



ROADRUNNER EXPRESS

December

Foster Elementary
Jefferson County Public Schools

2016

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Principal's Page

Dear Families,

Choice enrollment time begins January 9th! If you have a 6th grader, this is the time when you need to choose a new school for next year and go through the enrollment process. This is also the choice enrollment time for our Dual Language program. We will be accepting Kindergarten students for the 2017-2018 school year at this time and parents must fill out a form in our office if they are requesting a Dual Language opportunity for their child.

We have attached a flier if you know of any parents who might be interested in our amazing school. We always have a wait list so be sure to get in on the first round.

Happy holidays to you all!
Leigh

Accountability Committee

Please join us for our Accountability Committee meeting, which will be on January 18th at 3:00 pm in Leigh's office. All parents are invited to be a part of this important committee. Please join us!

January 2017

- 8 ... Students Return to school
PTA 6:00-7:00PM
- 8-31... 1st Rnd Choice Enrollment / Kg Registration
- 10. PTA 6-7PM
- 15. ... NO School—MLK Day





Kindergarten



Wow, here we are at the end of 2017! December was a great month. It was especially nice to meet with students individually for assessments. The data will help us set new learning goals for our return in January.

In Reading, our unit “Tools for Building Meaning,” will continue with students learning strategies for self-monitoring for voice-print match as well as for predicting, sequencing, retelling and responding to text.

In Writing, our new unit, “How Authors Add Details and Keep Our Interest” will begin. Our focus will be learning to tell a simple story with a beginning, some events in the middle, and an end. Students will increase their use of ending punctuation and capital letters at the beginning of sentences and in names.

In Math, our third unit, “Teen Numbers as Tens and Ones” will continue. Students will work on counting to 60, automatically representing and recognizing number combinations to 5, creating sets up to 20 items with objects and drawings using 5-group and 10-group structures, and identifying teen numbers and explaining their structure as ten ones and some more ones.

And finally in Social Studies, we will wrap up our unit, “History: Stories of Long Ago and Today” by sharing everyone’s timelines.

Remember our Kindergarten Learning Night will be Wed., Jan. 10 from 6:00 - 7:00pm! Also, our next Long Term Planning date will be Thurs., Jan. 11.

We wish you and your family a wonderful winter break.

We’ll see you on Monday, January 8!

Ms. Melissa, Ms. Marcela and Ms. Stephanie





Grade

First grade was very excited to send off our Traditions book to be published. If you still want a copy, teachers will be able to order more after the books arrive. As your child brings home writing, don't be surprised at the spelling or the typing mistakes. Your students are so proud of their work and their spelling will improve. Typing on an iPad is a whole other skill so encourage them to make lists or type words at home to practice. Just a reminder the dual classrooms walk outside during the day, so make sure your child has a warm coat. Please make sure your students bring their charged ipads every day. Our winter break is approaching and we encourage your students to read on myon, practice typing, explore their iPads, practice counting to 120, write stories with pencil and paper to improve their handwriting, code on scratch jr, and practice their sight words.

Happy Holidays,
Ms. Rosa, Ms. Hollie and Ms. Stephanie



Greetings From Second Grade!

Hello Families,

The second graders have grown so much this year! They have been taking their role as leaders in the classroom very seriously and it shows. Please compliment your child on how well they are doing at following their Peace Promises and being a positive community member. We see a lot of kindness daily in our classrooms. We have been busy in all subjects!

In math we are continuing to build our number sense by adding and subtracting 10 and 100 to any number, understanding greater than and less than, and being able to build numbers to 1000 using models. Students are also working on their individual math goals such as fluently adding and subtracting within 20 and beyond. Please continue to practice at home.

In reading we are working on comprehension strategies such as, visualizing, questioning, inferring and predicting. These strategies are building blocks to being able to understand texts deeply. Please make sure you read with your child DAILY.

In writing we spent a week digging into poetry. The students wrote some amazing descriptive poems! Now we are applying what we learned about being descriptive to write personal narratives. Our students are trying to create an image in their reader's mind by using descriptive and juicy words in their writing.

In science students have begun their Zoo project. Students are learning how to be a zoologist and are designing habitats for animals in a zoo. Thank you to all the parent volunteers that came on our field trip to the Denver Zoo! It was a wonderful time!

We hope you have a fantastic Winter Break and we look forward to seeing you in January!

Your Friends,
Ms. Hollie, Ms. Marissa and Ms. Kathy





Hello third grade families!

