

Orem Elementary News 2008



OES Newsletter also found at: http://www.websthetics.com/oes_index.htm

CALENDAR

December

- Dec 4 PTA Meeting 9:30am
Dec 11 School Community Council Meeting
11:15 am in room 205
Dec 14 Spirit Reward Day
Wear school colors or t-shirt
Dec 21-Jan 2 Christmas Break

January

- Jan 8 PTA Meeting 9:30am
Jan 8 School Community Council Meeting
11:15 am in room 205
Jan 21 No school-Martin Luther King Jr. holiday
Jan 25 Spirit Rewards Day
Wear school colors or t-shirt



GROUP CHRISTMAS GIFTS

Every year I seem to struggle trying to come up with gift ideas for teachers. Last year I sent home notes in each of my children's classes asking if anyone wanted to contribute to a group gift. It was fun to give them gift certificates to their favorite restaurant or for a spa treatment.

This year the PTA is sponsoring this idea school-wide. If you would like to contribute for your child's core or specialty teacher, and for the administration and staff, don't forget to turn in your gift by December 16th. Seal your envelope tightly please and drop it in the locked box in the office.

Cards have been made by the Student Council for each teacher and staff member, so don't forget to sign them during lunch December 12-16th.

If you would like to be involved in this effort or have any questions, email cleav@hotmail.com or call 226-4197. I hope this helps make your holiday season less stressful!

-- Cindy Leavitt

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

December...wow, time is flying! What an awesome month November was with all of the family activities we had sponsored by the school and the PTA. I was able to be here for our math night and see everyone involved with the activities. It was fun to see Kindergarten kids teaching their parents how to do math...it was great! Also, I was able to be here for the fun run...wow, so many people! Thank you so much for your support of all of these activities. It is nice to share with others the supportive community we have here at Orem Elementary.

Just a few reminders for this month. We will have the lost and found out until November 30th. At this time we will bag up the extra items and give them to an area charity. Also, Christmas Break will be from December 21st until January 2nd. School will resume on January 3, 2008.

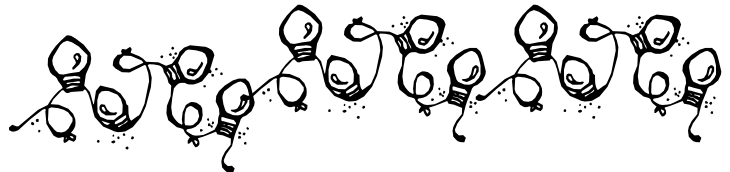
Thank you for your continued support of your students, our staff, and our teachers. It is wonderful to see parents helping out in the classrooms, sitting in the halls reading to students, or attending a special event here at the school. What an awesome community this is. Have a wonderful and safe holiday season. Our next issue will be in the New Year of 2008!

-- Brad Davies
Principal, Orem Elementary

BOX TOPS RESULTS

Thank you to all who sent box tops. Our top student was Josh Davis in Mrs. Stewart's class with 430. Theresa Williams kindergarten had the most class box tops. The school totaled 9756 box tops!!! Thank YOU for your support.

-- Vicki Wiesenberg, Box Tops Coordinator



PTA PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Hello Parents and Friends,
We just completed family month which was a huge success at OES. On November 2, we had our character trait assembly where we invited the Make-a-Wish foundation in to do a presentation for the kids. I heard from several children and parents about how this had really affected our kids. We were able to follow up with this by holding our annual Fun Run on November 10. No one could believe that 600 entry numbers wouldn't be enough but we ended up exceeding our expectations that day by a lot. Thank you to all of the many volunteers and the community for donating so many wonderful raffle prizes.

In between these two events, we held the Family Math Night on November 7 and again we had a fabulous turnout. Many families got to enjoy working together on some math activities and receive a free dinner in the process.

November is also reflections month and the award assembly was held on Tuesday, November 13. Congratulations to all of our participants who made the judging very difficult this year in many categories.

The Grandparents Lunch took place on November 15 and 16 and it was great to see all of the grandparents that turned out for that. I know this is a fun thing for the kids and they look forward to it each November.

We had other events during the month that took place at home or at other schools and overall, this was a month about caring and family which is perfect timing as we get ready to go into the holidays.

We have a light schedule with PTA activities for December because we know how busy this time of year is for our parents and children. I am excited for the holiday season and have already begun my parental lecturing to my children on the focus on giving not getting. I hope that you all have a safe and happy holiday season. Please be reminded that we meet as a PTA on Tuesday, December 4 at 9:30am and all are welcome!

