



Traverse Mountain Elementary

Tiger Times



THIS MONTH AT A GLANCE

ISSUE 6 • February 2012

Feb 3	Breakfast of Champions 3rd 9am	Feb 20	No School
Feb 9	Kindergarten Registration 9:30—3:00	Feb 23	Cookie Dough Fundraiser Begins
Feb 10	Tiger Buck Store	Feb 24	Box Tops Due
Feb 10	PTA Meeting 10am	Feb 24	Tiger Buck Store
Feb 13	Minimal Monday	Feb 24	Willowcreek Music Presentation for 6th
Feb 14	6th Grade Dance 1:30pm	Feb 27	2nd Grade Dental Puppet Show
Feb 16	SCC Meeting 3:45pm	Feb 27-29	5th Grade DWA
Feb 17	Breakfast of Champions 2nd 9am	Feb 29	School Storytelling Assembly 1:00pm

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PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Students spent last week celebrating the 100th day of school. With that milestone, we are excitedly preparing for the next four months of school. Our student have been working very hard academically and teachers continually report to me about recent gains made by students. It is a joy to see teachers and students alike celebrate success and advancements made. One teacher visited with me a few days ago and helped put things in perspective. A student in the class had increased by more than a grade level in half a year on the DRA (Developmental Reading Assessment). Although the student isn't quiet up to grade level, there was a sense of excitement and urgency looking at the progress and knowing that if we keep at it, the student will continue progressing. It was noted that teacher, student, and parents had made this happen by working together.

Last month, we were thrilled to have Steve James here at our school for an assembly. He helps schools implement Safe and Drug Free Schools. As we strive for a safe school environment, we will strive to promote healthy choices, instill self-esteem, encourage service, good citizenship and leadership, and celebrate diversity contributing towards an atmosphere of tolerance and understanding. The songs are inspiring and are part of the Utah State health curriculum. You can find out more by going to the website: www.somethinggoodinc.com. We are looking forward to having an evening concert for families this Spring.

Congratulations to all for the many gains made so far this year. We are so proud of each and every tiger at Traverse Mountain Elementary!

Happy Valentine's Day!
David Stephenson
Principal



Tiger of the Month

Congratulations to those students who were named Tiger of the Month for the month of February! When you get a chance, check out the bulletin board across from the office and read more about our amazing students!!

Kindergarten	
Mason Lomu	He always listens in class and follows directions.
Taylor Schriever	She is kind and sweet and very respectful.
1st Grade	
Megan Bagley	She is always the first one to help out a neighbor and to follow instructions.
Stone Edmunds	He excels not only in his academics but also in citizenship.
2nd Grade	
Eric Lyons	He knows a lot about everything and shares fun facts with us.
Madison Detro	She is a hard worker and never gives up.
3rd Grade	
Connor Storrs	He is a great example to others because he always strives to do his best.
Isabelle Stringham	She is a very hard worker who always does her very best.
4th Grade	
Kate Laudie	She always does her very best in everything she does.
Dustin Poyfair	He shows us that everyone can change themselves for the better.
5th Grade	
Macey Poole	She is always willing to go above and beyond what is required of her.
Daniel Partridge	He works hard in class and has an outstanding attitude.
6th Grade	
Dallas Pavese	She participates during discussions and tries to be her best at school.
James Poole	He is kind to everyone and shows great respect to teachers and students.

Health News

"American Heart Month" is in February to help raise awareness of, educate about, and raise funds for the prevention of heart disease. Heart disease, including strokes, is the number 1 killer in America today. Keeping an active lifestyle, maintaining healthy eating habits and lowering stress are known ways to prevent heart disease in ourselves and our families.

I love that the focus in February is our physical hearts, as well as our figurative hearts with the love that we can show to our families and neighbors. Here are some fun ideas of how to make a "heart healthy" Valentines party for our families, neighbors, or our children's classrooms:

- Whole wheat toast shaped like a heart with nutella and a fanned strawberry in the center.
- Chocolate covered fruit – such as strawberry or banana
- Fondue party – give each student 1 Tbsp of melted dark chocolate or some yogurt to dip their fruit in. Be sure to get a wide variety of fruit for them to try
- Heart shaped muffins: Just fill your muffin liners with the batter and then press a piece of tin foil, rolled to 1/2inch thick between the muffin liner and the pan to shape the muffin liner into a heart
- Create your own heart shaped pizza: have each student make their own vegetable pizza.
- Updated truffle box: get a box designed for candy and fill each slot with healthy snacks such as cut-granola bars, pretzels, trail mix, or dried fruit instead of the regular candies.
- Teach your students about the heart and why we want to keep them healthy
- Provide sugar-free "Jell-o Jigglers" or red Jell-o cups as a snack
- Play "Steal my Heart" – This is played the same as "Steal the Flag" but you use a heart or red ball instead of a flag

Let's help our families and the children around us have a happy Valentines day as we celebrate love, kindness and the blessings of a healthy heart.

