Welcome to a busy February! We kicked off the month with students participating in the Mathcounts competition. Congratulations to Eli Wheeler who was the Emerson 1st place finisher. Way to go Eli! Emerson also had three students whose Emerson Science Fair projects move on to the Salt Lake City School District Science Fair. All three students won first place awards: Sohum Krishna in mechanical and engineering, Hazel Jennings in social and behavioral science, and Eli Wheeler in electrical engineering. Their projects are moving on to the Utah State Science Fair. Emerson students are engaged in some outstanding academic work. I continue to be impressed with their accomplishments.

Just today, Emerson was recognized at the Utah State Legislature as a 2021 National Blue Ribbon School award winner. Representative Joel Briscoe invited two students from Emerson to lead the Pledge of Allegiance as they opened their session. Emily Sandoval and Ruby Smardon recited the pledge in English and Spanish. I was so proud to have them represent Emerson. They were poised, confident, and amazing! This was just one more example of the outstanding students at Emerson.

We are in the middle of our second SEP conference of the year. Students, parents, and teachers are meeting together to talk about student academic progress and to set goals for the remainder of the year. As part of our conferences, the Scholastic Book Fair is back! Kids were excited to visit the fair and see all the books on display. Thank you to the Emerson PTA for providing volunteers to staff the fair. They even sold the world famous Just for Books Lollipops. Things are definitely starting to feel back to normal.

Thank you for supporting our school and students by volunteering and attending our community events. The collective effort from the Emerson community is what makes our school so awesome for kids.

Ms. Reynolds

Please send submissions to Susan Rich at birdbath@gmail.com or call me at 801-641-8863
**News from the garden:** Hello from the garden! The weather is starting to warm up and we are easing our way back into the garden again. We are excited to start growing our garden classroom soon and are so excited to share them with you! This month we invited some class pets into the classrooms. The students were excited to learn about worms and other garden decomposers. Additionally, the KinderGarden was able to spend gardenclub outside looking for signs of winter and learned about roots!

**Meet the New Garden Educator:**

Hi! I’m Morgan MacMillan, the new Garden Educator! I am thrilled to be joining the Emerson Community and am so excited to take the garden to the next level this Spring! I am from New Hampshire and have spent most of my life working in and studying Agriculture all over the world. I graduated from the University of Connecticut with a degree in Sustainable Plant and Soil Science and have since transitioned to Western living. Additionally, I am a Yoga Teacher and am in the process of completing my teacher trainings in Salt lake. I am looking forward to bringing mindfulness and movement to the garden.

I am thrilled to have the opportunity to make connections to food, health, and the earth out in the garden and I am looking forward to seeing you out in the garden this spring as well!

**Upcoming:**

Seed starts are happening in the classroom this coming month. So excited to be teaching about seeds and germination. I have lots of great things planned.

I would love to have some volunteers come out for spring clean up in the next couple of months so be sure to look out for signups for that.

**Social Media**

Follow the [Instagram @emersongarden1](https://www.instagram.com/emersongarden1) to stay up to date with all of the garden excitement! I’ve added some new updates and look forward to using Instagram as a communication tool in the future.

Questions, comments, feedback are all welcome. You can reach out to me via email at [emersongarden@hotmail.com](mailto:emersongarden@hotmail.com)

Thank you for your continued support!