

Orem Elementary News 2008



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

CALENDAR

FEBRUARY

- Feb 5 PTA Meeting, 9:30am, faculty room
- Feb 13 Student Community Council Meeting
- Feb 21 Dads & Donuts, 7:30am and 6:00pm
- Feb 21 In-class Storyteller Presentations
- Feb 26 Family Beach Party, 5:30pm-8:00pm
- Feb 29 Spirit Reward Day

MARCH

- Mar 4 PTA Meeting, 9:30am, faculty room
- Mar 7 Character Trait Assembly, 9:30am
(Storytelling)
- Mar 13 Moms & Muffins 7:30am and 6:00pm
- Mar 24 Skate Night, Time TBA
- Mar 28 Spirit Reward Day

STORYTELLING FESTIVAL

The Storytelling Festival is just around the corner. Those who would like to participate can sign up in their classrooms by Feb. 15th. Details were sent home last week for those who are interested. We'll kick off the festival by telling stories in class on Feb. 21. So pick a story you love and practice, practice, practice! Parents, whether your child plans to participate or not, we need volunteers to help judge on Feb. 22. If you're available or have any questions, please contact Lori Sanders at 221-7761 or by email, lori@netexcellence.com.

--Lori Sanders, Storytelling Festival



BOOK FAIR

The Orem Elementary BYU Book Fair will be held Tuesday, February 5th- Thursday February 7th. The Book Fair will be open on Tuesday, February 5th, 11:00am-4:00pm. Wednesday, February 6th and Thursday, February 7th, it will be open 11:00am-7:30pm. We hope that you will take this opportunity to buy some great books and support the Orem Elementary Media Center.

--Shelley Mortimer, Media Specialist

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Whew! Where did January go? It seems like we were just getting back from winter break. Welcome to February. This is going to be a wonderful month! We have Parent Conferences, Valentine's Day, Dad's and Donuts, the school Spelling Bee, and even a beach party!

Parent conferences will be held on February 6th and 7th from 4:00 until 7:30. Please feel free to come when it is convenient for you. Your child will have plenty to show you in their classrooms. This is a wonderful opportunity for you and your child. We hope that you will take advantage of this.

Also, we would like to remind you that Kindergarten registration is on February 25th and 26th. You can come between the hours of 8:00 and 3:00 either day. We have all of the necessary paperwork for you, but please come prepared with proof of residency, immunization records, and birth certificate. Registration for our preschool will be on February 28th and 29th. This will be done at the District Office. If you have not received this information, please pick it up in our office.

I want to thank all of you again for your continued support. Thank you to our PTA and all of their dedicated service. Thank you to those who serve on our School Community Council. What a wonderful group of parents and teachers. Thank you to our teachers, staff, students, and this wonderful community that we live in. Orem Elementary is the best!

--Brad J. Davies, Principal, Orem Elementary

HELPING CHILDREN LEARN NEWSLETTER

The February "Helping Children Learn" newsletter is now on the web page. You can access it by doing the following:

Alpine School District's Home Page

www.alpine.k12.ut.us

- District Information
- Helping Children Learn
- Click on the issue you desire to pull up

PTA PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Hello Parents, Students and Friends,
We have so many things happening at the school all of the time that I am grateful for this newsletter that helps keep everyone informed. A special thanks to Sharon Stokes for her hard work every month on putting this together.

We had a super assembly on Friday, January 25, to kick off our February character trait of Trustworthiness. We had the group from Faux Pas come in to talk with the kids about Internet Safety. Please take the time to check out their website, www.ikeepsafe.org with lots of information for parents and kids. There are games, videos and other resources there for all to enjoy. Each of your students should have brought home an orange character challenge note that they should talk to a parent or guardian about. Please sign and return that by the last day of February.

We have some family activities coming up in the month of February. The first is Dads and Donuts on February 21 at 7:30am and 6:00pm. This has been an annual tradition that many look forward to and it is a great time to spend some time with your students. If a "dad" can't make it, then send a grandpa, mom or some other family member with your student. We don't want anyone left out.

On Tuesday, February 26, we will have D.J.Kris hosting a family beach night in our gym. It may seem like an odd time of year for a beach party but they are doing them for schools all over and insist that it is a fun time, even in February. Please watch for a flyer coming home in February with more information.

We also kick off the Storytelling Festival in February. Your student will have an opportunity to sign up in their classrooms until February 15 and then will present their stories on February 21. Guidelines will be sent home soon on that.

We started our Afterschool Programs and Chorus in January and are excited to have that going. We have a variety of programs for kids to participate in and at a much lower price than lessons would be elsewhere. Our goal as a PTA is to just break even on these classes and so we charge just what we have to so we can pay our teachers.

As a final note, our next PTA meeting is Tuesday, February 5 at 9:30am in the faculty room and all are invited. We are happy to have new faces as well as the regulars. Please feel free to call me anytime at 801-223-4837 or email me at cpa@bbschmidt.com if you have any questions or concerns.

--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 wynnjik@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.

--Karen Wynn, Yearbook



ART & MUSIC

Dear 5th and 6th grade Parents,
Thank you SO much for your generous donations and items you have given to our art and music class. They have made our projects so fun! Your students are extremely creative and I appreciate so much having such fabulous students to work with!

--Mrs. Boles, Art/Music

YOUR SCC (School Community Council) AT WORK!

The SCC is a group of nine parents and educators who work together to improve the education of students at Orem Elementary. These councils are required by Utah law, specifically to determine how state Trustland Funds are to be used at each individual school. The amount of money that comes to our school each year is significant, about \$20,000, so the decisions made by the Council can have a great impact. Decisions are made based on the academic test scores of our students. We focus on data and what it tells us about our critical needs.

Currently, our Trustlands money is being used mainly to pay for tutors. We have two trained STAR Reading tutors, another reading tutor just for the lower grades, and two aides who tutor math where needed. The Council also voted to approve purchases of books, particularly science books, for classrooms. This was an especially critical need with each core teacher making the adjustment of including science in the core curriculum, rather than having it taught as a specialty. We also funded the purchase of a collection of Spanish books for the library to encourage literacy for our English Language Learner students.

We welcome the input of any patrons and encourage you to consider serving on the Council in the future. Each member serves a two-year term. Two parent-terms (Ada Wilson's and Teresa Gorriti's) will be up for election in April. Both those members are interested in serving again, but anyone is welcome to file for the positions. Participation as special committee members

is also a possibility if you do not wish to serve as a Council member, but want to be involved. We currently have two committees ---Math and Literacy.

--Ada Wilson, Chair – OES SCC