

Fruitdale Elementary School

1560 Bill Baker Way
Grants Pass, Oregon 97527
541-476-2276



PANTHER PAWS NEWS

February 2009

Principal's Message

It is now February and hopefully we are done with snow days and delayed starts. Despite missing the last two days in December, we still had a very successful January holiday concert, and teachers and students were able to celebrate the season by decorating gingerbread houses, giving and receiving gifts, and enjoying some holiday cheer in the classroom.

Now the New Year is upon us and I hope our resolutions and goals are still in place and we are actively making progress in our different walks of life. A couple of goals I have made for Fruitdale are in place and working very well. We have started a music appreciation program that adds another cultural experience for our students to enjoy. Every morning we listen for three or four minutes to a selection of classical music. This is preceded by an explanation of the music and introduces different composers and their reasons for writing the music. Students and staff are really enjoying this exercise and it gives teachers a little more time to take care of the roll and other housekeeping duties. More importantly, it gives students an opportunity to listen to music they may not be used to and introduces them to sounds of different instruments in an orchestra.

Another goal was to put a lockdown procedure in place and then have a drill so that in the event we have

a situation on campus, we would be better prepared to ensure the safety of our students and staff. We now have a procedure and on January 22nd, we conducted a drill. I was so pleased with the results of this exercise. All students were respectful of the situation and did exactly as they were directed. My expectations are very high when it comes to the safety of our students and staff, and I am pleased to inform you that we met and exceeded those expectations on all levels.

Once again, I would like to thank you for your support and the encouragement you give to our students. Thank you for helping them with their homework; thank you for reading with and to them; thank you for building them up and advocating for their success. The 23rd of January marked the half-way point of the school year and time keeps marching on. As we head to a busy springtime, it is my hope we can serve our kids in every way and make the second half of the year as successful and great as the first.
Sincerely,

Kelly Christensen





February **Calendar**

Feb. 2nd-Dental
Screening (1st-3rd)

Feb. 3rd-Dental
Screening
(1st-3rd)

Feb. 4th- Rogue Opera

Feb. 6th- Fundraisers
end

Feb. 9th-13th- Spirit
Week

Feb. 10th-Dental
Sealants

Feb. 10th-Parent Pack
Meeting 5:30pm-6:30pm

Feb. 11th-Dental
Sealants

Feb. 11th-Science Fair

Feb. 14th-Valentines Day

Feb. 16th-President's Day
(No School)

Feb. 17th-Site Council
Meeting 2:00pm


Feb. 18th- Oral Health
Presentation (2nd Grade)

Feb. 19th-Kidzone night
5:30pm-7:30pm

Feb. 23rd-Dental
Sealants

Feb. 25th- Breakfast with
the principal

Feb. 27th- Boys and Girls
Club closed today

When life gives you
a hundred reasons to cry
show life
a thousand reasons
to smile 



**Breakfast with the
Principal
Our winners for the
Month of January are:
Keely Church
Abby Contreras
Alyssa Moydell
Sierra Crofoot
Courtney Scott
Ariona Pennington**



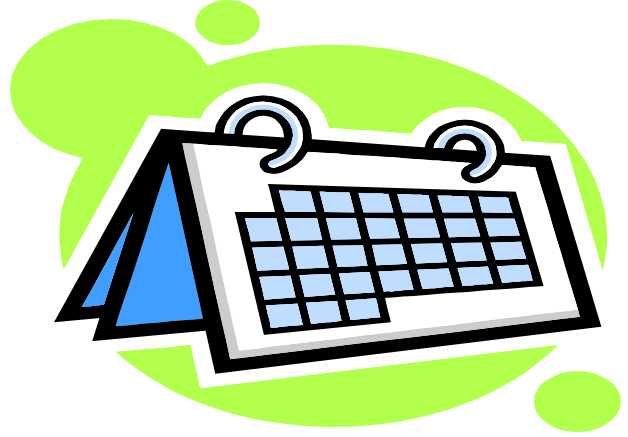
Fruitdale Fundraiser

Join us for fun at KidZone at ClubNorthwest every third Thursday of the month. The cost is \$5.00 per child with \$2.00 of that going back to the school. The teachers chaperoning for the month of February are Mrs. Sheehan and Ms. Ross. Please come join them on February 19th from 5:30pm-7:30pm.



The Student Store is OPEN

Our student Council members will be running the student store beginning on Tuesday January 27th. It will be open on Tuesdays and Fridays during lunch recess. Come check out all the fun things!



