



THE HORNET HYPE

EDITION #24

HIGHLAND PREP WEST'S COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

AUGUST 2024

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ACADEMIC CALENDAR



HOME OF THE HORNETS

WELCOME BACK HORNETS FOR THE 2024-2025 SCHOOL YEAR!

Welcome back to the Hive for the 2024-2025 academic school year! It has been an absolute delight to have our Hornets back in school for the past two weeks. The energy on campus has been electric, and we're so thrilled to see our students dive headfirst into various activities. From Club Rush to Fall Sports tryouts, our students have been eager to explore their interests and passions.

We've also seen our students tackle Beginning of Course assessments with confidence and enthusiasm,

showcasing their readiness to tackle new subjects and challenges. STEM projects have been in full swing, with our students showcasing their creativity and innovation. It's heartwarming to see our students excel in multiple areas so soon, and we can't wait to see what the rest of the year holds.

As we continue to settle into the new school year, we're excited to see our students grow, learn, and thrive. Keep up the great work Hornets - let's work together to make this year one for the books!



EDITION #24 / AUGUST 2024

Message from the Principal

Dear Hornet Families,

I hope this letter finds you well and that your family is adjusting smoothly to the new school year. As we wrap up the first two weeks in The Hive, I want to take a moment to reflect on our successful start. The first days have been filled with energy as teachers have set the tone for a year of growth, discovery, and achievement. From classroom activities to community-building exercises, our focus has been on fostering a positive and inclusive environment where every student feels valued and supported.

During these initial weeks, our students have been busy settling into their new routines and getting acquainted with their teachers and classmates. We've also

introduced new initiatives aimed at enhancing our curriculum and supporting our students' social and emotional well-being.

Looking ahead, we have many exciting events and activities planned that will further enrich your child's educational journey. As always, your partnership is crucial to our success, and I encourage you to stay involved in your child's education. Whether it's attending school events, volunteering, or simply keeping the lines of communication open with teachers, your support makes a tremendous difference. Thank you for entrusting Highland Prep West with your child's education, and I look forward to a wonderful year ahead.

Sincerely,

Sharon Pozzi • Principal



School Calendar

AUGUST 2024

8/5 First Day of School
8/21 Academic Awards Assembly- 4th Qtr.
8/23 Yearbook Picture Day
8/27 Parent Workshop- Freshman Year
8/30 Progress Reports

OCTOBER 2024

10/2 Fine Arts Assembly- 1st Qtr.
10/7-10/11 Fall Break (No School)
10/23 Academic Awards Assembly- 1st Qtr.
10/25 Fall BBQ
10/29 Parent Workshop- Understanding GPA

SEPTEMBER 2024

9/2 Labor Day (No School)
9/16-9/20 Fall Spirit Week
9/20 Homecoming Dance
9/24 Fall Open House & STEM Showcase
9/30 Visual Arts Showcase- 1st Qtr.

NOVEMBER 2024

11/11 Veteran's Day (No School)
11/13 No Early Release
11/23 2nd Annual Aerial Drone Qualifiers
11/27-11/29 Thanksgiving Break (No School)

ACADEMIC BULLETIN



HORNETS COMPLETE BEGINNING OF COURSE ASSESSMENTS

As we embark on a new academic journey, our students have taken their first steps in demonstrating their knowledge and skills through Beginning of Course assessments. These evaluations serve as a crucial starting point, allowing our teachers to gauge students' understanding of fundamental concepts and adjust instruction to best meet their needs for this quarter.

UPCOMING PARENT WORKSHOPS

8/27	FRESHMEN YEAR: THE BASICS
10/29	UNDERSTANDING GPA & BUILDING STUDY HABITS

Join us for our two upcoming parent workshops designed to support your students' success. Our first workshop will be tailored to parents of freshmen students where we'll cover essential topics to help your child thrive in their first year of high school. In our second workshop, we'll dive into the world of GPA's and study habits so you can learn how to help your child. Both workshops will be held at 5:00 PM.

