



American Heritage School News

October 2006

Message From the Director

On a typical day in a typical home a high-pitched voice can be heard floating in from the other room: “Mom... do I *have* to practice?” “Dad... do I *have* to do this homework?” To this wailing the children occasionally add two slightly more vexing complaints:

“It’s too hard” and “It’s not fun.”

These latter two sentiments tend to evoke a more measured response from Dad and Mom. Especially in an era of over-achieving, over-reaching, and over-stressed families – “too hard” and “not fun” can be a serious concern.

So Dad and Mom huddle and their conversation goes something like this: “Maybe the work is not age-level appropriate? If it’s not age-level appropriate then it’s probably too difficult and it’s certainly not fun. But what if it’s worse than ‘not fun.’ What if it’s *discouraging*? We don’t want him discouraged by work that is truly too hard for him. Maybe the work is doing more harm than good?” And so the reasoning continues until Dad and Mom have made a thoughtful decision about how best to respond to the high-pitched voice... which by now has grown louder and more insistent.ⁱ

“Do I *have* to do this work?”

The other way to look at this question is from the farmer’s point of view:

“No. You don’t *have* to do the work – only on the days you want to eat.”ⁱⁱ

Most of us are not farmers and it is a great blessing to live in a day when our energy can be devoted to pursuits other than subsistence labor. But certainly there are lessons that we can all learn from the farm:

(1) “Work” is not a four-letter word. In fact, on the farm, it is more like the five-letter word “Glory”. A farmer glories in his ability and

responsibility to work hard. A farmer glories in the intrinsically honorable, character-building, and stamina-producing nature of work - regardless of how “inglorious” the work may at times appear to be. “For behold, this is my work and my glory...”ⁱⁱⁱ

(2) “Too Difficult” will never convince winter to wait. There is simply no negotiating with Mother Nature. She will honor those who find a way to prepare and she will deal mercilessly with those who do not. “I must work the works of him that sent me, while it is day; the night cometh when no man can work.”^{iv}

(3) “Fun” is fine, but when it is time to work, fun is quite beside the point. The young farm-hand learns quickly that the farmer will not endure a discussion about post-hole digging “not being fun.” The very notion that work should be “fun” is a relatively new concept borne of a culture that views entertainment, recreation and perpetual ease as being the primary stuff of which “the good life” is made. In the mind of this emerging play-culture “fun work is for me and hard work is for someone else.”^v The farmer doesn’t speak this language and never will. “Thou shalt not be idle; for he that is idle shall not eat the bread nor wear the garments of the laborer.”^{vi}

(4) The law of the harvest is the “Gospel of Work.”^{vii} “Without hard work, nothing grows but weeds. There must be labor, incessant and constant, if there is to be a harvest.”^{viii}

Our homes and our schools are not farms. Our children are not farm-hands. But the seed principles of the “Gospel of Work” apply broadly to our families and schools and will “bring forth fruit a hundred-fold”^{ix} if we will sow the seeds on good ground.

For those who feel burdened by the very real and sometimes unhealthy pressures of seemingly overwhelming work, homework, church work and other societal expectations – the advice of a good king is worth pondering:

And see that all these things are done in wisdom and order; for it is not requisite that a man should run faster than he has strength. And again, it is expedient that he should be diligent, that thereby he might win the prize; therefore, all things must be done in order.^x

In the business of educating children – as with all things in life – balance, temperance and patience are vitally important. There are many good and needful things besides work and homework that create a “whole” child. Excitement for learning, joy in working, and the fulfillment that comes from unstructured time for play and exploration are all important to proper and healthy human development.

This being said, Elder Maxwell’s caution to parents should not be forgotten:

Be careful when you inordinately desire things to be better for your children than they were for you. Do not, however unintentionally, make things worse by removing the requirement for reasonable work as part of their experience, thereby insulating your children from the very things that helped make you what you are!^{xi}

A framed family-room reminder that hung silently through the years but helped to frame the spirit of the home declares:

“Work is love made visible.”

May we all be blessed with an increased understanding of the principles of work as we strive to achieve the standard of “every needful thing”^{xii} in our homes and our classrooms – and may we do it in a spirit of love for each other, love for the task, and love for our God who is the author of our work.