Happy New Year! We are looking forward to the second half of the year! We are very busy learning and using our iPads almost every day, and we rely on Google Classroom and Notability to get our work done! Please remind your child to bring their iPads charged daily. If they come without their iPads, they are unprepared for the day. Also, please take time to check your student's Google Classroom app - their assignments and grades are updated throughout the week and it is a great way to stay connected with their learning!

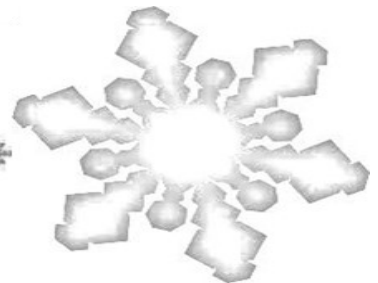
In Math we are working on Geometry. This includes 2D shapes and discovering what the area and perimeter of a quadrilateral are. How about figuring out the perimeter and area of your kitchen table? Students are encouraged to practice Xtra Math to stay sharp on their multiplication and division facts.

As for Reading, we are working on Uncovering the Main Idea in fiction and non-fiction texts and will be "Digging Deeper" into nonfiction texts this month. Students will apply the reading strategies we have been building throughout this year to nonfiction texts.

Writing is all about OPINIONS! We are developing strong opinions and supporting them with reasons and examples.

Social Studies brings us to our Living and Working in the City unit. Students are understanding the value of money in the role of both a producer and consumer within our classroom Mini- Society. Be on the lookout for this day to see your students at work as a producer or consumer on our Market Day.

Thank you,
The third grade team
Miss Laura, Miss Julie, Miss Valentina





4th Grade

News!

Can you believe that 2016 is almost over? We hope you all enjoy the extra time with your kiddos over the next few weeks. We would like to let you know what the 4th graders will be up to when we come back in 2017!

In **reading** we will be working on text structures.

In **writing** we will be moving into a unit on opinion writing. Watch out! Your child might try to talk you into getting a dog. J

In **math** we will study fractions. This would be a great time to teach your child how fractions are used in the kitchen by baking us some cookies.

In **social studies** we will begin to study our great state of Colorado. This would be a great opportunity to plan spring break vacation to one of our wonderful national parks using your fourth grade national park pass!

ACCESS Testing!!

All second language learners with an ELL plan will be taking an English proficiency test in January. We will let you know the specific dates when we have them.

Please remember to visit our classroom websites frequently for up-to-date information about what's going on during the week, field trips and important updates. You can access our websites through the school website.

IMPORTANT DATES FOR DECEMBER

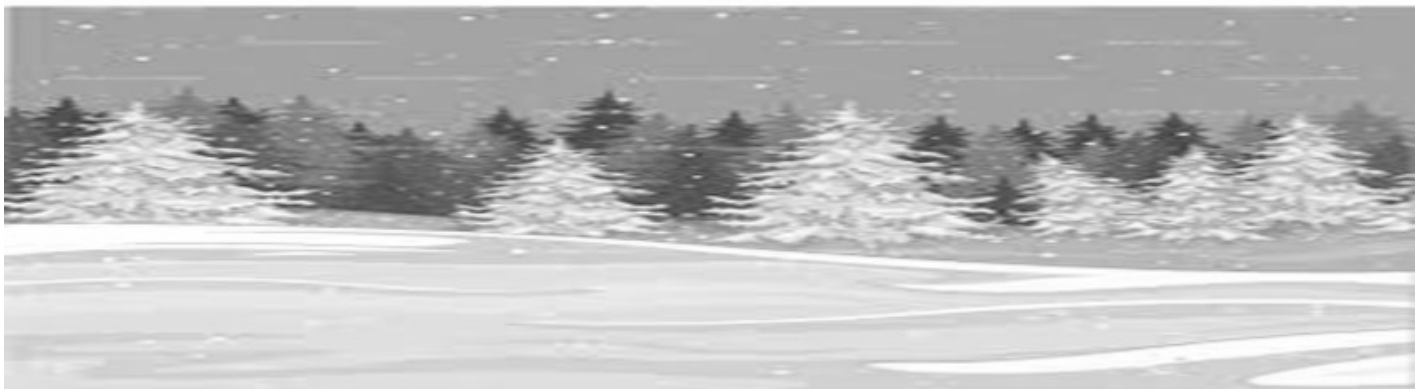
Monday, January 9th: Students return to school

Monday, January 16th: No School: MLK Jr. Day

Wednesday, January 18th: Cowboy Poetry @2:30pm

Thursday, January 19th OR Friday, January 20th: Field Trip to Tesoro Cultural Center (half of 4th grade will be going on Thursday and half on Friday)

Sincerely,



Grade

5

**Happy Holidays
And
Happy Winter**

We hope you are enjoying your extra time together this month.

