

Mt. Mahogany News for Rams & Ewes

Website: <http://mahogany.alpinedistrict.org>

Principal's Message

February/March 2013

As we move in to the second part of the school year I would like to again take this opportunity to remind you of what safety and security measures are implemented at Mount Mahogany.

Ultimately, there are three kinds of school emergencies—evacuations, lockdowns, and in-school sheltering. Evacuations include any emergency (fire, earthquake, etc.) that necessitates evacuating the building. Lockdowns include any emergency in which we need students and teachers to be secured in the building. In-school sheltering includes any emergency in which we need to keep students in the school for an extended period of time given circumstances (weather, environmental, etc.) outside of the building.

Evacuation and lockdown drills are practiced throughout the school year to familiarize students and staff with procedures should an actual emergency occur.

(1) Evacuation.

Teachers and students evacuate the building through prearranged routes to specified locations located on the east grounds of the school. Procedures are then followed to account for all students. If an evacuation happens during lunch or recess, both students and teachers proceed to their locations. If, in a real event the building remained inaccessible, our alternative evacuation site would be Pleasant Grove Junior High, located at 810 North 100 East.

(2) Lockdown.

A lockdown drill or alert is initiated over the intercom. When this happens teachers gather their students and any other student who might be outside their classroom. Students are moved away from windows, all doors are locked, blinds are closed, and students are accounted for. Teachers then wait for further instructions.

(3) In-School Sheltering.

“In-school” sheltering is initiated over the intercom. Teachers account for their students and, depending on the situation, additional actions are implemented.

I would also like to remind you of these other safety precautions and procedures:

We ask that all parents or guardians who come to visit or volunteer in classrooms enter through the front doors and check in at the front office to get a Visitor's Pass before going anywhere in the building. Each door has a sign posted reminding you to do this.

All nonessential doors are locked throughout the day. At 9:15, after all “B track” and busing students have arrived, all entrances, with the exception of the main entrance, will be locked. If your student is late, they will need to enter through the front doors and check in at the office before going to class. For kindergarten students, during times of inclement weather, the southwest doors will be unlocked to allow them to enter the school and wait in the hallway until their classes begin. The doors will then be re-locked.

When checking a student out, you will be asked to show a form of picture identification. Only those included on the student’s emergency form will be allowed to check out students.

In extreme weather conditions, as we experienced during January, we use the following guidelines to determine whether or not recess will be held. If the temperature is below 20 degrees, it is an automatic inside recess day. We also watch closely the air quality index. When the air quality has reached a dangerous level, students will not be permitted to go outside.

If, at any time the need arises, we are in constant communication with our local police department for any assistance they might render. The police department is also making daily visits to the school as part of their routine and we are appreciative of their support.

As always thank you for your continued support.

Sincerely,

Scot D. Westover, Principal

School Cross Walk on 1300 West

We have been asked by the Pleasant Grove Police Department to remind all patrons and staff members that vehicles should not be parked any closer than 115 feet on either side (north and south) of the crosswalk that is located in front of the school on 1300 West.

Love and Logic

Also, our school will be providing parents an opportunity to take a five-week course in “Love and Logic”. “Love and Logic” is a class designed to assist parents in their communication and listening skills, how to use correct discipline techniques, how to teach responsibility, and how to effectively give choices and consequences. The classes will be held on March 12, 19, 26 and April 9, and 16. Classes run from 7:00 – 9:00 p.m. The fee for the class is \$30.00 which includes a workbook and materials. If you are interested in taking the class please contact the school at 801-610-8113.

Kindergarten News

We have had a very eventful month in Kindergarten. We have been working on numbers 11-20, reading, and implementing new routines and learning activities into the classroom. Things to look forward to in February are as follows:

Math: Time, money, and Numbers 20-30.

Literacy: Writing CVC words, stretching words to better isolate and record them to make words, and sight words.

Writing: Journals and other everyday activities.

We are also very grateful for all the parental help and support that we have been receiving during class on a daily basis. Thank you parents for all you have done so far and we are all looking forward to a fabulous remainder of the school year!

