

reach higher

elphawthorne
newsletter

dig deeper

August 2011

letter from the principal

Dear ELP Families,

This new school year has brought with it anticipated changes. Camille Gallagher and Angie Leone have joined the Hawthorne ELP staff and we welcome them. Several years ago a significant change took place when the ELP program moved from the avenues to Hawthorne. This dramatic change brought with it great opportunities and challenges which have been catalysts for growth. The ELP program at Hawthorne is a dynamic and outstanding program enriching the lives of families and faculty. It is always changing.

The evolution of our program continues with new faculty members adding their vision, passion and purpose to the vision, passion and purpose that drives ELP at Hawthorne. I trust our staff to bring the best to their profession. I trust our families to be actively engaged and support not only our ELP program, but also our Hawthorne community with its diverse programs and students.

Hawthorne school was established 100 years ago in 1912. It has changed in many ways and is significantly different from the original school which was build on 700 East. I hope we will all embrace change as an important part of an evolution to greatness for our school as the last 100 years have shown. I look forward to this year with all of you. Welcome back!

Sincerely,
Marian Broadhead
Principal

2011-12 calendar

ELP Parent Night :
Aug. 25

SEPs (*half days Wednesday and Thursday*):
Oct. 12, 13

UEA weekend:
Oct. 19, 20, 21

Geography Bee:
Jan. 12

Spelling Bee:
Jan. 20

Hawthorne 100 day/
100 years celebration:
Feb. 8

Science Fair:
Feb. 16 & 17

Shakespeare Festival:
March 27, 28 & 29

Share Fair:
May 22

letter from the chair

Dear ELP families,

Welcome back Hawthorne Hawks! This year is going to be incredible. We will be adding Downhill Skiing, Football 101 and BMX Riding to the curriculum. Okay, maybe not, but it is going to be an amazing year at Hawthorne Elementary.

I love this time of year. The end of summer means football season, BBQs, and getting in as much hammock time as possible before the weather starts to turn. It also means a new school year, which signifies uncluttered desks, freshly sharpened pencils, and brand new notebooks. This is always a fun time, and I enjoy the feeling of a fresh clean slate.

I asked my boys what makes them most excited about starting a new school year. They mentioned reconnecting with old friends and meeting their new teachers. I think everyone feels this way to some degree. We are lucky to have two new teachers in the ELP program for 2011-2012. Camille Gallagher will be teaching Kindergarten and Angie Leone will be teaching second grade. If you get a chance, introduce yourself and make them feel welcome.

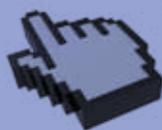
As always, we need your donations for the continued success of the ELP program. The recommended donation per student is \$45 for the general fund and \$80 per student for our Spanish language program. We are very lucky that Maestra Vicki will be joining us again this year to continue our students' bilingual education. We continue to get positive feedback from teachers and parents about the progress students are making in language acquisition.

Thanks so much to the ELP Steering Committee, teachers, generous parents and Principal Broadhead for making our program at Hawthorne so successful.

Please join us for the ELP Parent Meeting Thursday August 25th beginning at 5:30 for parents of Kindergarteners and 6:00 for parents of children in grades 1-6. From 7:00-7:30 we will hold a discussion of the Math Common Core for ELP with Barbara Kuehl, Salt Lake City School District Director of Academic Services.

Brad Davis — *ELP Steering Committee Chair*

hawthorne-elp.com



Be sure to check out the newly launched Hawthorne ELP web site!

2011-2012 class co-op coordinators

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TBD

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teacher feature

Camille Gallagher, Kindergarten

Our new Kindergarten teacher Camille Gallagher has spent a big piece of her summer – where else? – in her new classroom.

Incoming Kindergarteners and returning ELP families can expect to see signs of Kindergarten past in the antics of the Gingerbread Man and the study of animals, mixed with Mrs. Gallagher's own expertise in dance and movement.

"I'm feeling pretty good about everything. I'm getting excited," she said. The time she spent in the classroom after her hiring in May and her interactions with teachers and parents have added great support, she said.

Mrs. Gallagher also made time this summer for her passion of river rafting with a four-day trek down the Dolores River with her husband, Cameron. Highlights of the trip included spotting plenty of wildlife and side hikes to explore the area around the river.

The two Gallaghers also are in training for their first marathon, the Top of Utah Marathon, on Sept. 17 in Logan. Despite her training as a dancer and her love of the outdoors, preparing for the race has been a challenge, she said.

Mrs. Gallagher hopes her class will be ready to cheer her on.

"Hopefully I'll pass the finish line – that's the goal!" she joked.

Misty Clark, First Grade

The focus of Mrs. Clark's summer was playing in the water with her family. She spent a month in California dividing her time between her parent's house in Long Beach and her in-laws in San Diego. Her days were filled with the beach, the pool and even a trip to Legoland with cousins. Misty even tried a new water sport—paddleboarding. After an hour on the water with her two older kids, Bailey and Spencer, she was a pro.

