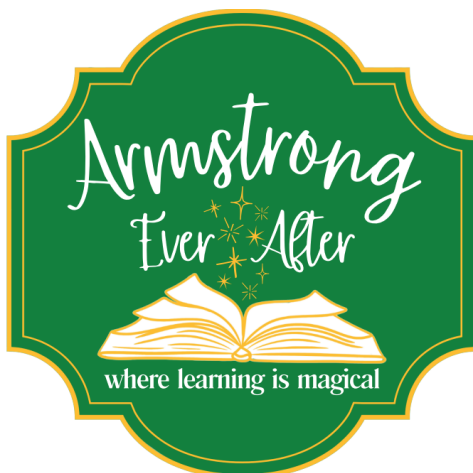




# Armstrong Article

Campus Newsletter



## December

- 9 - Blood Drive
- 10 - Talent Show Practice - Auditorium, 3:15pm
- 10 - TAG Referral Window Opens
- 11 - Dads Club Talent Show (3rd and 4th Grade) 8:15am
- 19 - Classroom Holiday Parties - **Early Release 1:00pm**

Stay up to date with Armstrong happenings by [subscribing to the calendar](#).

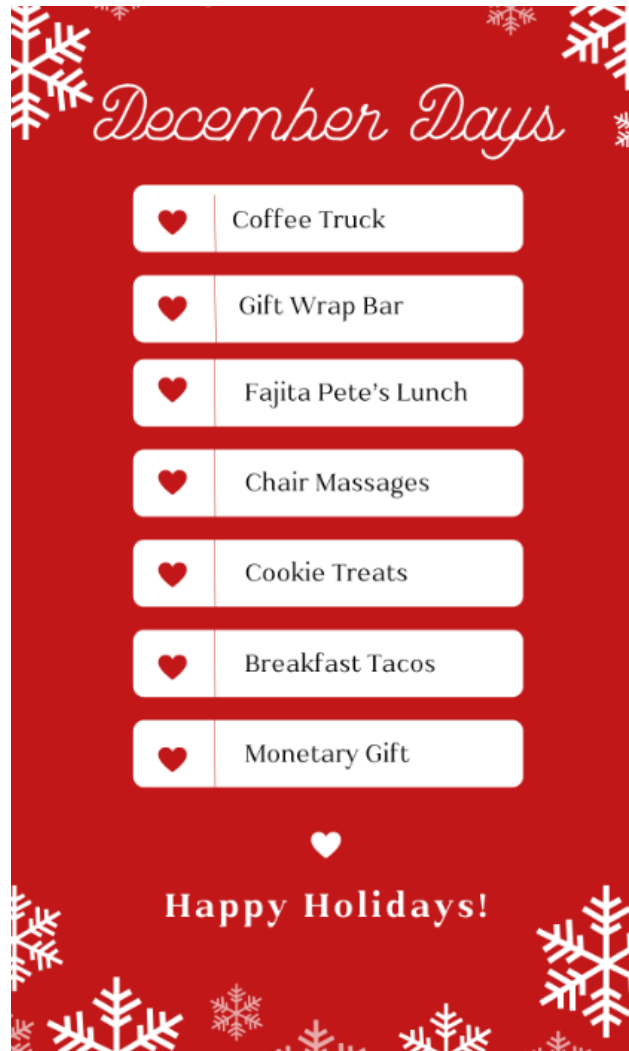


December 8, 2025

Dear Armstrong Families,

I want to express a heartfelt thank you to our PTA and Dads Club for organizing December Days for our staff. Funds are collected from our families during BSSU for Teacher Appreciation, and our amazing PTA Board works diligently to plan amazing treats and gifts for our staff during the holidays. Take a look at the exciting activities and gifts! We are so very grateful for the support from our parents and community.

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This is a reminder that the School Experience Survey launched today, Monday, December 1. The primary contact for each student should have received an email from a third-party administrator with a link to participate. If you don't see it in your inbox, please check your spam folder.

