



Explorer News

Principal's Message - Mr. Jeremy Brunner

I hope your family has been participating in our reading contest. So far, we have over 196,000 minutes submitted! That's amazing! As a school dedicated to preparing children for the 21st Century, I feel strongly that literacy is still a foundational skill that students need to have. I know you've heard a lot from me over the past few days about the importance of reading, but please allow me to share an additional thought about the importance of reading aloud to your child.

Jim Trelease tells in his book, *The Read-Aloud Handbook*, that of the 4,000 students that took the ACT in 2002, 58 received a perfect score. When it was discovered that a kid from Russell, Kentucky, (a small Appalachian, low income town), had aced the test, the family was besieged with questions, the most common being "What prep course did he take? Kaplan, Princeton Review?" As it turns out, the course was a free course, unlike some of the private plans that now cost up to \$250 an hour. The Williams simply read to Christopher and his younger brother thirty minutes a night, year after year, from infancy through adolescence. Their home was literacy rich, with no room for a TV Guide and electronic games. Tad and Susan Williams offered no home instruction; they "just read to them sowing...the sounds and syllables and endings and blendings of language into the love of books. Each boy easily learned to read, loved it, gobbled it up voraciously. Besides being a family bonding agent, reading aloud... ensured (that) the boys would be ready for whatever came their way in school."¹

Tom Parker, former admissions director for Williams College and Amherst College, tells parents who are concerned about raising their child's SAT scores, "The best SAT preparation course in the world is to read to your children in bed when they're little. Eventually, if that's a wonderful experience for them, they'll start to read themselves."² Parker claimed that high verbal SAT scores were synonymous with passionate readers. An SAT or ACT prep course can't teach a student passion for reading, but parents like the Williams can and so can you!

It is never too late to begin reading aloud to your children. Begin today to awaken their imaginations and improve their language skills. As you share stories together, an amazing bond will cement your relationships and enrich your lives.

Sincerely,
Jeremy Brunner
Principal

1. Jim Trelease, *The Read-Aloud Handbook*, New York: Penguin Books, 2006), pp.xi-xii.
2. Claudia Wallis, "How to Make a Better Student," *Time*, October 19, 1998, pp. 78-96

What's Inside...

Page 01

Principal's message

Page 02

PTA President's message
PTA News

Page 03

Calendar & birthdays

Page 04

Nursing News

Reading Contest Reward Readathon

Remind your students to keep reading and turning in their minutes for our reading contest! Friday February 9th will be the Reward Day. If they've earned enough minutes, the school will have an extra recess, students can come to school with crazy hair, and dressed in pajamas for a schoolwide readathon.

PTA President's message

Amy Oakey

Fabulous Foothill Parents,

We would like to thank all those who took the time to nominate a teacher for the PTA Outstanding Teacher Award. We received more nominations this year than we have in the past several years. We have amazing teachers at Foothill and we would nominate all of them if we could. Having said that, Mrs. Amy Marsh was nominated as the PTA Outstanding Teacher for this year.

We have three other award recipients who were nominated as well. Camie Granados was nominated as the PTA Outstanding Support Staff, Jill Clark for Outstanding PTA Volunteer, and Nan Black for The Spirit of PTA. We would like to congratulate each recipient and thank them for all they do to help make Foothill great! All of these nominees will be recognized at an awards gala held by the Orem PTA Council.

There are so many great things happening at Foothill and we would like to thank all the parent volunteers who give so generously of your time.

There will not be a PTA meeting this month. If anyone has any questions or needs help with something, please contact me and I would be happy to help. Our next meeting will be Wednesday, March 14 at 10 AM.

With Much Appreciation,
Amy Oakey

HAVE YOU JOINED PTA?

It's not too late to join PTA. The cost is \$5 and all of the money goes to support the programs at our school, district and the National PTA sponsors and advocates for our children. Sign up over Parent Teacher Conferences and get a Chick-fil-a gift card. You can join at the Book Fair! We hope to see you there!



