

Northridge Elementary PTA December Newsletter

Principal Woodhouse is WILD about Northridge

Dear Patrons and Students,

This has always been a very special season for me. It is the holiday season that carries the weight of wonderful memories from my past, and holds the prospect of promise for holidays to come. It is a time of renewal and re-birth. It is always the time I review my purpose and goals, and determine how strongly I have held to that path.

When I was eighteen years old, I began a tradition I have mostly followed since for the better part of twenty years. Every year to honor this process of renewal, I write myself a letter to be opened on New Years Eve of the next year. It contains all my hopes for the year, and reviews the year in the past. It has been a source of comfort and excitement as I have seen how closely I have achieved these hopes and goals; it has also been disappointing some years to see how wide a gap can exist between my sincere intentions, and my failure to act on those intentions.

I suppose if this yearly tradition has taught me anything, is that the times I have been the most proud when opening my letter, is to read and know I have held fast to my guiding principles, and kept relationships at the center of importance.

As we travel through this holiday season, may we all reconnect with what is truly important in our lives, and remember that happiness is not found in things, but in making a difference to others and who we become ourselves. It is a privilege every day to work with amazing teachers and staff, and extraordinary

children. This year, you can be assured Northridge will be in my mind as I write my letter. We have many more wonderful years ahead of us!

May the holidays bring you joy and peace,

Mr. Woodhouse

Calendar Items

December

- 9 – SCC Meeting 1pm
- 11 – Strengthening Families Dinner
- 12 – Storytelling Kickoff
- 15 – All Home Reading books due
- 22 – Jan 2 Christmas Break

January

- 1 – Martin Luther King Day- No School
- 2 – Home Reading resumes
- 13 – SCC
- 28 – Science Fair 9-2:30

Please wish

Amy King on 15th & Jenna Brown on the 26th

a WILD December Birthday!



Our WILD PTA President's Message

We hope you all enjoyed your Thanksgiving holiday and are looking forward to a nice break for Christmas. It seems like these breaks come right when we need them. The Northridge Reflection Program has just wrapped up and entries have been forwarded on to the council. It is always inspiring to see the entries from our students. We have so much talent at our school and it is apparent in our entries just how much those abilities are being nurtured and developed by our teachers and specialty programs. We are proud to boast the highest participation rate in our council and we have always had amazing volunteers to run our local program as well. Thank you for everyone who participated this year and for those who helped run the program. You can start thinking and creating now about next year's theme "Let Your Imagination Fly".

If your child participated in the Reflections program in November, we thank you and hope their experience was a good one. If you didn't have a child participate in it this year, we hope that you will give it some thought for next year. Northridge has the highest participation rate in the district and we are proud of that. We have always had excellent people in charge of this program which is why it runs so smoothly and we thank them for all their hard work and determination. We are proud that the PTA sponsors Reflections.

Once we come back from break, we will be ready to push forward with several activities. Book fair, Take Your Family to School week, Storytelling Festival, Reading Contest and many more as we go throughout the rest of the school year so get ready to get a little more wild!

Have a safe and enjoyable holiday season and we'll see you back in January. You can certainly let us know if you would like to help at any of these activities too.

Co-PTA Presidents,
Amy Fox
amyjfox@outlook.com

Teri Allred
luidacoogs@comcast.net

I'm WILD about Science

Science Fair is just around the corner on January 28. Our fifth graders are required to have a project. Fourth and sixth grades are encouraged to do so if they like.

Mrs Geyerman will need parent volunteers to help her get kids set up and to help judge. She would like around ten judges to help from about 9:15 to around noon and another ten from around noon to 2:15. As we get closer, she'll have more defined times but please check your calendar for availability. Anyone wishing to volunteer can email Mrs Geyerman at ageyerman@alpinedistrict.org.

We're WILD about Storytelling

We're excited to welcome fabulous local storyteller, Marilyn Davis, to our school to kick off our Storytelling Contest at an assembly on Friday, December 12th! She will share some delightful original tales with us as well as teach our students how to turn events from their lives into exciting stories of their own. We're so lucky to have her! We will have grades K-3 Storytelling Assembly @ 9:30am and 4-6 @ 10:30am. Parents and other family members are welcome to attend!

We'd like to encourage all Northridge Nighthawks to participate in our school Storytelling Festival in February. Start looking for (or writing your own) great stories soon so that there's time to polish them up before our classroom level storytelling contest will be held the week of February 9-13th. For the past two years winners from Northridge have told stories at the Timpanogos Storytelling Festival. We can't wait to hear your wonderful stories this year!!

