

THE MUSTANG MONTHLY

APRIL SHOWERS!!

I SURE LOVE THIS
WARMER WEATHER,
AND I HOPE IT DOESN'T
SNOW AGAIN



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Mustang Monthly Staff:

Bailey Fouraker, Elizabeth Olson, Seeley Driskill
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MUSTANGS AT THE METRA

The Lady Mustangs went out with a bang this basketball season, making it out of Divisionals and securing a place at State. Here are the respective scores as follows:

Scores:	Opponent	Ennis
Anaconda	53	51
Baker	61	30
Huntley Project	66	31

While they did not place, they won a nail-biter of a first game against Anaconda that remained neck-and-neck until the very end. Students were able to sign up and take a trip on the pep bus to see the girls play in Billings at the Metra, cheering the team on from the student section. The next two games were not as successful, but it's the first time EHS has competed at State basketball since 2018 -- an impressive feat in itself.

Senior Megan Knack definitely felt like it was a fun season. "It's one of the best team environments," she said. She described how the team all wanted to have fun, do better, and they all wanted to be there, which sounds like a recipe for an all-around great season. Her favorite moment from basketball this year was sharing a hotel room with sophomores Brooke, Keira, and Marisa.

"Enjoy the moments you have," she finished with. "You can't get them back."

Here's to the Lady Mustangs for an incredible basketball season, and to many more after this!

Written by Bailey Fouraker

PITCH PERFECT

Softball is one of the most anticipated spring sports at Ennis, and the Mustangs are gearing up for the 2024 season. There are 19 members on the team, and they've already played their first two games, against Three Forks and Manhattan, losing 0-15 against Three Forks and 4-14 vs. Manhattan.

Senior Elizabeth Olson is the team's pitcher, and as a senior, this is her last year playing. She said the advice she gives to a new player is to try your best and stay positive, even when you're being criticized -- that just means that you're learning. She also described her favorite memory from playing softball, when she drank a gallon of milk with her teammates on the bus during her sophomore year.

This year, in order to have enough players on the team, they had to "pitch" an idea to the school board: they proposed allowing eighth graders to play. It luckily went through and we now have a full softball team. We're excited to see all the new faces, and there's sure to be a wonderful season in store for the Mustangs.

Written by Bailey Fouraker

TURN AROUND: TOTAL SOLAR ECLIPSE

On April 8 there will be a total solar eclipse. In Montana, the sun will not be completely blocked by the moon. We will be able to view about a 60-70% eclipse here. The rare annular (ring-shaped) eclipse happens when the moon crosses between the Earth and the sun but doesn't entirely block the sun, causing a ring of solar light to remain visible behind the moon. In Ennis, the eclipse will be at its peak at 12:38:55 PM.

Written by Olivia Benson

BACK INTO THE SWING OF THINGS

Golf is back for the season! Practice started March 11, and the first meet was scheduled March 28 but got canceled due to bad weather. Their next meet will be on April 6th in Big Timber. Good luck Mustangs! Now let's talk to some golfers about how they want to drive off their season.



Sophomore John Hostetler has been playing golf for 3 years. He strives to make it to State and place in the top 15. He made it to State last year and almost placed (he got 17th). He is most excited about moving up to Class B. He is also excited for the competition and more players. His biggest rival is Manhattan Christian.

Senior Caden Keller has been playing golf since he was 12, but he has been playing in high school all 4 years. His biggest goal is to not be the alternate. He says his biggest rival is himself. Another one of his goals is to make it to State this year.



High School Play



This year's play is "Bedtime Stories (As Told By Our Dad) (Who Messed Them Up)". With approximately 20 students participating, there are a lot of new people to the play this year. Freshman Sarah Fouraker is one of those people. I interviewed her to see how she is enjoying it so far, and she said that she is very excited for the play because Mrs. Pederson told her it is fun. She also decided to join the play so she could spend time with her friends. The roles Fouraker got were Princess Buffy, Father, and the Huntsman. Her role as the princess is to be one of the prince's choices to marry. The father tells their children what to do, and the huntsman kills. The very first practice was on March 11. Fouraker says that it went well. It was a little scary at first, but it was more fun than she realized.

Schedule and Dates:

April 3- Act 1 Memorized

April 15- Act 2 Memorized

May 1- Dress Rehearsal (4:00)

May 2- Matinee Practice Starts

May 3- First Performance

May 4- Last Performance

By Addisyn Rowe

Track and Field



Track and Field season started on Monday, March 11, and the first meet took place on March 28 in Columbus. The team is coached by Nichole Bailey, Luke Bergman, and Blaine Perry. This year, there are approximately 30 athletes competing.

Hannah Stecker is a sophomore competing in the 800, 200, and long jump. This season Stecker's goal is to improve in her events. She hopes to run the 800 in 3 min and the 200 in 30 seconds at the most.

