

CEDAR RIDGE ELEMENTARY

4501 CEDAR HILLS DR, CEDAR HILLS, UT 84062 • (801) 610-8103

Our Mission: To develop and enlighten the mind, encourage compassion and integrity and promote responsible citizenship.



Upcoming Events

MAY

- ▶ 5th, 2nd Grade Muffins For Moms, 9:45am
- ▶ 6th, PTA Walk-a-thon
- ▶ 6th, Family Community Celebration and Fundraiser 5-8pm
- ▶ 10th, Wax Museum, 9:30am
- ▶ 13th, 4th Grade Pioneer Day
- ▶ 20th, Field Day
- ▶ 26th, Last Day of School for Kindergarten
- ▶ 27th, Last Day of School for Grades 1-6

Ask The Experts

Never before in the history of the United States has so much been written about the topic of literacy nor has more funding been allocated for remediating students' reading difficulties. How can we maximize students' academic potential so they are equipped to meet this complex and perpetually changing world of work? These are questions that are often discussed in educational circles. Various solutions have been studied, and by far the most effective is this simple strategy—parents reading aloud to their children.

Jim Trelease tells in his book, *The Read-Aloud Handbook*, of the 4,000 students that took the ACT in 2002, 58 received a perfect score. When it was discovered that a kid from Russell, Kentucky, (a small Appalachian, low income town), had aced the test, the family was besieged with questions, the most common being "What prep course did he take?" As it turns out, unlike some of the private plans that now cost up to \$250 an hour, all his preparation was free. The Williams simply read to Christopher and his younger brother thirty minutes a night, year after year, from infancy through adolescence. Their home was literacy rich, with no room for a TV Guide or electronic games. Tad and Susan Williams offered no home instruction; they "just read to them sowing...the sounds and syllables and endings and blendings of language into the love of books. Each boy easily learned to read, loved it, gobbled it up voraciously. Besides being a family bonding agent, reading aloud... ensured (that) the boys would be ready for whatever came their way in school."

It is never too late to begin reading aloud to your children. Begin today to awaken their imaginations and improve their language skills. As you share stories together, an amazing bond will cement your relationships and enrich your lives.

Sincerely,
Carrie Wilson
 Special Education Teacher

At this time of year I get a number of phone calls from parents of preschoolers, wondering about speech services.

Preschoolers are not always developmentally ready to produce all sounds. Most preschool students are able to make vowel sounds and the consonants "p, b, m, n, t, d f, s, z, k, g". Preschoolers may still distort "sh and ch". The latest developing sounds are "r, l, and th". Many kindergarten children still struggle to produce these sounds, but that is age-appropriate. Continue to model correct sounds (r, l, th) to help your child better understand how to make the sound.

Most preschool students are able to produce 3-4 word sentences, understand and respond to simple directions and ask and answer questions. If you have concerns that your preschool child's speech or language might be delayed, the school district does provide Special Education services for preschool students. You can call the Early Childhood Assessment Center at Greenwood Elementary in American Fork for an assessment. Their phone number 801-610-8857.

One piece of advice I have for parents who would like to prevent some speech problems later on in life is to reduce the amount of time toddlers spend using a "sippy" cup. Modeling good articulation and coaching them to try their sounds again at an early age can also be helpful.

Kristi Hollis
 Speech/Language Pathologist

Thank you for a great year, and have a great summer!

Jeremy Brunner, Principal

Stay Informed!
 Check out the school's website:
cedarridge.alpineschools.org

Page Two

- ▶ Walkathon Information
- ▶ PTA News
- ▶ Bond Input Meetings
- ▶ Join The School Community Council
- ▶ Greek Plays



May 6th

5-8 PM

JOIN US FOR THE
2ND ANNUAL COMMUNITY
FAMILY CELEBRATION!

FREE!

