

HIGHLANDS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
1400 S. Brannon Stand, Dothan, AL 36305
334-794-1459



Principal: Beth Bouchard
Assistant Principal: Lauren Buchanan

Our school empowers all students to embrace learning, achieve their personal best, and build their emotional, social, and physical well-being to equip them with the skills and mindset to thrive and then take on the world.

The Highlands Highway

December 2022

December is *Sharing and Caring Month* at Highlands Elementary School. Students will participate in class and school activities throughout the month to demonstrate sharing and caring.

We are most grateful to our supportive community, our PTO, and our anonymous donor for the fantastic Thanksgiving luncheon provided for our staff. Again, thank you!

The Chili Cook-off, Silent Auction, *Rock Your School* Calendar, and the Fall Festival were a major success! Congratulations to the winners of our second annual Chili Cook-off! The blue ribbon for *Best Chili* was Jordan Werner and *The People's Choice* winner was April Denton. Thank you all who participated in the festivities. Highlands PTO organized the events that included over fifty community businesses, organizations, and Covenant United Methodist Church. We are grateful for the support and participation of so many in our community! A special thank you to our teachers who are talented bakers, as evident by the cakes in the Teacher Cake Auction!

Important Information:

Attendance and On-time Arrival to school are very important to the success of your child's education. Be sure to notify your child's teacher and the office if your child is absent. Attendance impacts the school report card grade and will be monitored closely.

MAP Testing begins the **week of December 5** – be sure your child is rested and ready for the week of testing – physically and mentally prepared. The best test-takers are calm, confident, and at ease.

Exciting events are planned for December! Classroom spelling bees were held November 14 and the finalists will **participate in the school spelling bee held Thursday, December 1**. The sixth-grade classes will explore Providence Canyon **Friday, Dec. 2**. **Thursday, December 15 is Highlands Science Fair Exhibition ~ an event to highlight research and experimentation. December 15 is also Marco's Pizza Night at Highlands – be sure to order a pizza and indicate your child's classroom.** Each month, the classroom with the greatest sales receives a classroom pizza party! Who will win the classroom pizza party for December?!

Students attending *The Nutcracker* occurs **Friday, Dec. 9**, and Students attending *The Elf Academy* occurs **Friday, Dec. 16**.

Friday, December 16 has been designated as our *Winter Wonderland Day*! Classrooms will have their celebrations this day, and *The Grinch* is returning! The safety and health of our students, staff, and families are most important. *Visitors are limited to the front entrance and are required to follow the building guidelines when entering the building.*

Winter Break begins on December 20 with 11:30 AM dismissal and continues December 21 – January 4th. Students return to school Thursday, January 5.

Highlands Elementary School parents and guardians represent a wealth of resources that enrich the school. The School Improvement Committee and Parent-Teacher Organization are excellent ways for parents to become involved with the school. *The School Improvement Leadership Committee will meet **Friday, January 6, 9 AM.***

We continue to implement our new snack program "*Healthy Food for a Happy World*" to address childhood nutrition through a Healthy Food Initiative and the DCS Wellness Policy for Snacks and Special Events.

Best wishes for memorable and most special holidays!

Your child's school year will be full of adventure and wonder as they experience exciting and interesting active learning opportunities. Have a wonderful winter break and see you next year!