

EXPLORER

January 2014

Principal's Message

Happy New Year and welcome back! We look forward to a great year for Shelley Elementary in 2014. The coming of a new year is a time when we pause to reflect on the past year and to establish goals or make resolutions to help us move forward with improvement and continued growth and success. It is our goal at Shelley Elementary to continue to ensure safety and to provide excellent educational opportunities for all of our students, and to work collaboratively among our faculty and staff as well as with the support of our amazing parents to do so!

School safety continues to be in the news around the country and I have received phone calls, emails and visits from concerned patrons about what Shelley has in place in case of an emergency. We have a school safety plan in place and we review it frequently for updates and information that we feel needs to be added or taken away. The American Fork Police department is very active in our schools, doing walk through's, training in our building and patrolling around our school during the day. We have adult supervision during the most busy times of our days at our playgrounds, drop offs and pickups and other high traffic times of the day. They are easily identifiable by the orange safety vests that are worn. Thank you for the trust you place in us as you send your children to school each day. We take this responsibility very seriously.

We are planning a lockdown drill in January to help our teachers and students practice our plan in the event our school would need to go into a lockdown. Teachers discuss with our students the safest place to be, and the importance of staying calm and following directions.

We will continue to hold regular emergency drills, including fire/evacuation, earthquake, and lockdown scenarios so that teachers and students will be able to respond confidently and appropriately in the event of a real emergency.

Thus far in our current school year, our teachers have been implementing the new K-5 Math Core and the 6th grade Language Arts Core. I would like to express my appreciation for everyone's support as we have begun this transition to the new Core Curriculums. Our teachers have stepped up to get to know and become familiar with the new curriculum and additional supportive strategies and resources and are doing an excellent job in their teaching. Through weekly collaboration they are working closely together reviewing data and planning and refining assessments and curriculum to best determine and meet the needs of their students. Parents have focused on the many positive benefits of the change as well—the increased rigor, and the integration of the curriculum areas, especially the increased emphasis of writing throughout all subjects. They are volunteering their help in the classroom, and are communicating closely with

teachers to support student success. Students are thriving as they engage in their lessons and learning activities each day.

The month of January will be a busy time as we settle back in to our routine of school. We will be completing the winter DRA assessment for all students. This is a reading assessment that will help make teachers aware of students' growth in various areas of their reading and inform them of needed additional instruction and support. Our teachers look forward to visiting with you about your student's progress in our upcoming parent conferences the first week in February, 4th and 6th.

I do hope that everyone had an enjoyable Christmas holiday break and have enjoyed seeing everyone again as we have returned to school ready to continue our journey through this great school year!

Mike Ericksen, Principal

Student Drop Off & Pick Up Suggestions

Mrs. Riding's 6th grade class has been studying the drop off/pick up areas in the front of the school and working with some suggestions for our patrons as they drop off and pick up their students. The following letter with suggestions was presented to me for approval to be in the newsletter. I felt that their suggestions were valid and that they had put some thought into their study. I present their research and accompanying suggestions to you for our drop offs and pick ups in the front of the school.

Mr. Ericksen

Dear Parents,

Do you hate waiting in the pull through? Of course you do, everyone does. We would like that to stop. If we can get everyone to follow these rules, it just might help the pull

through go smoother. We here at Shelley Elementary like everything to go as smoothly as possible. We strongly believe these rules can help.

First, do not unload from your car near the entrance to the pull-throughs. Many parents let their kids out too soon, because the line is going very slow, and then the traffic in front of them clears away, and they are blocking other cars while their children unload. When parents do this the line backs out into traffic causing a traffic jam. This can cause accidents and emergencies. We will have reminder posters, and a marker to tell you when it is ok to let your children out, to help everything go well. Once you pass the marker, please still pull all the way forward before unloading.

Second, please follow the teachers that are outside on duty. Many times people ignore the teachers and don't listen to them. When parents don't listen that makes the line go slower. Students can get hurt and get serious injuries. We hope that will never happen.

