

### President's Message

Twas the night before Christmas vacation, when all through the school

The students were studying, now isn't that cool?

The backpacks were hung in the classroom with care,  
In hopes that the teachers would send them home bare.

The children were nestled and quiet at their desks,  
While visions of recess danced in their heads.

Dr. Thomas spun the "wheel", and teachers gave out coins,  
As the PTA president pleaded "Help us! Please join!"

When out in the hall there arose such a clatter,  
It's time for black mark boogie, let's all help out Wendy and Chester!

Away in the office, Mrs. Scott with Mrs. Burr by her side  
"I missed the bus" "I need a band aid" the students cried

In the kitchen, Mrs. Fowler and her crew happily cook  
As Mrs. Hebert fills the library with all sorts of books

Mrs Hill with students at their computer keyboards  
All trying to type faster than what they last scored

When what to my anxious ears should I hear?  
But the school bell ringing, Christmas is near!

More rapid than eagles, the students all came  
And whistled, and shouted, and did exclaim

"No more pencils!" "No more books!"  
"No more teachers concerned looks!"

"On parties!" "On presents!" "On kindness and giving!"  
Remember to keep in mind the true Christmas meaning!

Be sure to wave at Nichole and Mrs. Bestor as you are leaving...  
And don't forget to attend our next PTA Meeting!

(Wednesday, Dec. 10<sup>th</sup> 11:30-12:30)

Whitnee Robinson  
PTA President

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372-9448



"He who has not Christmas  
in his heart will never  
find it under a tree."

- Roy L. Smith

### Looking Ahead Calendar



#### December

- Dec 1-5: Santa's shop in the teacher's lounge
- Dec. 2: Knowledge Bowl Meeting 3:40 pm
- Dec. 5: Nutcracker Christmas Assembly 2:25-3:15
- Dec. 10: **PTA Meeting 11:30-12:30**
- Dec. 19: Class Christmas parties
- Dec. 20-Jan 4: Christmas break/No school
- Jan 5, 2009: Back to school
- Jan 22: Preliminary Spelling Bee 3:00pm

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## Principal's Message *by Dr. Thomas*

In reflecting on the season I have come to realize more keenly that we have a good deal to be thankful for at Foothill. Most particularly, great teachers, parents, and students that make up this fabulous school community. I am continually impressed at the level of commitment from all interested parties to the success of students at this school. There certainly is a culture of service and support that is infused in all we do here at Foothill. This is why it only seemed natural for this message to focus on our wonderful service opportunities this holiday season, as well as our fun Foothill traditions, past and present.

In working closely with our student council we have chosen the theme of "Exploring the Possibilities of Service" this month. Not only does this build on our school-wide theme of "Exploring the Possibilities" it promotes our Foothill Four: Courage, Courtesy, Respect, and Responsibility. Our major service activity will be raising funds for KSL's "Quarters for Christmas," which provides shoes and needed clothing for children throughout Utah. This will be accomplished in a fun competition using loose change; we call it Penny Wars (please see the announcement from the student council included in this newsletter). The Clark family is continuing their tradition of collecting coats and gloves for the homeless through a school-wide coat and glove drive. In our classes many of the teachers will be focusing on individual class projects related to service as well. Lastly, we are in the planning stages of a food drive to be held in a couple of months for the Utah Food Bank, who indicates they have great need two to three months after the holidays.

In keeping with the focus on service this month I have chosen to visit every classroom to read holiday stories as part of what I call Dr. T's Holiday Read. I look forward to sharing this time with students and in January starting back with Dr. T's Readers with the following books:

**Grades 1 – 3 *The Spiderwick Chronicles Book II***

**Grades 4 – 6 *Alex Rider Series – Point Blank***

November was the second month in a row that close to 100 students were participating! My monthly reminder is, as always, to please keep encouraging your students to read not only the Dr. T books, but any good book they can get their hands on.

We have enjoyed a wonderful positive tone set by the Wheel of Fortune, and starting this month we have made some modifications so that more students get the opportunity to spin. The major change is that instead of saving their wooden nickels up and turning them all in at once they need to turn one in the same week they received it. I wish to thank again our PTA for providing, in fact increasing, the funding to purchase prizes! We could not provide this without this type of support and the continued support of our many business partners.