By Ava Brown



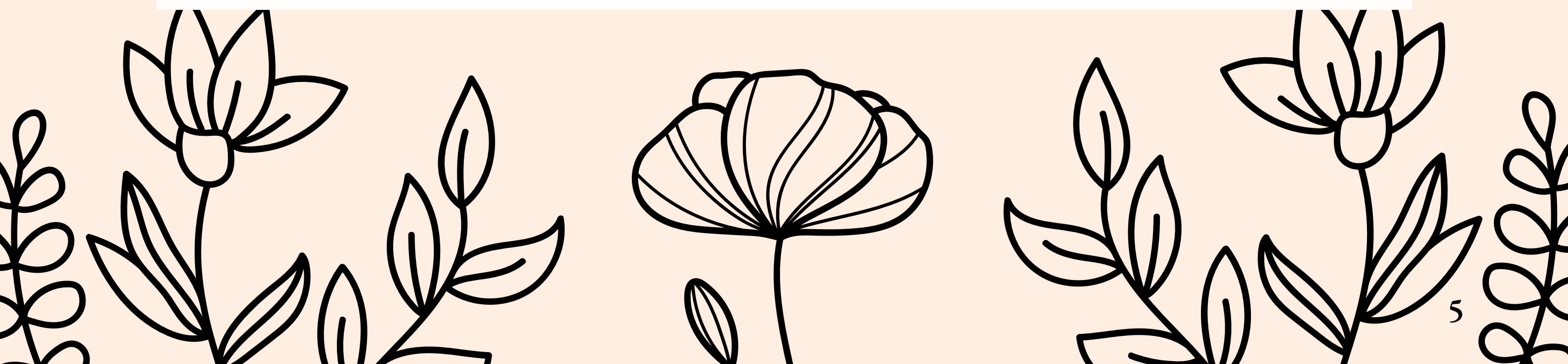
Springing into FCCLA

The Ennis FCCLA chapter took a trip to MSU on March 14-15 to compete at the State Leadership Conference. Senior Grace Stecker competed in Teach and Train, qualifying for Nationals and earning a gold medal. Senior Wylie Connor competed in Job Interview and received a silver medal. Senior Olivia Benson competed in Job Interview and received a silver medal. Seniors Ruby Blazer and Megan Knack competed in Chapter Service Project Display, qualifying for Nationals and receiving a silver medal. Sophomore Izzy Haas competed in Entrepreneurship and received a Silver Medal. Senior Liz Olson competed in Focus On Children, qualifying for Nationals and receiving a gold medal. Junior Aalyia Howard competed in Career Investigation and received a silver medal. Freshmen Amber Rolfe and Ella Rolfe competed in Event Management, qualifying for Nationals and receiving a gold medal.

Sophomore Aiden Kramer was recently elected State Vice President of Finance for Montana FCCLA. He joined FCCLA because “I am not coordinated enough to do most sports, so I try and reach out and do all the other activities I can like BPA, FCCLA, Academic Olympics, and Speech and Drama.” He said he had a very different experience at this year’s conference, considering he was attending state officer training and prepping for ceremonies, but it was nice seeing the rough-and-tumble of behind-the-scenes. Kramer's favorite part of the conference was going through state officer training and bonding with his new officer team.

Ennis FCCLA advisor Ms. Diehl said that the State Leadership Conference was better than it has been in previous years, but there’s always room for it to be better. Dinner at Miller Dining Hall was her favorite; she enjoyed watching her students put makeup on at the dinner table. Ms. Diehl says that students should join FCCLA because it’s a good opportunity to compete on the state level and see how you stack up against other schools, as well as a chance to potentially earn trips around the country.

By Liz Olson



Ennis BPA Heads to Billings

On March 11-13, the Ennis BPA chapter headed to Billings, MT to compete at the State Leadership Conference. Senior Zach Foss (president) commented on the State Leadership Conference, saying “it was fun, lots of good people. The overall function of it was good too; the state officers did a good job of planning and coordinating.” Foss says that other students should join BPA because it teaches you about yourself and who you are, how to present yourself, and become more comfortable around people you don’t know. Foss’s favorite parts of the State Leadership Conference were swimming and presenting his broadcast because it was fun to compete with his group.

The State Leadership Conference was altogether a success. Sophomore Aiden Kramer placed 10th in Extemporaneous Speech and 8th in Interview Skills. Senior Liz Olson placed 7th in Prepared Speech and has not received a score for Podcast Production Team. Senior Megan Knack placed 11th in Individual Presentation, and has not received a score for Podcast Production Team. Zachary Foss placed 13th in Human Resource Management. Sophomore Wyatt Doty, sophomore Brock Sneed, senior Vance Wingard, and Zachary Foss placed 7th in Broadcast Production Team. Sophomore Izzy Haas placed 10th in Digital Communication and Design Concepts.

By Liz Olson





SENIOR SPOTLIGHT!!



Zach Foss is excited to be a senior in high school. His future plans are to attend Montana State-Northern and play football and study Physical Therapy. His favorite memories are football and playoffs. He is most proud of himself for placing 8th in BPA Nationals. If Foss could have any super power it would be to fly. His favorite ice cream topping would have to be chocolate syrup.



Caden Keller feels stoked to be done and out of high school. His future plans are to attend MSU. Keller's favorite memories are football and golf. He is most proud of accomplishing surviving and making it through high school. If he could be in any movie he would be in *Forrest Gump*, because everything is in this movie. A weird smell he finds good is new shirts because it's less usual.

Kaleb Rice feels glad about being a senior in high school. Rice's future plans after high school are to attend MSU with a major in Agriculture. His favorite memory is senior football. He is most proud of accomplishing passing high school. If Rice could be any plant he would choose the Venus fly trap. If he could go anywhere in the world he would choose Alaska, so he could go fishing.



Senior Spotlight Continued...



Vance Wingard feels scared that he's almost done with high school but glad he's almost out. His future plans are to study Education to become a teacher with a minor in coaching. His favorite memories from school are the sports. Wingard is most proud of himself for being a semifinalist in football. His favorite Disney show is *Phineas and Ferb*. If he could be any writing utensil he would be a pen.



Grace Stecker is getting the nerve-racking feeling of being a senior in high school and going to college on her own. She is glad to be done with college applications, and is also sad that sports are ending. Her future plans are to attend Carrol College and pursue a major in Secondary Social Studies, while also studying Catholic Studies. Stecker also plans on making good friends. Her favorite memories are making it to State for track and basketball, cross country, and sports with her teammates. Stecker is most proud of accomplishing graduating and making it to be a senior in high school. Once Stecker graduates she wants to travel the world, both solo and with her family and friends. Her favorite book that is a movie is either *The Harry Potter* series or *The Chronicles of Narnia* because they bring her joy.

PROM SHENANIGANS



Classic Novel Prom Dates

The long-awaited Prom Night has come and gone. Whether your experience was wonderful, awkward, or somewhere in-between, chances are that most likely, your date next year won't be the same person it was this year. Sometimes it feels like there aren't enough options to pick from in a town as small as Ennis, so what if you could go with someone fictional?

These are all hypotheticals. We know. Still, there's nothing wrong with having an imagination -- and this may inspire someone to bring a cardboard cutout of their ideal prom date to the dance next year. It would probably be the most entertaining thing that happens.

Where are you getting your dress or tux?

