

2015  
APRIL

# explorer NEWS

**principal's message**  
Dr. Joseph Backman

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## Dr. B.'s Readers

Ralph S. Mouse  
By Beverly Cleary

From the Mixed-Up Files  
of Mrs. Basil E. Frankweiler  
By E.L. Konigsburg  
(Newberry Award Winner)

Fabulous Foothill Parents,

At Foothill Elementary we have a collaborative culture focused on learning. Each Monday, our teachers meet together to collaborate and discuss how best to help meet the specific, unique needs of students and help each child reach their full potential. You may ask, "What is a collaborative team and what do they do?" Let me try to answer that question for you.

The Four Essential Questions drive everything that a collaborative team does. All of these questions are focused on individual students and their learning.

The Four Essential Questions:

1. What do we expect students to learn?
2. How will we know if students have learned it?
3. How do we help students who have not yet learned it?
4. How will we extend the learning for students who already know it?

In the past, teachers usually worked in isolation, making many, if not all, decisions on their own. As teachers work together collaboratively they are more able to meet the needs of their students. As the saying goes, "Two heads (or more) are better than one." At Foothill, each team views all of the students in their grade level as their students, not only the students in their class.

Some of the most important work done in a collaborative team is to create the following living documents that guide and drive instruction. These include:

- A Curriculum Map that guides the entire team and the instruction they will provide throughout the year.
- Common Assessments that inform the team of student needs and provide data to drive their instruction.
- Providing systematic Interventions for students who do not understand and learn.
- Providing authentic Enrichments to extend the learning of those who already understand the material.

At Foothill Elementary, our teachers work together effectively in a collaborative culture. All of their efforts combined help provide students with the best instruction possible. When students have additional needs, teachers work together to find ways to help each and every child learn. Our collaborative culture at our school is one of many reasons why Foothill is so phenomenal!

Sincerely,  
Dr. Backman (Dr. B.)  
Principal, Foothill Elementary  
Be Kind. Be Optimistic. Learn. Work Hard. And Live Life to the Fullest!

## UPCOMING EVENTS

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
30 Early Out	31	1	2 ALL Parent Mtg 6:30 pm 2nd Grade Field Trip	3
6 Spring Break	7 Spring Break	8 Spring Break	9 Spring Break	10 Spring Break
13 PTA Meeting 11:30 AM SAGE Testing Begins	14	15	16	17 Yearbook Orders DUE
20 Early Out	21	22	23 Harmons Day	24 Newsletter Items DUE
27 Early Out	28	29	30	1 Classic Skate Night

### president's message Liesha Geddes

Wow! We are already knocking on the door of summer break and another awesome year at Foothill Elementary is wrapping up! I am constantly amazed at what is accomplished each year at Foothill and this year is no different! We have amazing administrators, teachers, staff and volunteers.

Recently, we have celebrated a few of them at the Golden Apple Awards. A big congratulations to Mrs. Mendenhall, our Outstanding Teacher, and to Kim Riggs and Luisa Gough for their work on Fuel Up to Play 60.

We had a fantastic Red Ribbon Week and our Knowledge Bowl teams were amazing in their competitions! Both of these required countless hours of preparation. The Art Gala is right around the corner and is another herculean effort by so many volunteers!

All of you make this school amazing! "Volunteers do not necessarily have the time, just the heart!" This describes all of you perfectly. So much heart! As we approach the end of this year and look forward to next, ask yourself what you are passionate about. Is there something you love or think we need to incorporate? Do you have a particular strength or talent you can share? Now is the time to step up!

Just a quick reminder - if you haven't had a chance to make your classroom donation yet, please make sure you do it right away! Our teachers spend a significant amount of their own money on our children, so make sure that you get those donations in! It is never too late!

Thanks for all you do!

Submissions to the Final May Newsletter are due by **April 24th.**

Send submissions to [oremfoothillpta@gmail.com](mailto:oremfoothillpta@gmail.com) with NEWSLETTER as the subject.

### HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

Jan Burr	Apr. 06
Glenna Mineer	Apr. 15
Kara Muir	Apr. 19
Roxanne Clark	Apr. 21
Will Pendleton	Apr. 27
Laura Mendenhall	Apr. 28

### NEXT MONTH:

- May 1 - Classic Skate Night
- May 4 - 12:30 p.m. Volunteer Lunch
- May 4-8 - Teacher Appreciation Week
- May 7 - Art Gala/Spring Concert
- May 13/14 - 7 p.m. Kindergarten Program
- May 22 - 3K Run
- May 25 - No School
- May 26 - 6th Grade Graduation
- May 27 - Dance Festival
- May 28 - Field Day
- May 29 - Last Day of School

# THE news

## FOOTHILL ARTS GALA & SPRING CONCERT

Thursday, May 7th, 2015  
Art Display from 6:30 - 8:30  
Concert starting at 7:00 p.m.

