



# In Plain View

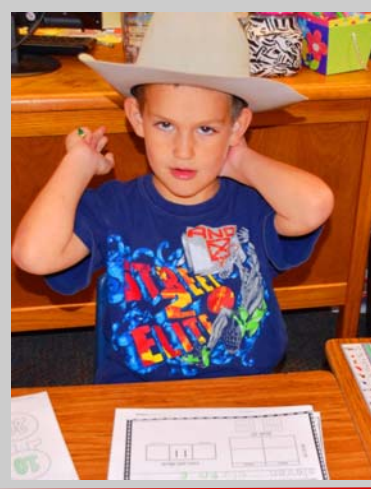
Plainview ISD Staff eNewsletter

Fall 2014

## Students "Put on Their Thinking Caps"



Tackling new concepts can be challenging, but first grade students in Kathy Joy's classroom at Edgemere have discovered a way to focus on new learning. They put on their "thinking caps" when they need a brain boost while working on assignments.





# Staff Highlight:

*John Ford*

The start of a new school year brings with it an opportunity to welcome new teachers into the Plainview ISD family.

One of our new first year teachers is John Ford. He and his family moved to Plainview from San Angelo so that John could join the Edgemere Team as a third grade teacher.

John followed an untraditional pathway to the classroom. Before heading to Angelo State to complete a degree in education, John spent 17 years as a San Angelo Police Officer.

During his last two years with the department, he worked as a detective investigating crimes against children. He is also a trained Drug Recognition Expert.

Prior to becoming a Police Officer, John served in the United States Air Force where he was honored as Airman of the Year in 1991 and twice honored as Airman of the Quarter.

He says that his life experiences have taught him to work hard both physically and mentally. He has been shot at, kicked, crashed into, and in every way verbally abused.

"All of this taught me to never surrender to anything," he said. "None of the things that have happened to me would I change. They all make me what I am."

John also has a deep rooted understanding of the struggles and challenges that many of our students from low income households face daily.

He grew up in Hereford in a family with limited financial resources. His mother was a single parent raising John and, in his words, "three wonderful sisters."

It was during his time as a police department detective, that he had opportunities to use his experiences to provide support



and encouragement to children who he says often felt helpless.

"As I worked their cases, I always tried to empower them to see the greatness inside of them. I wanted them to be strong enough to handle most of the problems life is going to present to them."

"After a while I felt God calling me to be even more involved in children's lives...to show children their voice and the strength inside of them," John said.

It was during this time that he made the decision to retire from law enforcement and return to college for the first time in 25 years with the goal of earning a degree in education. He graduated with the Class of 2014.

His student teaching supervisor from Angelo State had high praise for John's skills in the classroom.

"I supervised John during his clinical teaching experience in second and fifth grade during his full time clinical teaching in the Spring 2014 semester. He is a conscientious, caring, steadfast and loyal teacher with a unique interest in student success. His lessons are well-developed and interesting. He manages students in a quiet

accommodating manner. He communicates effectively and motivates student interest in learning. I feel he will be a successful, effective teacher."

John and his wife Brandi have two sons six-year-old Briley and two-year-old Jeremiah.

John adds that his first marriage gave him one of his greatest gifts, a step son who remained a son even after his mother and John were divorced. Son Jarrod Holliday is 27 and lives in San Angelo.

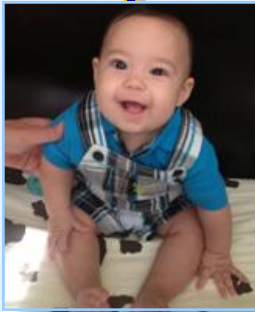
**What do you enjoy about your job?** "I do not enjoy it. I love it! I love the interaction with all the people in Plainview. Everyone here has given me their time and advice. I only hope I can pay it back."

**What do you enjoy doing in your free time?** I love spending time with my wife. She is my best friend and guiding force. I also enjoy doing anything with my sons. I enjoy reading poetry and learning history.

**What is something on your bucket list?** My bucket list only includes one thing. To raise three of the finest men to ever walk the earth. Just one small task that's all.