Please rest up, we have so much work to do when we return “next year”.

***Please ask your student if he/she needs a new journal for the second half of the year.**

ENJOY and HAPPY NEW YEAR! !

Please keep in touch and let us know if you have any questions or concerns.

Kristin Pearce kpearse@jeffco.k12.co.us

Terese Woolworth twoolwor@jeffco.k12.co.us

Vanessa Gonzalez (email preferred) vagonzal@jeffco.k12.co.us

Amanda Bell bella5110@gmail.com





It's all about 6th Grade

Dear 6th grade families,

Thank you to all the families that attended the informational meeting about our upcoming trip to Outdoor Lab. ALL sixth graders will be attending this trip to Mt. Evans from Feb 26- March 2. If you have any questions at all, please contact your child's teacher.

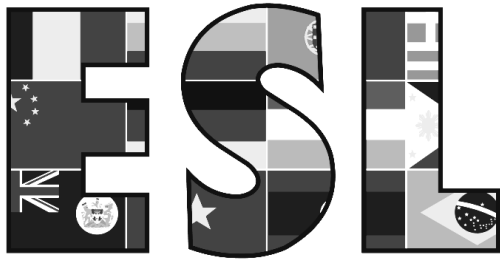
Over break, please make sure that your child continues to read! When we come back, the students will continue their informational writing unit, their pre-algebra study of expressions and equations, and their geology unit.

We hope you enjoy your time as a family during this upcoming break and we look forward to seeing the students again in 2018!

The sixth grade team

The 6th grade team





ENGLISH AS A SECOND LANGUAGE

Dear Parents and Guardians,

We are gearing up for the ACCESS for ELLs testing starting on January 10th. This test is given to all students who are English Language Learners (ELLs) and assesses their English language proficiency in listening, reading, writing, and speaking. This test is given every January and shows us how students are progressing in their language learning and helps us to create goals for future learning opportunities. Please make sure your student(s) are getting plenty of sleep and eating healthy meals to help them be able to focus and do their best. Also, please try to limit absences as much as possible. Don't hesitate to get in touch with me about any questions you might have.

Thank you for your help!

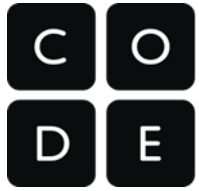
Sara Reich K-6 ESL Teacher

sreich@jeffco.k12.co.us



From the Library

Carla Coverdell, Digital Teacher Librarian

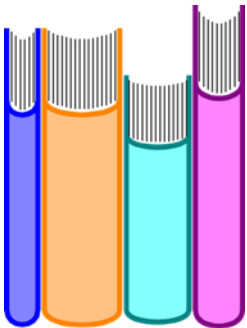


All students participated in "Hour of Code" as a part of Computer Science Education week during the week of December 4. Students programmed using different applications and web tools to experience different types of coding including Block Coding and Java Script. Several iPad apps are available to students in their Self Service catalog as assigned by grade level. Daisy the Dinosaur, Hopscotch, Foos, Tynker, and LightBot are all apps kids can use at home to continue learning. Other coding activities can be found at code.org. Google Santa Tracker is another resource for coding and gaming kid-friendly digital activities (has a Santa theme, of course). Currently there are more jobs available in computer science than there are students preparing for this type of work; kids may find they are passionate and enjoy coding so much that they consider a career in this vast field.

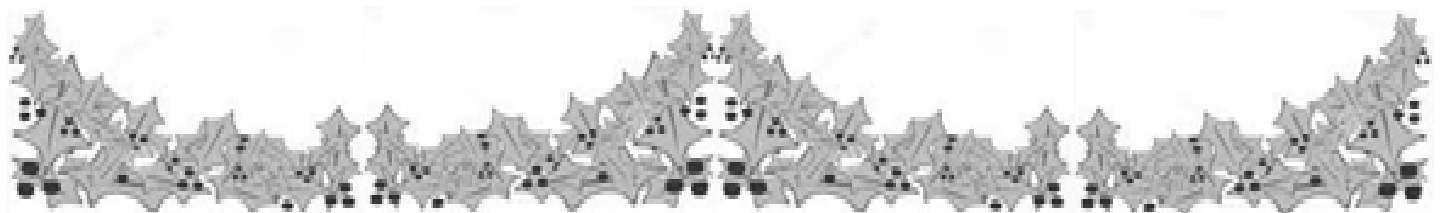
iPad reminders: Please encourage and remind your child to bring their school iPad every day ready for classroom use by being fully charged. Reminding students to never drink or eat while using their school device will assist students in following school expectations. If you are experiencing issues with connecting to your home internet, please notify your child's teacher; he/she has access to help documents which may get students connected.