Other School News

We are in need of some new, fresh faces in the PTA for the 2012-2013 school year. Those that have served our school over the last two year have done a fantastic job and we are grateful for all their hard work...and their AWESOME example of service!!! They have done the hard work of getting things up and running at a new school but their families need them back, so we are sending out a call to anyone who would be interested in being a committee chair or be a co-chair. There are lots of options for those that need a big job to those that are just looking to get their toes wet. We will take whatever we can get. PLEASE, PLEASE, if you are interested at all, sign up. This does not fully commit you!!! We are just looking for those that would be interested. However, if you are fully committed to being chair person, please note on the comment area after you sign up. If you are currently serving over a committee and you would like to Remain in the position please feel free to do so :) We will be having our elections for the executive board at our general PTA meeting to be held on March 9th at 10am so it is important that you let us know as soon as possible if you are interested by signing up below.

I promise that your kids will love having you at the school and being part of something so important!!! They will see you at the school and it will show them that you care about their education. Take part in next year's PTA! Sign up and meet amazing women and men with a common goal...Making Traverse Mountain a great place to attend school and also a great place to work. We love the teachers that we have and we want them to stay. Show your support and SIGN UP!!! <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/60B0E4ACA82E5-pta20122013>

If you have any questions, please contact me (801-361-5276) or any of the other current PTA board members or Chair Persons.

Haley Bye
Leadership VP

Don't forget that even though the weather has been AMAZING, we still need to SLOW down and watch out for our kids. We have recently heard of students running across Chapel Ridge instead of crossing at the crosswalk as well as parents stopping in the middle lane and having the kids run across to the car. Please talk to your children and make sure they know how important it is to cross at a designated crosswalk. We are also very concerned about kids crossing the entrance to the school on Chapel Ridge, especially when we have seen cars not waiting for kids to cross. This is very ALARMING!! Please, PLEASE watch out for them and always let them cross before turning in or out of the school. Safety is of the utmost importance and should always come first.

A BIG thanks to Julie Fox and Millennial Falls, who graciously provided an AMAZING dessert bar and gourmet salad for the Faculty at their Christmas Luncheon this past December. Julie went out of her way by providing elegant linens and beautiful table decorations which made the luncheon even more special. Thank you!!!

* Congratulations to Madeline Charles, Jaycelyn Chino, Lillie Mellish, Spencer Ahlstrom, and Wei-Ming McCage! A few weeks ago their team qualified for the Utah FIRST Lego League State Championship by finishing 4th out of 20 teams in the Regional Qualifying Tournament. In the three weeks since qualifying, the team worked to improve their robots speed and reliability. The hard work paid off last Saturday with the team placing 5th out of 48 teams that qualified for the State Championship.

* Congratulations to Sophia Telaroli for placing first in the regional Reflections contest. Her entry is now off to the state competition. Her 3-D project and trophies are on display in the trophy case by the gym.

* Storytelling takes place this month! Each grade will have a competition and 2 students from each grade will be selected to participate in our school competition at the end of the month. From there, 2 students will go on to represent our school at the Timpanogos Storytelling Festival.

* Timez Attack is now available for FREE for home download! Go to <http://www.bigbrainz.com>. Choose School Use, then click Get Started. After you download it, the password is: traverse.

Student Articles

After School Activities

By Kelsie Heffernan

After school activities are a great way to keep active *and* social. It gives kids a chance to socialize and learn a new sport or skill. I talked to Madison Mamone about ballroom dance, a class she and I take together. She said she likes ballroom dance and enjoys having her friends there. I, too, am having so much fun learning new dances and meeting new people. Ballroom dance is a great thing to get into, and the class could use some more boys. But ballroom dance is not the only after school activity held at school. There is also soccer. Aly Leavitt takes girls soccer. I asked her what she thinks of it. Aly said, "It's a great thing for people to do."

You can also do choir, band, and orchestra. Playing music also develops a part of your brain, which will help kids learn in school. Having the patience to practice an instrument or remember a song, and hit just the right tune, can make you improve in a lot in things!

We're starting a new year, so why not start fresh with some new activities?