The deadline to complete the survey is Friday, December 19. Your feedback is invaluable in helping us recognize our strengths and identify areas for improvement. Thank you for your participation!

---

As always, I value your input and feedback. Please let me know if you need anything or have any questions.

Sincerely,

Betsy Cummins

Betsy Cummins  
Principal  
[cumminb@hpsd.org](mailto:cumminb@hpsd.org)



@armstrong\_eagles  
@armstrongeaglesHP  
@armstrongptapresident  
@thearmstrongdadsclub



# december

*Kindness WEEK*

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
1 Kindness Starts with ME!	2 Kindness in ACTION!	3 We ALL Belong!	4 Kindness through TEAMWORK!	5 Kindness CELEBRATION Day!
8 Wear Red and White For Candy Cane Day!	9 Tinsel Tuesday! Add sparkle! Wear anything shiny or shiny!	10 Blizzard Day! Wear white!	11 Ugly Sweater Day!	12 Comfy and Cozy Pajama Day!
15 Winter Hat and Scarf Day!	16 Santa vs the Grinch Day! Wear red, green, or dress up!	17 Wear festive Headgear!	18 Holly Jolly Joggers!	19 Class Party
22	23	24	25	26
29	30	31		

*Happy Winter Break*

**2025**

### What to Wear

See the list below for details. Please remember that these are *optional* "spirit" days, and that we are still doing **LOTS** of learning in these days before Winter Break.

- December 1-5 is Kindness Week. Students will be spending time learning about kindness and celebrating teamwork. Optional: 12/5=wear something that represents you— favorite color, clothing, or hobby-related item
- Dec 8= wear red and white
- Dec 9= wear sparkles, glitter, anything shiny
- Dec 10= wear white
- Dec 11= wear your ugly, tacky, or festive sweater
- Dec 12= wear pajamas
- Dec 15= wear a winter hat and/or scarf
- Dec 16= wear red, green, or dress up like the Grinch or Santa
- Dec 17= wear your holiday hats and headbands
- Dec 18= wear your cozy joggers and sweatpants
- Dec 19= wear your holiday party outfit

[Printable Version Here!](#)



LET'S SAY THANK YOU TO OUR DEDICATED

# CROSSING GUARDS

[CLICK TO DONATE](#)



There are still openings in this weeks PNO!

# **Armstrong PNO**

## **FRIDAY, DECEMBER 12TH**

### ***with Mrs. Kuehn & Coach Trent***

**What Is It?** It's a chance for you to have a parents' night out! Your child will have a blast at school with their friends and teachers. There will be gym games, pizza, a movie and more!

**Who?** K – 4<sup>th</sup> grade Armstrong students

**When?** Friday, December 12th - 6:00pm-11:00pm

**Where?** Check in and pick up at the little gym doors @ St. Johns.

**Cost?** \$50 1st child and \$40 for siblings. No refunds will be given. \*A \$25 late pick-up fee, to be paid immediately or the next school day, will be charged at 11:01 and an additional \$10 will be assessed at 11:15 and at each 15 minute interval.

**What to bring:** Nothing is necessary, but you can bring a pillow, sleeping bag, and water bottle (name on all). Do not bring snacks or electronic devices.

**Deadline to Register:** Registration begins Wednesday, December 3rd. All forms must be brought to the front office completed and with a check. Your spot is not guaranteed until your form and payment are received. We will not accept any forms for anyone other than your student. Space is limited to the first 50 students. There will be a 10 person wait list if needed. If fewer than 20 students sign up by noon on Wednesday, December 10th the PNO may be canceled. After registration, if your child is unable to attend, please contact, Mercedes Trent ([trentm@hpsd.org](mailto:trentm@hpsd.org)).

**Payment:** Make checks payable to ALL (NO CASH)

[PNO Form Here!](#)



**Blood Drive Tomorrow! Please sign up!**





# BLOOD *Drive*



Receive a  
blanket.\*



Officer J.T. from Waxahachie, TX  
Blood Recipient

**Tuesday, December 9, 2025**  
**10:00 AM - 3:00 PM**

Schedule an  
appointment



**CarterBloodCare.org**  
**800-366-2834 | Text CBCDonate to 999-777**

\*While supplies last. Appreciation gifts may be substituted for a different gift.