Missing library books?? If you have an active email address in Jeffco Connect, you may be receiving notifications that your child has overdue school library books. Periodically our library staff also sends paper overdue notices. If you are unable to locate overdue books, please pay for a replacement. If you are unsure of the cost, please check with us in the school library. We do refund your money if the book is returned after payment.



Digital citizenship is continually taught in our classrooms. You can support this effort by engaging in conversations with your children related to what they are viewing and experiencing on the web. While there is a home filter in place on school devices, students still come across inappropriate content while browsing. For example, YouTube videos are so popular with the students though not always appropriate. Stressing what your children share and don't share while online is another topic that is critical to their digital safety and privacy. We encourage students to always discuss any online content or interaction with trusted adults, especially if they see or experience something that makes them uncomfortable.



Music Notes

As we look to the second half of our school year, grade levels will be using our Jeffco Music Curriculum to guide learning. It is my goal to provide varied musical opportunities for all students including singing, moving, playing and technology.

Here is a list of things that each grade level will be working on:

6th- 12 Accidentals and scales, harmony, form, cut time, improvisation, sixteenth-dotted eighth, suite

5th- 3 and 4 part canons, bass clef, syncopation, accidentals, diatonic scales, improvisation, recorders, slur

4th- Melodic and rhythmic ostinato, interlude, accelerando and ritardando, solfege, dotted quarter and eighth notes, dynamics and performance skills

3rd- Rondo form, ostinato, music alphabet, solfege, dotted half note, largo and allegro and performance skills

2nd- Solfege, ABA form, rhythm, 1 chord accompaniments, 4 and 8 beat patterns, skips and steps and performance skills

1st-beat, notation, vocal qualities, musical opposites, rhythmic and melodic patterns, cues, Introduction, phrase and performance skills

K- beat, vocal qualities, explore movement

Ms. Allison Bequette



Fit Bits: News from the Foster P.E. Department!

Winter is here and students continue to be busy in the Foster gym, finishing up health and wellness units that addressed decision making, nutrition, fitness and harmful substances (6th grade only).

After the break, all students will complete lessons in educational gymnastics, focusing on safe balance and weight transfer skills. As a fundraiser for our PE program, Seo's martial arts school in Arvada is teaching 5 classes for \$25 during the month of January. Classes will be held right after school in the Foster gym from January 8th-January 24th. Please contact me with any questions or keep an eye out for fliers in your child's Friday folder.

Finally, I'd like to take a moment to wish all of our Foster families a safe and joyful holiday season, I feel lucky to begin another new year with this community.

Happy Holidays and Happy New Year!

Stay healthy, stay happy!
Ms. Sammy Chumacero





December 12- Las Posadas

A Winter Festival with food, entertainment., and activities. 5:30p

January 25 - Jump Night / Brinca Brinca

Join us at SkyZone for bouncing fun. 5:30p

February 14- Valentine's Day Family Movie Night /

Noche de película ~ Día de amor y amistad

Join us for Dinner, a prize drawing, and a movie. 5:30p

February 15- Parent Teacher Conference Dinner /

Cena para los maestros durante las conferencias

PTA provides Dinner for Staff. Please bring a dish and leave it in the teacher's lounge.

March 22 - Library Night / Noche en la Biblioteca

Learn about Jeffco Library services, receive free books. Dinner included
5:30p

April 12 - Carnival / Carnaval

STEM Based Games and Experiments along with Arts Activities and Entertainment 5p

April 30 to May 4- Staff Appreciation Week / Semana de aprecio hacia los maestros

A week of activities to celebrate the teachers and staff who support our students.

May 4 - Tamale Throw Down / Concurso de tamales

Community Competition for Best Tamales with Entertainment for Project Prepare 5p

May 15 - Family Formal / Baile elegante

Wear you best clothes and bring your family for a formal dance 6p