Book Recommendations and Reviews

By Kelsie Heffernan

If you are looking for something adventurous I would recommend:

The Mysterious Benedict Society by Trenton Lee Stewart. Kate, Sticky, Constance, and Reynie go on multiple adventures to stop Mr. Curtain, an evil villain trying to send messages to people's brains using the whisperer. It is a series of three books and an activity book. There will also be a new book coming out! I give it 5 stars for ages 8-12 years old.

The Beyonders by Brandon Mull. Jason gets stuck in a different reality and has to find his way back with the help of other people he meets along the way. I give it 4 stars for ages 8-12 years old.

Are you looking for some magic? I recommend:

The Kane Chronicles-The Throne of Fire by Rick Riordan. Sadie and Carter Kane need to find the three parts to the book of Ra to awaken the retired Egyptian god, Ra. They think he can stop the chaos that is threatening to take over the world. I give this book 5 stars for ages 9-11.

Are you the kind of person that likes historical fiction? I recommend:

Fever 1793 by Laurie Halse Anderson. In the time of the yellow fever, Matilda struggles to survive. I give it 5 stars for ages 10-14 years old.

Our school librarian, Mrs. Gifford, says and recommends:

The Seekers (a series by Erin Hunter). Three young bears travel on a perilous quest to the northern lights. Ages 10+
Erin Hunter has another popular fantasy series in our library: Warriors. Filled with adventures of wild cats from the forest.

Wonderstruck by Brian Selznick. This comes from the same author who did the delightful and popular book, The Invention of Hugo Cabret. It is also filled with illustrations that make up a large part of the book. It includes two stories set 50 years apart. Although it is over 550 pages, it is described as "a gift for the eye, mind, and heart." Ages 9+

Diary of a Wimpy Kid - Cabin Fever - we have four of these books and they are checked out continually with a long waiting list as well. In this book, Greg is stuck indoors with his family during a blizzard and wonders if he will weather the situation. Humorous and a bit crazy!



With everyone's help, we have raised **\$ 1,626.90** for our school thus far. We are getting closer to our goal of \$2500 but we only have 3.5 months left to earn it!

****Next Deadline is Friday, February 24****

This coming deadline is the most important of the year! Now is the time to dig in your pantry and food storage and cut out those box tops. **Tip:** No need to open your package. Just outline the box top with a box cutter and peel off the first layer of card board! Voila!!

Next Deadline is Friday, February 24

This coming deadline is the **most** important of the year! It is so important, we are going to spruce thing up a bit.

- ◆ For the 6th, 5th, and 4th grade classes, we are offering an **extra recess** for the grades class that turns in the most Box Tops. For example the 6th grade classes will be competing with the other 6th grade classes, etc.
- ◆ Family/Parent reward is for 50% off cut and color AND a free hair product from Extended Beauty valued over \$120. Charelle Broadhead's salon is located here in Traverse Mountain.



Extended Beauty Salon
Charelle Broadhead
801-882-3527
2780 W. Fox Hunters Loop

PTA PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear Traverse Tigers,

What I've learned about Traverse Mountain Elementary?

Helping out brings its own rewards!

Everyone gives a little, everyone gains a lot!

Art, computer, science, fitness, and music are integral parts of education!

Reaching for the stars is the only way to grow!

Together we can make a difference!

If there is one thing I've learned the past two years, it's that the Parents of Traverse Mountain have BIG hearts!

Our parents are eager to **participate** in their children's learning and growth!

Our parents willingly **advocate** on behalf of the children of Traverse Mountain Elementary!

Our parents proudly **celebrate** the achievements of the children of Traverse Mountain Elementary!

As we move forward into 2012, I know that it will be upon these foundations of participation, advocacy, and celebration that the Traverse Mountain community will build, as we continue to raise the standards of our children's education, development, and well-being.

Rikke Kotter

Traverse Mountain Elementary PTA President



Download a Box Tops collection sheet here:

www.boxtops4education.com/Image.aspx?Id=5240

Looking Ahead to March	
3/1-3/2	5th Grade DWA
3/2	6th Grade to Willowcreek
3/2	Breakfast of Champs 1st Grade
3/6	Cookie Orders Due
3/9	Tiger Buck Store
3/9	PTA Meeting
3/15	SCC Meeting
3/16	Breakfast of Champs AM/PM Kindergarten
3/23	Tiger Buck Store
3/26	Minimal Monday
3/29	Maturation 5th Grade
3/30	6th Grade to Space Center
3/30	Tiger Buck Store



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