Third, do not park your car in the pull through during arrival and dismissal hours. When this happens the line goes extremely slow. Many times parents park their cars to help their kids into the school. This is fine as long as it is not in the pull through. There are other options for this, you could park your car across the street or walk your kids to school.

In conclusion, we hope you follow these rules to make Shelley Elementary a better place. We here at Shelley Elementary love to make things better. Please be a good citizen and help us achieve this goal, by following those 3 simple rules. Thank You!

From,

*Bella Iongi, Katie Austin, Cambria Harris, Chloe White
(6th Grade Explorer Time class)*

Online Registration for Parent Conferences

Parent Teacher Conferences are coming up on February 4 and 6. ***You may use the online scheduler starting at 7:00 a.m. on Monday, January 13.*** The parent sign-up window will close at midnight on Sunday, January 26. Teachers will then fill in the remaining time slots with appointments for those who have not signed up by that point. If you do not have internet access at home, this scheduling may be done either at the public library on their computers or on Shelley's Main Office computer.

Step-By-Step Parent/Guardian Instructions--

1. Visit the school's homepage (<http://shelley.alpinedistrict.org>) and select the Online Scheduler icon/link at the very bottom right hand corner of the page.
2. From the Online Scheduler Home Page:
 1. Choose your student's school from the drop down list and click "GO".
 2. Enter the school password (explorers).
 3. Enter your student's "Student ID". If you do not know the Student ID, use the LOOKUP STUDENT ID button to access the system.
 4. Verify the student's birth date.
 5. A list of your students' teachers will be displayed. Check the box next to the name of each teacher(s) with whom you would like to meet.
 6. If you have more than one student in the school you can see all of your students' teachers' schedules at one time by answering YES to this question: "Do you want to schedule conferences for another student?" Then repeat the steps above for your other students. If you only have one student, answer NO to that question.

7. You will then see the available time slots for each teacher you selected.
8. Select the times that work best for your schedule.
9. Enter your email address (recommended) if you would like an email reminder sent to you. (Your email address is kept private.)
10. Once you have finished you can confirm your appointment details and print your conference schedule.
11. Write down the confirmation number (you will need this number if you need to cancel or change an appointment.)

Need help? Contact the Main Office

Phone: (801) 610-8718

Attendance and Punctuality Are Essential for Success

Parents, it is extremely important for your child to be at school every day (except in case of illness). Please do not keep your child out of school to baby-sit, go shopping, etc. Make every attempt to schedule doctor appointments before or after school times. We ask that you call the school the day your child is absent, so that we might make record that the absence is excused.

Getting to class on time is also essential. When children arrive late, it is disruptive to classmates and can have an adverse effect on your child's educational learning. If students are less than ten minutes late, they should just go directly to class. If they are more than ten minutes late, they should stop by the office for a check-in slip. Students who are repeatedly late may be asked to complete missed work or to make up lost time. Please help us by making sure your child arrives at school on time each day. Thank you.

ASD Special Education Parent Night

Thursday, January 16, 6:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.
Legacy Elementary Media Center
28 East 1340 North, American Fork

Helping children with attention problems complete their homework. The presentation will discuss specific strategies to help children and teens complete homework. We will briefly discuss executive functioning and how that influences children's attention and organizational skills. Helping parents to understand how to organize tasks, create routines, set goals, and create effective work environments are key ideas that will be shared. A few coping strategies for parents will also be discussed.

Presented by Dr. Ellie Young, associate professor in the school of psychology program at BYU. Parent Nights are for parents and caregivers who have students potentially or currently receiving special education services and parents who can benefit from the information shared at our parent nights.

Co-sponsored by Alpine School District Special Education Department and Utah Parent Center.

Questions? Call Maria at [801-318-1959](tel:801-318-1959)
or e-mail at maria@utahparentcenter.org.



Jazz Read-A-Thon Begins!

