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# The Hawk's View

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November 2009

Valley View Elementary School Newsletter

Published by the PTA

## November Calendar

Nov. 10	Cookie Dough Delivery
Nov. 12	Picture Makeup Day 9-12
Nov. 13	1 <sup>st</sup> Trimester Ends
Nov. 16	2 <sup>nd</sup> Trimester Begins
Nov. 25	Teacher Comp Day
Nov. 26-27	Thanksgiving Break
Nov. 30	Nutcracker performance at PGHS. 1 <sup>st</sup> through 6 <sup>th</sup> grades to attend

## Principal's View

Parents,

With the Thanksgiving season upon us, it is a good time to reflect on the many blessings and opportunities that students at Valley View are afforded. With the legitimate challenges that many families face on a daily basis, it would be easy to focus on the negative. And in so doing, it would be natural to get discouraged and have a pessimistic view on life. Instead, I prefer to take a more positive outlook on things. We live in the greatest nation on earth where we have opportunities and choices unlike any other. Our community surrounds us with friends and neighbors who care for one another, who provide love and support when times are tough. Our students attend a neighborhood school where they are taught by caring teachers and who work hard to offer the best education possible. And most importantly, our students have the support of parents and siblings who know both their strengths and weaknesses and who provide a nurturing home life that is the stabilizing base they need.

Parents, as I interact with teachers and staff at Valley View on a daily basis, I know just how much these individuals want your children to be successful. I feel confident that they are doing the

best they can to help make this happen. Parents, we are grateful for several things you do to support us with our responsibilities. First, we appreciate the time you spend with your children helping them with homework, reading to them, and helping them follow through on projects. We know that there are many demands on your time and spending time on schoolwork in the evening can at times be overwhelming. We need to be sensitive to that and do a better job of making homework meaningful. Next, we appreciate your financial support as we try and generate extra funds via fundraisers. Our recent "Cookie Dough" activity was a huge success. With the proceeds, we will be able to purchase and install 4 new SMARTboards and projectors. This interactive technology will provide new and creative ways for teachers to introduce the curricula to their students. With the funds brought in from our Cookie Dough sales, along with funds from the school Trustlands account, we should be able to have one SMARTboard for each grade level. And hopefully, within the next few years, each teacher in the school will have a SMARTboard in their room. If you would like to obtain more information about SMARTboard technology, refer to this [link](#) and this [link](#). Finally, we appreciate the time many of you are able to donate at school. This may be by working with PTA, serving on the school community council, or it may be spending time as a volunteer classroom aide. Whichever form it takes, teachers appreciate any and all additional help they receive. We love your children and are grateful for the charge we have been given to help educate them.

We wish you all a wonderful holiday season.

Sincerely,

Mr. Bruce Gardner

## PTA PRESIDENT'S VIEW

This is a wonderful time of year! The kids have the first term of school under their belt and the holidays are just around the corner. November is the month of gratitude and I want to take the time in this message to thank all of you.

Last month we hosted the Halloween Haunt Fall Carnival fundraiser and it was a HUGE success! We made almost \$3000 for our PTA programs next year, but most importantly, the kids had a great time. I have heard such positive response from our parents, teachers and students about the Carnival. From the Pit of Terror to Pumpkin Bowling, a lot of fun was had by all who attended this event. We couldn't have done it without our teachers, staff, room parent volunteers and our GREAT carnival committee. Thank you, thank you, thank you to everyone who volunteered to help and to everyone who participated in making the carnival a hit!

As a PTA, we have events throughout the year in which we ask for volunteers and I just wanted to thank you for the time you spend in the classroom or at an event. It is definitely a time commitment and we want to make sure that you know how much we appreciate all of you!

There are no PTA sponsored events for the next few months, so enjoy the holidays together with your families and friends. As always, please feel free to contact me with any questions, comments or concerns.

Thank you again,  
Bethany Weight  
PTA President



## SCHOOL FOOD DRIVE

During the weeks of November 2nd - 20th our school will participate in a food drive to help the Community Action Services and Food Bank of Utah County. To participate, send non-perishable food and hygiene items to school with your child. Items that are needed right now:

Canned Fruit	Canned Vegetables
Canned Meats	Cold Cereal
Oatmeal	Pasta
Dried Soup	Peanut Butter
Diapers	Toilet Paper
Infant Formula	Dish Soap
Toothpaste	Laundry Soap

We would really appreciate your support with this food drive this month. Donated items will be stored and distributed by the Community Action Food Bank throughout the coming months. Let's help make this holiday season bright for those less fortunate than us. Thanks again for your support!

Congratulations to our new Valley View Student Council members! Thank you to everyone that ran. We have great 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> graders!

## Kindergarten Views

We are keeping busy in kindergarten. We have completed the alphabet and are on to learning to read and write. Keep practicing your letters and sounds at home as well as reading every day. We have been learning all about numbers, sorting, classifying, and patterning in math. We had a super fun October/fall Kids Day, and want to thank all the parents who helped make Kids Day a huge success. We could not do it without your support! In November our weekly themes will be: family, food/nutrition, and Thanksgiving. On Friday Nov. 20th we will be eating a traditional "Thanksgiving Dinner" in the lunchroom. Then November 24th is our "Kids Day". We will be learning about the first Thanksgiving, followed by our "Feast" in the kindergarten hall. More information will follow. We love kindergarten!  
-- Mrs. Muir and Mrs. Barlow