- A. I'm going to pick out something classy and vintage at a thrift store
- B. We're going out-of-state shopping. This is a serious endeavor.
- C. Something nice, but I'm renting it. No need to spend money on something I'll never wear again.
- D. Probably something I already have in my closet, I don't know. I don't care.



Where will you guys go out to dinner?

- A. Somewhere nice and romantic. This is a *date*, after all.
- B. Somewhere boujee. This is supposed to be the best night of our lives.
- C. Somewhere practical that suits everyone's tastes, probably in town so it's not too far.
- D. A bag of Doritos in the Family Dollar parking lot.



What music do you request?

- A. Slow songs for slow dances, probably a sweet, old love song.
- B. Fast dance music because we're here to party.
- C. Some slower songs, some faster ones, a blend of music that everyone will like.
- D. My Chemical Romance



Are you going to After Prom?

- A. No, that's not quite my style. I'd like to go home and relax after the dance.
- B. Of *course*.
- C. Whatever my friends and my date would like to do. I'm happy with whatever.
- D. No, because that's freaking lame.



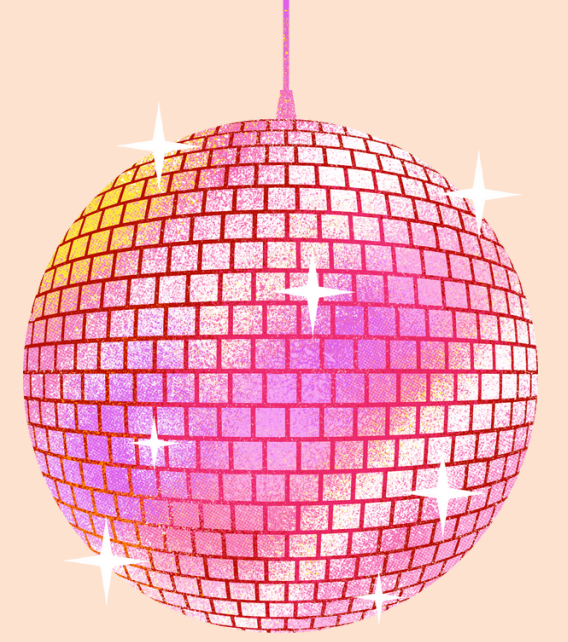
How did you like prom?

- A. I had a nice time and I'd like to go again.
- B. It was great, and I'm already finding another outfit for next year.
- C. Wonderful! Everybody had fun.
- D. It was stupid and I'm never going again. I should have just stayed home. Everything sucks.





Results:



Mostly A's: Atticus Finch

For you, prom is a special night to share with your date. You're classy and you like doing things the old-school way. Atticus would be the best fit because he understands; just look at that three-piece suit.

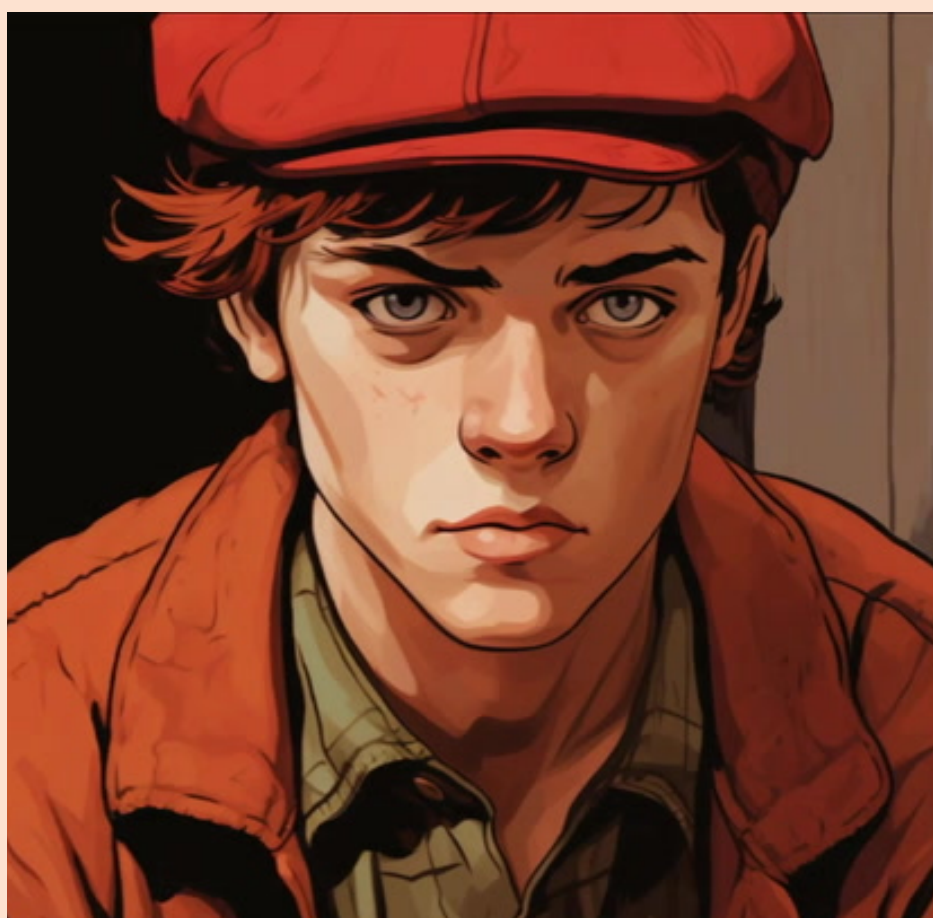


Mostly B's: Daisy Buchanan

People probably tell you that you're over-the-top. We never said that was a bad thing. Daisy is a good fit for you because she understands that you like to party hard. Just be careful, because she might leave you in the middle of the dance floor for somebody else.