Please enjoy a wonderful holiday season and thank you in advance for support of our theme – "Exploring the Possibilities of Service."

Dr. Thomas



*Merry Christmas*

## HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

### December

12/25 Melissa Batts

12/31 Claudette Fowler

### January

01/03 Cody Hafen



## PTA Yahoo! Group



### PTA Yahoo! Group Sign-up instructions:

Go to <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/FoothillElementaryPTA>

1. Click-on "Join This Group"
2. If you have a Yahoo account, sign-in.
3. If not, you will need to click-on the "Sign up" and create an account.
4. Fill-out the information and follow the steps to join.

After you join, you will be able to assign an additional e-mail address to your account--the one you use the most. This option is next to your yahoo email address under Step 1.

Under Step 2, we recommend the individual e-mail mode. Only the moderator will be able to send you e-mails using this group so you won't be receiving spam.

## Student Council Service Project: PENNY WARS!

*(Clean out your pockets, check between the cushions, save your change!)*

On December 15-17, our student council has planned a school service project. KSL's "Quarters for Christmas" raises money to provide new shoes and children's supplies to needy children throughout Utah.

In the spirit of fun and giving, all students are invited to participate in "Penny Wars." Each teacher will have a jar in their classroom for a collection of coins and bills. Students will be competing to see which class receives the most points, as well as who collects the most money.

For grades K-2, points will be earned based on the amount of money that is collected.

For example:

one penny = 1 point

one quarter = 25 points

one-dollar bill = 100 points



For grades 3-6, pennies and bills are worth the same amount of positive points. However, silver coins count as negative points. Therefore, a class may have the most amount of money in their jar, but the least amount of points. Students will bring in pennies and bills to accumulate positive points for their own class, while trying to sneak silver coins into other classes' jars to use negative points against their total.

All this is a fun way to raise money for children who will need extra supplies throughout this winter. Thank you so very much for your support in this student council effort.

*Foothill Elementary Student Council & Advisors*

# Knowledge Bowl 2008: "The Arts"

Attention: 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> graders!

Come and participate in KNOWLEDGE BOWL and expand your "knowledge" in the areas of **ART, MUSIC, THEATRE, & LITERATURE.**

Informational meeting for STUDENTS and PARENTS will be:

- Tuesday, December 2<sup>nd</sup> at 3:40 pm  
Foothill Elementary Media Center
- Theme: "The Arts"
- Parents: If you are interested in helping this year, please attend this meeting.

Tell all your friends!

Questions, please call Michelle Prosocki @ **520-603-3883**



## Nursing News: Influenza

Children are the primary vectors of influenza in the community. Influenza activity can peak from December through May. The highest influenza infection rates are among the 5-9 year old age group. Children play an important role in spreading influenza due to the following reasons:

- Children adhere less to cough-and-sneeze etiquettes.
- Children begin to shed and spread the virus 6 days prior to symptoms.
- Children continue to shed and spread the virus for 14 days after symptoms appear.
- Children carry 10-14 times the virus load compared to an adult.

Influenza-associated deaths are uncommon among children but represent a substantial proportion of vaccine preventable deaths. Deaths attributable to influenza are far less common in children than in the elderly. In 2007/2008 children accounted for 83 deaths due to influenza in the United States.

Complications of pediatric influenza infection include:

- ear infection
- heart inflammation
- bronchitis
- nerve inflammation
- pneumonia
- encephalitis
- febrile seizures
- Reye syndrome

The best protection is to have your child receive a flu shot. According to the Centers for Disease Control, this year's flu vaccine will provide protection for one year.

Kim Lowe, RN, School Nurse



# Box Tops for Education Corner

Thanks for participating in our November Election Collection Contest. Dr. T received the most Box Tops "Votes" and will have the honor of serving lunch to the school in his pajamas. Yipee!

Be sure to complete and return December's Hooray for Snow Days collection sheet. Every student to return a sheet by January 5th will receive a prize. See how many Box Tops you can collect while doing your Holiday baking this year!

Check out the Box Tops website [www.btfe.com](http://www.btfe.com) for great recipes, fun ideas, and information on free contests. Also, remember to use the Box Tops Marketplace when shopping online this Holiday season and a portion of your purchases will come back to our school!