-- Bunney Schmidt, PTA President

YEARBOOK CANDIDS



If you are helping out in the classroom, at a class party or on a field trip be sure to take your camera and snap some photos and submit them for the yearbook. You can send them to Karen Wynn at wynnjk@mstarmetro.net or take a disc or prints to the front office and they will put them in the yearbook box. We want to try to get lots of photos and your help would be appreciated. If you have questions or want to help with the yearbook in another way please contact me by email or call me at 764-0978. Thanks!

-- Karen Wynn, Yearbook

FAMILY MONTH

November was a tremendous month to focus on building and strengthening our families. Many of you benefited from participating in the Family Events which we offered.

The Family Dance was well attended, entertaining, and fun! We learned Ukrainian and Argentinean Dances interspersed with showpieces from MVHS, BYU Folk Dancers, and Seegmiller children. We learned a bit of etiquette as well as enjoyed sweet treats. Thanks to all those who contributed to this evening of fun and learning as families.

Family Math Night brought together families in the school playing Math Games and eating free pizza, thanks to the PTA. Thanks Karrie King for your work there.

The Family Fun Run was a huge success. The crowning moment was when our Make-A-Wish child, McKenna arrived in a pink princess dress and the crowd of over 700 people met her. She truly felt like a princess that day as all those people had gathered together in her interest. You might say that it was electric to feel the love that was shared there. To see a family fighting an unusual battle against cancer stirs compassion at any age. In this run families came together to give what support they could to McKenna and her family. The race was courageously finished by all which was largely due to the fact that McKenna stirred our hearts. She led the run by driving her Barbie Car around the entire 1 mile mark! She wishes to go with her family to Disneyworld in March with our help. Her perpetual smile at the Fun Run will ever fill our minds. Many participants took a prize home and enjoyed healthy foods.

Thank-you to: Tracey Smithee, Bonnie Zundel, Stephanie Ellis, Maria Schramm, Janelle Carlson, Adria House, Sharon Faragher, Angela Seegmiller, Colleen Shurtz, Mary Dollahite, and many others who put in great time and effort. Our community was also incredible: Harmons, Kneaders, Mimi's, Wildenson's, Costco, Wienerschnitzel, Runners' Corner, Hogi Yogi, Coney's, Ernie's, Festival Cinemas, Miracle Bowl, Nickel Cade, Staples, Chuck E. Cheese, Sonic, BYU, UVSC, Scoreboard, Argento, Pretzelmaker, Chick-fil-A, Spaghetti Factory, Hallmark, Remedez Hair Salon, Popcorn Popin', Pederson's, Dress Barn, Beauty Express, Mountain Fun, Kara's Chocolates, Gamestop, Mr. Macs, Archiver's, G4G, Sports Clips, Winger's, Classic Skating, Macey's, Minor Music, K-mart, Allyse's Bridal, Build-a-Bear, Walmart. Thank-you to our financial secretaries for their help.

Grandparent Lunch provided a happy memory of children spending time with their Grandparents. A free picture, thanks to the PTA, was taken of the Grandparent and child to record this event. Thank-you Christine Anderson, Shaharn Crist, Karyn Clement and Andrea Beard.

-- Carol Jean Bishop, Family Life Commissioner

A.L.L. TESTING FOR 2ND & 4TH GRADE STUDENTS

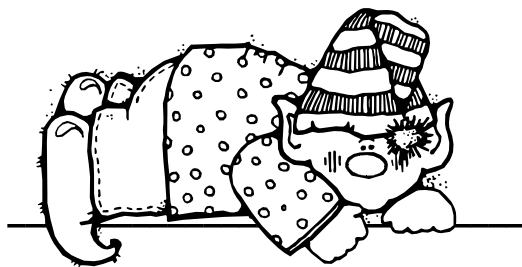
Student Testing Changes for Accelerated Learning Lab (A.L.L.) 3rd and 5th Grade Program Placement for 2008-2009

Testing for identification and placement of current 2nd and 4th grade students into next year's Alpine School District 3rd and 5th Grade A.L.L. has been scheduled. A.L.L. programs are designed to meet the needs of students who master academic skills easily and who need more challenge than is offered in a regular class. In early **January** an informational flyer will be sent home with every 2nd and 4th grade student listing indicators for parents and students to consider when looking at the possibility of an A.L.L. placement as being a "good fit."