March Calendar

March 2-6th- Classified

Appreciation Week

March 3rd & 4th- Spring Pictures

March 9th,10th,12th,13th –

Science Works (4th & 5th grade)

March 10th- End of 2nd Trimester

(59 days)

March 10th- Parent Pack Meeting

(5:30pm-6:30pm)

March 11th- Clerical day

(No School)

March 17th- Site Council Meeting

(2:00pm)

March 18th-Breakfast with

Principal

March 19th- KidZone Night

(5:30pm-7:30pm)

Duewel/Bohannon

March 19th and March 20th-

Elementary Conferences

March 23rd-March 27th- Spring

Break

March 30th-School Resumes

March 31st- Chinese Folk

Concert(Grants Pass Performing

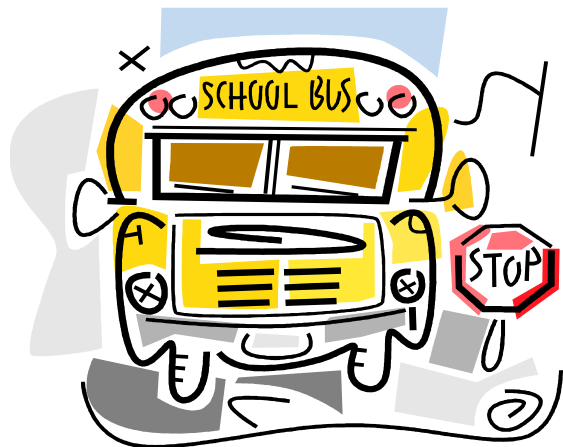
Arts Center) (3rd grade)



Student Council Applicants who were chosen to work in the kitchen and or the student store are as follows:

- KAELYN TAYLOR – BOTH
- CASEY CARTER – BOTH
- SYLVIA MARR – BOTH
- SIERRA CROFOOT – BOTH
- SEAN ROBERTS – BOTH
- COURTNEY SCOTT – CAFETERIA
- AALIYAH OOGHE – CAFETERIA
- DAKOTA CARPENTER – CAFETERIA
- DYLLON HOWARD – STORE
- SUMMER SMITH – STORE
- MARIAH HOPPINS – STORE
- DANIEL OSIPOVICH – STORE
- PAIGE STROHM – STORE

Congratulations!! We know you will do a fine responsible job!



Parking Lot Safety
Before, During, and After
School

Please **do not** park in the parking lot labeled “**Employees Only, Bus Parking**”. We do not want students and or parents crossing the parking lot when the busses are driving or between them when they are parked. When crossing the correct front parking lot use the crosswalk as designated. Please help us help your child to follow the rules and be safe.



GO..... F.R.U.I.T.D.A.L.E!!!

Spirit Week- February 9th-13th

- Monday- Pajama Day
- Tuesday- Acts of Kindness Day
- Wednesday- Crazy Hair/Hat Day
- Thursday- Twin Day
- Friday- Red/Pink/White Day



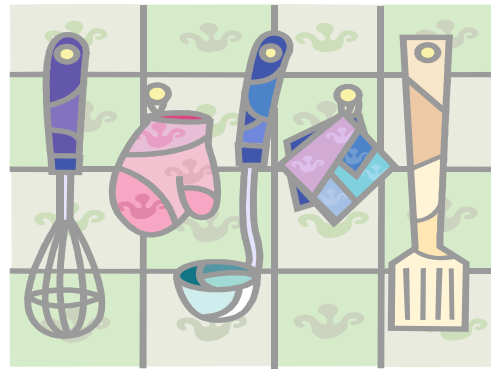
Thank You From Your Office Staff ☺

We appreciate your understanding as we try some different things out in the morning. The office door is locked due to students sneaking down the hallways and being unattended. This is prep time for their teachers and is not safe for them to be roaming the halls. The teachers will meet their students outside by their classroom after first bell. The window at the front office is **ALWAYS** open to you and your child. The doors will open after first bell. We in no way want you to feel “locked out” we are **always** here for you and your child.



PANTHER PACK NEWS

A bit of information from the Panther Pack Fruitdale Fundraiser We'll be offering Entertainment books to raise money. People look for entertainment each year, so be sure to tell everyone you know that our school is selling it! Enjoy up to 50% savings on family fun, dining out, travel, shopping and more! Also be looking for information on Otis Spunkmeyer cookie dough. Both Fundraisers will end on February 6th. As always we are looking for parents to come join our team. We meet every second Tuesday from 5:30pm-6:30pm in the library.