Thanks for your support and keep collecting!!



## Spelling Bee



Get ready... It's time to start studying for the Spelling Bee!

We will hold two different bees, one for grades 1-3 and one for grades 4-6.

**The written preliminary bee will take place on Thursday, January 22, 2009 at 3:00 in the lunchroom and auditorium.**

The preliminary lists for both grades are being prepared and will be distributed early in December.

If you are in grades 4-6 and want to get a jump start on spelling, go to [www.myspellit.com](http://www.myspellit.com).

## Foster Parents Needed

How would it feel to suddenly move to a new school, with new teachers, and new friends? That's what happens when children in foster care are placed with families outside their own communities. If there are not enough available foster families in each city or town in Utah County, children are placed in homes outside of their school boundaries, forcing them to change everything that is familiar to them. These changes increase the trauma that they experience.

"We have more children coming into foster care in this area than in the past," says Wendy Bunnell, Area Representative for the Utah Foster Care Foundation's Orem office.

"Currently, there are 515 children in foster care right here in Utah County, many of them sibling groups who need to stay together." If you would like to respond to the need to help children in these challenging circumstances, please consider becoming a foster family.

Professional trainers offer free preparation classes and support groups for prospective foster/adoptive families. For more information, contact Wendy at 801.369.7824 or [wendy.bunnell@utahfostercare.org](mailto:wendy.bunnell@utahfostercare.org)



Utah Foster Care Foundation

**SCHEDULED MENU PLANS  
FOOTHILL ELEMENTARY**

December, 2008		Serving line ID: 2 LUNCH		Menu Group: Lunch	
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	
-1- Nachos Ham & Cheese Sandwich Fresh Fruits & Veggies Pears/Corn Churro Choice of Milk	-2- Chicken Nuggets Turkey Sandwich Potato Rounds Fresh Fruits & Veggies Peaches/Calif Blend Red Jello w/topping Choice of Milk	-3- Spaghetti & Meat Sauce Chef Salad French Bread Fresh Fruits & Veggies Applesauce Choice of Milk	-4- Choice of Cheese Pizza or Pepperoni Pizza Fish Sandwich Fresh Fruits & Veggies Kiwi/Green Beans Chocolate Chip Cookie Choice of Milk	-5- Turkey Roast Potatoes & Gravy Wheat Roll Hamburger/Chips Fresh Fruits & Veggies Fruit Mix/Peas & Carrots Choice of Milk	
-8- Egg Roll & Fried Rice Chicken Pattie Fresh Fruits & Veggies Pears/Calif Blend Fortune Cookie Choice of Milk	-9- Mozzarella Breadsticks Turkey Sandwich Fresh Fruits & Veggies Peaches/Green Salad Chocolate Pudding Choice of Milk	-10- Corn Dog BBQ Rib Sandwich Potato Rounds Fresh Fruits & Veggies Applesauce/Grapes Choice of Milk	-11- Choice of Cheese Pizza or Pepperoni Pizza Tuna Sandwich Fresh Fruit & Veggies Cantaloupe/Green Beans Snickerdoodle Cookie Choice of Milk	-12- Baked Potato Bar Wheat Roll Grilled Cheese/Chips Fresh Fruits & Veggies Fruit Mix/Broccoli Choice of Milk	
-15- Popcorn Chicken I Ham & Cheese Sandwich Ramen Noodles Fresh Fruits & Veggies Pears/Calif Blend Fortune Cookie Choice of Milk	-16- Rotini & Meat Sauce Chef Salad Wheat Roll Fresh Fruits & Veggies Peaches Choice of Milk	-17- Taco Hot Dog Fresh Fruits & Veggies Applesauce/Corn Cinnamon Roll Choice of Milk	-18- Choice of Cheese Pizza or Pepperoni Pizza Fish Sandwich Fresh Fruits & Veggies Kiwi/Green Beans Carnival Cookie Choice of Milk	-19- Breaded Chicken Potatoes & Gravy Wheat Roll Hamburger/Chips Fresh Fruits & Veggies Fruit Mix/Peas & Carrots Choice of Milk	
-22- Winter Break	-23- Winter Break	-24- Winter Break	-25- Winter Break	-26- Winter Break	

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