow up healthy and to become successful when their parents provide them with high levels of love and support.

Strive to create a home where:

- ✧ There is warmth and you're actively involved with your child
- ✧ There are clear limits for children's behavior
- ✧ There is adequate supervision by parents
- ✧ There are appropriate consequences for negative behavior
- ✧ There is a model for caring behavior

BPS School Counselors



BULLYING: Bully behavior occurs when there is deliberate intent to harm, dominate, inflict pain, exclude or otherwise cause distress to the person being targeted. The person who bullies purposefully misuses his/her power (size, age, popularity, confidence, verbal ability), usually repeatedly. The balance of power between the bully and target is NOT EQUAL.

Billings Public Schools: No Child Left Behind Results—School Year 2010—2011

Every year, students in Billings Public Schools (grades 3-8 and grade 10) take tests as part of the federal program called **No Child Left Behind (NCLB)**. These tests make sure each student; every school and the entire district are making Adequate Yearly Progress, or AYP. We want to share the results of last year's reading and math tests with you.

To make AYP, a set number of students in every school must score at the "Proficient" and "Advanced" levels. This is true for the entire school, as well as several sub-categories, such as students with disabilities. If one sub-category fails, that causes the whole school to fail. If one school fails, that causes the whole district to fail. Billings Public School has been doing well on the test. The requirements have been increasing. This year, 84.4% of our students were required to be proficient or advanced in reading. In math 70% of our

students were required to be proficient or advanced. Both our elementary district (Kindergarten—8th grade and high school district (9—12 grades) failed to make AYP.

How are Billings Public Schools going to meet these goals in the future?

1. Programs that help student in Reading.
 - READ 180
 - Corrective Reading
 - Leveled Literacy Intervention (LLI)
2. Programs that help students in Math
 - SuccessMaker
 - Knowing Mathematics
3. Training for teachers so they can give the right kids the right help at the right time.

What Are Central Heights Elementary's Results?

In the past six years Central Heights has met the standard for AYP (adequate yearly progress). This past year the standards changed to 70 percentile in math and the 84.4 percentile in reading. Next year the standard will increase to 89.6% in reading and 80% in math.

What is Central Heights doing to improve?

To meet the standards teachers receive ongoing professional development via early out and PIR day trainings.

- * Professional Learning Communities: school reform strategies
- * Read About: reading enrichment accelerations
- * Language for Learning and Thinking
- * LLI—Erik: early reading programs
- * District provided coaches in math and reading

If you have any questions please call Bob Barone, Principal at 281-6209.

For more information and for all Billings' school results go to www.billingschools.org/?page+nclb_s

Year		Third Grade		Fourth Grade		Fifth Grade		Sixth Grade	
		School	District	School	District	School	District	School	District
03/04	Reading			60%	67%				
03/04	Math			36%	48%				
04/05	Reading			78%	75%				
04/05	Math			49%	59%				
05/06	Reading	86%	78%	84%	81%	80%	81%	78%	82%
05/06	Math	73%	68%	53%	67%	86%	72%	76%	73%
06/07	Reading	86%	84%	75%	78%	89%	82%	80%	85%
06/07	Math	80%	69%	70%	69%	81%	74%	84%	73%
07/08	Reading	89%	84%	81%	80%	84%	83%	77%	85%
07/08	Math	65%	66%	70%	69%	84%	69%	80%	69%
07/08	Science			60%	58%				
08/09	Reading	95%	81%	90%	83%	82%	85%	91%	87%
08/09	Math	68%	64%	71%	72%	76%	66%	80%	68%
08/09	Science			71%	67%				
09/10	Reading	94%	84%	88%	81%	82%	84%	88%	84%
09/10	Math	68%	66%	70%	67%	76%	67%	80%	65%
09/10	Science			83%	67%				
10/11	Reading	66%	81%	83%	80%	84%	87%	84%	88%
10/11	Math	55%	65%	71%	67%	64%	71%	64%	67%
10/11	Science			67%	61%				