



traverse mountain elementary TIGER TIMES

ISSUE 5 • FEBRUARY 2011

FEBRUARY AT A GLANCE

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| February 7th | Minimal Monday |
| February 10th | 9:30am to 3:00pm—Kindergarten Registration |
| February 11th | 9:15am—2nd Grade Breakfast of Champions |
| February 14th | Valentines Day Parties |
| February 16th | 1:30pm—Cookie Dough Fundraiser Assembly |
| February 21st | NO SCHOOL—Presidents Day |
| February 22nd | Cookie Dough Fundraiser Mid Sale Prizes |

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Dear Parents,

Students are working very hard to reach our goal of 128,205 reading tickets for the Ken Garff Road to Success Reading Challenge. Reading five days a week earns a student one ticket and seven day a week earns a student 2 tickets. We will have another bike drawing after the February reading calendars are collected. Reading is fundamental to all learning and as a school, we are dedicated to work in partnership with families to promote literacy development for all students.

Reading fluency has been identified by the National Reading Panel as a key component in teaching children to read. "Fluent readers can read text with speed, accuracy, and proper expression. Fluency depends upon well-developed word recognition skills, but such skills do not inevitably lead to fluency. It is generally acknowledged that fluency is a critical component of skilled reading." (NRP, 2000) One of the main processes to help children improve fluency is through repeated readings. Have your child read a passage "cold" then reread the passage again a few times. Finally, have the child "pass off" the passage. This could be a fun activity to do with a timer.

Our school uses the DRA (Developmental Reading Assessment) as one assessment for reading. Another assessment we use in 1st through 3rd grades is DIBELS (Dynamic Indicators of Basic Early Literacy Skills). Teachers use these assessments to pinpoint areas that students may need more support. While a student may do well in many areas, teachers use these assessments to guide specific instruction on what will benefit individual students.

Most importantly, thank you for taking time each day to read with your child! No other factor will help your child become a better reader than having time each day to read with you.

Best wishes for a wonderful February!

David Stephenson
Principal



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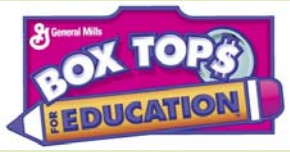
Photo Highlights

TOP ROW: (Left) Thank you parent helpers for your daily work at the school! (Middle) Mrs. Farley and students enjoy time together in PE Class. (Right) Every student in our school meets with his or her teacher for the DRA reading assessment. Mrs. Walker meets with a student to discuss what he has learned from the story.



MIDDLE ROW: (Left) Many classrooms have a listening center where students are able to build their reading fluency by following along with the story. (Middle) Miss Harris teaches her students a poem. Students build reading skills by repeating the poem various times. (Right) Parent helpers in 4th grade work with the teacher to provide small group instruction.

BOTTOM ROW: (Left) Students enjoy learning about 2 point perspective and creating their own masterpieces with Mrs. Smith in art class. (Middle) Officer Call is the NOVA instructor in 6th Grade. He is a police officer with Lehi City and teaches a lesson each Friday. (Right) Captain Read is the owner of the Small Smiles Bookmobile that we had stationed at our school for two weeks in January. He gathered each grade level together to introduce the bookmobile and read to the students.



BOX TOPS UPDATE

Great job, Mrs. Murdock's class! They won January's pizza party!

We have big plans for February! We want to collect 3,000 Box Tops this month and I KNOW we can do it. So, if you have been holding on to your Box Tops, now's the time to deliver! Hand them over! We are holding individual grade contest on top of the pizza party. Example: 6th grade class against 6th grade, etc. The winner of each grade will win 15 minutes extra recess time with our one and only Principal, Mr. Stephenson!

Recruit your family and friend near and far to collect Box Tops for us. Remember that parents and teachers get rewarded too! Britt Rhodes and JD Logan are the parents in the lead right now. Last day to turn in is Friday, February 25



Here is Mrs. Grimes Kindergarten class enjoying last month's pizza party. Mrs. Grimes also won a gift card to Rod works. Great job! Thanks to Rod Works and Pizza Pie Cafe for donating our prizes!

Keep up the great work!

PTA PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear Traverse Tigers,

Wow! We have the greatest PTA ever! Your support during the last few weeks has been incredible! A big thanks to all who volunteered their time by helping at the bookmobile and the book fair. We would also like to thank those who prepared food for the teachers during parent teacher conferences. Traverse Mountain parents are truly amazing!

February 6th-12th is Take Your Family To School week. I would encourage you to spend some time at the school with your students, whether it is volunteering in the classroom or eating lunch with your student.

Our Tile Wall will soon be ready to be installed. If you have experience laying tile and can help us out, please contact me at Luvnbmom@msn.com

Still want to help out in the PTA and not sure how? Please stop by a meeting or contact an officer. We have events and activities still to come, and help is always needed!