Sincerely,

--Grant Beckwith

ⁱ In small print I’ll admit that this example is a personal one.

ⁱⁱ This point of view has been known to be shared by farmers and non-farmers alike. I was delighted to hear of one urban family who, not having a cow to milk, would dub

various chores “the cow” and urge their children to “go milk the cow” before meals would be served!

ⁱⁱⁱ Moses 1:39

^{iv} John 9:4

^v Mark Twain contributed quite nicely to this “play-culture” with the following: “What work I have done I have done because it has been play. If it had been work I shouldn’t have done it... When we talk about the great workers of the world we really mean the great players of the world. The fellows who groan and sweat under the weary load of toil that they bear never can hope to do anything great.”

^{vi} D&C 42:42

^{vii} *Teachings of Gordon B. Hinckley*, p. 705, 707

^{viii} *Id.*

^{ix} Matthew 13:8

^x Mosiah 4:27

^{xi} Neil A. Maxwell, Conference Address, April 4, 1998 (Ensign, May 1998, p. 37)

^{xii} D&C 88:119

Student Submissions

The Cat and the Pig

(An original fable by Kaitlyn Gunther 2nd Grade)

There once was a cat that was skinny. There was a pig. The pig was fat. The cat wished she were the pig because she was skinny. That next morning the pig was bacon. The cat was glad she was not the pig!

Worthy to Be My Shepherd

(Thoughts on “A Shepherd’s Look at Psalm 23”

By Christian Hartman, 7th Grade)

Jesus Christ is worthy to be my shepherd because he died for me; he suffered for all my sins. In Alma 5:28 it says, “The good shepherd doth call you.” He has given me all that I have. In Alma 5:57 it says, “All you that are desirous to follow the voice of the good shepherd, come ye out from the wicked.” I want to follow the good shepherd because he takes care of me and wants me back in heaven to live with him again. I am worthy to be called one of his sheep because he paid the price for every one of us. I will be worthy to be called one of his when he comes again because I will be ready when he calls for us. In Alma 5:37 it says, “The wicked have gone astray, as sheep having no shepherd.” This is true because Satan is not a real shepherd. We are the Nephites of the latter-days, as it says in John 15:24, “Nephites are numbered among

the Lord's sheep." I bear his mark, something that can never be taken away, something that ties me to him forever.

Worthy to Be My Shepherd
(Thoughts on "A Shepherd's Look at Psalm 23"
By Malika Risenmay, 7th Grade)

Jesus Christ is worthy to be my Shepherd. 1 Nephi 22:25 talks about the Lord taking care of his sheep; that Jesus Christ will take care of all of his children. If we follow the commandments and listen to the prophets, the Lord will bless us with great blessings. (If we don't follow the commandments, the Lord will try to find us and bring us home.) I am worthy to be Jesus Christ's Sheep because I pray, study the scriptures, and follow the commandments; I go to church and I go to the temple. When I study the scriptures I know that the Lord is very proud of me because I am trying to become his sheep. The Lord wants me to be His sheep so He can protect and care for me. I want to be the Lord's sheep.

Worthy to Be My Shepherd
(Thoughts on "A Shepherd's Look at Psalm 23"
By Justin Clark, 7th Grade)

I think Jesus Christ is worthy to be my Shepherd because he gave me Apostles to guide me. The Lord also suffered every single sin that I made him suffer. Christ also died so we could live with him. He was willing to do all of this that makes him worthy to be my Shepherd. I am worthy to be God's sheep. I am worthy to be God's sheep because I will follow the Commandments and I will fulfill my duties as a deacon. If God is willing to do anything for me, I will be also.

On Truth
(By Christian Lyman, 7th Grade)

Truth means a couple of things that fall into the same category. Some of these things are to be correct, honest or virtuous. These are all important because it was the search for truth that started the Restoration.

Without these characteristics, Joseph Smith would not have been able to translate the Book of Mormon and the true gospel would not be on the earth today. Truth is Jesus Christ. Because we have the truth we can be saved and return to live him again. Truth is baptism by immersion. Truth is the Priesthood. Truth is temple covenants. Truth is a mission. Truth is marriage in the temple. Truth is an eternal family. Truth is Heavenly Father's plan for me.