Mostly C's: Jane Eyre

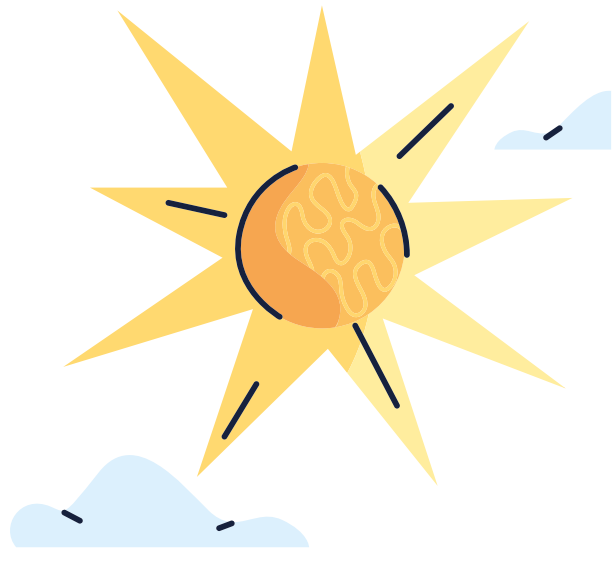
You're sensible and practical, and you just want everyone to get along. Jane would be a good match for you because she's always willing to compromise, and she'll understand that you want to spend time with your friends, too.



Mostly D's: Holden Caulfield

You're a little emo, honestly. Holden would understand all your pain deep down and he agrees with you that prom is stupid. You'll probably leave the dance early to go set stuff on fire in the Town Pump parking lot and contemplate your existential crises. Whatever floats your boat, I guess.

Written by Bailey Fouraker



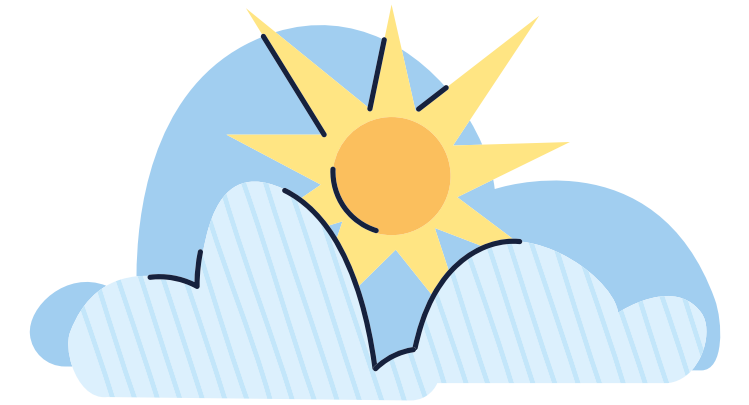
LIZ, LAUGH, LOVE



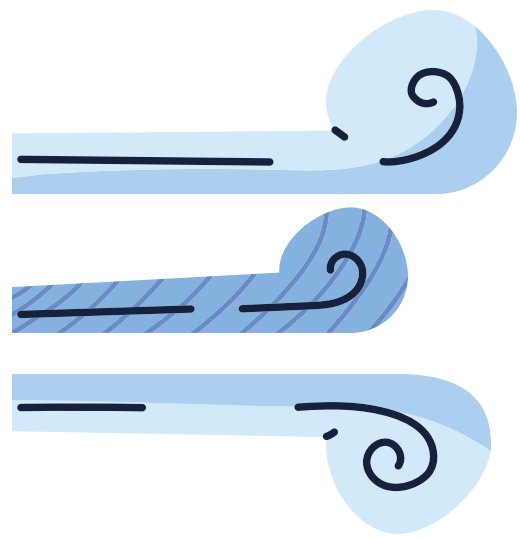
What's your favorite thing to do on a rainy day?