The Storytelling Committee

WILD about BOX TOPS

Thank you to all who turned in Boxtops. Winners will be announced next week for the Turkey collection. We will leave a box by the office for anyone wanting to turn boxtops in between the competitions but keep clipping boxtops for our next competition in January.



The image shows a promotional graphic for the Amazon Associates program. On the left is the Northridge logo, which features a stylized orange and blue bird head with the text "NORTHRIDGE" in a blue banner below it, and the tagline "Soaring as Learners" underneath. To the right is the Amazon logo, a black square with a white lowercase 'a' and a curved arrow underneath. Below the Amazon logo is the text "Click Here!". At the bottom of the graphic, there is a paragraph of text: "Northridge Elementary is a participant in the Amazon Services LLC Associates Program, an affiliate advertising program designed to provide a means for sites to earn advertising fees by advertising and linking to amazon.com".

We hope 5th Grade is WILD about Hope of America

We hope our 5th Grade is excited for the Hope of America student chorus showcase. We present on Wednesday, April 15th at the BYU Marriott Center. For those participating, we will have cds for you in mid December. We hope that you will take them home and practice over the Christmas break.

Also, permission slips were sent home in late November and we need your help in getting these turned in. Please be aware that there are two pages (one for Hope of America & one for ASD). Please sign and return as soon as possible. You can request an emailed copy from your 5th grade teacher or from the Hope of America Parent Coordinator Libby Lewis at brosssettelewis@gmail.com.

WILD about Reflections

We are WILD about our incredibly talented students. Please take note of our Reflections winners.

VISUAL ART

PRIMARY DIVISION

Award of Excellence: Joonseo Min
Award of Excellence: Ruby Samuelson
Award of Merit: Abby Welling
Award of Merit: Gwen Lewis
Award of Merit: Caleb Storrer
Award of Merit: Gracie Samuelson

INTERMEDIATE

Award of Excellence: Ivy Anderton
Award of Excellence: Grace Lewis
Award of Merit: Malena Sweeten
Award of Merit: Kinley Swan
Award of Merit: Kaylee Pettigrew
Award of Merit: Kate Lewis

MIDDLE SCHOOL

Award of Excellence: Ashley Min
Award of Merit: Derek Fox
Award of Merit: Paige Wagstaff

SPECIAL ARTIST

Award of Excellence: Lucy Samuelson

PHOTOGRAPHY

PRIMARY DIVISION

Award of Excellence: Elsie Thomas
Award of Merit: Gwen Lewis

INTERMEDIATE

Award of Excellence: Carson Hart
Award of Merit: Emarie Thomas
Award of Merit: Jenna Storrer

MIDDLE SCHOOL

Award of Excellence: Shalyse Kearns
Award of Merit: Brin Maxwell
Award of Merit: Ellie Crandall

3-DIMENSIONAL

PRIMARY DIVISION

Award of Excellence: Jace Lindgren
Award of Merit: Gavin Swan
Award of Merit: Katelyn Fox

INTERMEDIATE

Award of Excellence: Seoyoon Min
Award of Excellence: Alea Maxwell

MIDDLE SCHOOL:

Award of Merit: Blake Fox

MUSIC COMPOSITION

PRIMARY DIVISION

Award of Excellence: Elise Thomas

INTERMEDIATE

Award of Excellence: Seoyoon Min
Award of Merit: Zoey Kopp

MIDDLE SCHOOL

Award of Merit: Joseph Keyes

LITERATURE

PRIMARY DIVISION

Award of Excellence: Brandon Fox
Award of Merit: Corinne Young

INTERMEDIATE

Award of Excellence: Allana Young
Award of Merit: Max Searcy

MIDDLE SCHOOL

Award of Excellence: Brin Maxwell

FILM PRODUCTION

INTERMEDIATE

Award of Merit: Abby Benson

DANCE CHOREOGRAPHY

PRIMARY DIVISION

Award of Excellence: Gavin Messmer
Award of Merit: Claire Nuttall

INTERMEDIATE

Award of Excellence: Emaire Thomas

(We should hear something around the first part of January in reference to entries that advance.)

WILD about Reading

Yo-ho-ho Me hearties, in February we be hostin' a Readin' Program Winter Event. Our goal be t' encourage students t' engage in readin'. T' measure engagement, we will set a collective goal o' 300,000 minutes over t' course o' a 3-week period. In order t' accomplish this goal, we have come up with incentives and fun alternatives to walking the plank t' do throughout this time. Arr!

