

2016-17 RIVERTON ELEMENTARY THEME

IMPORTANT DATES

ASST. PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

by Melissa Beck

Wow! What a wonderful start to the school year! As I have had the opportunity to chat with students in the lunchroom and on the playground, I have learned that students at Riverton Elementary are motivated and love to learn! Your student may have mentioned to you that Mrs. Tingey has a "new helper!" That is me! I am so grateful to get to work with your student and I am loving how thoughtful and kind they are.

Thank you for your help as we try to manage the drop-off and pick-up procedures. We truly appreciate your willingness to follow procedures so that we can keep all students safe!

As Mrs. Tingey mentioned in last month's newsletter, September is Attendance Awareness Month. There is a great resource online called *Attendance Works* (attendanceworks.org). This site provides tips and resources for principals, teachers, parents and others for improving attendance through education. I would like to share a few tips for parents suggested on the site:

1. Establish and stick to the basic routines (going to bed early, waking up on time, etc.) that will help your child develop the habit of on-time attendance.
2. Talk to your child about why going to school every day is critical and important unless they are sick. If your child seems reluctant to go to school, find out why and work with the



3. Come up with back up plans for who to turn to (another family member, a neighbor or fellow parents) to help you get your child to school if something comes up (e.g. another child gets sick, your car breaks down, etc.).
4. Reach out for help if you are experiencing tough times (e.g. transportation, unstable housing, loss of a job, health problems) that make it difficult to get your child to school. Other parents, your child's teacher, principal, social worker, school nurse, afterschool providers or community agencies can help you problem solve or connect you to a needed resource.
5. If your child is absent, work with the teacher to make sure she or he has an opportunity to learn and make up for the academics missed.

You have heard the saying "a rising tide lifts all the boats." We feel as though attendance is a tide that can lift all other "boats" in the educational experience. As you know, concepts build over time and attendance is crucial for students to keep up. Mrs. Tingey and I have made a goal to look at historical attendance data to find trends and patterns. Our hope is to find weak spots that we can start asking questions about. As we all work to improve attendance, hopefully we will also see gains in reading, math and other content areas!

teacher, administrator or afterschool provider to get them excited about going to school.

- No School!**
Labor Day Holiday
September 5
- Green Ribbon Week**
Emphasize safety in the roads.
September 7-9
- Pianist Auditions for Orchestra**
We need a pianist to accompany our orchestra. Auditions will be held at 7:45 AM. Please contact Tiffany Barlow for more information: 801-231-5941 or btbarlow@hotmail.com
September 8-9
- Orchestra Begins!**
Orchestra is open to all students grades 3-6th. You still have time to register. More information on the school website under *Extracurricular Activities*. Questions: Tiffany Barlow 801-231-5941 or btbarlow@hotmail.com
September 12
- Fun Run**
This PTA sponsored event is a HIT every year! Shirts can be purchased for \$5.
September 28
- Say BOO to the flu Event**
Get vaccinated at this event and \$2 of each administration goes to our school! The event runs from 4-7 PM and cash price is \$35. Many insurances can be billed—Medicaid/chip accepted.
October 4

