

SAGE PAGE UPDATE

Sage Hills Elementary * 3033 Swainson Ave * 801-610-8723

JANUARY 2012

- 3 School Resumes
- 4 SCC Mtg. 4:00 pm
- 16 Martin Luther King Jr.
Day - NO SCHOOL
- 23 PTA Meeting 10:00
- 25-26 SEP Conferences

FEBRUARY

Upcoming Events

- 6 Kindergarten
Registration 8:00 - 2:30
- 8 Sock Hop 6-8pm
- 13 Minimal Monday
Kindergarten:
AM: 8:00 - 10:00
PM: 11:45 - 1:45
Grades 1-6:
Track A 8:00 - 12:30
Track B 9:15 - 1:45
- 13 PTA Meeting 10:00
- 20 Presidents' Day
NO SCHOOL
- 27 SpellCheck Kick-off

SEP Conferences
January 25th & 26th
4:00 - 7:45 pm

Online Scheduler
Parent Window Opens
January 7th - 18th



Book Fair will be in
the Media Center
during SEP
Conferences

Principal's Message

Dear Parents and Students,

We welcome our students back to the 2012 portion of our school year. I hope everyone enjoyed the break! I know I did! We are excited to return and focus hard on academics for the next 5 months.

Our teachers will be heavily engaging students in the curriculum in preparation for the State Core testing coming the end of April and in May. Students need to be alert and attentive so they can learn to their best ability!

We ask parents to help us! Please help your child to get adequate rest, healthy meals, and do their homework. Homework is very important. It is an extension and reinforcement of what is being taught in the classroom.

Homework can have many benefits for young children. It can improve remembering and understanding of schoolwork. Homework can help students develop study skills that will be of value even after they leave school. It can teach them that learning takes place anywhere, not just in the classroom. Homework can benefit children in more general ways as well. It can foster positive character traits such as independence and responsibility. Homework can teach children how to manage time.

Research also shows that parent involvement can have a positive impact on the value of homework. Parent involvement can be used to speed up a child's learning. Homework can involve parents in the school process. It can enhance parents' appreciation of education. It can give them an opportunity to express positive attitudes about the value of success in school.

We invite you to be a part of your child's educational process. We extend an invitation to attend our SEP conferences on January 25th and 26th. Please see attached instructions for online scheduler sign ups.

We wish you success this month as we continue to move forward in the educational processes at Sage Hills Elementary.

Mrs. Holbrook

Grab your jeans and
Poodle skirts
And join us for a
**Sage Hills
Family Sock
Hop!**

-DJ, Refreshments, and
great prizes-
Wed. February 8th
6:00-8:00pm

Helpful Homework sites for
parents:

www.uen.org/k12student/homework.shtml

www.kidsource.com/kidsource/content/homework.html

<http://school.familyeducation.com/homework/activity/34550.html>

<http://www.rif.org/us/literacy-resources/articles/44-proven-ideas-parents-can-use-to-help-their-children-do-better-in-school.htm>

<http://www.homeworkspot.com/>

<http://www.pta.org/2039.htm>

<http://www.classroom-teacher-resources.com/spelling-homework-ideas.html>

http://www.pbs.org/parents/goingtoschool/helping_homework.html

<http://www.math.com/parents/articles/domath.html>

http://www.newsforparents.org/expert_motivate_kids_homework.html

PTA Notes

Dear parents and students,

Welcome back students and volunteers. I hope you had a fabulous Christmas break. We are ready to get back into the full swing of things.

I would like to thank the Polar Express committee for a wonderful evening. It has become so popular that we are updating our plans for next year to accommodate all those that attend.

We have a PTA planning meeting January 23rd @ 10:00 AM. We invite all who would like to be involved in activities through out the remainder of the year to attend. We would love to meet new people and welcome back those who have helped in the past. If you are interested in being on the PTA Board next year, please come to this meeting and let us know.

We are really looking forward to the "Sock Hop" **Wednesday February 8th**. I would like to Thank

Shelly Poduska, Charlene Christensen, and their committee for all of the wonderful things that they have planned. This is going to be a spectacular event!

So, put it on your calendars!!!!

We are looking for a few great people to be on the Dr. Seuss committee! We are hoping to plan a fabulous Dr. Seuss evening on March 2nd. But we need volunteers to make it happen. ☺

Please check out our blog,

<http://sagehills.blogspot.com/>

I would like to thank Kirsten Strack for all of the work she has put into the blog and the email system.

This is where you can volunteer for things such as SEP dinners, the Book Fair, Battle of the Books, and the Dr. Seuss committee. If you are not receiving emails, you can input your email address on the blog.

If you have questions or would like to volunteer, please email sagehillspta@gmail.com

Thank you to all who have made Sage Hills such a wonderful place for our children to attend.