Oli S: Watch movies/self-care day



Jeremy: Spa day



Zane: Read a book



Camden: Play Legos

Sage: Smell the rain and rot in bed



Noni: Open all the windows and sit on my bed and watch movies



Addy O: Go on a drive

Ruby B: Go for a hike

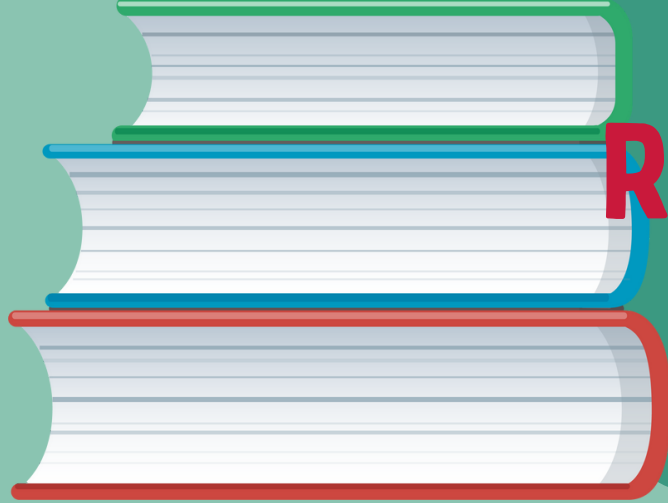


John: Watch *Shameless*



Vance: Listen to sad, rainy music

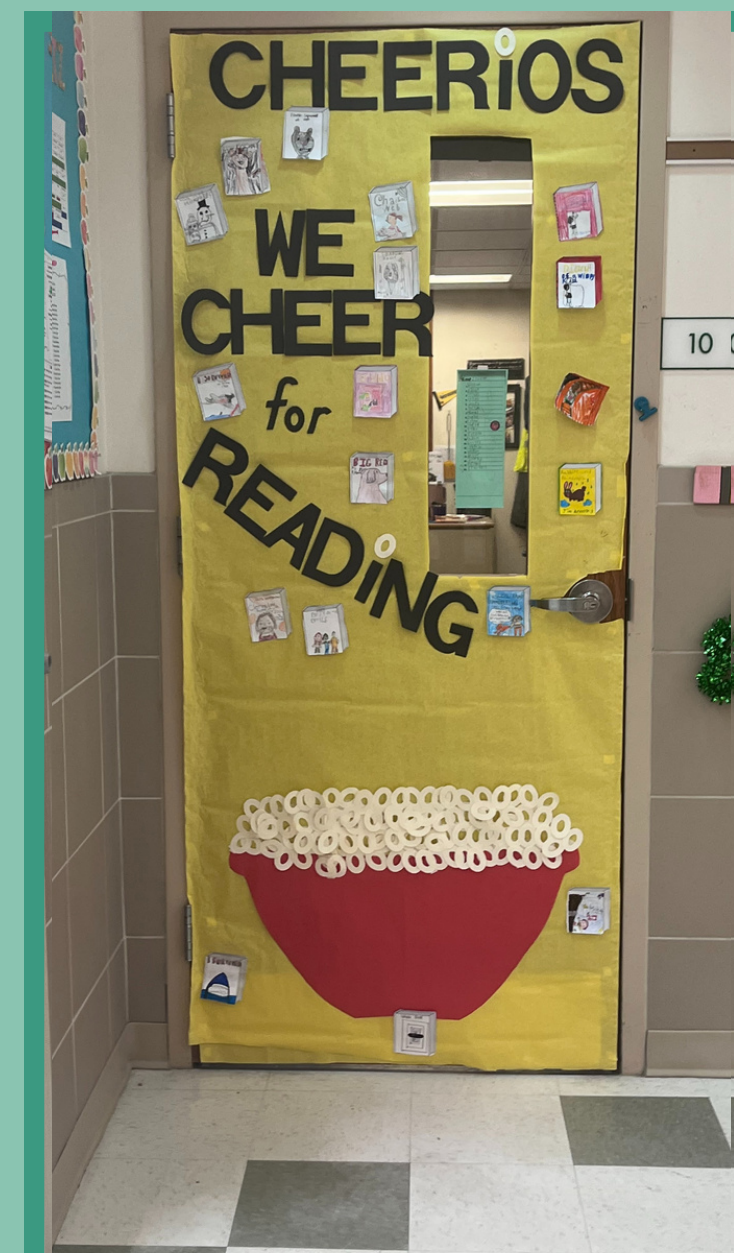
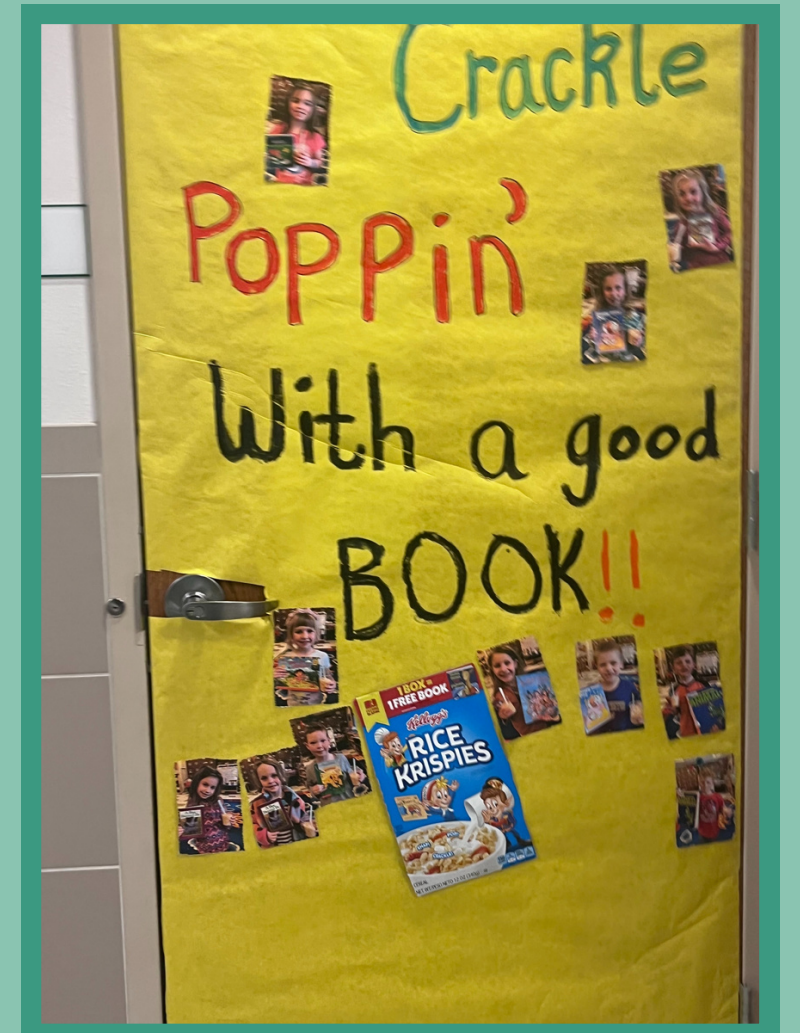
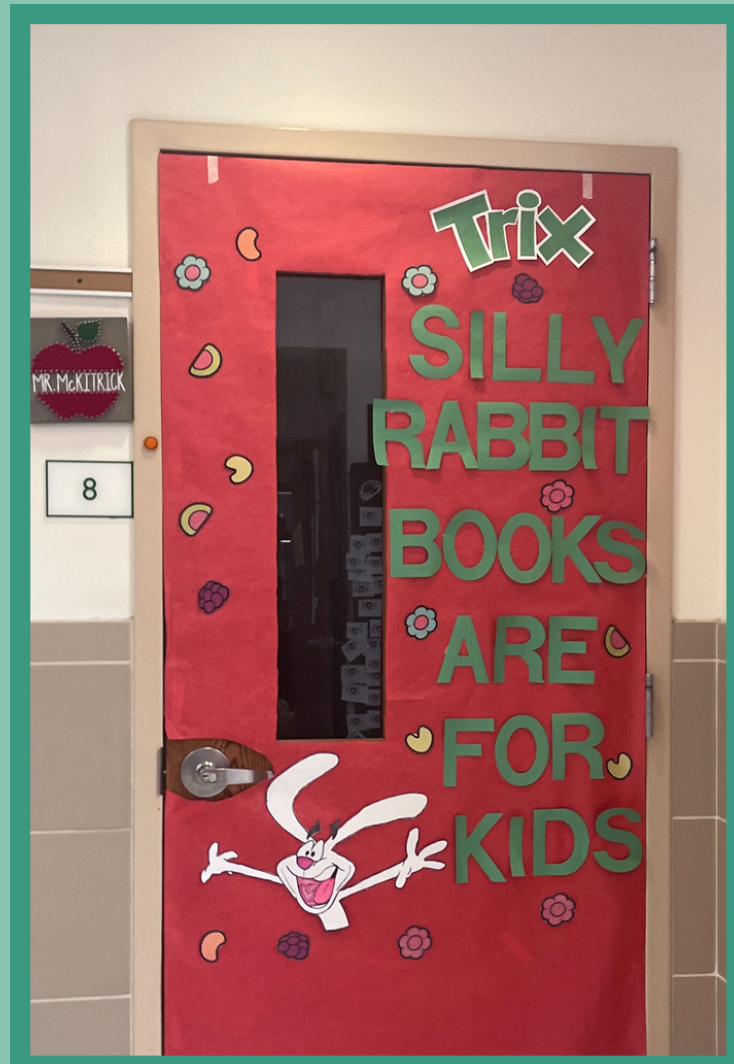
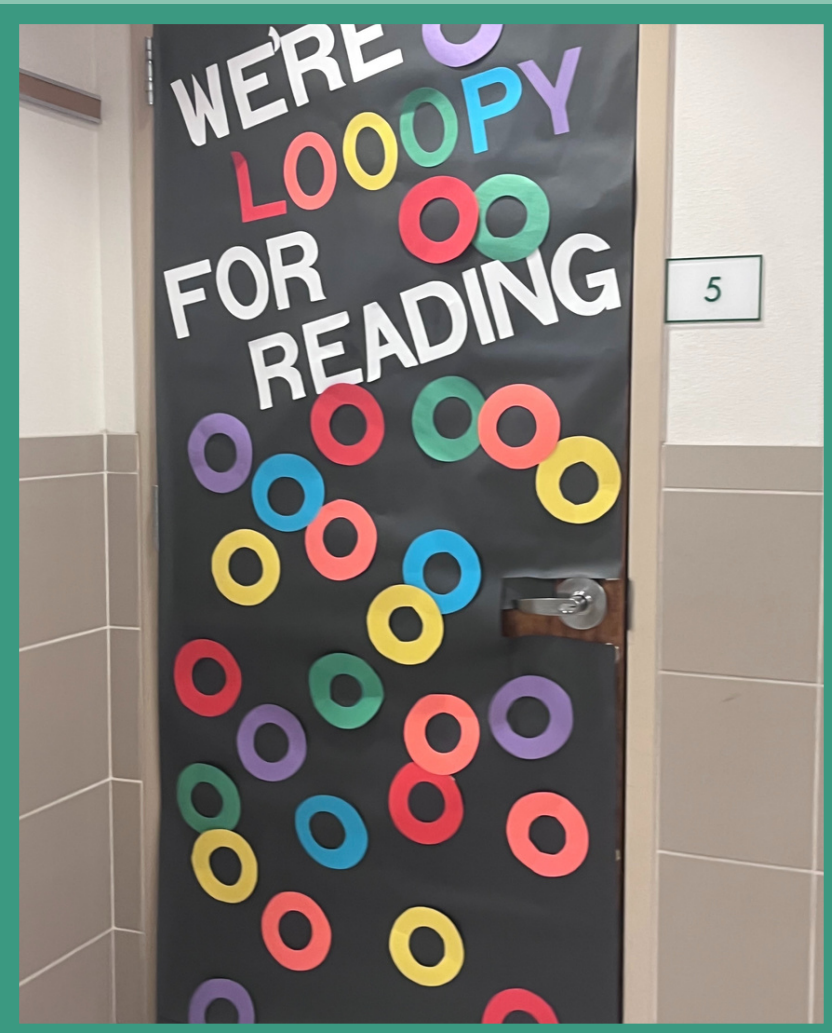
Kaleb: Stay at home and watch movies



