

EXPLORER

February 2014



SEND A
VALENTINE
GREETING
WITH

VAL-O-GRAMS !



Send a note to your friends
with a dum dum sucker on each
note for only **25 Cents!**

*Sold Before and After School
thru February 13th*

Parents may purchase these for
children in the office or
there will also be a booth
during Parent/Teacher
Conferences.

Valentine's Day

Thanks to PTA room mothers and the generous parent volunteers, students will have a special Valentine's Day party in their classroom from 1:15 p.m. to 2:15 p.m. Kindergarten class parties will be the last hour of class. All grades are invited to bring individual Valentine cards for each member of their class. This is, of course, optional. We ask that students not exchange home-prepared Valentine treats at school.

Principal's Message

Dear Parents:

January was quite the month at Shelley Elementary. Our students coming back from the holiday break and having, basically, uninterrupted instruction time has been very valuable to them and to their teachers. I wanted to give some information about how schools in the district decide whether or not to have an outside day in the winter. When I get to school in the morning on these cold days, I check the WeatherBug site for Freedom Elementary. Freedom is the closest elementary to Shelley that has a WeatherBug station. The instruction from the district has been if the outside temperature is 20 degrees Fahrenheit or above, we can line up outside, have lunch recess and our class recesses. I take into account the wind chill factor or other factors that could be safety issues to help make my decision. If the temperature is colder than 19 degrees, we will line up in the gym and we won't have outside recesses or activities. This monitoring goes on during the day so if the temperature does change, we will be able to have recess. Particulate matter (red, yellow, green days or indoor days) for schools follows guidance given from the air quality division of the State of Utah. I check their website at www.airquality.utah.gov each day at 10:55 a.m. for guidance on calling an indoor day (everyone stays inside because of air quality) or a restricted outdoor day (meaning those "sensitive students" or others

with respiratory symptoms need to stay inside for recess). If you have questions about these guidelines, please contact me for further clarification. We only have a few weeks remaining of the second trimester, and our younger grades enjoyed celebrating the 100th day of the school year this past week. Also during the month of January, each grade level completed the Winter DRA (Direct Reading Assessment). In the month of February, our 5th graders will be doing their DWA (Direct Writing Assessment). It seems we are in a constant process of gathering data to help us monitor how our students are learning, progressing, and adjusting as they go through their school experience.

In preparation for the SAGE testing that will take place this coming Spring, the State of Utah has opened the SAGE testing portal site, sageportal.org. This site has many resources for students, parents and teachers to begin preparing for SAGE testing. I encourage each of you to access the site with your children and look at the information contained in it. There are practice tests, information rubrics, webinars and other helpful information that will help to prepare our students for this new testing system. If after accessing the site and you find that you need some guidance or explanation about things, please contact me so we can talk about your questions.

I encourage each of you to make sure you attend our Parent Teacher Conferences this coming week on Tuesday and Thursday, February 4 and 6. It is a great opportunity for teachers and parents to celebrate areas of strength, progress and growth, and to discuss areas where you can work together for continued improvement and success. *There is a strong positive effect on student learning when parents and teachers partner together in the education process.*

Our Jazz Reader Contest was launched on January 17, and will end on February 18. It has been a delight to see the excitement about reading among our students as they work to reach classroom, grade level, and school wide goals. *We appreciate parent support and encouragement to make sure minutes reported are accurate and honest.* I am also especially grateful to our PTA members who, under the coordination of Keri Miner, have worked so hard to facilitate such activities as Family Reading Night, Moms and Muffins and Dads and Doughnuts. These are all fun ways of providing opportunities for students to celebrate the joy of reading.

Mike Ericksen
Principal

From the Lunchroom

Over the past year Alpine School District has received many complaints about our pizza product. Due to the changes in federal regulations, we are unable to purchase the regular pizza that our vendors sell. A new recipe was formulated that complies with the guidelines we now follow. After a recent meeting with one of our students, Sarah Dawson, who conducted surveys at our school, Nutrition Services has decided to make some temporary menu changes followed by more student surveys at Shelley Elementary. The Nutrition Service office will be starting menu planning for the 2014-2015 school year in the near future and would like to have some student feedback. During the months of February and March, we will be replacing pizza menus every other week with some of the more popular elementary menus. There is a calendar attached that reflects these changes. It is our hope to increase participation in the National School Lunch Program by offering choices that are appealing to our students. We appreciate the opportunity to serve your students.

Maturation Programs for 5th Graders

Each spring, 5th grade students and their parents are invited to participate in a maturation program. Brad Wilcox is scheduled to do the boys' presentation and Annette Pulley is scheduled to do the girls' presentation. Reminder letters will be sent to the parents of each 5th grade student, but for your advanced planning, please note the following schedule:

Monday, March 17 - 5th Grade Boys presentation 12:15 to 1:15 p.m.

Monday, March 24 - 5th Grade Girls presentation 12:15 to 1:15 p.m.

The programs will each be held in the Media Center. We look forward to this important time in the lives of our students as they learn from experts about the process of growing up.

HELP NEEDED!!!

Battle of the Books (BOB)

Volunteers!!!

Mrs. Cook is looking for help with the Battle of the Books (BOB) competition. This great reading program involves approximately 250 students in grades 3rd - 6th. It is so exciting to see how many students are reading, getting excited about reading, and ready for the battle of the books.

We need 30 volunteers for Tuesday, March 4th (3rd/4th grade battles). Times are as follows: 9:30-10:30 a.m. and 12:00-1:30 p.m. We need 20 volunteers for Thursday, March 6th (5th/6th grade battles). Times as follows: 9:30-11:40ish.