Amasa Lyman is my 3rd Great Grandfather. He was one of Joseph Smith's original apostles. He was very faithful and supported the prophet. He sacrificed all he had for the truth. His family told him if he was going to go out and join the Mormon church he would not be welcome in their home. He did. He knew the Church was true and sacrificed everything for it.

On Obedience
(By Isabelle Colledge, 7th Grade)

Obedience means submissive to the restraints or command of authority. The Prophet Joseph Smith taught that "when we obtain any blessing from God, it is by obedience to that law upon which it is predicated." (Doctrine and Covenants 130:2). Obedience is a blessing from God to us and we need to be more obedient. I think that obedience is a good thing; to obey God's commandments is to know what to do in our life.

News From Art Department

We are excited to announce that the School's book of President Hinckley portraits (drawn by all 4th-8th grade students last year) has been completed and we have sent it to President Hinckley with all our love and affection. Every student that completed a portrait was included with their name, a picture of the student, and a copy of their portraiture of the prophet.

Christopher Columbus – Four R's to America!

Monday, October 9, at 1:00 PM in the Auditorium, all students and parents are invited to attend *Christopher Columbus -- Four R's to America!*, an educational presentation regarding Christopher Columbus presented by Mr. Boxell's Eighth Grade Class. Come see Columbus use the Four R's, the Principle

Approach, and Science and Mathematics from a providential view of history!

Forgotten Lunch Program



Attention parents:

We have had many students participate in our forgotten lunch program so far this year and in order for us to continue we will need those that use the

program to remember it will only work if items are replenished on an as-used basis. Thank you.

News From the Parent Organization

The school year is off and running and so is the Parent Organization! There has been a tremendous response from people willing to put their time and effort into all of the Parent Organization events. From Room Mothers, to Book Fair, to Eye Screening – everything is going smoothly. Thanks so much to all of you!

Please be sure to attend our Parent Organization Board Meeting, **Wednesday, November 1, at 9:00 a.m.** in the lunchroom. These meetings are informative as well as productive. It’s a great time to share your concerns, ideas and suggestions. The more input we have, the better we are able to meet everyone’s needs. It’s also a good opportunity to meet and socialize with other patrons and get involved with what’s happening here at American Heritage. We look forward to seeing you there!

A big THANK YOU goes out to ...

Telynn Clawson and her little helpers for preparing and organizing the Carpool numbers.

Lara Gish and her husband for getting the school up and running with School Supplies.

Adrienne Thomas & Pam Mallory for organizing our volunteers for Lunchroom Duty.
Stacy Jensen and crew for running the Eye Screening.

Elaine Benson and helpers for the fabulous food for the Faculty Dinners on parent teacher conference days!

Martha Phelon and volunteers for their preparations and set up for Book Fair.

Michelle Jorgensen, Lisa Mulvey and Konnie Roberts for getting our Pizza Mondays and Sandwich Wednesdays up and running.

Tiffany Jensen and Michelle Jorgensen for completing the comfort kit inventory for the School.

Parent Organization Executive Board

Linda Bowen, Pres.

Barbara Cromar, V.P.

Tiffany Jensen, V.P

Adrienne Thomas, Sec.

parentorg@ahsmail.com

Calendar at a Glance

Oct 6	Picture Day—Cory Adams
Oct 12	U. E. A. - No School
Oct 13	U. E. A. - No School
Oct 16	U. E. A. - No School
Oct 19	Sixth Grade Devotional 2:00 p.m.
Oct 20	Sixth Grade Devotional 8:40 p.m.
Oct 20	Fall Festival 6:00 p.m.
Oct 27	First Term Ends
Oct 27	Teacher In-Service No School
Oct 31	Harvest Parties 2:00 p.m.
Nov 3	Picture Retakes 8:40 a.m.
Nov 10	Teacher In-service-No School
Nov 10	Family Lecture Series 7:30 p.m.; (refreshments/reception at 7:00 p.m.)

Positions Available

Custodial Position Available

Part time custodial positions are available at the school! A tuition scholarship combined with an hourly rate is offered as compensation. For those who are interested, please contact Leslie Clark at the front office for application and to set up and interview.