READ ACROSS AMERICA WEEK



THE ELEMENTARY HAD READ ACROSS AMERICA WEEK AND THE TEACHERS DECORATED THEIR DOORS WITH CEREAL BOXES





Springtime Slangtime

What are your least and most favorite slang words?

***Addy O-
Least: Pookie
Most: Daddy***

***Jeremy-
Least: Slay
Most: Mommy***

***Sage-
Least: Pookie
Most: Feta***

***Oli-
Least: Pookie
Most: Slay***

***Vance-
Least: Busting
Most: None***

***Kaleb-
Least: Pookie
Most: Slick***

***Caden K-
Least: Pookie
Most: Word***

***Noni-
Least: Womp-womp
Most: Bus***

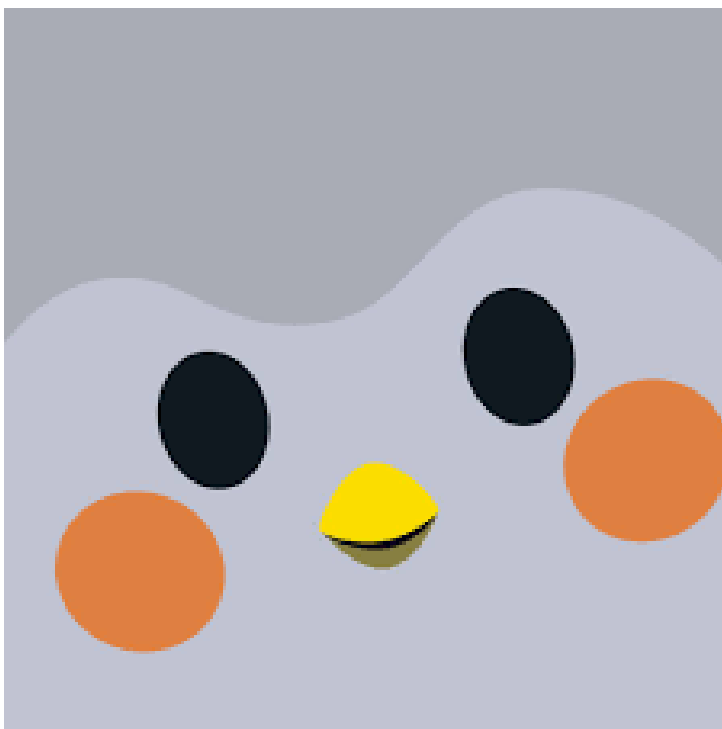
***Megan-
Least: Gyatt
Most: Busting***

Mental Health Apps



Bookly is an app where you can track your books and set reading goals. You can also rate books. For this app, there is a subscription you can purchase for a better version but the free version works great for reading and is a great way to support your mental health because of its stress-relieving properties.