Please contact Mrs. Cook at bcook@alpinedistrict.org.

ATTENTION 6th GRADE PARENTS!!!

The sixth grade class at Shelley Elementary with the highest number of students with their vaccinations completed in preparation to enter seventh grade **before Tuesday, March 4, 2014**, will win a treat of their choice (with Principal Erickson's approval)! Tdap is a required vaccination for seventh grade entry. Don't forget to get your vaccines done and turn your records in to the office at Shelley Elementary before then! **Remember, the first class with the most up-to-date immunization records (including Tdap) turned in to the office wins!!!**

STEPS TO ORDER

THE 2013/14

YEARBOOK ON-LINE

It is time to place an order for your school yearbook! This year's book will be packed with fun school year memories in full color! You even have the option of ordering "Yearbook Stickys" (\$1.50) so that you can customize your yearbook with removable frames, phrases, thought bubbles and accessories!

Order before March 24 to guarantee your price of \$13.00. After that the price goes up to \$15 and the supply will be very limited. Visit www.ybpay.lifetouch.com with Yearbook ID Code: **12060414** and order yours today!

STORYTELLING FESTIVAL

On Friday, February 28th, at 7:00 p.m. is our 6th Annual "Evening of Storytelling" when you and your family are welcome to come in pajamas or sweats, bring your pillow, blanket and stuffed animal to the multi-purpose room to hear some special guests share their favorite story. Then you may select a classroom to enjoy several Shelley student storytellers weave their magic. It's an hour of pure entertainment, talent, creativity and FUN! Bring your family that Friday night at 7:00 pm! See you then! Please encourage your child(ren) to participate and shine in this wonderful event.



Jazz Read-A-Thon Dates

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!

BOOK FAIR

Next week February 3-7th is our Scholastic Book Fair Fiesta!! This is a NEW FAIR!! MORE BOOKS!! MORE CASES!! MORE FUN!! Please come in and check us out!

Monday 8-3 p.m.

Tuesday and Thursday 8-7 p.m.

Wednesday and Friday 8-4 p.m.

Don't forget you can also order books online if you can't make it into our fair. If family out of state would like to order something for your kids this is the way to make it happen! The books will be delivered to the school, and then to your child's classroom after the fair closes.

Here is the URL to get you there:

<http://bookfairs.scholastic.com/homepage/shelleyelementaryschool>.

IDEAS TO HELP YOUR CHILD SUCCEED IN SCHOOL

Going to school regularly is important to your child's future. Children who miss school frequently can fall behind with their work and do poorly on exams. Research suggests that children who attend school regularly are also at less risk of getting involved in crime and substance abuse.

You can promote good attendance when you:

- Make sure they understand the importance of good attendance and punctuality.
- Take an interest in their education; ask about school work and encourage them to get involved in school activities.
- Discuss any problems they may have at school; inform their teacher about anything serious.
- Do not let them take time off school for minor ailments; particularly those which would not prevent you from going to work.
- Establish and stick to the basic routines (going to bed early, waking up on time, etc.) that will help your child develop the habit of on-time attendance.
- Provide incentives and consequences for attendance and learning. Set daily, weekly or monthly goals and agree on rewards and punishments. When completed, follow through with the incentives and consequences and then set new goals.
- Come up with a back up plan for who to turn to (another family member, a neighbor or fellow parents) to help you get your child to school if something comes up (e.g. another child gets sick, your car breaks down, etc.).
- Reach out for help if you are experiencing tough times (e.g. transportation, unstable housing, loss of a job, health problems) that make it difficult to get your child to school. Other parents, your child's teacher, principal, social worker, school nurse, afterschool providers or community agencies can help you problem solve or connect you to a needed resource.
- If your child is absent, work with the teacher to make sure she or he has an opportunity to learn and make up for the academics missed.
- Arrange appointments and outings after school hours, on weekends or during a school holiday to prevent disruption to your child's education.

Your child's success begins with YOU!

February 2014

<p>3</p> <p>Book Fair</p>	<p>4</p> <p>Kindergarten Registration 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Main Office</p> <p>Parent/Teacher Conferences 4 to 7:30 p.m.</p> <p>Book Fair</p>	<p>5</p> <p><i>Dads & Donuts</i> Track 1 7:30-8:00 a.m. Track 2 8:45-9:15 a.m.</p> <p>School Community Council 2:30 p.m. Faculty Lounge</p> <p>Book Fair</p>	<p>6</p> <p>Parent/Teacher Conferences 4 to 7:30 p.m.</p> <p>Book Fair</p>	<p>7</p> <p>Book Fair</p>
<p>10</p>	<p>11</p> <p>PTA Board Meeting 9:30 a.m.</p>	<p>12</p> <p><i>Moms & Muffins</i> Track 1 7:30-8:00 a.m. Track 2 8:45-9:15 a.m.</p>	<p>13</p>	<p>14</p> <p>Valentines Class Parties</p>
<p>17</p> <p>NO SCHOOL</p> <p>Presidents Day</p>	<p>18</p> <p><i>Jazz Reader Contest Ends</i></p>	<p>19</p> <p><i>Jazz Reader Fundraiser Envelopes Go Home</i></p> <p>6th Grade Field Trip Leonardo Museum</p>	<p>20</p> <p>Knowledge Bowl Practice Tournament Media Center 3:30 p.m.</p>	<p>21</p>
<p>24</p>	<p>25</p> <p><i>Jazz Reader Fundraiser Money Due</i></p>	<p>26</p>	<p>27</p> <p>Spring Picture Day</p>	<p>28</p> <p>End of 2nd Trimester</p> <p>Evening of Storytelling 7:00 p.m.</p>