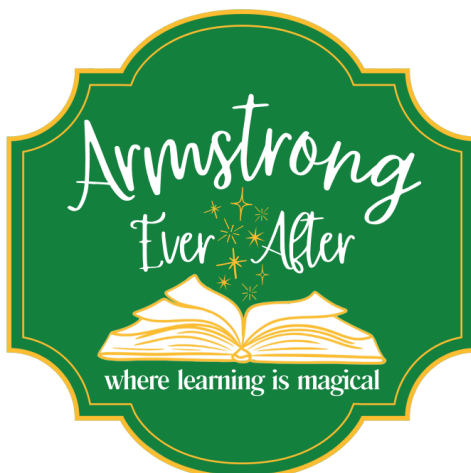




Armstrong Article

Campus Newsletter



November

- 11 - Veteran's Day Program, wear red, white and blue!
- 17 - Deadline for PTA Volunteer Form, see below
- 19 - Thanksgiving Lunch
- 20 - Deadline for ordering signed books by Greg Pizzoli
- 21 - First Grade Thanksgiving Performance, 8:15am
- 24 - 28 Student and Staff Holiday

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



November 10, 2025

Dear Armstrong Families,

A huge thank-you to Britte Terry and Amanda Phillips for planning our Veteran's Day event on Tuesday morning! Our students are going to love learning about the importance of service to our country. We really appreciate all the time and effort you've put into making this special event happen!

The annual School Experience Survey will launch Monday, December 1 for HPISD students in grades 3-12. Armstrong 3rd & 4th graders will be asked to provide feedback through the survey during the first week of December. The survey takes about 10-15 minutes and will be completed during class time.

If you do not want your child to participate, please use the form attached to opt out. **If this form is not returned by Friday, November 21, you are allowing your student to participate.** Please contact me with any questions related to the survey. Thank you for your support.

[Opt Out Form.pdf](#)

With the Thanksgiving holiday and winter break approaching, now is a good time to remind parents and guardians about the importance of the safe storage of firearms. The Texas Department of Public Safety has created a public relations campaign – Keep 'Em Safe Texas – that offers free downloadable resources, including posters, flyers, presentations, coloring sheets, and suggested social media posts, to promote safe gun storage.

Please note that as of the 2025 - 2026 school year, districts are required to distribute information regarding safe firearm storage to the parent or guardian of each student at least three times each school year as required by HB 121, p. 15, Section 10.

[Download the Flyer \(includes links to parent letters in English and Spanish\)](#)

[Visit the Educator Toolkit](#)

[Download Social Media Graphics](#)



Submit your Shoutout here!

Thanks for submitting staff shout outs! We are grateful for your support and encouragement.

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@hpsid.org

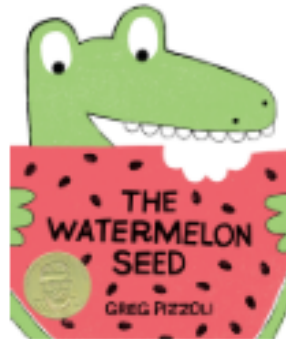


@armstrong_eagles
@armstrongeaglesHP
@armstrongptapresident
@thearmstrongdadsclub

Time sensitive:

Due

Thursday, November 20th



Award winning author and illustrator Greg Pizzoli will be visiting with Armstrong Preschool, Kindergarten and 1st grade students

*Autographed books can be purchased by clicking on this link:

<https://interabangbooks.com/wishlist/shaupachucho>

*All presentations will be held in the Armstrong Library

*Parents are invited to attend!

*Grade level times with author are as follows:

Preschool- 8:30-9:00

Kindergarten- 11:50-12:50

1st grade- 12:55-1:55



Park Cities Poastal Services is sponsoring our Veteran's Day programs tomorrow morning!

There are three assemblies starting at 8:30am, this is a student-only event with close family members of the Veteran panelists also being invited.

Don't forget to wear your Veteran's Day Tee-shirts or red, white and blue.