# BABY NEWS

**Matt** (PHS) and **Maria** (PHS) **Horton** are the proud parents of a baby boy, **Joshua Wyatt Horton**, born on April 4. Proud mom Maria says, "He is a happy growing boy."



**Jesus** and **Michelle Villegas** (Edgemere ) are the proud parents of a baby daughter, **Grace**, born on July 1. She weighed in at 8 lbs. 2 oz. She also has a big sister, **Claire Daily**.



**Donnie** and **Diana** (Thunderbird) **Brumley** have a new granddaughter, **Henley Grace Hayes**, born on August 26. She is the beautiful daughter of **Jordan** and **Zane Hayes**. The



**Monica Gonzalez** (La Mesa) became a "Glammy" for the first time with the arrival of **Evelyn Jade Alvarado** on September 9, 2014. She weighed 5lbs. 9 oz. and was 17 inches. The new mother is **Monica's** daughter, **Victoria Hernandez**.



**Brumleys** also have a new grandson, **La Mesa** kindergarten student **Kingston Cleavinger**. **Diana** says they became instant grandparents to **Kingston** when their son **J.J. Brumley** married **Johnna Cleavinger** on August 28.

**Dee Ann Helton** (Edgemere) has a new grandson, **Tucker Jonah LaDuke**. He was born on Sept. 22 and weighed in at 9lbs. 1 oz. Parents are **Nick** and **Kayci** (Churchwell) **LaDuke** of **Midland**. **Kayci** is a 2005 graduate of PHS. Proud brothers are **trip** and **Graycen La Duke**.



**Byron** and **Patti Hutto** (Admin Office) are the proud new grandparents of **Kinsley Faith Hutto**, daughter of **Ben** and **Staci Hutto**. **Kinsley** was born on September 18. She weighed in at 9lbs. 6 oz and was 20.5 inches long. **Kinsley** also has two big sisters, **Natalie** and **Averee**.



**Maritza Salcedo** (Hillcrest) has a new granddaughter, **Zoe Sloane Salcedo**. She was born on September 19 and weighed 7lbs. 12oz. She was 19.5 inches long.



## PLCs A Culture of Conversation

"In this school, we talk to each other. We talk about our victories and our strengths. We open ourselves up to changing and rearranging our thoughts and beliefs. We listen. We think. We change. We grow. We are so committed to the students in this building that we do not hide ourselves. Transparency and vulnerability are not weaknesses here. We are truthful about who we are and what we are learning about our teaching. We are here to make a difference."

## Cheers! Kudos! High Fives!

PHS welcomes a new foreign exchange student from Ecuador, **Antonella Granizo**. She will be living with **David** and **Irene Hipolito** while she is in Plainview.

Central Office staff surprised **Mabel Caballero**

with cake and flowers on her birthday, September 16. **Mabel** goes the extra mile to make sure our offices are clean, plants watered, and even brings us homemade treats. We love and appreciate **Mabel!**



While we enjoyed the recent rain, it does create work for some of our district employees. Our thanks to the Service Dept. staff for keeping our district looking good.

## Military News



**Sgt. Jake Churchwell**, USMC, a 2007 PHS graduate and the son of **Dee Ann Helton** (Edgemere) is currently on a MEU (Marine Expeditionary Unit) in the Middle East. **Jake** is the Jumpmaster and parachute specialist for Force Recon, the Marine Special Ops unit. His wife, **Candace**, and two daughters, **Sleighten** and **Cadence**, are living in Plainview while he is overseas. **Mama Dee** is enjoying both granddaughters being at Edgemere!





# Embracing Technology Tools

Students in Leslie Miller's 8th grade science classes at Estacado use white board desktops to complete APE MAN in the process of calculating how to build atoms. They are constructing the atoms using an app on their iPads.



## Buy, Sell, Rent, Trade, Give Away...



**For Sale:** old school television. Still in very good working order. Complete with colorful cabinet on wheels. \$50.



**Free to good home:** interior wooden door. First person to come to my house gets it.

For the above items, contact **Pam Kennedy (Houston School)** at [pam.kennedy@plainview.k12.tx.us](mailto:pam.kennedy@plainview.k12.tx.us)

### FOR SALE: Tell City maple dining room table with one leaf and 6 chairs



(1 captain chair). If interested call **Rhonda Williams** (Edgemere) at 729-6810.



