

Thompson Falls School District #2 shall provide equal educational opportunity and treatment for all students without regard to race, creed, color, national origin, sex, marital status, previous arrest or incarceration or non-program-related physical, sensory or mental handicaps as stated in board policy and MCA 49-2-307, 49-3-205.

B L U E H A W K N E W S

VETERAN'S DAY LUNCH TOMORROW, NOV. 10th 11:00-12:00 Elementary Lunchroom

PARENT CONFERENCES

We are grateful for all the parents / guardians, who have already made time in their busy schedules to meet for Parent Teacher Conferences. We have held just over half of the scheduled conferences and are looking forward to seeing the rest of you and completing all conferences this next week. If you were unable to keep your student's conference appointment, please call the office at 406.827.3592 x 3 and we will find a time for you. Our goal is 100% attendance.

PTO NEEDS YOU

The PTO (Parent Teacher Organization) will hold their November meeting this coming Wednesday, November 15th. The meeting will begin at 4:30PM in the Elementary. This group of amazing volunteers is already busy organizing upcoming events. They will be discussing their upcoming Santa's Shop opportunity and the MEGA Bucks Campaign they sponsor each year. Watch for more details. Events like these can only happen through the effort and energy of volunteers! Your participation is encouraged and welcomed!

WINTER WEAR

The air has a bit of a chill in it these days and winter is right around the corner! Per our handbook, students go out for recesses unless the temperature or wind chill factor dips to 0 degrees Fahrenheit or below. It is critical that students come prepared for this colder weather. If your child is in need of a winter coat, please let us know. We have been given a generous supply. No child needs to be cold!

STUDENT COUNCIL NEWS

Our Student Council has planned the next few Fun Friday themes:

- 11/10 - Red, White and Blue Day
- 11/17 - Camo Day
- 12/1 - Student / Teacher Reversal Day

Student Council members will also be busy tomorrow during our Veteran's Lunch, escorting visiting Veterans and serving their meals.

Important Happenings

- 11/9 REACH - 3rd-8th Gr After School Program - 3:30-5PM
- 11/10 Veteran's Appreciation Luncheon - 11AM-12PM
- 11/10 FUN FRIDAY—Red, White & Blue Day
- 11/10 *Early out - 2:05PM*
- 11/13 REACH - 3rd-8th Gr After School Program - 3:30-5PM
- 11/14 Parent / Teacher Conferences - 5-8PM - Elem
- 11/15 PTO Meeting—4:30PM—Elementary
- 11/15 REACH - 3rd-8th Gr After School Program - 3:30-5PM
- 11/16 REACH - 3rd-8th Gr After School Program - 3:30-5PM
- 11/17 FUN FRIDAY—Camo Day
- 11/17 *Early out - 2:05PM*
- 11/20 NO REACH
- 11/22-11/24 **NO SCHOOL—Thanksgiving Break**
- 11/27 REACH - 3rd-8th Gr After School Program - 3:30-5PM
- 11/29 REACH - 3rd-8th Gr After School Program - 3:30-5PM
- 11/30 REACH - 3rd-8th Gr After School Program - 3:30-5PM
- 12/1 FUN FRIDAY—Student Teacher Reversal Day
- 12/1 *Early out - 2:05PM*
- 12/5 JH/HS Christmas Concert - 6:30PM - HS Gym
- 12/6 REACH - 3rd-8th Gr After School Program - 3:30-5PM
- 12/8 *Early out - 2:05PM*
- 12/15 *Early out - 2:05PM*
- 12/18 K-6 Christmas Concert - 6:30PM-Elem Gym
- 12/20 MEGA Buck Drawings
- 12/20 Classroom Christmas Parties
- 12/21-1/1 **NO SCHOOL - Christmas Break**
- 1/2 School resumes - 8:10AM
- 1/5 *Early out - 2:05PM*
- 1/12 *Early out - 2:05PM*
- 1/18 *End of 1st Semester*
- 1/19 **NO SCHOOL - PIR**
- 1/26 4th-8th Gr. 1st Ski Trip

Thompson Falls Elementary

Mr. Len Dorschler,
Principal

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



ThompsonFallsSchools



Homework and the Love of Learning

The beginning of another school year always brings back memories of my many years as an educator and school principal. My experiences showed me that teachers teach best when their students love to learn. If I were king, I'd insist that we take a different look at the role of homework, especially for elementary-aged children, and how to inspire that love of learning.

There are many different ways to learn. Pencil and paper activities are good ways to learn, but these are only one of many possible ways. If I were king, paper and pencil worksheets would cease at the end of the school day for kids in elementary school. Other forms of learning would take over, except in cases where a child does them on a voluntary basis.

I would encourage parents to ask teachers for ideas about how kids can learn in different and fun ways with their parents. I bet the teachers would suggest all kinds of learning activities that support the work done at school. Homework might include activities such as:

- Reading to each other
- Games that require math skills
- Exploring the neighborhood for examples of nature and science
- Card games and board games
- Measuring and weighing while cooking
- Finding the best bargains in the grocery store
- Spelling games
- Calculating gas mileage, win/loss averages for favorite sports, time and distance while traveling, etc.

This list could go on and on. When parents get involved in the learning process in this way, they set a powerful example for their kids and can give parents a fun way to inspire their kids to love to learn. Let's put the joy back into learning.

In our book, [*From Bad Grades to a Great Life, Unlocking the Mystery of Achievement for Your Child*](#), you will find many more ideas for instilling the love of learning in 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.