Spotify is a music app where you can listen to and download podcasts and music. It also has sleep noises that can help you get a good night of sleep, improving mental health. For myself personally, music helps me stay focused and it puts me in a better mood.

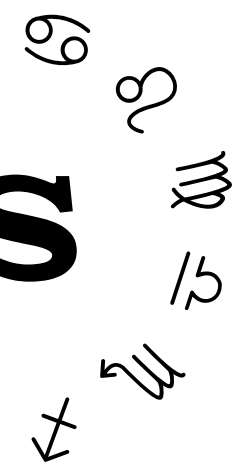


Finch is an app where you can feed your pet by caring for yourself. You can do this by completing daily tasks, and for some people having the motivation to practice self-care can be hard such as cleaning your room or doing your laundry. Finch can help you set goals and make you more productive.

How We Feel is an app where one can express their emotions and better navigate them. It can help with anger management or opening up about your emotions.



I Love Hue! It is a great game to relax to while you rearrange color tiles into perfectly ordered spectrums. This game is super relaxing, and the colors are pretty.



APRIL HOROSCOPES

By Olivia Benson

LIBRA



April will bring Libra a significant improvement in communication skills. At the same time, you will be motivated to study a foreign language, and you will start looking for opportunities where you can communicate with native speakers. You will also long for time spent with your family, so plan a trip together. You will see how it will benefit you and, in addition, you will strengthen relationships, which you haven't had time for lately.

SCORPIOS



April will bring Scorpios some emotional instability and an excess of energy. Your moods will be changing, and even minor things might throw you off balance. Therefore, it is advisable that you learn how to work with your emotions because otherwise, your changing moods could discourage your friends and family from spending time with you.

SAGITTARIUS



April brings forth an extraordinary period of love and success for individuals born under the Sagittarius zodiac sign. Whether in committed relationships, or single and exploring new connections, Sagittarians can expect an extraordinary surge of love and excitement. It is crucial to seize the opportunities that arise and embrace the possibilities presented.

CAPRICORN



Be open towards exploring new aspects of your personality and embracing growth in 2024. In fact, Saturn can make you step out of your comfort zone and try something new. You will explore new hobbies, follow a different approach to romance, or plan adventurous trips with your companion. Be mindful of your speech though, as it can adversely affect some of your relationships.

AQUARIUS



Aquarians will not stop at all in April because they will become go-getters, and they will be very determined and even harsh when following their goals. You will be doing better than your teachers would expect, and he/she will be amazed by your achievements. Your self-esteem will grow, and you will become the center of attention. You will probably experience some biting remarks and unfriendly looks from your jealous classmates.

PISCES



In April, Pisces will seem like different people due to the influence of Mercury. On the one hand, your speaking skills will improve unbelievably, which can benefit you in many ways, but it will also bring along the temptation to manipulate others. Not only could your intentions get out of hand, but also they could come to light, and you would quite possibly lose a lot of your loved ones.

ARIES



April promises positive changes for Aries in their personal and professional lives. Based on the love horoscope, there will be improvements in your family relationships and single people might get to meet their partners. However, jealousy could be a challenge. Stay calm, and persistent, and always be open to guidance from a coach.

TAURUS



Taurus people must be cautious of impulsive actions. In addition, they need to carefully consider their financial situation before making any major decisions. The Sun in Aries will boost their confidence, but they should avoid being assertive to their partner to avoid problems. Try to find new hobbies as your creative energy will be at its peak.

GEMINI



Geminis will face upliftment and success. This month you will have a rollercoaster ride as the Sun in Aries will increase your enthusiasm and the Full Moon in April will bring emotional instability.

CANCER



Cancers will experience a surge of emotions in April. According to the love horoscope, single people will get a chance to meet their love and those who are in a relationship will make the next step in their life. Because of the influence of the Sun in Aries, Cancers will succeed in their personal and professional life.

LEO



Leos will experience an optimistic mood this month. They will be driven by their creativity. However, they need to avoid getting lost in their dreams and maintain a realistic perspective to succeed. Leos should balance their ambitions with their actual opportunities. According to the love horoscope, a warming will emerge in personal life to promote emotional well-being.

VIRGO



In April, Virgo will feel the need for tenderness and love. You will literally crave a hug from someone close, and you will not be able to get enough physical contact. But during this period, you will start to cling to many things and want everything right away, which will keep you in constant tension. At the same time, you will be prone to making up scenarios, which can often lead to disappointment.

Mercury is in retrograde meaning it looks like it is traveling BACKWARDS from the 1st-24th, these times were traditionally associated with confusion, delay, and frustration. Think undelivered love letters, email blunders, and frazzled travel plans! This is an excellent time to reflect on the past, however, and it's said that intuition is high during these periods. Coincidences can be extraordinary.

BREAKING NEWS

Ennis High School Sued Over School Song

The Ennis High School song, sung to the tune of the “Notre Dame Victory March”, has long stood as a symbol of Mustang pride. Recently, a distant relative of the original song’s composer, Michael J. Shea, came forward claiming Ennis High School was in violation of the song’s copyright guidelines. Ennis High School had to pay a settlement of 45 dollars, and the search for a new school song began.

After much debate by the Ennis High School administration and school board, the new school song has been selected. Due to its representation of our Montana heritage and school pride, “Old Town Road” by Lil Nas X is now our symbol of Mustang pride.