## YEARBOOK PICTURES

If you have pictures from the year you would like to submit for the yearbook, please email them to oremfoothillpta@gmail.com and put yearbook in the subject line.

## Remember this year FOREVER

Yearbook order forms will go home the week after Spring Break. \$10 per book. Orders must be submitted NO LATER than APRIL 17th at NOON.

## TEACHER APPRECIATION WEEK

May 4th to 8th.

## NURSING NEWS

'NEVER LEAVE YOUR CHILD ALONE IN THE CAR!'

Between 1998 and 2011, nearly 525 children died as a result of being left alone in a car. By leaving your children unattended in a vehicle for even a few minutes, you are needlessly risking their lives.

### SAFETY FACTS

- \*More than 30% of children who die from being left in a hot car are under the age of one.
- \*Cracking your vehicle's windows has very little effect on its temperature.
- \*Your car's internal temperature can increase by 19 degrees Fahrenheit in only 10 minutes. This applies to winter months as well.
- \*When left in a hot vehicle, a child's body temperature can increase three to five times as fast as an adult's.
- \*Children left unattended in a vehicle are at risk of being kidnapped.
- \*Children left alone in a car can push buttons, disengage the brakes, put the car in gear or even leave the vehicle and walk away.

### PREVENTION STEPS

- \*NEVER leave your child unattended in a vehicle.
- \*Make a habit of checking your vehicle before leaving it.
- \*Keep a stuffed animal or other reminder next to you in the car as a cue that your child is with you.
- \*If you see a child left alone in a car, contact the police or call 911.

Kim Lowe, RN, School Nurse

## ART COMMITTEE VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR 2015-2016

We wanted to thank everyone who has helped with the Foothill Art Program to make it so amazing. We, Allison Corey, Stacia Pratt, & Christy Davidson have loved being in charge of this program that brings so many benefits to the students at foothill. However we wanted to let all of the parents and teachers at Foothill Elementary know that this will be our last year managing the art program. We love this program and are hopeful that there are many more talented parents that can improve and run this program with great skill!!

### **We need people to run the ART PROGRAM for the 2015-2016 school year.**

The following volunteers are needed to successfully run the art program as a group. A lot of communication will be needed between these people.

#### **1. Art Program Chair & Art Lesson & Website Manager**

This person(s) is responsible for the overall management of the art program and the art committee. This Job would include managing and changing lesson plans as needed. This can be as involved as you desire. Currently there are functioning lessons plans so you can keep them the same or change as many as you would like. This job would also include updating the website as needed with pictures, lesson plans, news to volunteers etc.

#### **2. Art Supply Manager**

This job would include buying all supplies for the art year and turning in receipts for reimbursement. It would also include putting all the supplies in the appropriate places needed for each month for each grade level. We currently have two volunteers that come in monthly to switch out the supplies needed for the different grade levels. They may be willing to continue or you can find other people that are willing to do it under your supervision

#### **3. Art Volunteer Manager and Teacher coordinator**

This job would include finding volunteers for each of the classrooms. The last three years we have had very little trouble staffing our classroom with art volunteers. This job would include managing the volunteers, training the volunteers, making sure they have all the information needed by communicating with them through e-mail. This would also include coordinating with the teachers so that they also have all the information needed to run the art program in their classrooms.

#### **4. Art Gala Coordinators-** Allison Corey, Stacia Pratt, Christy Davidson will stay to help plan the Arts Gala for the 2015-2016 school year. This we will do to help train the new art committee to completely run the Gala and the art program the following year.

The volunteers that take over the art committee can obviously break up responsibilities the way you see fit. This structure was to just give people an idea of what is needed and required to run this program successfully.

All three of us will be available to answer questions, give advice and even give step by step instructions if needed to help those who are willing to take these positions throughout the whole 2015-2016 school year.

# IS YOUR CHILD STRUGGLING?

If your household has experienced any serious stressor like:

*Abuse*

*Divorce*

*Neglect*

*Mental illness*

*Poverty*

*Addiction*

*Violence*

*Incarceration*

*Death*

*Serious injury/illness*

It could affect your child's behavior and school performance.

## FREE STRESS SENSITIVITY CLASS

*Parents learn how to respond to the potential negative effects that adverse experiences can have on your child.*

**Tuesday, April 21<sup>st</sup> - 6 to 8:00PM**

1255 N 1200 W Orem, UT

Space is limited!

*Call to reserve your spot today or ask questions:*

(801) 229-1181



**Family Support**  
& TREATMENT CENTER  
*home of hope and healing*