**John S. Armstrong Elementary**  
Carter BloodCare Bus  
3600 Cornell Avenue  
Dallas, TX 75205



Third Grade Explorations is excited to announce that Armstrong is hosting a Blood Drive on **Tuesday, December 9th, from 10:00 AM to 3:00 PM**. This is a wonderful opportunity to give back to the community and help save lives.

We warmly invite you to sign up and participate. Your donation can make a big difference!

Please sign up to reserve your time slot.

[Sign Up Here](#)



### **2025 Dads Club Talent Show**

**Get ready for the Dads Club Talent Show! Participants will be 3rd and 4th graders. Get your ideas, music, acts together!**

**Practice will be on Dec. 10 (required) and the show on Dec. 11 morning and evening (5pm).**



# **VOGEL ALCOVE CLOTHING AND TOY DRIVE**

**UNDERWEAR SIZES 2T - 3T**

**BOTTOMS SIZES 2T - 4T**

**SHOES, SIZE 5,6,7,8, 9,10,11 AND 12**

**FALL/WINTER CLOTHING SIZE 2T-6T.**

**SPRING/SUMMER CLOTHING SIZE 2T-6T.**

**SOCKS 0-6Y**

**PANTS (2T-5T)**

**UNWRAPPED NEW TOYS.**

**AMAZON WISH LIST**

**WISH LIST**



**PLEASE DROP DONATIONS AT THE TREE IN  
THE LOBBY NO LATER THAN 12/12**



TAG Assessment Registration window is from 12-10-25 8am to 1-12-2026 4pm!

## TAG Assessment Registration

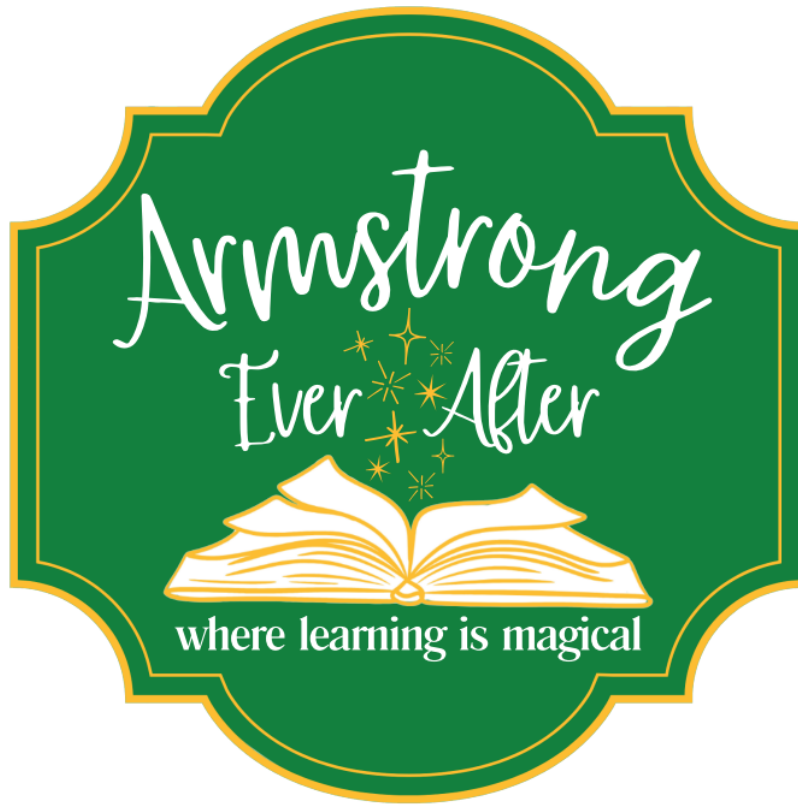
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**Registration for assessment into HPISD TAG occurs once annually for current students.  
Registration is currently closed.**

A parent/guardian, principal, teacher, counselor, student, or community member may nominate a student for TAG Testing. Individuals that are not parents of a Highland Park student may reach out to the district TAG department to make a nomination. Parents of Highland Park students may complete a nomination by registering their child using the link below. TAG Testing Registration takes place once per academic year for students. New students that tested in the Fall are NOT eligible to test again this academic year. All registration deadlines are firm. Late registrations will not be accepted.