A few spots are left!

Armstrong PNO
November 14, 2025
with Ms. Massey, Ms. Rigg & Ms. Billy

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 – 4th grade Armstrong students

When? November 14, 2025, 6:00pm-12:00pm

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 12:01 and an additional \$10 will be assessed at 12:15 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). **Please leave snacks and electronic devices at home.**

Deadline to Register: Registration begins Wednesday, November 5th. 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, November 12th, the PNO may be canceled. After registration, if your child is unable to attend, please contact Mercedes Trent (trentm@hpsd.org).

[PNO Form Here!](#)

The spirit store will be closed on 11-14-2025 and all next week to set up for Christmas shopping. We will be back Monday, December 1!



To First Grade Parents and Families - come do the Turkey Tango with us! Live Performance on Friday, November 21, 2025 at 8:15am.

Below is the link to register for the event. However, if you are an APPROVED VOLUNTEER, YOU WILL SIGN IN ON THE DAY OF THE EVENT AS A VOLUNTEER!

If you have trouble in the office when signing in (phone keeps spinning) either step outside of the office to sign in or turn off your wifi setting on your phone.

[Register Here \(Not for Approved Volunteers\)](#)



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

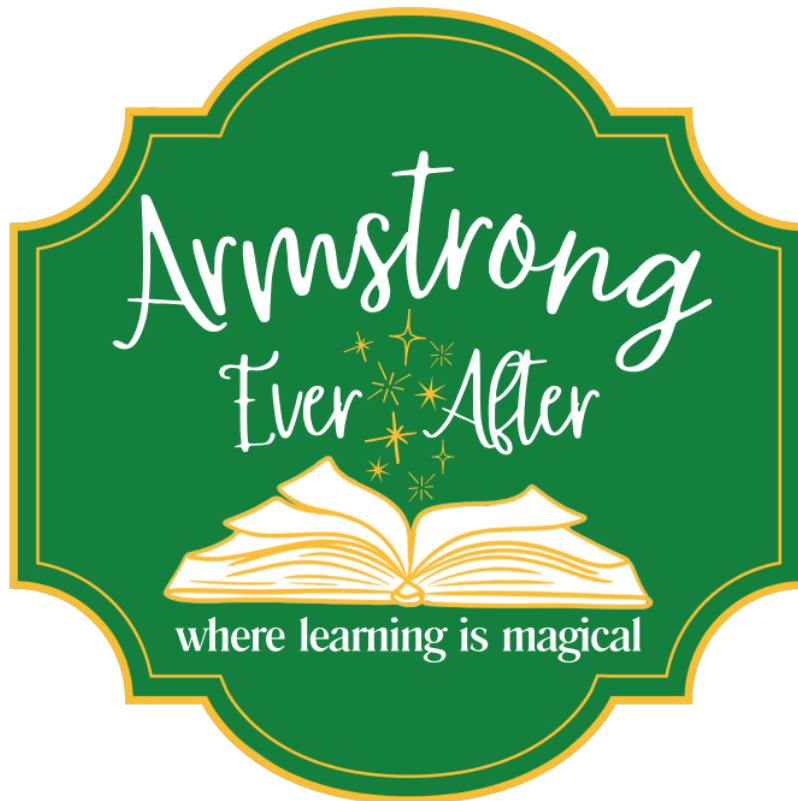
*While supplies last. Appreciation gifts may be substituted for a different gift.

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](#)

PTA News



*Armstrong Auction Reminder:
Silent Auction Opens Today, 11/10!*



Glass Slipper Gala

ARMSTRONG ELEMENTARY AUCTION

November 14, 2025

Dear Armstrong Families,

It's officially Glass Slipper Gala Week!! We cannot wait to see you and raise funds for our amazing school, staff, and teachers at the Glass Slipper Gala [this Friday, November 14th at 7PM at Dallas Country Club!](#)

We're excited to announce that our [Silent Auction goes LIVE TODAY, November 10th at 9AM!](#) Everything will be open to bid on except LIVE Auction items, which will be available only on Friday night at Auction. Start browsing and bidding to grab some fabulous items. Check out the exciting new Family Parties - Mother/Son

Kickball, Mother/Daughter Tea, Paddles & Paradise: A Luau-Themed Pickleball Party, and Mad Hatter's Black & White Bingo Bash—all expected to sell out fast!