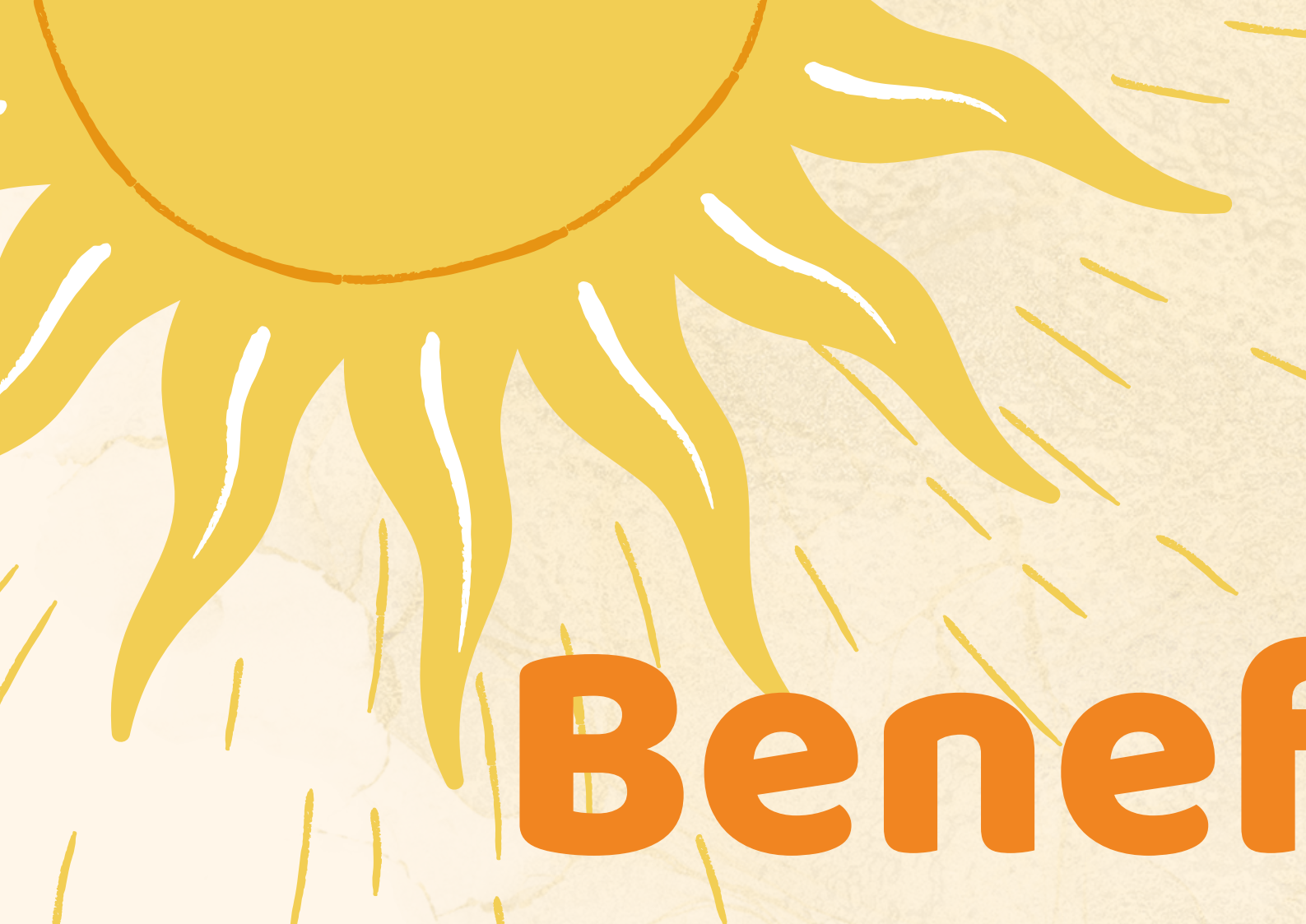


School Week Schedule Change

The school board has approved some new rules for the next school year. After much discussion, they have decided to alter our weeks to six school days. Though this may be looked down upon by many students and parents, this will be extremely beneficial to our student body and their education. According to other schools, this extra day will have positive effects on Ennis's information retention. Enforcing 6 days a week will help encourage consistency and routine within the student body.

Additionally, due to an increased student body and a need for more help in our cafeteria, every high school student will also be required to serve one shift in the cafeteria once a month. This time may not be put towards community service hours.





Benefits of Sun Staring

Staring into the sun has been proven to have a multitude of health-related benefits! Though most “doctors” and “ophthalmologists” do not recommend staring into the sun for longer than 5 minutes as it can “cause damage” to your retina, sun staring has actually been known to help lose weight, improve skin and whiten teeth, help depression and anxiety, and has been known to improve your vertical at least 1-2 feet higher. Studies have shown that individuals who stare at the sun are much more likely to retain geological facts which can be extremely helpful for hiking and exploring. Disclaimer: you mustn’t wear any eye protection while staring into the sun as it can prevent these benefits. For optimal exposure, it is recommended that you try your hardest to stare directly into the sun for at least 5 minutes. You will lose eyesight for a while, but don't worry, this is normal and means it is working! If the pain becomes too intense you may wet your eyes with a spray bottle or damp towel. Make sure the water is room temperature and not hot as this can lead to permanent blindness. Be safe!

By Seeley Driskill



Events

April 2024

Sports:

4/2 V/JV SB @ Manhattan
4/5 V SB @ Deer Lodge
4/6 Golf @ Big Timber
4/6 HS Track @ Hamilton
4/9 JV/V SB @ Columbus
4/10 JV Golf @ Cottonwood
4/11 Golf @ Livingston
4/12-13 V SB @ Missoula Tourney
4/13 HS Track @ Bozeman
4/16 Golf @ Cottonwood/MCHS
4/18 JV Golf @ Livingston
4/19 Golf @ Townsend
4/20 JV/V SB vs. Manhattan
4/20 HS Track @ Bozeman-MCHS
4/23 JV Golf @ Three Forks
4/25 Golf @ Ennis
4/25 HS Track @ Helena
4/25 JV/V SB vs. Three Forks
4/26 JV Golf @ Townsend
4/27 HS Track @ East Helena
4/29 V SB vs. Florence
4/30 Golf @ Three Forks
4/30 HS Track TBA

Other:

3/29-4/2 Easter Break
4/4-5 State Science Fair
4/14-19 Close Up