# PTA News



# YEARBOOK PHOTOS!

Don't forget to submit your photos from this fall  
(Meet the Teacher, First Day of School,  
Founder's Day Picnic, Hero, Pumkin Carving,  
Bike Rodeo, Character Parade,  
2nd and 3rd Grade Performances,  
Veterans Day, Sports...)  
to [Armstrongeaglesyearbook@gmail.com](mailto:Armstrongeaglesyearbook@gmail.com)

Please just include the grade and if applicable,  
the class/teacher.

You do not need to include children's names!

[Upload photos here:](#)





**SPECIAL OFFER**

# **ARMSTRONG'S MINTED PARTNERSHIP**

**20% OFF HOLIDAY &  
MINTED DONATES  
10% TO ARMSTRONG**

**CODE: FUNDRAISEARMSTRONG**

**[www.minted.com/holiday](http://www.minted.com/holiday)**





Volunteers Needed!

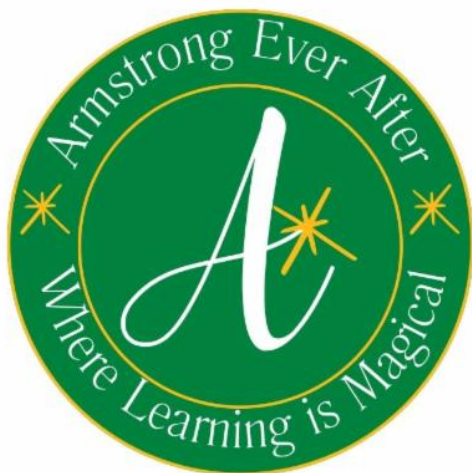


NEW SHIFTS ADDED

\*must commit to work entire shift, not just a  
class' assigned time

Questions? Email Meredith Clark  
[Meredithwclark@gmail.com](mailto:Meredithwclark@gmail.com)

[Sign up for a shift here!](#)



## COMMUNITY SPONSORS 2025-2026

Magical things happen when our community comes together!  
We have so wonderful ways for businesses, partners, and families  
to help underwrite our enchanting year at Armstrong.

With a variety of sponsorship levels and benefits,  
there's a perfect way for everyone to be part of the magic.

Please visit our website **HERE** to join us in making  
2025-2026 one for the storybooks!

**Directory Spot:**  DirectorySpot 

2025-2026 DirectorySpot is LIVE! If you [purchased a PTA membership](#) during BSSU, you'll have access to the Armstrong Directory. Existing users can continue to use the app as you did last year, unless you want to [update your contact information](#). If you're a new user, click on Login in the upper right-hand corner and click Reset password using your email address. Then, click on the link in your password and log in. If you have questions, reach out to [Directory@armstrongpta.org](mailto:Directory@armstrongpta.org).

**Need your information in the Armstrong PTA  
Directory updated? Click Here**



[PTA Feedback Form](#)

Community News



# Winter Concert

FEATURING HIGHLANDER STRINGS  
& RAIDER ORCHESTRAS



HP HIGH SCHOOL AUDITORIUM  
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 9TH AT 6:30