In order to have more current test data for applicants, and to bring uniformity and consistency in placement, 4th grade student applicants will be given an above grade level alternative form of the IOWA Test of Basic Skills. This testing session is four hours in length. 2nd grade student applicants will be given the Cognitive Abilities Test (CogAT). Their testing session will last three hours. Applications will be available from the front office of every elementary school during the first week of January or on-line at <http://www.alpine.k12.ut.us/phpApps/genericPage.php?pdid=688>.

Morning and afternoon testing sessions will be held on February 9 at Highland Elementary, February 16 at Saratoga Shores Elementary and February 23 at Suncrest Elementary for a total of six different times on three different days. Only one session is required to complete the testing. Additional testing specifics will be included in the informational flyer.

-- Janniece Leis, Assistant Coordinator, Gifted Services



From the Newsletter Editor's Desk

I would like to send a special thank you to Liliana Herrera for translating our newsletter into Spanish this month. What a great addition she is to this project.

-- Sharon Stokes, OES Newsletter Editor
sharonelva@qwest.net

CAMBIOS EN LOS EXAMENES PARA LOS ESTUDIANTES DEL LABORATORIO DE APRENDIZAJE ACCELERADO

Programa de colocación de 3er y 5º grados para el año escolar 2008-09

El examen para identificación y colocación de los estudiantes de 2do y 4º grado de este año para el programa A.L.L. para los estudiantes de 3ero y 5º grado del próximo año ha sido programado. Los programas de A.L.L. son diseñados para satisfacer las necesidades de aquellos estudiantes que dominan habilidades académicas fácilmente y para aquellos que necesitan mas desafíos de los que se ofrecen en una clase regular. A principios de enero se mandará a casa un folleto de información con los estudiantes de 2do y 4º grado. En este folleto encontrará una lista de indicadores que los padres, así como los estudiantes deben de considerar si están viendo la posibilidad de colocar a su estudiante en el programa de estudios académicos.

A fin de tener información de exámenes mas actual para los aspirantes y para traer mas uniformidad y consistencia en la colocación, a los estudiantes del 4º grado se les dará un alternativo de nivel de grado mas elevado del examen de habilidades básicas IOWA. Esta sesión de examen tiene una duración de cuatro horas. A los aspirantes de 2do grado se les dará el examen Cognitive Abilites Test (CogAT). La sesión de examen para este grupo será de tres horas. Las aplicaciones estarán disponibles en la oficina de todas las escuelas primarias y a través de Internet empezando el día 3 de enero y deben entregarse para el día 4 de febrero.

Para que usted pueda planear, las sesiones de exámenes matutinas y vespertinas serán el 9 de febrero en la escuela elemental Highland, el 16 de febrero en la escuela elemental Saratoga Shores, y el 23 de febrero en la escuela elemental Suncrest. Se incluirá información mas especifica en el folleto.

-- Janniece Leis
Assistant Coordinator, Gifted Services





What is Gold Medal Schools?

Gold Medal Schools (GMS) is a program developed by the state department of health making it possible for elementary schools to provide physical activity and healthy

nutrition choices at a time when budget cuts and testing requirements overshadow physical activity and nutrition. The GMS mission is to “Create opportunities for students to ‘eat healthy, be active, and stay tobacco free’.

Orem Elementary joined the program last year, reached the bronze medal and earned \$200 to be used for nutrition and physical activity resources. This year they will be striving for the silver medal and earning \$300!

Last year the Gold Medal Mile was established. Students set a goal to walk to Hawaii which is 2,995 miles. The school ended up walking over 7,439 miles! This year we have set a goal to walk to Disneyland in Paris, France which is 5,080 miles.

Tips to Help Children Develop Healthy Habits

Nutrition

- Establish a general structure for meal and snack times, and allow eating only at these times.
- Limit eating and snacking to a certain area of the home, such as the dining room or kitchen
- Find alternatives to rewarding or bribing with food.
- Eat as a family as often as possible

Physical Activity

- Set limits on sedentary time (television, video games, and computer time).
- Plan kid-oriented activities that the whole family can enjoy.
- Ensure that your child reaches adulthood with an individual sport or activity that he/she enjoys.
- Make activity part of every day life.

For more information about Gold Medal Schools visit www.hearhighway.org/gms