

# EXPLORER

April 2014

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## *Principal's Message*

Dear Patrons:

March has been quite a month at Shelley Elementary! It was at this time last year that I had found out that I would be the new principal of Shelley Elementary. After I had been contacted and told that my new assignment would be here, I was elated! I had heard so many great things about the patrons, teachers, staff and students that I was very excited to start this new life journey as an elementary principal. As I made several visits to Shelley to talk with teachers, staff and Mrs. Crandall, I found that I was moving to a very supportive and caring school community. I have thoroughly enjoyed getting to know our students, teachers, and our support staff. They are all very good at their jobs and care deeply for the students at Shelley.

March started out with our 5<sup>th</sup> grade finishing their DWA (Direct Writing Assessment). They had worked very hard to prepare for this assessment and I am confident that this preparation will show when our scores come back in the fall. Soon after, we saw our BOB (Battle of the Books) competition start. Our students had been reading their books in preparation for the coming battles in their respective grade levels. The battles culminated in our gym with two teams facing off. Each proving their knowledge by answering questions fired at

them from a panel of BOB judges. The support shown from the students not involved in the battles made the atmosphere electric! March seemed to be a month for field trips for many of the grades. Our students are so very lucky to have parents that make these field trips possible through your generous donations at the beginning of the school year. Thank you, thank you! Field trips provide learning experiences that help make connections to the classroom content for each student that participates. March is also the time for our boys and girls maturation programs. Our 5<sup>th</sup> grade boys and their fathers listened to Brad Wilcox (from BYU) present some great information in a very well done program. Our 5<sup>th</sup> grade girls and their mothers had Annette Pulley (an RN from A.F. Hospital) present them with information in a nicely done program. Our playground spirit night at Culver's was a huge success! Thank you to all who came out and supported our spirit night; the teachers and myself were very happy to serve your food and ice cream to you! 4<sup>th</sup> grade ended March with a trip back in time for their Mountain Man Rendezvous. The rendezvous is something that our 4<sup>th</sup> graders look forward to as they start the year, and were very excited to participate in all the activities that were planned. Our Shelley Knowledge Bowl teams placed in the top 10 in the district competition. Way to go!

Please remember our SAGE informational meeting on April 2<sup>nd</sup> from 6 - 7

p.m. in the gym. I will be presenting information about the SAGE assessment to help our patrons understand this new assessment that has taken the place of the CRT's (Criterion Referenced Test).

Thank you for all of your support and encouragement of your students and our teachers as we start to see the end of the current school year. I appreciate the chance I have to work with such great parents, students, teachers and staff each day!

Mike Ericksen  
Principal

**3<sup>rd</sup> Grade  
Time Machine Presentation  
for Parents:  
Monday, April 28th, 2014**

All Performances in the Gym

Barton, Alger, LeBaron: AM track 8:05-9:05  
PM track 1:20-2:20

(20 minutes each, one class at a time and in this order)

Jensen: 9:20-10:05 a.m.

Trulock: 10:15 to 11:00 a.m.

**ARE YOU  
MOVING?**

If your family is moving and/or your children will not be returning to Shelley School in the fall, please let us know. If you did not return the student placement form with the box checked that you are moving, would you be so kind as to contact the office as soon as possible? We are trying to accurately determine how teaching staff will best be distributed for next year based on student numbers. Thank you for your assistance in this important matter.

## TESTING TIPS

As we move into the months of April and May, a glance at the calendar reminds us we have begun the process of giving a number of end-of-year assessments such as the state SAGE testing in grades 3-6 (the testing window is March 24 through May 22), the DRA assessment in grades K-3 (April 1 through May 5), and the Kindergarten Literacy Assessment (May 5 through 16). These tests may at times be stressful to some students. This stress is not because the students don't know the information; it is because they may not be used to the test-taking format. Our teachers work very hard to prepare the students for the tests and to make testing a positive experience as a part of the students' overall learning process.

Here are four simple things parents may also do to help students do their best on these tests:

- Reassure your children that they are doing a good job at school. Self-confidence brings courage to do their best.
- Help them arrive at school *on time* every day.
- Make sure they go to bed early so that they are well rested.
- Be sure they eat a good breakfast at home or school every day.

Of course, these four practices are good not only during testing, but all the time to encourage success at school. They are especially beneficial to your children in preparation for testing time. Thank you for working with us to make school a rewarding experience for our students.

# KNOWLEDGE BOWL

We would like to congratulate the Shelley students who represented our school at the Alpine School District Knowledge Bowl Competition in March. These students spent months actively engaged in learning key concepts found in the Utah State Core Curriculum for Geography in preparation for this event.

