

2015
FEBRUARY

explorer NEWS

principal's message
Dr. Joseph Backman

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Dr. B.'s Readers

Frog and Toad Together
By Arnold Lobel
(Newbery Award Winner)

Holes
By Louis Sachar
(Newberry Award Winner)

Fabulous Foothill Parents,

The Sneetches is one of my favorite books. The yellow, Dr. Seuss-created creatures all look about the same except for one thing: some have bellies with stars, while the others have no stars upon "thars." The Sneetches with stars on their bellies put their "snoots" in the air and treat those without stars unfairly by not allowing them to join their beach parties or frankfurter roasts. You would think that such a minor thing as a star would not matter at all. In life, these little things often make more of a difference than we realize.

As I discuss the message of *The Sneetches* with students, I love hearing the great connections they make. We talk about the work of Martin Luther King Jr., Abraham Lincoln, and even the kindness of their classmates. In this simple story about the Sneetches it is easy to recognize what a silly thing it is to not let someone participate or to look down on them just because they don't have a star. This is the fixed mindset and it has infected humankind throughout history.

At Foothill Elementary we try to live each day with a growth mindset. Our school is full of students with differences. From our classrooms for children with autism to our accelerated learning lab (ALL) classes we serve almost every type of student. In fact, every student in our school, regardless of which class they are in, has their own unique gifts and challenges. These differences do not make any student more or less important than another. Rather, we recognize these differences and try to meet the individual needs of each student. At the same time, we learn from these differences and let them bring greater unity in our school.

For example, I love to see our buddy reading classes at Foothill. Each week, students from upper grade classes join with children from the primary grades to read and learn together. I have also been inspired, as I have watched our ALL classes buddy up with the small group autism classes. The differences that first make these students nervous or timid melt away and unite them in incredible ways as students learn to look beyond themselves to the needs of others.

Have you ever witnessed a child staring at someone in a wheelchair or with other visible differences? Instead of reprimanding the child, a parent with a growth mindset could encourage them to see the difference and to desire to learn more about that person and what makes them special. Everyone is special and important. We should remember that we are all different and that those differences are just that: *different, not less.*

Sincerely,

Dr. Backman (Dr. B.)

Principal, Foothill Elementary

UPCOMING EVENTS

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
2 Early Out	3 Book Fair	4 Book Fair Parent/Teacher Conferences	5 Book Fair Parent/Teacher Conferences	6 Book Fair
9 Early Out PTA Meeting Red Ribbon Wk	10 Red Ribbon Week	11 Kindergarten Registration Red Ribbon Wk	12 Red Ribbon Week	13 Red Ribbon Week
16 President's Day NO SCHOOL	17	18 1st Grade Program 6:30 p.m.	19 Spelling Bee 6:30 p.m.	20 Newsletter Submissions DUE
23 Early Out 6th Grade Clear Creek	24 6th Grade Clear Creek	25 6th Grade Clear Creek Newsletter DUE	26 Knowledge Bowl 6:30 p.m.	27 Trimester Ends
2 Early Out PTA Meeting	3	4	5	6

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

Monica Acton

Feb. 27

NEXT MONTH:

March 9 No School

March 14/21 Knowledge Bowl

March 19 Spring Pictures

president's message
Liesha Geddes

Happy February!

The next few months are exciting ones, filled with so many exciting events!

Don't forget to stop by the Book Fair during Parent Teacher Conference and buy a book for your teacher's class library!

We are excited to announce Red Ribbon Week, which will be held February 9-13th. The Committee has been working hard and planned some great events! This year our events will include drug and alcohol awareness as well as internet safety! You will see the white ribbons representing internet safety and the red, of course!

Some of the events include:

Monday - Hawaiian Shirt Day and Kickoff Assembly

Tuesday - Team Jersey Day

Wednesday - Crazy hair day

Thursday - Super Hero Day and Bring a Hero to Lunch Day

Friday - Awards and Closing Assembly

Also included will be a door decorating contest and daily lunchtime activities. It should be a great week!

Knowledge Bowl is also in full swing and we thank some pretty awesome moms for putting that together!

I personally loved seeing all of the kids up at Sundance participating in the Ski Program!

All of these events are organized by our awesome volunteers and we Thank You!