EXTRACURRICULAR SCHEDULE:

MONDAY 2:30 PM

CHESS/GAME CLUB, C206
STUDENT COUNCIL, C205

MONDAY 3:30 PM

YOUTH ALIVE, C201
GARDENING CLUB, C210

TUESDAY 2:30 PM

PERSONAL FITNESS, C102
AERIAL DRONES, 106
VEX ROBOTICS, C104
SEAPERCH, C104

TUESDAY 3:00 PM

BOOK/CRAFT CLUB, C110

TUESDAY 3:30 PM

YEARBOOK, C109
TENNIS CLUB, COURTS

THURSDAY 2:30 PM

CYBERSECURITY, C211
SPORTS CLUB, GYM

THURSDAY 3:30 PM

SHOW CHOIR, C202
YEARBOOK, C109

FRIDAY 2:30 PM

SPORTS FILM CLUB, C108

FRIDAY 3:00 PM

SPEECH & DEBATE, C209

STEM DIGEST

BUILDING CUSTOM SHOES

In our Principles of Engineering class, students are taking their learning to new heights- literally! By designing and building custom shoes, our young engineers are applying theoretical concepts to real-world problems, pushing the boundaries of innovation and creativity. Through this exciting project, students are collaborating in teams to bring their designs to life. From concept to creation, our students are creating innovative shoe designs by applying design and mechanic principles to ensure performance and comfort.



MONITORING ALGAE IN WATER

Our Honors Biology students worked on an exciting lab, delving into the world of algae and its fascinating relationship with fertilizer. Students carefully prepared three test tubes, each containing a different concentration of fertilizer. Throughout the week, students meticulously monitored and recorded the algae growth in each tube, observing and noting changes in color, texture, and density. This engaging lab allowed students to deepen their understanding of algae and fertilizers, but also highlighted the importance of environmental practices.

BEAN BAG ISOTOPES LAB

In our Chemistry class, students took on the role of nuclear scientists, tasked with measuring the mass of a mysterious 'element'- represented by a bag of beans. This creative twist on traditional labs allowed our young researchers to explore the principles of radioactive decay and isotopes in a fun, interactive way that was led by Mr. Thornton.



CLASSROOM CONNECTIONS

COLLABORATIVE LEARNING IN ALGEBRA 2

Mr. Santander's class dove into a series of challenging equations, tackling each one together as a team. Through this interactive and engaging approach, the class fostered a sense of community and mutual support, encouraged active participation and peer-to-peer learning, and developed critical thinking and problem-solving skills. As the class worked through each problem, Mr. Santander would ask periodically after each equation, if everyone had understood the solution. This collaborative approach made Algebra 2 a fun and inclusive experience.



LAUNCHING CATAPULTS

In our Introduction to Engineering class, students designed and built catapults using everyday materials—spoons! This innovative project challenged our students to think outside the box, applying fundamental engineering principles to a fun and unexpected scenario where they got to launch them.



CHARACTER ANALYSIS

In our AP Literature class, students delved into the fascinating world of character analysis after reading a short story. Students conducted a deep dive into the protagonist's relationships and interactions, revealing dynamics and power struggles. They collaborated as a class, each sharing insights and perspectives.

ATHLETICS

FALL SPORTS ARE OFFICIALLY IN SESSION

The wait is over, and fall sports are officially in session. Our athletes have been training hard this past week with fall tryouts, and we can't wait to see them in action. Starting this new academic year, Highland Prep West is going digital for admission into HPW athletic games. Spectators who would like to attend an HPW home athletic game will now purchase tickets through Go Fans. Tickets can be purchased by visiting gofan.co and searching for Highland Prep West. Tickets cost \$5

for adults and \$3 for students. Tickets are required for entry and must be shown at the admission table. With our digital ticketing system, spectators can now purchase tickets online in advance, access tickets directly on your mobile device, and enjoy a seamless and convenient experience when going to school games. To follow our HPW teams and stay up-to-date on schedules, scores, and news, visit <https://azpreps365.com/schools/2318>.



CROSS COUNTRY TEAM



FOOTBALL TEAM



MEN'S SOCCER TEAM



CHEER TEAM

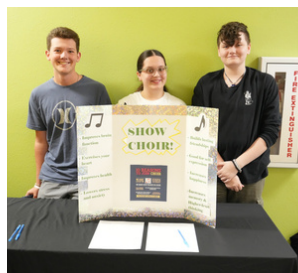


WOMEN'S VOLLEYBALL TEAM

HAPPENINGS @ HPW

CLUB FAIR

Our recent club fair was an overwhelming success, with a huge turnout of students eager to explore the diverse range of clubs and activities our school has to offer. Our Hornets swarmed the tables, chatting with club representatives and advisors, and signing up for everything from Personal Fitness to Yearbook, VEX Robotics, and many more. If you're still interested in joining a club, simply stop by the next meeting day for the club that catches your eye, and introduce yourself.