6th grade news

6th Grade News

The 6th grade has been busy, busy, busy! We have been learning all about planets and space, along with the Moon, Sun, and Seasons. There sure is a lot to learn about out there! We've also learned all about how to make the perfect experiment for the Science Fair! With oral reports, written reports, experiments, and display boards, we barely have time to think about anything else! But, we have made time to learn all about Ancient Greece and the differences between the two city-states, Sparta and Athens. Boy, they sure believed in a lot of gods and goddesses. The Spelling Bee was another big time-consumer this month. The nine 6th grade finalists worked hard studying spelling, along with everything else. We are more than half way through the school year and still have a lot to learn 😊

5th grade News

The 5th grade has been hard at work removing our "writers block". The DWA test is soon approaching and we have been brushing up on our writing skills. Want to know what kind of writer your student is? Head to utahwrite.com, where your students scores will be displayed. Students are encouraged and should be practicing each week to gear up for the test. Students can log on at home to practice; they should have mastered writing a 5-paragraph persuasive essay.

In science, we are now finishing up with our third rotation. Students are mastering the topics of Genetics, Electricity/Magnetism, Geology, and Physical & Chemical change. Ask your student about all the exciting things they are doing and learning.

In math we will begin to focus on fractions. Fractions requires all facets of math. Students should be practicing multiplication and division facts at home. Mastery of these concepts are the building blocks for fractions and basic algebra.

During the next few months, the students will be participating in their government system. Students are learning the nuances of the government and how laws are made and enforced. Each classroom has their own laws and elected officers; they are learning how government affects the classroom and how it plays a role in the "real world".

It's a countdown until the end of the year, we are half-way there!

Thanks for all your support!

3rd grade news

Imagine visiting with famous people like Walt Disney, Lady Diana, J.K. Rowling and Anne Frank. These were the visitors that came to third grade on February 1st. Well, they were actually teachers dressed up as those famous people. We're studying biographies this month. On February 28th the third graders will come dressed as the person from their book of choice and present a biographical sketch as that person. It's always fun for the presenters and their audience.

We've been working hard on learning our multiplication and also division facts. We look forward to mastering these new areas of study in math. Thank you for all the help and support you give your children, especially for the efforts you make with your student's daily reading at home!

4th grade news

We're a month into 2013 and the 4th grade at Mount Mahogany is already loving it! We've finished Social Studies and have started Science! The kids are very eager to learn as much as they can about the rocks of the earth, weather, fossils, and more! It's especially fun because we rotate classes for Science. Each student is going to have a chance to get to know the other 4th Grade teachers and learn from them.

Science is not all that's been going on around the 4th Grade though! We've also been working hard to become expert mathematicians. Lately we've been focusing on Geometry and Advanced Multiplication. Soon, the students will learn how to do Advanced Division and of course, Fractions!

It's an exciting time to be a 4th Grader!

1st grade news

This is a busy time of year in First Grade!

We have just finished up our DRA reading testing. We are happy with the progress the students are making. Please keep reading at home daily and returning your PTA take-home books promptly. The teachers will be giving the district math assessment during the first part of February. Please make sure your child is here, on time, and ready to do their best! All first graders will be tested again in reading and math at the end of the school year.

We have been having some fun science lessons lately. We are learning about seasons, rocks, and weather. Ask your child about some new things they have learned!

Also, please remember to send your child to school with coats, hats, gloves, mittens, scarfs, boots etc. each day so that they can be warm and comfortable at recess.

Thanks for all you do! -The First Grade Team

2nd grade news

2nd Grade recently took a field trip to see and hear the Utah Symphony. It was a great opportunity for us and we are glad we could experience the beautiful music.

We are working hard on our upcoming program. It will be held on Monday, January 25th. We will perform for the school in the morning and have an evening performance for families that night. We would like for your 2nd grade child to wear jeans and a plain white t-shirt for the program. We appreciate the parents who have helped with program preparations.