*Join us for a joyful  
evening of music,  
hot cocoa, & holiday treats!*

FREE ADMISSION





# HP

## Tennis Academy



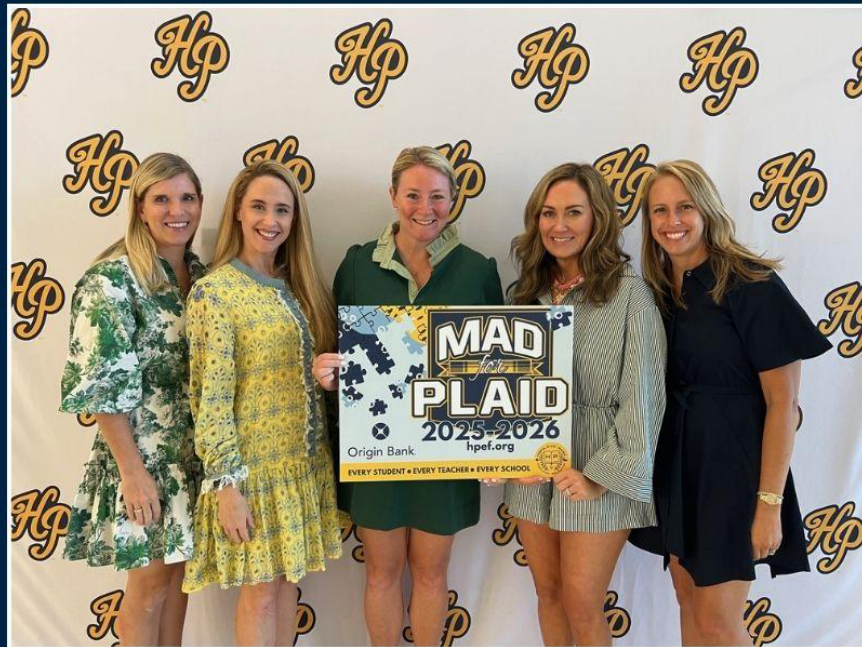
**2026 WinterSpring Program**  
**January 12 – May 16**

**Green Ball**  
**Orange Ball**  
**Intermediate**  
**Red Ball**  
**Pee Wee**





# MAD FOR PLAID IS HERE! LET'S REACH 100% PARENT PARTICIPATION!



Mad for Plaid is the HP Education Foundation's districtwide annual campaign, which raises funds for HPISD's most critical budget needs. Currently, that need is support for teacher and staff salaries.

Parents! Let's show our support for the great educators in this District!  
All donors in the Park Cities will receive a yard sign.



**Mad for Plaid is here!** And YOU are an essential piece of the puzzle!

**What is Mad for Plaid?** Mad for Plaid is the HP Education Foundation's annual campaign, the only districtwide fundraiser for HPISD. It raises essential funds to support the District's most critical needs. This year, that need is clear: raising the bar for teacher and staff salaries across all campuses. Giving to Mad for Plaid is the best way to directly support our incredible educators!

**Why Give?** For 2025–26, HPISD is providing 7–10% salary increases to ensure our teachers rank in the top quartile for pay in North Texas. To help make this historic investment possible, our foundation has committed a \$1.8 million gift to HPISD - funded through the Mad for Plaid campaign. But we can't do it alone. We need YOUR support. Your gift to HPEF directly impacts every student, every teacher, and every school. Together, we can continue to attract, retain, and reward the exceptional educators who make HPISD a leader in education.

### **How to Give?**

Visit: [hpef.org/supportmadforplaid](https://hpef.org/supportmadforplaid)





# HP Gymnastics Spring 2026

**January 12<sup>th</sup> – March 25<sup>th</sup>**

**Our 41<sup>st</sup> Year!**

**HPHS' Mark Sherman** has led the Scot gymnasts to win 52 Individual State Championships. Our after-school program is designed for **ALL LEVELS, BOYS and GIRLS**, the very beginning to super advanced. And with our **NEW FACILITY with THREE PITS**, fun will be our foundation. **ENJOY** the embedded trampoline, tumble trak and more. Gain strength, flexibility....everything you need to help you in all sports!

