

# EXPLORER

March 2014

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## Principal's Message

The month of February was packed with many happenings at Shelley Elementary! Our 6<sup>th</sup> went on a most excellent adventure to the Leonardo Museum in Salt Lake City, to view the Dead Sea Scrolls on display. We were treated with tours among artifacts that have not been on US soil until this exhibit. It was fascinating to walk around these treasures and think of the progress that our society has been able to make. Our 6<sup>th</sup> graders were very respectful and learned a great deal. On February 4, we held our annual Kindergarten Registration Day, and have currently registered 106 students for the coming school year.

Valentine's Day was a delightful time of exchanging cards and treats with classmates and friends. As the building began to fill with students, the excitement of the day was palpable. Each student received a Valentine and sucker from their friends or certain admirers in the form of a Val-O-Gram. I am very impressed with the great parent support and spirit of volunteerism we have in this school! In each room there were several parents involved in directing student games or activities and serving creative treats to celebrate this fun holiday.

This year's Jazz Reader contest ran for 5 weeks. Sponsored by our PTA and chaired by Shelley Parents, Keri Miner and Sherri Rogers, students turned in their weekly Jazz reading logs with amazing totals of minutes read in their outside-of-

school time during the month-long stretch. Having a Family Reading Night set the tone to start off the Jazz Reader contest/fundraiser. The halls of the school were lined with families curled up together reading! Parents were reading to children, siblings were reading to each other, and some families were simply all spread out each reading individually. Jazz Reading time was also enhanced by a morning each of Moms 'n' Muffins and Dads 'n' Donuts. Mrs. Warnick's class decided that President's Day would be a day of reading in their classroom instead of taking a holiday. KSL came to her classroom to highlight the students' great choice to read with friends and family. We greatly appreciate everyone's support, hard work, and commitment to the importance of student reading! We set what we thought was a lofty goal this year of 1,000,000 collective total minutes for the school. Much to our delight, the students read a total of 1,013,000 minutes. Since the students did such an amazing job of "taking reading to new heights" at Shelley Elementary, I will make good on my promise to spend the day on the roof of the school in a superhero suit! Reading stories, tossing treats down to students and making sure the students know that they did a terrific job of reaching our reading goal. Congratulations to our students on a job well done!

We finished out the month with some fine story-telling performances. Grade level winners shared their stories in an assembly during the school day on Wednesday, February

# 2013/14 YEARBOOK

## ORDER ON-LINE

26, and many student participants shared their tales in an Evening of Storytelling that Friday, February 28. What a talented group of students we have at our school! Thank you to Mrs. Cheree Davis for her continued support and encouragement of the art of Story-Telling at Shelley Elementary. All in all, it has been a month of hard work, creativity, sharing and enjoying the talents of students, teachers, and parents alike.

Before we know it we will be enjoying the events that close the school year in May. Our Field Day and Dance Festival are highlights of the school year, our students and teachers will soon be busy preparing and learning their class dances for this event. As we look forward to this event I would like to remind patrons that we have many that come to view their children dance and perform. As you set up your chairs and look for areas to view the performances and take photos, we would ask that you remember to watch for and respect the corded off areas that are meant for students to sit and watch the performances. These areas will be different than last year and patrons will need to be respectful of these areas and each other during the performances and picture taking.

Thanks to everyone who is a part of this great school community of Shelley Elementary.

--Mike Ericksen, Principal

## Kindergarten Registration

If you did not participate in Kindergarten registration on Tuesday, February 4<sup>th</sup>, and have a Kindergarten student coming to Shelley this coming fall, please come in to the office *right away* to complete that process. Please encourage neighbors and friends in our community who may not already be receiving this information to be sure to register their Kindergarten student at our office as soon as possible as well.

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](http://www.ybpay.lifetouch.com) with Yearbook ID Code: 12060414 and order yours today!

