

Newsletter: Mt. Hall Elementary, Naples Elementary

February 2016

Lisa Iverson, Principal

Spring is in the air! The sunshine has been out, and just in time for the new semester. Students worked hard first semester, and we were able to recognize a number of students at our awards assembly. Students were recognized for Perfect Attendance, Honor Roll, and Citizen/Student of the Month. Now, with first semester behind us, students and staff are rejuvenated and ready for the new one.

Both schools enjoyed Schweitzer Mountain during their annual ski trips. Lyndsay Hart from Mount Hall and Katie Omodt from Naples did an excellent job organizing these trips. A big thank you to the following people for making this annual trip happen: Schweitzer Mountain for inviting our schools back year after year and providing lessons to students; Bill Irwin and the bus barn for getting our kids to and from the mountain safely; and lastly our PTOs for helping out with the costs. Everyone who lives in North Idaho should have the chance to experience a ski resort. For some, skiing and snowboarding become a life-long hobby, and we're happy to make it happen for our kids.

Aside from enjoying the great outdoors, students also were able to show their appreciation for their classmates and staff. Cupid's arrow struck Mount Hall and Naples, and plenty of love was spread throughout the school. Valentines in an elementary school is a sweet affair, and I'm not just referring to the pounds and pounds of candy that come to school that day. It was nice to see how thoughtful students were giving out their valentines.

If you ever want to see an active class, I recommend your visit a second grade classroom. Second grade is a hard class to sum up in one word. The students have now been in school for three years. They are becoming fluent readers and avid writers, and they begin to question things a bit more. I know that the second graders at Mount Hall and Naples are independent thinkers, strong-willed individuals, creative, energetic, and seem to have a true appreciation for learning. Samantha Swift from Mount Hall and Tawny MacDonald from Naples do an excellent job channeling their students' creative energy, and both second grade classes produce high quality work.

With spring testing right around the corner, teaching and learning are at an all-time high. Teachers are doing a great job making sure students are prepared, and students have been doing a great job learning, questioning, and becoming critical thinkers. Of course test preparation isn't the only thing happening at our schools. March will bring Dr. Seuss week, a presentation from the BCMS Leadership class, music in the classroom, and our spring carnivals. Mount Hall's carnival will be on March 17th, and Naples' carnival will be on March 24th. More information will be sent home at a later date. Thank you to all of you who support our schools. Until next month, Go Wildcats and Go Wolverines!