Again Thank you for your continued support!

Rikke Kotter

Traverse Mountain Elementary PTA President



LOOKING AHEAD

Cookie Dough Orders Due
March 2

1st Grade Breakfast of Champions
March 4

6th Grade Trip to Willowcreek
March 4

NO SCHOOL—Snow Day
March 14

SNAP Assembly
March 18

5th Grade Maturation Program
March 23

Minimal Monday
March 28

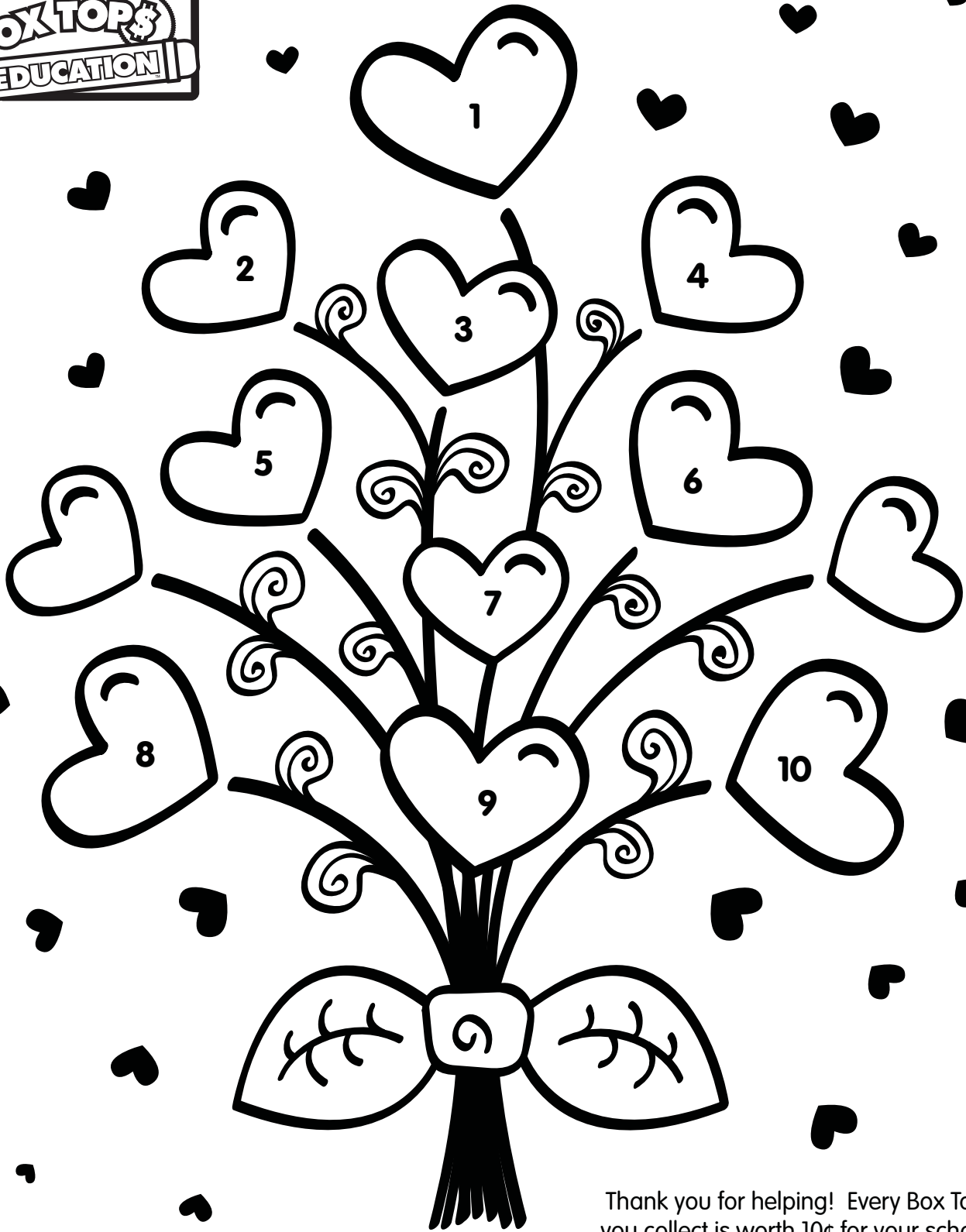
Cookie Dough Delivery
March 29



2500 W. Chapel Ridge Road • Lehi, UT 84043
(801)610.8725 • (801)701-6280 (fax)



Show your school you care
with a bouquet of Box Tops.



Thank you for helping! Every Box Top
you collect is worth 10¢ for your school.

Name _____
Grade _____
Teacher's Name _____