Don't forget, we are looking for nominations for next year's PTA Board, so if you know of anyone that would be great in a leadership role, let us know!

Thanks for all of your support and willingness to serve! Your time and efforts enrich the lives of so many beautiful children!

THE news



IT'S HERE! THE SCHOOL SPELLING BEE

Spelling Bees will be held in class the first week of February.

Congratulations to all of the Spelling Bee classroom winners!

We commend all students who participated for their hard work and bravery. The classroom winners will be contacted and invited to participate in the school-wide Spelling Bee.

The school spelling bee will be on Thursday February 19th, 2015 at 6:30 in the gym. All participants in the school-wide Spelling Bee should be practicing the words found at <http://www.spellingbee.com/>

Login: luisa_rose@yahoo.com

Password: Explorers

As well as the words on myspellit.com Begin by learning all the words for grades 1-8, and then move on to the words organized by origin.

Good luck and thank you for participating in the Spelling Bee!

BOOK FAIR

February 2-5 in the Library. Look for more information to come!

KNOWLEDGE BOWL SCHOOL TOURNAMENT

We will have a school Knowledge Bowl Tournament on Thursday, Feb. 26 at 6:30 in the gym. Everyone is invited to watch the students answer questions about history, and the audience will even get to participate.

FUEL UP TO PLAY 60

It's been a great year for Fuel up to Play 60. We got a grant and have been using that money for 2 campaigns at the school

1) Snack Smarter- every month we sample 2 students' favorite healthy snacks. We hope your kids have told you about it. If not, ask them what they've tried and if they've liked it. We hope to inspire them to ask for healthier snacks and improve their food choices. Help your child come up with a favorite healthy snack to enter for the next snack sampling and maybe their snack will be chosen for the whole school to sample!

2) Ramp up Recess- every month we have some "experts" come show us a fun activity that will get the kids moving at recess. We hope that by giving them different options they'll learn that there are lots of ways to move and play at recess. So far, we have played ultimate frisbee with the BYU squad, volleyball with the Orem High Girls Volleyball team, and danced with The Dance Club dance team. Next month we will do jump roping with the IHC Jump Rope Team so tell your kids to look for that and encourage them to participate!

If you are interested in being on the Fuel up to Play committee and help us with fun upcoming events, please contact Kim Riggs at riggskimberly8@gmail.com

MORE news

IMPORTANT LIBRARY NEWS

World Book - For the past few years WorldBook and your school library have formed a partnership providing students access to WorldBook Online. These online reference sites have a complete line of digital products that fit all grade levels. We would like to introduce our brand new eBooks. Important facts about WorldBook eBooks (See the attached flyer):

- 1) 24/7 unlimited simultaneous access on user-friendly, web-based platform (great for computer lab use when studying a curriculum topic as a class. (Science example: "Matter")
- 2) Accessible for a wide range of grade levels
- 3) Interactive features including fun learning games for select titles and audio and video to enhance student understanding of the content
- 4) Notes, highlights, and bookmarks features can be utilized with any title
- 5) Free downloadable iTunes App allows users to download eBooks in a personalized bookshelf.
- 6) Supported on tablets and handheld devices including iPad, Google Nexus 7, Samsung Galaxy Note 10.1, Galaxy Tab 2 10.1

How to access WorldBook's eBook collection: From school: www.worldbookonline.com
From home: www.worldbookonline.com username: alpinedistrict password: student

To access a full list of books with grade levels see the attached list or go to:

<http://www.worldbook.com/ebooks-title-list>

To access a training video on WorldBook eBooks, go to:

http://www.worldbookonline.com/training/html/webinars_ebooks.htm

Also, I want to tell them that I have a new address for them to link to the Media Center Researchers.
It is: 205.118.101.18/7057615/researcher

If they go to that address they can look up books in the library from home or anywhere, and if they know their student ID # they can log in and look up their record, put books on hold, and write reviews for the books they've read. To login, their user name is the ID # and the password is their last name.

RED RIBBON WEEK SCHEDULE - FEBRUARY 9-13

Monday - Hawaiian Shirt Day and Kickoff Assembly

Tuesday - Team Jersey Day

Wednesday - Crazy hair day

Thursday - Super Hero Day and Bring a Hero to Lunch Day

Friday - Awards and Closing Assembly

Submissions to the February Newsletter are due by **February 25th**.
Send submissions to oremfoothillpta@gmail.com with NEWSLETTER as the subject.

