



# The Mustang News

December 2018, Volume 4

"The empires of the future are the empires of the mind." ~ Winston Churchill

## Message from the Principal

Hello Parents/Guardians


Happy Holidays! It is the most wonderful time of year, but also very busy and so can be stressful. As we, the adults, scurry around preparing for the excitement of the holidays, children can also feel the stress and exhaustion brought on by this busyness. Please continue to support your child in his/her school success by ensuring a bed time is maintained at a reasonable hour. Adequate sleep supports learning, brain development, concentration, and mood and so directly affects children's success at school!

December is a month to reflect on friends and family. Hopefully you can take some time during the winter break to connect or reconnect with the people important to you. We are all so busy just surviving, we often forget to look around and see where we might be able to improve someone else's life, while enhancing our own. The holidays provide a great opportunity to teach our children the joy of giving to others.

Each month we will be choosing a Superhero of the Month, and we will recognize them for their outstanding Mustang PRIDE. This month the following students received the award: Cambrie Bean, Grace Carter, Isaac Bell, Faith Carter, Reagan Belding, Caison Ward, Carlos Valley, and Miranda Belding.

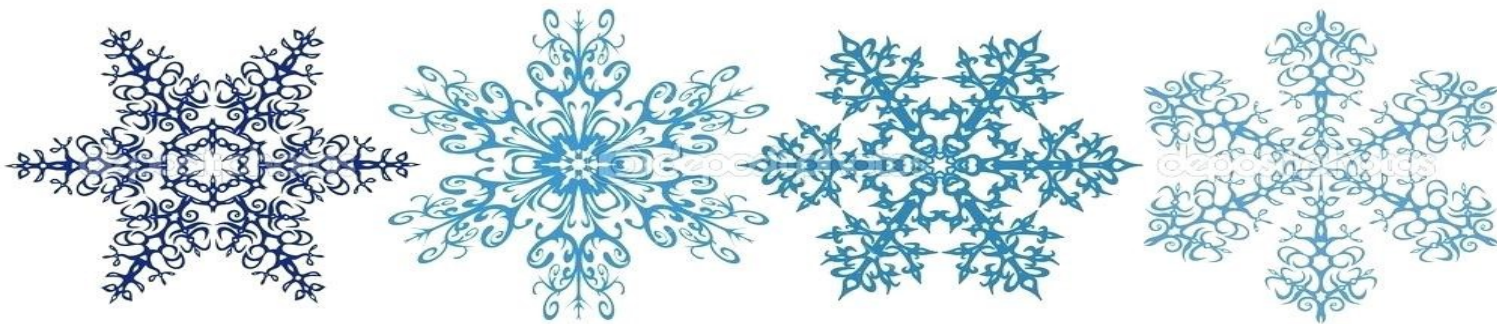
This year's Christmas program will be "Twas the Night before Christmas." The cafeteria doors will open at 5:40pm and the program will begin at 6:00pm.

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# DECEMBER





## Upcoming Dates

Dec. 5th - UIL in Newcastle

Dec. 7th - 1st - 3rd Bass Hall

Dec. 17th - Christmas program at 6:00pm

Dec. 21st - Classroom Christmas parties

Dec. 21st - End of 3rd six weeks

Dec. 24th - Jan. 4th - Christmas break

Jan. 7th - Start of the 4th six weeks

## **Attendance Drawing**

Palo Pinto Elementary will be having an attendance drawing for the students that miss less than 3 days a semester. We will start the first semester on Sept. 24 and it will end on Dec. 21st and the second semester will start on Jan. 7th and end on May 17th. Students with 0 absences per semester will receive 3 tickets per semester in the drawing (for a total of 6 possible tickets for the year per student), 1 absence per semester will receive 2 tickets in the drawing, and 2 absences per semester will receive 1 ticket in the drawing. The Grand Prize will be a Nintendo Switch, and there will be four runner-up prizes (\$50 gift card to Walmart). One prize per student. The official drawing will be held on May 23rd at the awards ceremony.

**A B C**s Of Student Success  
**D** is for DETERMINATION.

Children need to hear their parents say that making an effort, working hard, and planning ahead are important. We need to encourage children to set reasonable expectations, and celebrate with them when they make progress toward their goals. Children need to learn that sometimes they must sacrifice to achieve a long-term goal. Struggling with learning tasks from time to time is part of a student's "job." In the end, the feeling of accomplishment they get will lead to bigger and better accomplishments in the future!

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**Parent Pointers** Helping Kids Get Organized

- ▶ Organization is important for everyone. Talk with your child about how you organize things and how he or she can become organized.
- ▶ Provide materials -- such as an assignment log, notebooks, folders, a calendar, and other tools -- that can get your child organized.
- ▶ When your child is presented with a large task, help them break it into small ones and establish a plan and deadlines for each task.

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**Math @Home**

### **Super Sums**

Use only the 2s, 3s, 4s, 5s, 6s, and aces (1s) from a deck of cards. Each player writes the numbers 1-12 on a piece of paper. Then each player picks two cards and adds up the numbers on them. The player can mark off that sum on the paper or cross off the two numbers on the cards. Who will be first to cross off all 12 numbers on the list?

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