



Teed Elementary School wishes everyone a happy holiday season and a wonderful new year. Please be safe over the holidays and we will see you back on January 4, 2010.

January Schedule!

- Jan. 4—Back from holiday break
- Jan. 18—No School – Civil Rights Day
- Jan. 22—End of Second Quarter
- Jan. 28—4th Grade to Boise Philharmonic

Teed winter Fluency Test will start at the last week of January.

Fluency is defined as the ability to read with speed, accuracy, and proper expression. In order to understand what they read, children must be able to *read fluently* whether they are reading aloud or silently. When reading aloud, fluent readers read in phrases and add intonation appropriately. Their reading is smooth and has expression. Children who do not read with fluency sound choppy and awkward. Those students may have difficulty with decoding skills or they may just need more practice with speed and smoothness in reading. Fluency is also important for motivation; children who find reading laborious tend not to want to read! As readers head into upper elementary grades, fluency becomes increasingly important. The volume of reading required in the upper elementary years escalates dramatically. Students whose reading is slow or labored will have trouble meeting the reading demands of their grade level. Here is what parents can do at home to help:

- Support and encourage your child. Realize that he or she is likely frustrated by reading.
- Check with your child's teachers to find out their assessment of your child's word decoding skills.
- If your child can decode words well, help him or her build speed and accuracy by:
 - ◊ Reading aloud and having your child match his voice to yours
 - ◊ Having your child practice reading the same list of words, phrase or short passages several times
 - ◊ Reminding your child to pause between sentences and phrases
 - ◊ Read aloud to your child to provide an example of how fluent reading sounds.
 - ◊ Give your child books with predictable vocabulary and clear rhythmic patterns so the child can "hear" the sound of fluent reading as he or she reads the book aloud.
 - ◊ Use books on tapes; have the child follow along in the print copy.

Evacuation News!

We would like to express our sincere thank you to all the parents/relatives/friends for your help and patience during the evacuation of Teed on December 10th. Your students were very well behaved and a huge help on that day. We would also like to thank you for all the positive comments you shared with us and the district office.



Even though things went smoothly, the Teed staff reviewed the events of the day and made some adjustments for future emergency situations. Mr. LilienKamp also met with the police department to discuss and reflect upon the day's events. The information gathered will be shared with the rest of the buildings in the district and treated as a learning opportunity for us all.

As for the damage at Teed, all will be replaced or fixed over the holiday break. The tile in the hallway is starting to buckle and work up as well as in a classroom. These will be replaced. The piece of equipment that broke is on order and will be replaced also. Other than a few ceiling tiles, a couple of keyboards, a book or two and a couple of agendas, there was surprisingly little damage.

Timberwolves Lego Team!

Congratulations to the Lego Team for their respectable showing at the competition on Dec. 12. They received 13th place out of 47 teams that competed in robotics at Mountain View High School. The Lego Team meets after school and sometimes on weekends to get ready for competitions.

Essay contest Winners!

Congratulations to the Kuna Chamber of Commerce Youth Essay Contest winners: Allison Porter - 1st Place and Sierra German - 2nd place. There were 170 entries total. The topic was: Winter Wonderland - My Favorite Holiday Tradition. Allison and Sierra read their essays at the Old 4th Street gym and rode on the Chamber of Commerce float in the Night light Parade.

Reminders

- Please call office if your students are going to be gone or late.
- Please have your child check into the office if they are late.
- Missing a coat? Check the lost and found in the cafeteria.

4th Grade Field Trip-

All of the 4th gr. classes will be attending the Boise Philharmonic Children's Concert on Thursday, Jan., 28th, 12:05 at the Swayne Auditorium at NNU. The concert is free. The students will return at 1:30 pm. Your child will need to bring a sack lunch to school. Each classroom teacher is allowed two parent chaperones. Please contact your child's classroom teacher if you are interested. Field trip forms will be sent out in early January. Please contact Mrs. Edwards (Teed Music Specialist) if you have questions aedwards@kunaschools.org or 922-1005.