

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

NO SCHOOL March 5th & March 6th

Do You Know A 5 Year Old?

Do you know a child who will be turning 5 years old on, or before, September 10th? Kindergarten Round Up is scheduled for Tuesday, March 3rd and Wednesday, March 11th. Call **406-827-3592 x 3** now to schedule an enrollment appointment! Please share this information!

RUNNING START

On **Monday, March 9th** we will kick off our annual Running Start Program. The goal of this national program is to create 21st Century readers who eagerly turn to books for both information and enjoyment. To meet this six week long challenge, the students will need to read or have someone read to them, at least 21 books or 21 chapters during the months of March and April. Watch for reading logs, coming home today, to help keep track of progress. Each completed reading log should be returned to your student's teacher, where it will be entered into a drawing for prizes. All reading logs are due by April 17th. We will kick the program off with a "Running Start" around the playground beginning at the Flagpole on **Monday, March 9th at 9:05AM**. Parents and community members are welcome to join us for the run.

Read Across America

Read Across America, a national reading challenge, was established in 1998. It is held the week of March 2nd—March 6th, as March 2nd, is Dr. Seuss's birthday. We celebrate with special themes for each day and lots of opportunities to read! Watch for the flyer coming home today with this year's themes.

PTO ISSUES CHALLENGE

Our PTO has set a new goal in their BoxTops Challenge! Can we reach \$700 by June 1st? We are currently at \$457.70. If we reach that goal, the grade level with the most earnings will be rewarded with a pizza party! Helping is as easy as shopping at your usual store and scanning your receipts into the app.

Early Learning Class

The first ever Early Learning Class (Pre-K) at Thompson Falls Elementary, is now enrolling students for the 2026-27 school year. Students must be at least 4 years old on or before September 10th. The class is limited to 18 students. Call us at **406-827-3592 x 3** to enroll.

Important Happenings

- 2/26 5th-8th Gr Science Fair—12:40-1:55PM—Gym
- 2/26 REACH (after school program for 3rd-8th) 3:15-5:00PM
- 2/27 FUN FRIDAY - Blue Hawk Day
- 2/27 Early Dismissal - 2:05PM
- 2/27 County Spelling Bee—1:00PM—Courthouse
- 3/2 2nd Ski Trip for 4th-8th Gr
- 3/2 RAA - Dress as your favorite Dr Seuss caharacter
- 3/2 Baseball Sign-ups—5:00-6:30PM - Baseball Field below HS
- 3/2 School Board Meeting - 6:00PM - Board Room
- 3/3 RAA - Wear bright colors for "Oh the Places You'll Go!"
- 3/3 Kindergarten Round-up—call for appointment
- 3/3 Beautification Poster Judging
- 3/4 RAA - Wear a mustache or color orange for "The Lorax"
- 3/4 REACH (after school program for 3rd-8th) 3:15-5:00PM
- 3/5-3/6 No School**
- 3/5 RAA—Read a book in the fresh air today
- 3/6 RAA—Cozy up and read today!
- 3/8 *Daylight Savings begins - spring ahead 1 hour*
- 3/9 Running Start Kick-off - 9:05AM - flagpole
- 3/9 NO REACH**
- 3/11 Kindergarten Round-up - call for appointment
- 3/11 4th Gr Winter Tracks - Mule Pasture
- 3/11 REACH (after school program for 3rd-8th) 3:15-5:00PM
- 3/11 PTO Meeting - 5:00PM
- 3/12 REACH (after school program for 3rd-8th) 3:15-5:00PM
- 3/13 No School**
- 3/16-3/21 MCT - Hercules!
- 3/16 MCT K-12 Auditions - Jr High Gym - 3:30PM
- 3/17 K-8 Gr Class Picture Day
- 3/16-4/3 Running Start Community Guest Readers
- 3/16 REACH (after school program for 3rd-8th) 3:15-5:00PM
- 3/18 REACH (after school program for 3rd-8th) 3:15-5:00PM

Thompson Falls Elementary

Mr. Len Dorscher,
Principal

School web site:
<https://tfes.thompsonfalls.net>



Teaching Kids Responsibility Through Real-Life Money Lessons

In many ways, challenging times can provide excellent learning opportunities for our kids. The children who lived through the Great Depression learned many lessons about money, lessons that benefited them later in life. The present is no different, and we can take this opportunity to help our kids learn how to be financially responsible.

Love and Logic's Four Steps to Responsibility is an excellent method and it can be tailored to fit a variety of topics that are important for kids to learn. Here are the Four Steps to Responsibility tailored for teaching financial management to young kids.

Step 1: The Allowance

The first step involves giving them some type of allowance or "practice money" each week. With younger children, an "allowance" of cookies usually works better than money.

Step 2: Hope for Unwise Spending

Most parents agree that it's better for a child to learn money management by eating their cookies too fast at age three rather than spending their paycheck too fast at age thirty-three! Mistakes made earlier in life have the smallest price tags. Avoid falling into the trap of reminding or lecturing if your kids run through their allowance too soon. Parents who start lecturing can rob their children of essential learning opportunities.

Step 3: Let "Money" Mismanagement Do the Teaching

If all their cookies are eaten before "pay day," don't get angry and start lecturing. With sincere empathy, just show them the allowance schedule and say, "This is so sad. We give more cookies on Wednesday. That's two more days." Kids might throw a fit, but parents must respond calmly but firmly so that the consequences do the teaching.

Step 4: Second Chances

The fourth step to responsibility is simply to adhere to the allowance plan so kids can experience what happens if they don't use their cookies (or money) wisely. Instead of lecturing or telling them what they should learn, simply keep providing the cookies on schedule. Eventually kids will learn from the consequences of their decisions and use their allowance wisely!

Money lessons don't have to turn into lectures or frustration. Our audio, [Four Steps to Responsibility](#), shows you how to help kids connect their choices with consequences and develop accountability that lasts.

Helping kids build wise financial habits begins with understanding how responsibility develops over time. For additional perspective on guiding kids toward smart money decisions, read our blog: [Kids and Money: Four Steps to Financial Responsibility](#)

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

Contact our school counselor, Ms. Jessy Lewis, for more info.