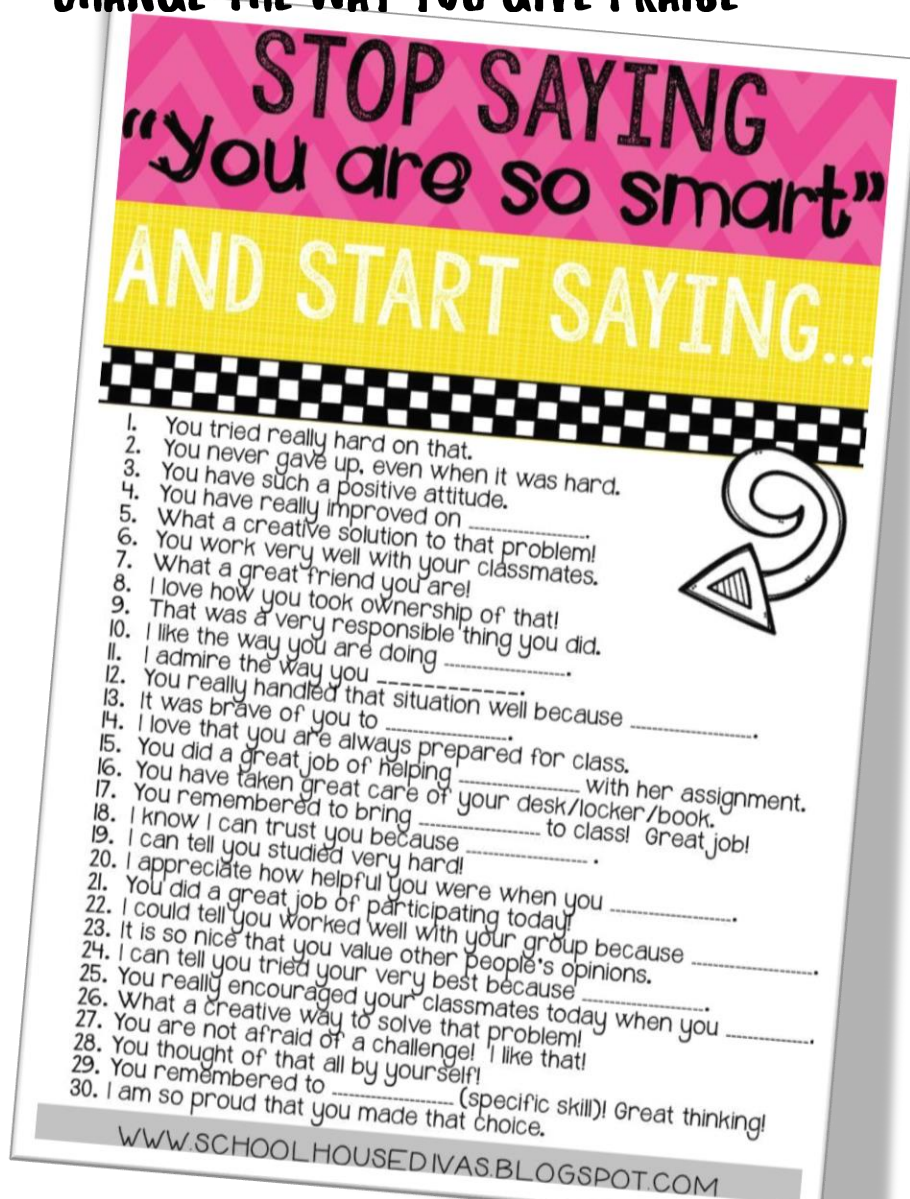
GROWTH MINDSET TIP CHANGE THE WAY YOU GIVE PRAISE

According to Carol S. Dweck, author of *Mindset*, "Praising students for their intelligence, then, hands them not motivation and resilience but a fixed mind-set with all its vulnerability. In contrast, effort or "process" praise (praise for engagement, perseverance, strategies, improvement, and the like) fosters hardy motivation. It tells students what they've done to be successful and what they need to do to be successful again in the future."

Teachers at Riverton Elementary will be practicing some of these alternative ways to give praise this year. Our hope is to encourage effort and help students develop a growth mindset. Pick a few lines from the picture and try them at home!

Read more about what Carol Dweck has to say about praise in her article entitled *The Perils and Promises of Praise*.

<http://www.ascd.org/publications/educational-leadership/oct07/vol65/num02/The-Perils-and-Promises-of-Praise.aspx>



Dress Code-Policy AA419

- Shorts/skirts need to reach mid-thigh or leggings worn underneath.
- No tank tops or spaghetti strap shirts.
- We encourage students to wear lace up shoes. Flip-flops are hazardous as they can easily cause a student to fall and expose the feet to injury.

Reflections Contest

The Reflections Theme for the 2016-17 school year is:

"What Is Your Story?"

For more information, visit the Utah PTA website at:

<http://www.utahpta.org/reflections>



TEACHER SPOTLIGHT

Mrs. Freeman Grade: 4th ALPS

Mrs. Freeman is new to our school this year but not new to education. She received her Bachelor's Degree at BYU and her Master's Degree at USU. She has endorsements in Gifted and Talented and Math.

She has 8 children and 21 grandchildren.

On a day off, she most likely would be found shopping!

Her personality color is white (peacekeeper).

She would choose a mountain hideaway over a beach house!



REMINDERS