Another new activity she tried with her family was geocaching. Her kids loved it and they excitedly hiked to new places on their adventures. Misty also read

A Wrinkle in Time with her daughter, Hayden, and read lots of children's books with all of her kids.

Misty's Utah adventures included a hike to Silver Lake and a visit to Pine View reservoir. She also found time to organize her house and classroom and visit with her brother who came to town for a visit.

Mrs. Clark is excited for a new year and ready to get to know a new group of first graders!

Angie Leone, Second Grade

Angie Leone brings with her a wealth of life experiences to share as she begins her latest adventure as our new ELP second grade teacher.

In June she and her husband, Carmine, returned from a year-long stay in the Philippines, where they built and fully stocked a 14,000-volume library for an orphanage and launched a reading program for the children there. They were joined by their children, Luca, who is almost 9 years old; Marco, who is 4; and 1-year-old Avi. The family had sold

all their possessions, including their house and car, to make the trip.

"It was phenomenal. It was hard, it was emotional, it was rewarding," Mrs. Leone said of the experience. "We are very excited to be back here."



Before her trip, Mrs. Leone worked extensively in gifted education in the Murray School District, where she also served as the coordinator of the district's ESL program. She said she is thrilled to have found a position in Hawthorne's ELP.

"I wanted to come to a district that still has a strong voice for gifted education," she said. "I'm really excited to get back into the classroom. I'm craving that interaction."

Leslie Edwards, Third Grade

Our third grade teacher, Leslie Edwards, says she "hasn't done any of the usual stuff" this summer, but has kept herself very busy. She spent lots of time in her garden doing

landscaping, planting and even catching a few rays. Notice her fabulous tan on the first day of school!

Her travels included trips to San Francisco to babysit "the most perfect granddaughter" in the world! Leslie also trained for a marathon, doing all the grueling work to prepare and then, unfortunately, the day before the race, her back went out and she wasn't able to run.

Part of her summer went to supporting her family as she helped her father and sister prepare for a major court case. And don't forget reading—Leslie read four terrific books on food and cooking. And then, she squeezed in a little more gardening.

Marilyn Taft, Fourth Grade

The best thing about Mrs. Taft's summer was spending time with her children. Three of her

four children spent the summer at home, and for the first time in seven years, Marilyn was able to take a trip with all four of them to the Herriman Railroad Ranch in Idaho. Together they went mountain biking, hiking, and tubing in Box Canyon.

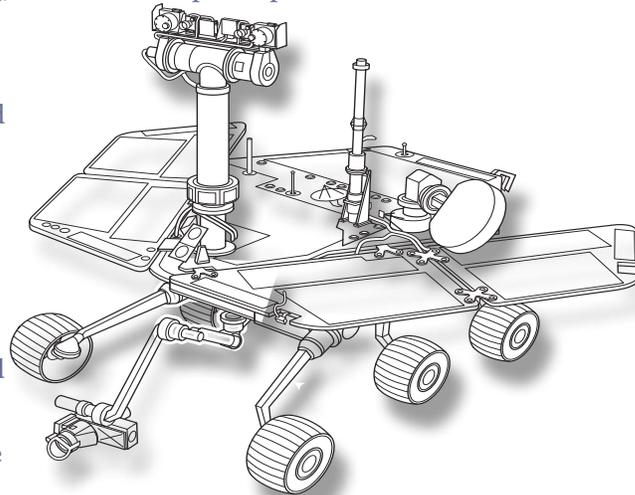
Marilyn also spent her summer being a mother to a baby bird. One early morning, her husband was reading the paper and heard a noise outside. He looked up and saw something fly out of a tree and onto the ground in their backyard. Upon further investigation, he found that a squirrel had thrown a baby woodpecker out of a tree. The Taft family made a nest for the bird and fed it (baby birds need to eat every 20 minutes!) for four days while looking for a place they could take it. They finally found the bird a home at the Northern Utah Wildlife Preserve at the mouth of Ogden Canyon and Marilyn returned home to get some much needed sleep!

Julie Anzelmo, Fifth Grade

Julie Anzelmo and her family and took their customary summer trip to Maryland, where many of their relatives live, and

had the opportunity this time to briefly explore the city of Philadelphia, PA. She had forgotten about the preponderance of outdoor sculpture in that city (her last visit was over 20 years ago), and the diversity of pieces made it exciting to turn every corner.

After returning from a week at the beach on the Atlantic coast, Julie participated in the Ante-



lope Island by Moonlight bike ride. The 22-mile route follows the road from the marina to Fielding-Garr Ranch (and back), and starts well after dark. Overall, it was a bizarre experience that she will always treasure—the hungry mosquitoes, the bikes decked out with glo-sticks, and the tall buildings of Salt Lake City illuminated in the distance by a full moon.

Ms. Anzelmo is greatly looking forward to meeting a new group of 5th graders.

Julie Lloyd, Sixth Grade

This summer Miss Lloyd's career veered in a new direction as commander of the space shuttle Discovery – requiring her to adhere to timelines, solve program errors and ultimately land the shuttle upon its return to Earth.