Kris Anderson

- Sage Hills PTA President

Reading Homework Tips for Parents

- Have your child read aloud to you every night.
- Choose a quiet place, free from distractions, for your child to do his nightly reading assignments.
- As your child reads, point out spelling and sound patterns such as *cat, pat, hat*.
- When your child reads aloud to you and makes a mistake, point out the words she has missed and help her to read the word correctly.
- After your child has stopped to correct a word he has read, have him go back and reread the entire sentence from the beginning to make sure he understands what the sentence is saying.
- Ask your child to tell you in her own words what happened in a story.
- To check your child's understanding of what he is reading, occasionally pause and ask your child questions about the characters and events in the story.
- Ask your child why she thinks a character acted in a certain way and ask your child to support her answer with information from the story.
- Before getting to the end of a story, ask your child what he thinks will happen next and why.

Homework Tips/Suggestions

- ★ **Make sure your child has a quiet, well-lit place to do homework.** Avoid having your child do homework with the television on or in places with other distractions, such as people coming and going.
- ★ **Make sure the materials your child needs, such as paper, pencils and a dictionary, are available.** Ask your child if special materials will be needed for some projects and get them in advance.
- ★ **Help your child with time management.** Establish a set time each day for doing homework. Don't let your child leave homework until just before bedtime. Think about using a weekend morning or afternoon for working on big projects, especially if the project involves getting together with classmates.
- ★ **Be positive about homework.** Tell your child how important school is. The attitude you express about homework will be the attitude your child acquires.
- ★ **When your child asks for help, provide guidance, not answers.** Giving answers means your child will not learn the material. Too much help teaches your child that when the going gets rough, someone will do the work for him or her.
- ★ **When the teacher asks that you play a role in homework, do it.** Cooperate with the teacher. It shows your child that the school and home are a team. Follow the directions given by the teacher.
- ★ **If homework is meant to be done by your child alone, stay away.** Too much parent involvement can prevent homework from having some positive effects. Homework is a great way for kids to develop independent, lifelong learning skills.
- ★ **Stay informed.** Talk with your child's teacher. Make sure you know the purpose of homework and what your child's class rules are.
- ★ **Help your child figure out what is hard homework and what is easy homework.** Have your child do the hard work first. This will mean he will be most alert when facing the biggest challenges. Easy material will seem to go fast when fatigue begins to set in.

Landtrust 2011-12

The School Community Council would like to inform patrons of our school plan for 2011-12:

- Six Thousand Dollars was allocated for kindergarten teachers to implement pre-teach and re-teach one extra hour per school day (Tutoring/Double-dosing)
- Five Thousand Five Hundred Dollars was allocated for teachers to administer the DRA to grades 1-6 students prior to the beginning of school.
- One Thousand Dollars was allocated towards the Take Home Library for a Para educator, supplies, and new-leveled reading books.
- Sixteen Thousand Dollars was allocated for Para educators to give identified students additional exposure to curriculum through pre-teaching and re-teaching in a small group setting under the direction of the classroom teacher.

** The members of SCC who were voted in to this position by Sage Hills patrons allocate all money. All financial matters regarding Landtrust are transparent and patrons are welcome to view these at <http://www.schoollandtrust.org>. We always follow the plan and money as allocated. Nothing is ever done without SCC approval, District approval, and State approval. If you have any questions regarding SCC, feel free to contact Mindy Greene, SCC Co-chair, Jory Schmidt, Co-Chair or Mrs. Holbrook, Principal. Please take time to review our Stakeholders Report.

Our next SCC meeting is March 7, 2012 at 4:00 pm in the conference room

LIGHTEN UP from SNAP

Bright Colors Help Cars Spot Walking Students

We're finally through the darkest part of winter, and the sun will be rising earlier through spring. But even with increasing daylight, it's still a good idea to keep kids in bright clothes when walking and biking during winter months.

Here are some other ways to keep students safe when walking and biking to school this winter:

- Follow the safest routes to school (contact the school for your copy)
- Slow down
- Wear bright or reflective clothing or tape so they can be seen in the dark too
- If they wear a dark coat, add a brightly colored scarf, hat or reflective gear
- Dress in layers and wear boots with nonskid soles
- Wear gloves so they won't need to put their hands in their pockets; they'll need their hands free to catch themselves if they slip and fall
- Walk with a buddy or group
- Walk on sidewalks if possible; if sidewalks are covered in snow and ice, walk in the street against the flow of traffic and as close to the curb as possible
- Look left, then right, then left again when crossing a street
- Cross only at crosswalks
- Before stepping off the curb into the street where ice and snow are present, make sure any approaching vehicles have come to a complete stop
- More ideas from the UDOT Student Neighborhood Access Program (SNAP)[™] to encourage your child to walk and bike to school safely are available at www.udot.utah.gov/SNAP.

Read It and Win!

December winner: Aleece Christensen in Mrs. Jacobson's class

Please fill out and have your child turn into the office. We will be giving the winning student a \$5.00 Wal-Mart gift card.

When are SEP Conferences?

Child's Name: _____

Teacher's Name: _____

Parent Signature: _____