[LINK: Start bidding on Silent Auction Items here!](#)

For those that purchase tangible items during Auction, please see pick-up details below:

When: Monday, November 17th from 8AM-4PM or Tuesday, November 18th from 8AM-4PM

Where: Sarah Preston's residence at 3516 St Johns Drive, Dallas, TX 75205

And to celebrate Glass Slipper Gala Week, check out the exciting [student costume contest at school on Wednesday, 11/12](#) below! All kids that come to school dressed as their favorite fairytale characters that day will have their names entered into the contest and ONE lucky winner will be randomly selected to win a prize from the Armstrong Spirit Shop! (School-friendly costumes only, please.)

We can't wait to get the royal party started!!

-Your 2025 Auction Chairs

Have questions about the auction? Email the Auction Co-Chairs Michelle Joyner, Courtney Radloff, Kelly Hohertz, and Sarah Preston at armstrongglassslippergala@gmail.com.

THANK YOU



BalekianHayes

FAMILY LAW

The ten Broeke Foundation



Andy Beal & Olya Sinitsyna



Calling all royals!

Glass Slipper Gala

ROYAL COSTUME CONTEST!

WEDS | NOV 12

Dress as your favorite
fairytale character!

THE WINNER
will receive a free
item of their choice
from the Spirit Shop!





Want to get involved? We have volunteers opportunities!

Dear Armstrong Families,

We invite you to explore the many opportunities within the PTA to match your unique skills and interests. Whether you have a few hours a week or just occasional availability, there is a role for everyone! With over 200 positions to fill, every contribution matters, every position matters and your involvement makes a lasting impact on our students, teachers and staff, and community.

The Nominating Committee is committed to thoughtfully matching each role to create a strong volunteer force. Our goal is for every volunteer to feel supported, valued, and inspired by their contributions. Volunteering is a wonderful way to meet other parents, set an example for your children, and help Armstrong continue to thrive.

The deadline to submit your Armstrong PTA Interest Form for the 2026 - 2027 school year is Monday, November 17th.

So, grab a friend, sign up, and join us in making a difference! Your efforts, big or small, are deeply appreciated and help create a positive, enriching environment for everyone at Armstrong.

If you have any questions, please reach out to PTA President-Elect Natalie Lesikar at 214.621.8002 or presidentelect@armstrongpta.org. Additionally, feel free to contact the current lead of any role you're considering to learn more. Helpful documents are linked in the form to guide you.

Thank you!

Link if you need it for the email a different way:

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScp3SpWfA41UtOZKVEYEgY-RmiyGDOFZNeVfVSzHHBTpkxVjg/viewform?usp=dialog>

Natalie Metzger Lesikar

Armstrong PTA President - Elect | 2025-2026

John S. Armstrong Elementary | 3600 Cornell Ave | Dallas, TX 75205



SPECIAL OFFER

ARMSTRONG'S MINTED PARTNERSHIP

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

CODE: FUNDRAISEARMSTRONG

www.minted.com/holiday



Volunteers Needed!

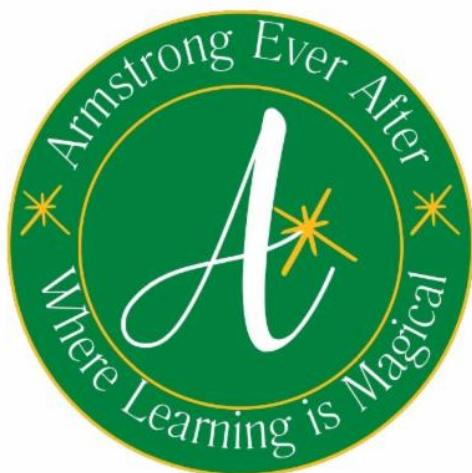


NEW SHIFTS ADDED

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

Questions? Email Meredith Clark
Meredithwclark@gmail.com

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.