DISTRICT news

NOTE FROM NUTRITION SERVICES FOR PARENTS OF STUDENTS WITH HOME LUNCHES

The practice of heating home lunches in school kitchens for students must be discontinued effective February 2, 2015 - due to the Health Department informing the Nutrition Services Department that it is in violation of health code 3-101.11.

We apologize for any inconvenience this may cause to students with home lunches.

Thank you,
Linda Ward, Alpine Nutrition Services Director



Bright Ideas: Awesome Adventures

February Session: Arctic

Saturday, February 21st at **Greenwood Elementary**, 8:30-12:30
50 East 200 South, American Fork or

Saturday, February 28th at **Westmore Elementary**, 8:30-12:30
1150 South Main, Orem

Registration deadline is two weeks prior to the session.

Who: Open to all interested, motivated and cooperative K-6th Grade Students.

What: 4-Hour Gifted and Talented program based on high level thinking skills and strategies with hands-on learning and creativity.

When: This session is offered on two Saturdays in February. Please only choose one school: Greenwood, Feb. 21st or Westmore, Feb. 28th.

Cost: \$20

Questions: Contact Holly Stansfield or Shari Taylor
hstansfield@alpinedistrict.org or staylor@alpinedistrict.org

**** ONLINE REGISTRATION ONLY:**

www.alpineschools.org/departments/curriculum/gifted-services

ARCTIC



NURSING news

NURSING NEWS

Dear Parents,

As you are aware by now, there has been an addition to the requirements for students going into 7th grade. In addition to existing requirements, students will be required to receive **ONE** dose of Meningococcal vaccine and **TWO** doses of the Varicella vaccine or previous history of the varicella disease.

I have attached an article written by Dr. Kurt Rifleman, MD, a family physician in the Ogden area. I felt his article did a great job explaining these new requirements as well as the importance and benefit of immunizations.

My view: Vaccines cure many Utah disease- By Kurt Rifleman, M.D.
For the Deseret News

Summary

Influenza (the flu) is starting to appear and kills over 30,000 in the U.S. every year. Vaccination can prevent or lessen the severity of this disease.

Recent media coverage of the Ebola epidemic in Western Africa and the subsequent threat in the United States help us be aware of other infectious threats in Utah. Influenza (the flu) is starting to appear and kills over 30,000 in the U.S. every year. Vaccination can prevent or lessen the severity of this disease.

Meningitis, or inflammation of the thick covering of the brain, is another severe, contagious disease which historically has claimed over 4,000 lives annually in the U.S. Over the past decade the toll has decreased to less than 1,000 lives per year, primarily due to strong state vaccination programs. Three childhood vaccines protect against common bacteria which cause meningitis. The disease is fatal in at least ten percent of patients even when timely treatment is given. About one of every five that survives will suffer from long term disabilities, such as deafness, brain damage, loss of limb and seizures.

In Utah, all seventh-graders are required to have the meningitis vaccine. It is highly recommended that they receive a booster meningitis vaccine at age 16. The disease is passed by close contact for extended amounts of time, such as occurs on college campuses. Greater than 20 percent of all cases occur in this age group. In 2014, several cases of type B meningitis occurred. The current vaccines do not protect against that type. Fortunately, in October the FDA approved a new meningitis vaccine that will protect against type B meningitis. Another similar vaccine is also being tested.

Pneumonia is another disease which is commonly passed in periods of extended close contact with others. The risk is highest for children up to age five and people over 65, or those with a predisposing immune condition. The suggested vaccination schedule includes a dose at two, four and six months, with a booster at 12-15 months. Missing just one of these vaccinations can compromise the effectiveness of prevention and can put your child at risk of contracting the disease.

I congratulate all parents for carefully considering vaccinations and providing important protection to their children. I urge all parents to discuss vaccinations with your family doctor or pediatrician at every visit. I also urge the state Legislature to remain vigilant in protecting our population with current vaccinations and adopting new vaccinations as science advances.

For any questions or concerns, please contact me through Utah County Health Dept., 801-851-7024.
Kim Lowe, RN, School Nurse