Box Tops for Education

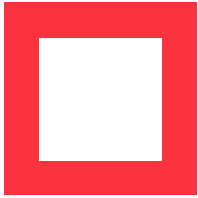
Thanks for your support of our Box Tops Doughnut Competition. With the help of your students we were able to turn in 2167 Box Tops. Way to go Foothill! Mrs. Stott's class was the top winner for grades K-2 and Mrs. Longmore's class was the top winner for grades 3-6. Mrs. Reeces' class received Honorable Mention for having every student in her class submit a Box Top Collection Sheet. Each class was rewarded with a doughnut and juice party. Great job students! Our recent check from the General Mills Box Tops 4 Education program was for \$1176.00. Wow!

Come support the PTA at the Book Fair, Tuesday
February 6th - Friday February 10th



Thank you to DaleTax for helping the PTA with our taxes!





Upcoming Events

February 2018

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
			1 Spelling Bee 6 pm	2
5 6th Grade Science Fair 5th Grade Cross Country Skiing Field Trip Early Out Day	6 Book Fair	7 Book Fair Parent Teacher Conferences	8 Book Fair Parent Teacher Conferences	9 Book Fair Reading Contest Reward Readathon
12 5th Grade Cross Country Skiing Field Trip Early Out Day	13	14 6th Grade Medieval Fair	15	16
19 President's Day No School	20	21 1st Grade Program 6:30 pm	22	23 End of 2nd Trimester
26 Early Out Day	27	28 5th Grade Capitol/Ft. Douglas Field Trip	1	2

February Birthdays!

Caitlin Hall	7
Janelle Tingey	12
Derrick Wakamatsu	18
Mark Asay	19
Sheri Rowley	22
Bryan Shirk	24
Elise Stermetz	26

Next Month...

Professional Development- No School	March 5
Teacher Appreciation Week	March 19-23
5th/6th Grade Maturation	March 23
Kindergarten Registration	March 27

Knowledge Bowl Competitions @ Oak Canyon Junior High

Primary Division (3/4 students)
March 17 - 8:00 AM-12:00 PM

Intermediate Division (5/6 students)
March 10 - 8:00 AM-12:00 PM

Nursing News

February 2018

With the recent outbreak of Hepatitis A in Utah County, there have been many concerns and questions.

Here are the most frequent questions and answers regarding Hepatitis A.

1. WHAT ARE THE SIGNS AND SYMPTOMS OF HEPATITIS A INFECTION?

Fever, fatigue, loss of appetite, nausea, vomiting, abdominal pain, dark urine, clay-colored bowel movements, joint pain, and jaundice. (yellowing of skin and eyes)

*Most (70%) of infections in children younger than age 6 are not accompanied by symptoms. When symptoms are present, young children typically do not have jaundice; most older children and adults with Hepatitis A infection have this symptom.

2. WHEN SYMPTOMS OCCUR, HOW LONG DO THEY LAST?

Usually less than 2 months, although 10%-15% of symptomatic persons have prolonged or relapsing disease for up to 6 months.

3. WHAT IS THE INCUBATION PERIOD FOR HEPATITIS A VIRUS?

The average incubation period is 28 days (time exposed until you actually have the disease), average 15-30 days. You can be exposed and not show symptoms for 6 weeks. (This does not mean you are contagious that whole time: see #7 below)

4. HOW LONG DOES HEPATITIS A VIRUS SURVIVE OUTSIDE THE BODY?

The virus can live outside the body for months, depending on the environmental conditions.

5. CAN PERSONS BECOME RE-INFECTED WITH HEPATITIS A?

No. IgG antibodies to Hepatitis A, which appear early in the

course of infection, provide lifelong protection against the disease.

6. HOW IS HEPATITIS A INFECTION PREVENTED?

Vaccination with two doses of Hep A vaccine is the best way to prevent the disease. Good hand hygiene after using the bathroom, changing diapers, and before preparing or eating food.

7. WHEN IS A PERSON CONSIDERED CONTAGIOUS?

2 weeks prior to onset of symptoms and 2 weeks after onset of symptoms.

8. CAN HEPATITIS A BECOME CHRONIC?

No.

For any other questions please contact either your physician or Utah County Health Department at 801-851-7000.

Kim Lowe, RN, School Nurse