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



PTA Feedback Form

Community News

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



THE MOODY FAMILY YMCA AND DALLAS CBT PRESENT A FREE MENTAL HEALTH DISCUSSION:

SOCIAL MEDIA AND MENTAL HEALTH

Join anxiety and OCD specialist Gracie Block, LPC for a practical, research-based talk on how social media and screen use uniquely affect adolescent mental health. Drawing on research on sleep, social media, and adolescent suicidality, Gracie will explore how digital habits impact brain development, emotional regulation, and peer interaction—factors especially critical in the post-COVID era. Learn about the risks of unhealthy screen use, including rising anxiety, perfectionism, cyberbullying, and self-esteem struggles, as well as surprising ways online spaces can foster connection and belonging.



Monday, December 1st

5:30pm

MOODY FAMILY YMCA



**Please scan QR code to
register and for more
information**

Get ready...winter magic is blowing into our community! The unforgettable 5th and 6th grade stars of Frozen Jr. are ready to whisk you away to Arendelle: where friendships are fierce, sisters are unstoppable, and even a talking snowman can warm your heart. Come LET IT GO with our MIS cast and crew!

The show is family-friendly and suitable for all ages. Online pre-sale tickets are available for \$8/\$11: please click [HERE](#). Tickets also sold at the door.

Link if embedded one doesn't work: <https://raiderdramaboosterclub.ludus.com/index.php>

MCCULLOCH INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL
PROUDLY PRESENTS

Disney
FROZEN JR.
©Disney

DECEMBER 4-6, 2025

THURSDAY AT 6PM

FRIDAY AT 4PM

SATURDAY AT 2PM

TICKETS \$8/\$11



MIS/HPMS
AUDITORIUM





HP Gymnastics Spring 2026

January 12th – March 25th

Our 41st 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

REGISTRATION FORM

Please complete and mail before November 30th

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



COME
MEET THE
HP BASS
TEAM!

2025 HP BASS TEAM FUNDRAISER

All Ages Welcome!

FLYING FISH

6126 LUTHER LANE | PRESTON CENTER

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 11TH

6:00PM - 7:30PM

**PURCHASE YOUR DINNER TICKETS,
RAFFLE TICKETS & MORE!**



WWW.HPBASSTEAM.COM



HP SOFTBALL PRESENTS

MEET THE SCOTS



GAMES

POPCORN

PICTURES

PLAYERS

SUNDAY

9 NOVEMBER 25

5 PM

HPHS Softball Field

330 Westchester Drive

5pm Kids Activities/ Games

6pm Movie in Outfield

Blankets and Chairs Welcome



MEET THE SCOTS/HOOPS & HOT SAUCE MONDAY, NOVEMBER 10TH (6-8 PM)

**MEET THE PLAYERS-AUTOGRAPHS/PHOTOS
SHOOTING CONTEST FOR KIDS-MUST REGISTER BY QR CODE**



**HOOPS & HOT SAUCE SHIRT,
BASKETBALLS, RAFFLE & TACOS**

ORDER ONLINE USING QR CODE

HPHS MAIN GYM





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**



**The Tharp
Family**

SEWELL



Armstrong Elementary | 214.780.3100 | 3600 Cornell Ave | Armstrong.hpsd.org

Amanda Hollier, Counselor

Betsy Cummins, Principal

**Jamie Condon, Admin
Asst**

Annie Celestino, Cafeteria

**Lane Arnold
214.780.3102**

Attendance Desk

[PTA Website](#)

**[Armstrong Dad's
Club](#)**

ARattendance@hpsd.org

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