## Playground Safety

We have noticed a few parents who stop by the playground during lunchtime recess to say hello or to try to catch their student to leave a message, bring a treat, etc. This can be a concern, as it can appear to some as a stranger parked along the edge of the playground watching students. This in turn makes some students uncomfortable and even worried about their safety. Our playground supervisors have tried to approach such vehicles to simply determine the purpose of their parking at the edge of the playground, only to have some vehicles drive off rather quickly. This raises even more questions or concern.

May we request, to avoid the wrong perceptions, you come to the front office to connect with your student even if it is during lunchtime recess? *We love to have parents stop by any time.* We have some parents who come to have school lunch with their child, to drop off a birthday treat, to leave a message about a change of plans after school, etc. We can help you with each of these from the office. That way there is no misinterpretation of your visit, and students are not unduly frightened about people watching them from a vehicle parked at the edge of the playground. Thank you for your help in this matter.

# 2013/14 Student Placement Form

You should soon be receiving an orange form in the mail inviting you to submit student placement information and track requests for the next school year. Please complete and return the form to our office no later than Monday, March 31<sup>st</sup>. These forms will be numbered in the order in which we receive them in the event we may need to move some track assignments to balance class loads as we make student placements for fall. The placement process can be quite a challenge as we strive to create classrooms that are as balanced as possible—in boy/girl ratios, range of academic abilities, behavior or health concerns, and number of students in a.m. and p.m. tracks. Please do not assume, if your child is on a certain track this year, that he or she will be on the same track next year. Sometimes changes have to be made to support the need to maintain these balances. It is therefore very important that we receive a track request form from every family that has a strong track need. We very much appreciate those parents who are willing to work their family schedules around the track to which they are assigned. We do try to keep all members of any given family together on the same track unless parents specifically ask us to do otherwise. *If a certain track is essential to your family's schedule, please get your track requests in early.*

On occasion, we receive a form with a request for a certain track, a specific teacher, *and* the names of students who either should or should not be in the same class as the student. Please understand that a great deal of thought and consideration goes into the placement process as we try to create balanced classes at each grade level. In so doing, we are simply not able to grant every person's wishes. *We ask your support and flexibility in looking*

*for the good and the opportunity to grow in new ways as you receive your child's placement assignment for the coming school year.* It will help keep balance and maximize the teacher's ability to create the most positive and effective learning environment.

## BOB Battle of the Books

For all the students that are participating in Battle of the Books (BOB), you have done an amazing job reading this year. The Battles will be next week at the following dates/times:

3rd and 4th Grade  
Tuesday, March 4 @ 9:30- 10:30 & 12 - 1:30

5th and 6th Grade  
Thursday, March 6 @ 9:30 - 11:35

A "Championship Battle of the Books" will be held at the following date/times:

3rd and 4th Grade  
Friday, March 7th @ 9:30-10:30

5th and 6th Grade  
Friday, March 7th @ 12:35-1:35

Good luck to all the teams and let the Battle of the Books begin!!! Any Questions please contact: [bcook@alpinedistrict.org](mailto:bcook@alpinedistrict.org).

## *From the Lunchroom*

We will be having a sticker day in the lunchroom on March 19th. So come join us for a delicious lunch and a chance to win a prize!

We also wanted to remind you that our pizza menu change will continue through March, with pizza every other week, corndogs on March 4th and chicken bites March 18th.

## March is Maturation Time

During the month of March, Shelley Elementary will be having their annual maturation program. The following is the schedule we will follow:

**March 17** -- 5<sup>th</sup> grade boys 12: 15 - 1:15 p.m.

**March 24** -- 5<sup>th</sup> grade girls 12:15 - 1:15 p.m.

All presentations will be on Monday afternoons in the Media Center. Annette Pulley, a registered nurse, will be doing the presentation for the girls, and Brad Wilcox will be doing the presentation for the boys. *Because this is an important area that most parents prefer to also attend and be a part of, reminder letters will be sent home in the mail as your child's scheduled time approaches.*

### *Jr. High Information*

As 6<sup>th</sup> grade students prepare for registration for the upcoming school year, there are some important dates to note from American Fork Junior High. Please note them on your family calendar for future reference:

March 11 Mr. Farnsworth, AFJH principal, and a counselor visited Shelley Elementary.