1ST HPW GOLF FUNDRAISER

Our first annual golf tournament is just around the corner! Taking place on Saturday, September 28th at 7:00am on the beautiful Eagle's Nest Golf Course at Pebble Creek, this exciting event promises to be a fun-filled morning of golf, camaraderie, and support for our school. The tournament format is a four-person scramble, making it an enjoyable experience for golfers of all skill levels.

But don't wait - registration closes on September 1st, so be sure to sign up soon to secure your spot! And there are many ways to show your support beyond playing in the tournament. Consider becoming a sponsor with one of our five sponsorship opportunities: Signature Hole Sponsor, Hole Sponsor, Beverage Cart Sponsor, Media Sponsor, or Friends of the Hive Sign Sponsor.

Every contribution counts, and your support will help us raise vital funds for an outdoor scoreboard and bleachers for our field. Mark your calendars for September 28th and join us for a memorable morning at the golf course!





**HIGHLAND
PREP WEST**
AVONDALE, ARIZONA

**1ST ANNUAL
GOLF
TOURNAMENT**

PROCEEDS GO TO HELP PURCHASE
AN OUTDOOR SCOREBOARD AND
BLEACHERS

4 PERSON SCRAMBLE
SATURDAY, SEPT. 28TH
REGISTRATION AT 7AM
SHOTGUN START AT 8AM

**REGISTER BEFORE
SEPT. 1ST**

\$100/PERSON
GREENS FEE AND CART
2 TICKETS FOR THE SILENT AUCTION
SWAG BAG

50/50 RAFFLE
MULLIGAN SALES
SILENT AUCTION
LONGEST DRIVE CONTEST
CLOSEST TO THE PIN CONTEST

REGISTER NOW!
623-274-2540
SPOZZI@HIGHLANDPREPAZ.ORG



**EAGLE'S NEST GOLF COURSE AT
PEBBLE CREEK**
3645 N CLUBHOUSE DR.
GOODYEAR, AZ 85395

Highland Prep West
2024-2025 Academic Calendar

July 0 	August 20 	September 20 	October 4 14
November 17 	December 15 	January 19 	February 19
March 5 11 	April 21 	May 17 	June

■ First Day of Quarter
 ■ Finals/Last Day of Quarter
 ■ Holiday/Break

First Quarter		Days 44
August	05	First Day - First Quarter
September	02	Labor Day
October	04	Last Day - First Quarter
October	07-11	Fall Break

Second Quarter		Days 46
October	14	First Day - Second Quarter
November	11	Veterans Day
November	27-29	Thanksgiving
December	20	Last Day - Second Quarter
Dec / Jan	23-03	Winter Break

Third Quarter		Days 43
January	06	First Day - Third Quarter
January	20	Martin Luther King Day
February	17	Presidents Day
March	07	Last Day - Third Quarter
March	10-14	Spring Break

Fourth Quarter		Days 49
March	17	First Day - Fourth Quarter
April	18	Spring Holiday
May	23	Last Day - Fourth Quarter

School Events

August	Parent Academy
September	Fall Open House
February	Spring Open House

Teacher Start/End Dates		
July	29	Teachers Start Date
May	30	Teachers End Date

In-service - No Students		Days
All Staff In-service		5

Early Release Days - 1:30 pm		Days
Professional Learning Community (PLC)		26
Teacher In-service/Work/Grades		4

Student Coursework Testing Days		Days
Midterms		4
Progress Reports		4
*Finals		4
*Finals/Last Day of Quarter		4

Blackout/Mandatory Attendance Dates			
Sep/Oct	30-04	March	03-07
December	16-20	May	19-23
See Student Handbook			

State Testing Dates

Please see Assessment Calendar available on Canvas.
HPW School Calendar will be modified to accommodate State Testing Calendar.

Special Dates

40th Student Day -	September	30 2024
100th Student Day -	January	17 2025