**ELIGIBILITY:** Any boy or girl who has reached the **age of 5** is eligible. No previous experience is required!

**DATES:** **January 12 – March 25**  
**No Class Monday, January 19** (student holiday)  
**No Class Monday, Feb 16** (student holiday)

**PLACE:** Highland Park High School, HEGI FAMILY GYMNASTICS TRAINING CENTER

**TIMES:** **Monday** 5:00-6:00 or 6:00-7:00  
**OR**  
**Wednesday** 5:00-6:00 or **Wednesday 6:00-7:00 TUMBLING ONLY**

**COST:** \$325.00  
 Make checks payable to Highland Park Gymnastics and send to  
 Mark Sherman, 5607 Merrimac Ave., Dallas, TX 75206

**Questions?** Call or e-mail Mark Sherman 214-957-4299, [mslexus1@airmail.net](mailto:mslexus1@airmail.net)

## REGISTRATION FORM

Please complete and mail before November 30<sup>th</sup>

Last Name \_\_\_\_\_ First \_\_\_\_\_

Age \_\_\_\_\_ Birthday \_\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_\_ Circle One: Girl Boy

Address \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Cell Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Emergency phone \_\_\_\_\_

School (circle one): MMS 5-6 7-8  
 Bradfield Armstrong UP Hyer BOONE Other

I have enclosed my check # \_\_\_\_\_ in the amount of \$ \_\_\_\_\_

In the event of accident or injury suffered by said child while enrolled in the Highland Park Gymnastics program, I hereby release and indemnify HP Gymnastics, Inc. and all instructors from all liability. Highland Park Gymnastics Inc. is owned and controlled by Mark Sherman who anticipates a profit and the camp and/or program is not owned or operated in any manner by H.P.I.S.D.

Parent or Guardian Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

**E-Mail Address** PRINT LEGIBLY \_\_\_\_\_

Person(s) you would like your child to be grouped \_\_\_\_\_

Put a check next to your class choice.

1. Monday 5:00-6:00 \_\_\_\_\_
2. Monday 6:00-7:00 \_\_\_\_\_
3. Wednesday 5:00-6:00 \_\_\_\_\_
4. Wednesday 6:00-7:00 \_\_\_\_\_

**TUMBLING**



# FINE ARTS DEPARTMENT NEWS

*"creativity takes courage" -henri matisse*

*"Use the following link to see the HPISD Fine Arts Department newsletter! <https://secure.smores.com/n/hnr5a> At the bottom of the newsletter, hit "Subscribe" to be added to the mailing list for all future newsletters. Please share with family and friends so that all of our HP Community can be tuned into our fantastic Fine Arts programs!"*

# WE ARE *Hiring*

## SUBSTITUTES

Ready to make a difference?

Join Highland Park ISD as a Substitute Teacher and support student success – on your schedule!

### WHY JOIN HPISD?

- Flexible Schedule
- Competitive Pay
- Supportive School Environment
- Great opportunity for retirees, college students and those exploring a rewarding career path

### REQUIREMENTS

- Bachelor's Degree preferred
- Minimum 48 college hours

### SUBSTITUTE PAY RATES:

General Instructional Substitutes  
starting at:

\$125/day (non-certified teacher)

\$135/day (certified teacher)

Scan the QR code  
to learn more



Highland Park ISD



*A Royal Thank You to our Community Sponsors*



**LAKE SIDE**  
BANK

**The ten Broeke  
Family**



**SEWELL**

**The Tharp Family**

*Armstrong*  
*Ever After*

WHERE LEARNING IS MAGICAL



Armstrong Elementary | 214.780.3100 | 3600 Cornell Ave | [Armstrong.hpsd.org](http://Armstrong.hpsd.org)

**Amanda Hollier, Counselor**

**214.780.3140**

**Betsy Cummins, Principal**

**214.780.3100**

**214.780.3120**

**Jamie Condon, Admin**

**Asst**

**214.780.3103**

**Annie Celestino,**

**Cafeteria**

**214.780.3125**

**Lane Arnold**

**214.780.3102**

**Attendance Desk**

**214.780.3100**

[PTA Website](#)

[Armstrong Dad's  
Club](#)

[ARattendance@hpsd.org](mailto:ARattendance@hpsd.org)

Thank you to the 2022 - 2023  
Armstrong Elementary Community Partners!



Armstrong Elementary | 3600 Cornell Avenue | Dallas, TX 75205 US

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