AMERICAN HERITAGE
SCHOOL & FAMILY EDUCATION CENTER

FAMILY LECTURE SERIES

WITH



DR. ROBIN HANCOCK

"Music and the Worth of Souls"

Dr. Robin Hancock has pursued a long and varied career in the music world. His early training was in Seattle where he soloed with the Northwest Chamber Orchestra, the Central Washington Symphony, and played for the Northwest Boychoir. Dr. Hancock holds degrees from Central Washington University, Brigham Young University, and Boston University. His specialty is the piano music of Rachmaninoff, having written a dissertation on Rachmaninoff's relationship to 19th century music.

Dr. Hancock is sought after as a chamber musician and collaborative artist. Recent appearances include West Coast Clarinet Congress, National Association of Jazz Educators, Congress of the Americas in Puebla Mexico, Cheyenne Symphony Guild, and the UVSC production of Enchanted April. He has accompanied over 300 student, faculty, and guest artist recitals in the last decade.

Dr. Hancock is seen and heard on the KBYU radio and TV networks and appears on CDs through BYU-Tantara label. He is married to Cheri Hancock, a member of the American Heritage School faculty, and they have one daughter, Holly.

Date:	Friday, November 10, 2006
Time:	7:30 pm-9:00 pm <i>Public reception at 7:00 p.m.; please be seated by 7:25 pm</i>
Place:	American Heritage School 736 N. 1100 E. American Fork <i>directly east of Mt. Timpanogos Temple</i>
Who:	All are welcome - ages 14 and up
Cost:	Free

The Family Lecture Series is offered the second Friday of each month during the school year and is free and open to the public. Our next lecture is Friday November 10, 2006



American Heritage School FALL FESTIVAL

Friday, October 20th, from 6:00-8:00p.m

The Fall Festival is a great way to have fun with the family while meeting new people here at the school. Plan now to attend!

AUCTION!!

We're ready for your silent auction donations! Please bring your donations in to the front office and sign them in the binder. The more donations we receive the more exciting our silent auction will be. This is sure to be a great fundraising year with your help!

FOOD!!

We'll be having a delicious Roast Beef dinner with mashed potatoes, salad and rolls. Dinner will be served from 6-7:00p.m. Order your dinner now with the form below!

FUN!!

Live music, dancing, silent auction, and children's craft, bake sale, a Kids Store, face painting and more! There will be something fun for everyone!
Bring your family, friends, and neighbors!



Place Your Fall Festival Order Now!

All Meals must be prepaid. Please remove this order form at line above and return to Leslie in the office with your payment by Oct. 17, 2006 (make checks payable to American Heritage School).

Name _____ Phone # _____

_____ Individual Meal(s) @ **\$5 each** \$ _____

_____ Family Meal(s) (up to 8 living in household) @ **\$25 each** \$ _____

_____ # People planning to attend \$ _____

\$ _____

\$ _____

TOTAL \$ _____

Pizza Monday Sign-ups for November



This is our pizza-ordering sheet.

Your students' pizza order will be for the entire month. This means that if they want 2 pieces of pepperoni that is what they will get for all the weeks in the month. If your student wants a change, they may change next month. **The cost is \$1 per slice of pizza ordered.** (We are trying Dominos Pizza this month instead of Papa Johns.) Thank you!



November 6th, 13 th , and 27th					
Name of Student (First & Last Name)	Teacher	Pepperoni	Cheese	Ham	Total Pieces
Total ordered					
X 3 weeks					
=					
Total price					\$



Hogi Yogi Wednesday Sign-ups for November

This is your Hogi Yogi ordering sheet. The choices of sandwiches will alternate each month between ham and turkey with **November being HAM**. Each sack lunch includes a sandwich, chips, cookie, fruit or fruit cup, and a drink. The cost is **\$2.30 for a 4"** sandwich lunch and **\$2.55 for a 6"** sandwich lunch. **Please indicate the drink choice** of regular milk (R.), chocolate milk (C), or bottled water (W).

November 1 st , 8 th , 15 th , and 29th					
Name of Student (First & Last Name)	Teacher	4" Ham	6" Ham	Drink (R, C, or W)	Totals
Total ordered					
X 4 weeks =					
Total price					\$

**** Please return your order form for the month of November with a check (NO CASH) no later than Friday, October 20, 2006. (This deadline will be firm.) All checks are made out to American Heritage School. Thank you.**