March 7 6<sup>th</sup> grade packets mailed home

March 20 Open House at the Junior High 4:00-6:00 p.m. **All registration worksheets are due to AFJH!**

## Lost and Found

As winter begins to ebb, the hats, coats, and accessories in the lost and found are beginning to overflow. If you are missing *any* clothing items, please take a few minutes to stop by our Lost and Found located just outside the multipurpose room.

# PTA

## White Ribbon Week March 17-21

Our theme this year is "Let's Get Real" to encourage children to understand the realities of electronic information and also to use their time doing real activities.

More information about White Ribbon week will be sent home the week before. Please watch for it in your student's backpack and also electronically. Also, please mark your calendar to come to the family skate night at Classic Skate in Orem on Monday, March 17 from 5:30 -8:30 p.m. Admission is free! You can bring your own skates and scooters, or rent skates and roller blades there.

# March 2014

<p>3</p> <p>1<sup>st</sup> &amp; 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade Dental Assembly</p>	<p>4</p> <p><b>Battle of the Books Competition</b> 3<sup>rd</sup> &amp; 4<sup>th</sup> Grades</p>	<p>5</p> <p><i>School Community Council Meeting</i> 2:30 p.m.</p>	<p>6</p> <p><b>Battle of the Books Competition</b> 5<sup>th</sup> &amp; 6<sup>th</sup> Grades</p> <p><b>Miss Udy's Opera "Secrets of In-N-Out Burger"</b> Parent Performance 6 p.m.</p>	<p>7</p> <p><b>Battle of the Books Championship Competitions</b></p>
<p>10</p> <p><b>NO SCHOOL</b></p>	<p>11</p> <p><b>Mr. Farnsworth meets with 6<sup>th</sup> Grade</b></p> <p><b>PTA Board Meeting</b> 12:45 p.m.</p>	<p>12</p> <p>3<sup>rd</sup> Grade Clark Planetarium Field Trip Common Start 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade Attends 8 a.m. to 2:15 p.m.</p>	<p>13</p> <p><b>5<sup>th</sup> Grade Gateway Science Demonstrations</b></p>	<p>14</p>
<p>17</p> <p><b>5<sup>th</sup> Grade Boys Maturation Presentation</b> 12:15-1:15 p.m. Media Center</p> <p><b>Family Skate Night Classic Skate</b> 5:30-8:30 p.m.</p> <p>WHITE RIBBON WEEK</p>	<p>18</p> <p>WHITE RIBBON WEEK</p>	<p>19</p> <p>WHITE RIBBON WEEK</p>	<p>20</p> <p><b>6<sup>th</sup> Grade Open House @ AFJH</b> 4:30 – 6:30 p.m.</p> <p>WHITE RIBBON WEEK</p>	<p>21</p> <p><b>5<sup>TH</sup> GRADE TALENT SHOW</b> 12:45 P.M.</p> <p>WHITE RIBBON WEEK</p>
<p>24</p> <p><b>5<sup>th</sup> Grade Girls Maturation Presentation</b> 12:15-1:15 p.m. Media Center</p>	<p>25</p> <p><b>6<sup>th</sup> Grade Field Trip to Clark Planetarium by Front Runner Common Start</b> 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Attends 8 a.m. to 2:15 p.m.</p>	<p>26</p>	<p>27</p>	<p>28</p> <p><b>Mountain Man Rendezvous</b> 4<sup>th</sup> Grade Attends 9:15 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.</p>
<p>31</p> <p><b>2013/14 Track Request Forms Due</b></p>				