## YMCA Women's Self Defense Class

DESIGNED FOR WOMEN AGE 15 AND OLDER. THE CLASS WILL CONSIST OF EIGHT (8) SESSIONS WITH A MAXIMUM CLASS SIZE OF 15. THE CLASS WILL BE MONDAY AND THURSDAY EVENINGS FROM 7-8 P.M. **REGULAR REGISTRATION ENDS SEPTEMBER 26 @ 9:00P.M.**

**PROGRAM FEE IS \$32 FOR YMCA MEMBERS AND \$54 FOR NON-MEMBERS.** LATE REGISTRATION WILL END THURSDAY, OCTOBER 2 @ 9:00PM. THIS WILL INCLUDE AN ADDITIONAL \$10 LATE FEE.

If you are on Facebook, please join us. We share school and non-school related information of interest to staff through this medium.



### Plainview ISD Staff

(closed group for staff only)

### Plainview Independent School District

(public Facebook)



## Communities In Schools

Communities In Schools is a non-profit organization that has staff located directly on school campuses to meet student needs.

Our mission is "to surround students with a community of support, empowering them to stay in school and achieve in life."

We provide many services on campus and free of charge!

- Truancy Program
- Educational Enhancement
- Supportive Guidance
- Case Maintenance

### The CIS Five Basics

Communities in Schools believes every child needs and deserves:

- A personal one on one relationship with a caring adult
- A safe place to learn and grow
- A chance to give back to peers and the community
- A marketable skill to use upon graduation
- A healthy start and a healthy future

Contact the CIS Campus Coordinators below:

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Coronado & Estacado

**Denice Kirby**  
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Plainview High School

## Sympathy



To **Debbie Raymond** (PHS) and her daughters on the passing of their husband and father, Paul Raymond.

To the family of **Leah Dayton**. She touched many lives in her 19 years with PISD and we are going to miss her sweet presence.

To **Tonjua Smith** (La Mesa) on the passing of her father-in-law, Cecil "Bill" Smith.

To **Rhonda Williams** (Edgemere) on the passing of her mother, Martha Rundell, on September 19 and her father-in-law, Jamie Williams on September 4.

To **Rick and Edna Garcia** (Administration) on the passing of Edna's father, Manuel Ramirez on September 19.





*Highland*



*La Mesa*



*Hillcrest*



**PHS**



*Coronado*



*College Hill*



*Edgemere*



*Thunderbird*



*Estacado*





Chelsea Criswell's third grade students at Hillcrest donned mustaches for dress-a-like day.



Thunderbird staff and students dressed up their school in support of the Bulldogs and line up to greet the team on Homecoming Day.



Tacky Tourist Day at College Hill brought out the adventurous side in these teachers.



Thunderbird students dressed for Little Kid Career Day show their school spirit.



You may need to look at this one more than once and you still probably won't believe who it is dressed up for Hillbilly Day at Coronado. Brent Richburg claims this is none other than his beautiful wife Leslie.



Coronado's "Math Pac" dressed PAC-MAN Style for Team Day. Note the game controllers on the left and right sides.



Team Day at PHS inspired this team of Super Teachers to dress in their Super Hero t-shirts.



## Congratulations 'Dogs on your Homecoming WIN!



The summer of 2014 was not all about vacation time. District educators had the opportunity to participate in top-quality professional development to prepare for the 2014-2015 school district focus on Balanced Literacy, Discipline Literacy, PBIS (Positive Behavioral Intervention and Supports) and PLCs.



Teacher Leader Caitlin Thurman presents information on Balanced Literacy during an August staff development for elementary teachers.



College Hill teachers Misty Batista, Wistie Ellis, and Assistant Principal Mary Elizabeth Dickerson collaborate during a Balanced Literacy training.



Secondary teachers attended training on using Content or Discipline Literacy during the summer staff development sessions.



Andrea Moreno and Edna Garcia share information about Federal Programs with administrators during staff development for campus and district leadership teams.



Sharon Wright reads "The Dot" to district administrators during Administrator's Professional Development.