Miss Lloyd was chosen to represent the Salt Lake School District at the Boeing Corporation Educators at Space Camp in Huntsville, Alabama. It was an incredibly realistic experience which used real NASA equipment and included flight suits and simulators, a Moonwalk and 4G simulation and sessions with professional astronauts.

The camp combined her interests in science and technology, engineering and math, she said. Classes included learning how to build a Mars Rover.

“It was honestly a life changing experience,” she said.

“It was great. All the teachers were nerds like me,” she added, pointing to the pre-calculus class she also took this summer “for fun.”

Her other, more Earth-bound adventures included lots of exercise to prep for Space Camp and a trip to Philadelphia to see the Liberty Bell.

bus passes are coming



Beginning this year, ELP students who ride the bus will have new, color-coded bus passes for their route. The idea behind this is to help ensure that kids are getting on the right buses, for drivers to have emergency information on hand and for the SLCS D to get an accurate count of bus riders for each route, hopefully avoiding the overcrowding we've sometimes experienced.

Transportation survey forms will be distributed after school starts. Please be sure to fill out and promptly return this form if your child may EVER need to ride the bus, even if it is only occasionally or as emergency back-up. Children whose names are not on transportation lists once the information is collected may not be allowed on a school bus, even if it is the appropriate route for their neighborhood.

common core and elp

The Common Core is an initiative of the National Governors Association which has been adopted by 45 states, including Utah, which endorsed the standards last summer.

The goal of the Common Core is to establish high, compatible academic standards in core subject areas, such as math and language arts, throughout the United States. Its central document has received much praise for its vision and substance and for its goal of raising standards throughout the country.

Now school districts are grappling with how to translate that vision into curriculum which can be implemented in the classroom. Special programs, such as ELP, add to that challenge.

Some interpretations of the Common Core include a recommendation to not accelerate children beyond their grade level. This "capping" notion has been well-counteracted in a position paper from the National Association for Gifted Children.

At Hawthorne our Principal Marian Broadhead and ELP teachers have worked closely with Salt Lake City School District specialists to improve understanding of the needs of gifted children in our program.

The focus of district discussions has been on developing added depth and complexity -- rather than acceleration -- to core materials for ELP students. The notion that ELP students will automatically work "one grade ahead" has been set aside.

Our teachers and Principal Broadhead have advocated for the flexibility to pursue depth and complexity combined with acceleration where it is appropriate. On July 28 district personnel met with Principal Broadhead and Hawthorne parent representatives, along with representatives from the Whittier and Emerson ELP programs, to discuss the plans for implementing the math Common Core.

The new Core will be introduced in ELP beginning this year in revised pacing guidelines for math in Kindergarten and 6th grade. Students who normally "go up" one grade level for math will continue to do so.

Barbara Kuehl, Academic Services director for the SLCS D, has pledged that district personnel will monitor the math pacing plan this year and work with our teachers to make adjustments to fit student needs and to develop an ELP-specific track for the Common Core. Pacing plans for our other grades will be built on this information.

Ms. Kuehl will be speaking to parents as part of our ELP Parent Night on Thursday, Aug. 25. She will discuss plans for the Common Core and to answer questions. Please plan to attend.

For more information:

You can view the Common Core documents at the official Common Core State Standards Initiative at www.corestandards.org.

For the position paper of the National Association for Gifted Children, read "Application of Common Core State Standards for Gifted and Talented Students" at www.nagc.org.

green team



The Hawthorne Elementary Green Team, which currently is comprised of staff, faculty, and parents, works to promote environmental awareness, education, and policies and procedures at Hawthorne Elementary School. Last year, for example, we were able to help institute lunchroom recycling! Our first meeting will take place on Wednesday, October 5th from 6:30-7:30 p.m. (specific Hawthorne location TBD).

At this meeting, we will develop goals for the 2011-2012 school year and discuss how we might assist with Hawthorne's 100 Year Celebration.

If you would like to be part of the Hawthorne Elementary Green Team but cannot attend the upcoming meeting (or if you have green ideas or suggestions), please contact Susan Anderson at susan.anderson@utah.edu or 801-864-3025.

P.S.

Please support the PTA's second annual Hawk Walk fundraiser, which will take place on Thursday, September 15th. As the PTA puts it, the Hawthorne Hawk Walk "supports our goals of a stronger community, healthier children, and a greener alternative." It a great, GREEN, way to support our school!

Parent/Guardian Name: _____

Student(s) Name: _____ Grade: _____

_____ Grade: _____

_____ Grade: _____

SPANISH DONATION: \$ _____

(The estimated program cost is \$80 per child)

ELP PROGRAM DONATION: \$ _____

(\$45 per child suggested)

ADDITIONAL DONATIONS:

UNRESTRICTED: \$ _____

RESTRICTED: \$ _____

Please specify restricted use:

TOTAL 2011-2012 ADVANCE DONATION: \$ _____



Please make your check payable to Hawthorne ELP. Donations are tax deductible and receipts will be issued for amounts more than \$250. Treasurer Shannon Whisenant can be contacted at: 1441 Perry Avenue, SLC, UT 84103 or shannon.whisenant@gmail.com. All donations directly benefit our children.