We are pleased to announce that Shelley had all three teams place in the Top 10 Schools in their division of the district competition! Members of those teams are as follows:

## Intermediate (5<sup>th</sup>/6<sup>th</sup>) Teams :

Jake Rich, Aaron Jolley, Jake Heaps, Aaron Larsen, Justin Corbridge

## Primary (3<sup>rd</sup>/4<sup>th</sup>) Teams:

Team 1: Claire Pusey, Brian Bigler, Jefferson Penrod, Emma Jolley, Isaac Dixon

Team 2: Justin Ruchti, Luke Rich, Ty Preece, Derek Larson, Landon Griffiths

We would like to thank the coaches and parents of these teams. They dedicated so much of their time to helping the students be prepared. Without the parents, this program would not be the success that it is.

We look forward to the Knowledge Bowl next year when the topic and focus will be on History.

# BOX TOPS

Just a reminder that Box Tops are collected every Friday morning just before school in the hall in front of the main office. They receive a prize for every 10 Box Tops they turn in.



# Battle of the Books A Huge Success!

Battle of the Books (BOB) was very successful again this year. Thanks to all the students who read. FYI: 226 students participated this year with 1,824 books recorded as being read. Congratulations to the top teams.

Here are the top 3rd - 4th Grade Teams

2<sup>nd</sup> Place: **The Four Bobcats** (Miss Udy's Class)

Edgar Ojeda

Addie Frost

Val Funke

Allie Hoffman

1<sup>st</sup> Place: **The Athletic Readers** (Miss Udy's Class)

Austin Price

Daniel Thornton

Morgan Lefler

Easton Ernst

Andrea Barnes

Here are the top 5th - 6th Grade Teams

2<sup>nd</sup> Place: **The Reading Rainbows** (Mrs. Elison's Class)

Rachel Bruening

Bryan Gurr

Emily Blair

David Brown

Tyson Parker

1<sup>st</sup> Place: **The Raging Rapids** (Mrs. Kukahiko's class)

Breanna Moore

Geran Winn

Jonny Williams

Ben Miller

Cambria Harris (Mrs. McGee's Class)

Be watching the BOB wall for the list of next year's BOB books. As soon as we get the list we will post it on the wall, newsletter, school website, and Shelley Facebook page.

Thank you to those who helped make this program run smoothly: Mr. Ericksen, Jennifer Thomas, Melinda Dawson, Brandon Engles and to all the parent judges that came to help. The Battle of the Books program could not happen without your support.

## Dress for Success

With the onset of warmer weather it would be good to review the expectations for how students should be dressed that are printed in the Shelley School handbook you received at the beginning of the school year. It may also be accessed online by way of our school website. There are many wonderful outfits that may be great for spring and summer fun at home and in the neighborhood, but some of these outfits are not appropriate for the school environment. Please pay special attention to guidelines about shorts, skirts, sleeveless tops and flip-flops. Thank you for helping us limit classroom distractions and ensure student comfort and safety by sending students appropriately dressed each day.

## 2013/14 YEARBOOK AVAILABLE WHILE SUPPLIES LAST

This year's book will be packed with fun school year memories in full color! The cost is \$15.00 while supplies last. 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 forms are available in the main office.

# April 2014

	1	2 Spring Community Meeting on Sage Testing Information 6 p.m. School Community Council Meeting 2:30 p.m.	3	4
7 <b>Spring Break</b>  NO SCHOOL	8 <b>Spring Break</b>  NO SCHOOL	9 <b>Spring Break</b>  NO SCHOOL	10 <b>Spring Break</b>  NO SCHOOL	11 <b>Spring Break</b>  NO SCHOOL
14	15	16 5 <sup>th</sup> Grade Hope of America Rehearsal @ BYU 5 <sup>th</sup> Grade Common Start 8:00 a.m. - 2:15 p.m.  ***Hope of America*** Evening Performance In the Marriott Center (See student note for details and times)	17	18 2 <sup>nd</sup> Grade Field Trip Thanksgiving Point  1 <sup>st</sup> Grade Field Trip Hogle Zoo  1 <sup>st</sup> & 2 <sup>nd</sup> Grades Common Start 8:00 a.m.-2:15 p.m.
21	22	23 Elementary Band Performance 12:45 p.m.	24	25 Kindergarten Wheeler Historic Farm Field Trip All attend 9:15 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.
28 BOOK FAIR BOGO FREE  3 <sup>rd</sup> Grade Time Machine Presentations	29 BOOK FAIR BOGO FREE	30 BOOK FAIR BOGO FREE	May 1 BOOK FAIR BOGO FREE	2 BOOK FAIR BOGO FREE