

BLUE HAWK NEWS

Christmas Concert

Our Elementary Christmas Concert, for kinder through 6th grade students, will be held on **Monday, December 18th** at 6.30PM in the **Elementary Gym**. Students should arrive by **6:15PM**. Please keep in mind that parking is limited and plan accordingly. The concert should be less than an hour long. We respectfully request that everyone stay until the end, modeling respect (one of our core values) for all performers. The performance will be filmed and uploaded to Thompson Falls Schools Facebook page, potentially livestreamed, so that extended family and friends can enjoy it as well. Thank you Mrs. Mickelson and Mrs. Nichols for your directing efforts!

FOOD DRIVE

Last week's Food Drive, sponsored by our Student Council, was a great success! Thanks to all who brought in food items, the student council was able to deliver 825 pounds of food to the Community Harvest Food Bank this past Monday. Fifth grade gathered the most, with a total of 138 pounds and are being treated to the Root Beer Float Party, which they will enjoy before we head to Christmas Break.

PTO News & Notes

The Kid's Choice Gift Shop, sponsored by our PTO has been open all this week. We've seen lots of excited shoppers and hope those who they are gifting will be delighted with their gifts. By all accounts it has been a successful fundraiser for the Parent Teacher Organization. The shop will be open one more day, tomorrow, Friday, December 15th during the students' lunch time and again for a few minutes right after school.

Tomorrow is PTO Popcorn Friday! This week's sponsor is the Be Like Bill Foundation and popcorn will be free to every student in grades K through 6. If you would like to sponsor a Popcorn Friday, simply contact a PTO Member.

Thanks to our PTO for sponsoring the MEGA Buck Campaign. Students earn Blue Hawk Bucks by exhibiting our core values (Integrity, Respect, Compassion, Unity, and Excellence) During the month of December, student can exchange five (5) Blue Hawk Bucks for 1 MEGA Buck, which is then entered into the drawing for prizes. PTO has over 90 prizes on display in the hallway of the Elementary. MEGA Bucks will be drawn for prizes the morning of December 20th. The excitement is building!

Holiday Greetings

From our School Staff to each of our School Families, We want to wish all of you Happy Holidays! We truly consider each student as one of our children, and we consider their families part of our extended family. This is a time of year where we encourage everyone to take some time to be thankful for who they have in their lives, and we are extremely thankful to have each student in our lives daily! We will miss them over the winter break, but we are happy to have some time with our own families to recharge our batteries. We look forward to seeing our students on January 2nd when school resumes. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to you all!

Important Happenings

- 12/14 REACH - 3rd-8th Gr After School Program - 3:30-5PM
- 12/15 FUN FRIDAY - Twins Day
- 12/15 Popcorn Friday—sponsored by Be Like Bill Foundation
- 12/15 PTO Gift Shop—open 11-1 & 2:15-3:15PM
- 12/15 *Early out - 2:05PM*
- 12/18 NO REACH
- 12/18 K-6 Christmas Concert - 6:30PM - Elem Gym
- 12/20 Wear Your Ugly Sweater Day
- 12/20 Mega Bucks Drawing - 9AM
- 12/20 Classroom Christmas Parties
- 12/20 NO REACH
- 12/21-1/1 NO SCHOOL - Christmas Break**
- 1/2 School resumes - 8:10AM
- 1/3 REACH - 3rd-8th Gr After School Program - 3:30-5PM
- 1/4 Read 2 Ride Reading begins
- 1/4 REACH - 3rd-8th Gr After School Program - 3:30-5PM
- 1/5 *Early out - 2:05PM*
- 1/8 REACH - 3rd-8th Gr After School Program - 3:30-5PM
- 1/10 REACH - 3rd-8th Gr After School Program - 3:30-5PM
- 1/11 REACH - 3rd-8th Gr After School Program - 3:30-5PM
- 1/12 *Early out - 2:05PM*
- 1/18 *End of 1st Semester*
- 1/17 PTO Meeting - 4:30PM - Elementary
- 1/19 NO SCHOOL - PIR**
- 1/26 4th-8th Gr. 1st Ski Trip
- 1/26 *Early out - 2:05PM*
- 2/2 *Early out - 2:05PM*
- 2/9 *Early out - 2:05PM*
- 2/16 *Early out - 2:05PM*
- 2/22-2/23 NO SCHOOL**
- 3/1 4th-8th Gr. 2nd Ski Trip
- 3/1 *Early out - 2:05PM*

Thompson Falls Elementary

Mr. Len Dorscher,
Principal

School web site:
<http://thompsonfalls.net>



ThompsonFallsSchools



Quiet Times: The Greatest Holiday Gift

We live in a frenetic world, one that is constantly bombarding us with text messages, emails, news, and unsettling events beyond our control. The holiday season adds to this sensory deluge and the effects can be overwhelming. My most cherished holiday memories from childhood are of sweet times when we were quiet and still, and we had time to just enjoy being together as a family.

In addition to helping us relax and recharge our energy, recent neurological studies have shown that peace and quiet, and even silence, can help restore our nervous systems and enhance our ability to respond to the world around us. These studies suggest that quiet might even stimulate development of new nerves cells. However, quiet time is a precious commodity these days, even more so during the holiday season.

One way to ensure we have enough quiet time is by setting and maintaining appropriate limits. The greatest holiday gift we can give our kids is the gift of limits—mostly limits on ourselves and the other adults in our lives. The limits we set with ourselves mostly involve curbing the natural inclination to do the impossible—make the holidays a perfect experience for everyone. We all know what happens when we attempt to make everyone happy.

The limits we set with the other adults in our lives involve taking good care of ourselves and our kids. Caution! Some of these might cause severe shock:

- *We can't wait to see you guys. We'll need to leave by six so we can spend some quiet with the kids before bedtime.*
- *We love you and want to spend time with you. We are trying to help the kids be more relaxed and rested, so we'll need to do this on another day.*
- *We want to spend a relaxing time with everyone, so we'll be ordering pizza.*

The true meaning of the holidays lies in the connections we make with our families and with others in our communities throughout the season. These relationships are an invaluable part of all our lives. Cherish your relationships and create truly joyful memories this holiday season.

In whatever holiday activities you have, connect with the people you love, and not just those under the same roof, and balance your activities with adequate rest and quiet times for you and your kids.

Each week we will share Love & Logic tips here. We also have many Love & Logic resources available for loan.

Contact our school counselor, Ms. Taylour Freed, for more info.