FACE PAINTING
HAIR ART
CHALK ART
INFLATABLE SLIDES

FAMILY FUN

OBSTACLE COURSES
BUNGEE RUN
CHICK-FIL-A TRAIN
AUCTION BASKETS

LOTS OF
FOOD TRUCKS!



PTA Walkathon

This Friday, May 6 is our annual Walk-a-thon and Family Celebration. Please support this event by helping your child collect pledges for their laps run, register with a flat donation \$20 per student or \$50 per family and by bringing your family, friends and neighbors to our Community Family Celebration held that evening from 5-8 at the school. There will be food trucks, a silent auction and several free activities. To be eligible for prizes, all money is due by May 16. All donations collected go directly to the school to fund technology and the wonderful programs sponsored by the PTA. See you Friday!

Bond Input Meetings

Due to the continuing population growth in our district, the Alpine School District Board is seeking input on a proposed bond on the ballot in November. There are still a few meetings you can attend to find out more information:

The meetings are from 6:30pm to 7:30pm. Here are the upcoming dates and locations:

- May 5th--Lehi Junior and Timberline Middle
- May 11th--American Fork Junior and Willowcreek Middle
- May 12th--Frontier Middle and Pleasant Grove Junior

SCC Elections

Have you ever thought about joining the School Community Council? SCC representatives are responsible to bring community and parent issues to the council as matter of discussion and to allocate funding from the state to meet the needs of our students. Contact Amber Bonner at albonner07@gmail.com if you would like to be on the ballot for the upcoming SCC election.

Greek Plays

Mr. Willmore's class did a great job with their Greek plays in the park this spring. What a great way to make learning about ancient civilizations come alive!

PTA News

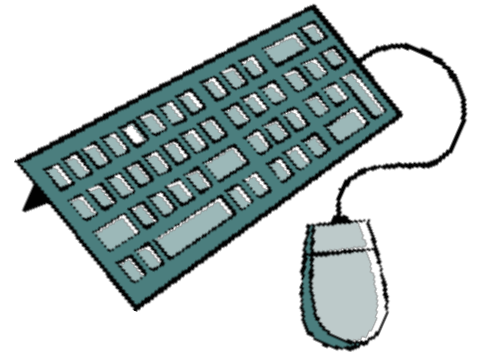
The PTA executive board would like to thank all those who supported, volunteered, donated and helped in anyway to make each of the PTA programs a success this year. We truly couldn't have done it without you.



Dear Parents and Students,

At Cedar Ridge Elementary, we feel that keyboarding skills are very important. These skills prepare students for junior high and high school, as well as for working in the 21st Century. Students spend a few minutes practicing keyboarding in their computer specialty class at school, but to really become proficient typers, students are encouraged to practice their typing skills at home*. To reinforce and encourage students with this skill, we are excited to announce our first annual,

“Cedar Ridge Keyboarding Challenge”



Here is how it works:

1. By the end of each trimester, students in grades 3rd – 6th will be asked to meet a benchmark.
2. Those who reach this grade-level benchmark (see below) will be given a small prize AND a ticket.
3. This ticket will be entered into a drawing for a brand-new **Chromebook!** One Chromebook will be given away each trimester (Paid for with fundraiser funds).
4. At the end of the school year, the student with the fastest wpm in keyboarding from each grade, 3rd through 6th, will receive the “**Golden Mouse Award.**” (This is a wireless, gold-colored computer mouse).

Benchmarks for each grade level:

	3 rd Grade	4 th Grade	5 th Grade	6 th Grade
2nd Trimester Benchmark (ending Feb. 26, 2016)	11 wpm	15 wpm	25 wpm	38 wpm
3rd Trimester Benchmark (ending May 20, 2016)	15 wpm	20 wpm	30 wpm	45 wpm

*Some possible sites to visit for extra practice at home are:

- **typing.com (used in Computer Specialty Class at Cedar Ridge)**
- **keybr.com**
- **nitrotype.com**
- **typingclub.com**
- **learntyping.org**

Good Luck and Happy Keyboarding!