A Note From the Kitchen

Our nutritional goal at Fruitdale is to make sure everyone has a good, healthy breakfast and lunch. Breakfast is free to all students. Even though your child may eat a breakfast at home, they are welcomed and encouraged to get a snack to bring to their classroom for snack time. They are also highly encouraged to participate in breakfast as they may win breakfast with the principal. We are asking for every household that has not filled out a free and reduced lunch application to please do so with the paper work attached in this newsletter. You may return it to the office. If you have any questions or need help filling out the form our Food Service Manager Trish Marsh would be happy to assist you. Please call the school and you will be put in touch with her. If you have a balance that is three days or older your child will be served a "cheese sandwich" until the account is paid current. Thank you for keeping your child's account updated!

Trish Marsh
(Fruitdale Kitchen Manager)

Fruitdale Student
Council members are
taking on a new
project!

Please encourage your students to contribute to this important project to help educate children in Afghanistan and Pakistan.

Donations of PENNIES ONLY are accepted. Collection jars will be in the front office, the Student Store and in the library.

If you have questions please contact Ms. Marr in the library.



....To Pennies for Peace, a program of Central Asia Institute

Pennies for Peace educates children about the world beyond their experience and shows them that they can make a positive impact on a global scale, one penny at a time.

Our best hope for a peaceful and prosperous world lies in the education of all the world's children. Through cross-cultural understanding and a solution-oriented approach, Pennies for Peace encourages children, ultimately our future leaders, to be active participants in the creation of global peace.



What is the Power of a Penny?

The penny, 1% of a dollar, is symbolic of the '1% of Gross Domestic Product' goal set by the United Nations. The goal was for wealthy countries to give foreign aid to impoverished nations each year.

Pennies for Peace teaches children the rewards of sharing and working together to bring hope and educational opportunities to children in Pakistan and Afghanistan. A penny in the United States is virtually worthless, but in Pakistan and Afghanistan a penny buys a pencil and opens the door to literacy.

The mission of [Central Asia Institute](#) (CAI) focuses on community-based education, especially for girls. A 5th grade education for girls improves not only the basic indices of health for her and her family, she will also spread the value of education within her community. Literacy, for both boys and girls, provides better economic opportunities in the future and neutralizes the power of despot mullahs and other extremist leaders.

Please join us in Pennies for Peace!



**P.O. Box 7209 • Bozeman, MT
59771 • Phone: 406.585.7841**

info@penniesforpeace.org



BOX TOPS

DUE BY

FEBRUARY 13!

ANDERSON - 207

BOHANNON - 102

CHRISTENSON - 0

DUEWEL - 215

DUKE - 200

ELLIS - 165

GARCIA - 88

GILBERT - 557

HAYNES - 225

ROSS - 365

SHEEHAN - 700

WEBB - 145

WOODRUFF - 128

THANKS, AGAIN, TO DR.
LORAIN ABEL FOR ALL OF
HER HARD WORK!

THESE ARE THE CURRENT
TOTALS.

REMEMBER, OUR LIBRARY IS
ABLE TO BUY BOOKS WITH
THIS MONEY AND THE
WINNING CLASS GETS A
PARTY. WE WILL NEED TO
REPLACE DR. ABEL NEXT
YEAR WHEN HER SON,
MATTHEW GOES TO MIDDLE
SCHOOL. PLEASE THINK
ABOUT VOLUNTEERING TO
COORDINATE OUR BOX TOPS
EFFORT.

THANK YOU,
MRS. MARR

CHECK IT OUT!

NOTES FROM THE LIBRARY

Our Fruitdale students have been reading a lot this year. We have circulated over 14,000 books since September!

Please remember to help your child to be a responsible library patron. Keep track of books and due dates, pay fines for lost or damaged books.

As you may know, our budget is frozen. That means no new books unless we raise money from other sources (like Box Tops!). We have to be super careful with the books that we currently have.

If your child has read a book and no longer needs it consider donating it to our library. Right now I am looking for the fourth City of Ember Book;

Listen to the Wind by Greg Mortenson and #11 of the Lemony Snicket books. Any donation is appreciated. In that same vein, I am often asked to buy AR tests for books that a student has read at home. If I have a book in the library I am happy to buy the test, this is another instance when a donation will help. You can look on line @ www.relearn.com to find test information on books.

We plan to hold a second Scholastic Bookfair this year. It will be in April and I do need volunteers.

Thank you to Holly Seable, Regina Corley and Joelle Austin who have been helping a lot in the library. Keep your ears open for a new bill in our legislature sponsored by Peter Buckley to fund our Oregon school libraries! The bill is titled Fund Our Future. For more information go to <http://www.fundourfutureoregon.org/> Feel free to contact me at any time!

Thank you,
Ms. Marr