Shiver me timbers. Startin' in January, we will heave to collect book donations o' all genres. Donated books and booty will be used in a bookstore where students will be able t' spend their plunder that they have earned.

Blimey! In February, we will kick off a 3 week read-a-thon. Readin' minutes will become treasure as a fleet of Jolly Rogers sail across our PTA Treasure Map on their quest t' reach ye ol' Red X. When t' fleet o' ships have gathered sufficient treasure and our landlubbers have handsomely accomplished what seems t' be an impossible task, we will then be privileged t' be host to a premiere showin' from Kid History in our very own school. Then we'll make history by creatin' Northridge's first Kid History episode.

If ye have never met the likes of these scallawags ye can take a gander of one o' their "Kid Snippets" on ye ol' "BoredShortsTV" Youtube channel. Arggg. Best of luck me maties. Ye be warned!

5th Grade Maturation

The maturation program was a success. It was presented to the 5th graders by Brad Wilcox and Carrie Kemp. Each student received a goodie bag filled with hygiene products and a Menchie's gift certificate. We encourage parents to further the conversation with them afterward.

We're WILD about Knowledge Bowl

Knowledge Bowl practice has begun! We are still open to new students! Come join us. We meet every Tuesday during lunch in Mrs. O'Neill's room. We are working hard to prepare for the District Knowledge Bowl competitions in March. If you are interested in joining, please contact Mrs. Ellsworth.

WILD about the Alpine SD App

Have you added the Alpine SD app yet? It allows students and parents alike to access and view the latest news and information for their school. You'll be able to access student grades, assignments and absences as well as check the calendar for the latest events. Click it to add!



We're WILD about YOU

It is never too late to get involved with the programs offered by the PTA. We are in need of volunteers for the following committees:



Take Your Family to School Week (February, 2015)
This week's activities will focus on the theme Supporting Student Success to promote proven family engagement solutions. We will be finding ways offer parents opportunities to step into various aspects of their child's school day. Contact Audrey Glenn if you'd like to be involved 206-293-4598 or audrey.glenn@gmail.com.

Safety Week (March 30 - April 3, 2015) This week will focus on keeping Northridge students safe at home and at school. Contact April Wood if you'd be get involved 801-372-3926 or aprilwood05@gmail.com

Book Fair (February 3-6, 2015) We are in need of more help for the next book fair. We are looking for people who can help with decorations/set up, publicity and volunteers, book talks and financials. Contact Emily at (801) 362-5603 or simmons.emily72@gmail.com.

WILD about Home Reading

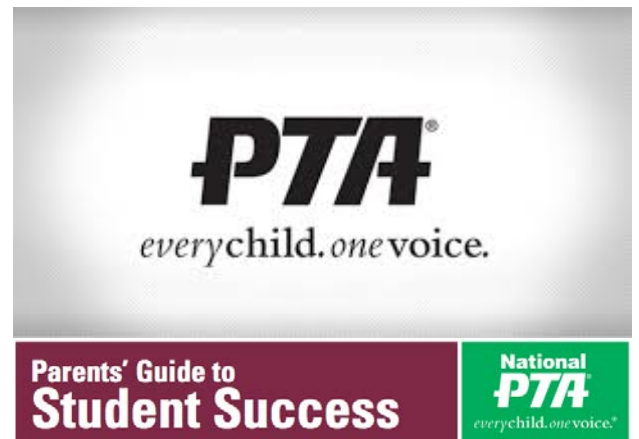
Parents of Home Reading Students,
We are collecting Home Reading Books for the Holiday Break on Monday, December 15th. Please return your child's home reading books by that date. If your student has lost their book(s), please have them send \$5 per lost book to the office or to their teachers. Found packets can be returned into either your child's teacher or to the office. We refund any books that have been paid for and then found at a later date. Home Reading will resume in January. Happy Holidays!

Thanks!
Jennifer Fletcher and Shelley Pierce

We're WILD about Student Success

Do you wonder exactly what Common Core includes for your child? National PTA is a wonderful resource with grade specific lists of the standards. Remember, these are standards a child should meet, not curriculum.

Please visit via the National PTA link below and explore an overview of what your child will learn by the end of their current grade in mathematics, English language arts/literacy.



Wild About Communication: We're @

- NorthridgeElementaryPTA@gmail.com
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- Pinterest.com/northridgee
- Paypal.com/northridge
- Google Calendar

These Nighthawks are WILD about BYU!