Shelley Elementary will be participating in the Jazz Reader Contest again this year. We will be combining this Contest with our Annual Fundraiser and will be having a Read-A-Thon. Students will raise money by reading minutes. The Fundraiser envelopes will be sent home Thursday, January 9, 2014 and be due Thursday, January 16, 2014. The reading will then begin Friday, January, 17 and will run through Tuesday, February 18, 2014. Our theme for the contest is "Be A 'Super' Team Player—Read!" We Can All Be Super Heroes As We Read!

Any reading the students do, or anything that is read to them as they follow along, outside their regular school day counts for the contest. To help provide opportunities for reading, our PTA has planned some delightful events. Please make note of the following on your calendars:

Thursday, Jan. 9 - Read-A-Thon Fundraiser Envelopes and parent letter go home. Students begin collecting pledges for minutes read.

Thursday, Jan. 16 - Read-A-Thon Fundraiser Envelopes turned into teachers (Money collected at the end of contest)

Friday, Jan. 17 - Let the Reading Begin! Jazz tracking sheets for the first weekend will come home.

Tuesday, Jan. 21 - First full week tracking sheet will come home, and one will follow each Monday through the remainder of the contest.

Monday, Jan. 27 - Family Reading Night from 5:30-7:30pm. Prizes given out every 15 min.

Wednesday, Feb. 5 - Dads and Donuts
Track 1 students 7:30-8:00am
Track 2 students 8:45-9:15am

Wednesday, Feb. 12 - Moms and Muffins
Track 1 students 7:30-8:00am
Track 2 students 8:45-9:15am

Tuesday, Feb. 18 - Contest ends: All reading sheets turned in.

Wednesday, Feb. 19 - Fundraiser envelopes go home with minutes read to begin collecting money.

Tuesday, Feb. 25 - Fundraiser envelopes turned in with all money due.

Last year the students of Shelley Elementary reached their goal of reading 1,000,000 minutes and Mrs. Crandall made visits to all the classrooms dressed up as a book character and read stories to each class. This year we have a slightly higher goal to read 1,000,500 minutes. We know that with everyone's combined efforts and emphasis on lots and lots of reading, we can make and surpass our goal. If we reach our goal, Mr. Ericksen will dress up as a Super Reader and will spend the day on the top of the school throwing down treats and reading to our students. We will also have a very Special Visitor come to our school! It will be well worth your reading!

We look forward to a great month of fundraising and reading! We want all students to be SUPER HEROES! We encourage the students to turn off the television and their electronic games and immerse themselves in good books as they READ, READ, READ!

January 2014

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|--|---|-----------------------------------|---|---|
| | | 1 NO SCHOOL | 2 NO SCHOOL | 3 NO SCHOOL |
| 6 | 7 | 8 SCC Meeting 2:30 p.m. | 9 Jazz Read-A-Thon Fundraiser Pledge Envelopes go home to collect pledges | 10 |
| 13 Window Opens for Online Registration for Parent/Teacher Conferences | 14 PTA Board Meeting 12:45 p.m. | 15 | 16 Jazz Read-A-Thon Fundraiser Pledge Envelopes Due | 17 Jazz Read-A-Thon Begins (Tracking Sheets will come home) |
| 20 Martin Luther King Day NO SCHOOL | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 Window Closes at Midnight on January 26 Online Registration for Parent/Teacher Conferences |
| 27 Jazz Read-A-Thon Family Reading Night 5:30-7:30 p.m. | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 |

How to Access the **World Book Web**

TO ACCESS WORLD BOOK AT YOUR SCHOOL ONLY:

IP Authentication: <http://www.worldbookonline.com>

Bookmark or add the site to your favorites on each workstation.

(If you have a problem accessing the site, please see your technology coordinator.)

HOME ACCESS FOR STUDENTS, FACULTY, AND STAFF:

<http://www.worldbookonline.com>

User name: alpinedistrict

Password: student

Please note: This is for home use only.

Please do not give to the log-in information to anyone else. For access from the school, please use the log-in information above.

TECHNICAL SUPPORT:

E-mail: help@worldbook.com

Phone: 1-800-338-8382

For questions and or more information on World Book School/Library products and services, call your local World Book representative at 1-800-975-3250.

