



Una escuela bilingüe con énfasis en STEM
A Dual Language STEM School

ROADRUNNER EXPRESS

Foster Elementary
Jefferson County Public Schools

Office 303 982 1680

Fax 303 982 1679

February
2018

Principal's Page

Dear Foster Families,

I am writing this letter while I process the news of the shooting at a high school in Florida. Our society has become somewhat accustomed to this type of news, though this one did seem to make people stop a bit as the images were so reminiscent of those we saw from the Columbine High School shooting in 1998. I was thinking about how when that happened, we all stopped and mourned as a country.

Now, with our flags at half mast, I am thinking about the work we do together as a Foster community in restorative justice. How we have learned together about conflict management. I also think about the work we do with our safety and security department, along with the Arvada Police Department, to make sure that when there is an incident, we have a plan in place.

Please know that we work daily to make sure your child is safe at school. We work with the finest police department in the country and have a close relationship with all of the agencies who would be supporting us through any crisis. Jeffco Schools has invested even more money into safety and security and we take each and every incident seriously. If you have any questions about this, please feel free to contact me directly.

CMAS testing will begin the week of March 19th. Please be sure to note the dates and times your child will be tested. Making sure your child is getting lots of rest, eating a good breakfast, and being present for testing are the key areas we need your help with. Thank you for your support in this area.

In Peace,
Leigh

Foster Accountability Committee

Our next Accountability Committee will take place on March 15th at 3:00 in Leigh's office. During these meetings, we will focus on school data, trends, and discuss the Unified Improvement Plan for the school year. Please consider becoming a part of this important group! Let Leigh know if you have any questions.

March 2018

8 . . . Kg Program 6PM

9. . . Report Cards go home

15 . . 2nd & 4th Gr Prog 5:30

16 . . . Early Release 1:10PM

**26-30 . NO SCHOOL
Spring Break**

Jeffco Public Schools Superintendent Dr. Jason Glass will be facilitating four community conversations about school district finances in March and April.

The meetings will include a high-level overview of the school district budget, the goals of the new Jeffco Generations vision, and invite discussion on how to utilize funding to meet the needs of our students. Parents, students, staff, and community members are welcome to join in the conversation.

What do you think is the most important thing for schools to address?

How do you think funds should be allocated to support educational goals?

Where would you invest funds to help the Jeffco Generations vision become a reality?

Join us for an informative, engaging discussion

Tuesday, March 6 6:00-7:30 p.m.

Deer Creek Middle School 9201 W. Columbine Drive, Littleton

Thursday, March 8 6:00-7:30 p.m.

Pomona High School 8101 W. Pomona Drive, Arvada

Wednesday, March 14 6:00-7:30 p.m.

Creighton Middle School 50 S. Kipling St., Lakewood

Tuesday, April 3 6:00-7:30 p.m.

Conifer High School 10441 Highway 73, Conifer





Wow, February sure is racing by! It has been filled with fun ~ celebrating the 100th Day with all the creative projects, sharing cards and treats on Valentine's Day, and our field trip to see Seussical at the Arvada Center! Thanks again to the volunteers for helping to keep our kindergarteners safe. Also, we really appreciated seeing everyone at our Spring Parent/Teacher Conferences.

Two March reminders: report cards will go home on March 9. Please remember to return the envelope signed and empty. Spring Break begins March 26 with students returning Monday, April 2nd.

During March we will continue our **Reading Unit**, "Readers Relate to Characters," where we are focusing on making personal connections to text and learning about making inferences in our reading. Our **Writing Unit**, "Writing - Informational: All About Books" will help students learn to ask questions and gather information about a topic and then present those facts as an interesting product using text and pictures. In **Math**, our current Unit, "Partners, Problem Drawings, and Tens" will continue with students:

- extend the counting sequence to 100

- instantly recognize and represent numbers 6-10 as being composed of a 5-group and more ones (conceptual subitizing)

- use concrete materials and drawings to compose and decompose numbers 11-19 into ten ones and some more and quantities 2-10 into partner numbers

- identify which of two groups has more than (or fewer than or the same amount as) the other using matching, counting, and knowledge of number sequence

- act out addition and subtraction situations, including when both addends are unknown, by representing quantities with math drawings and equations

- explore attributes of 3D shapes

Thank you for your support!



1ST GRADE

Our students are worked very hard on their economics unit. They will be able to use the classroom money they earned to buy student made crafts.

We had an amazing time at our Field Trip to the Arvada center. Thank you to all the parents that came to chaperone.

Our next science/PBL unit will be on Earth Materials. We will be showcasing this at our First Grade program April 26th.

In math, we worked very hard on adding tens and practicing our word problems. Our next unit of math is on data, graphing, and then on to telling time to the hour and half hour.

In writing, we have been working on our How-To stories and onto other nonfiction topics. Students are loving researching their topic of choice. Don't forget to make sure your students bring their iPads charged all the time.

Thanks again for coming out for conferences, it's always a pleasure to see you and discuss your students.

Miss Stephanie, Miss Brie and Mrs. Rosa






Greetings 2nd Grade Families!

We want to thank all of you for helping with our Valentine Party! We are so fortunate to have enthusiastic parents with high expectations. We thank you for your partnership!

We have so many fantastic learning experiences coming up in this next month.

In literacy, students will be immersed in the process of research. This will include using multiple resources and determining the key facts to learn more about weather patterns and extreme weather.

In math, students will become meteorologists and use data and graphs to track temperature, clouds, and daily weather. In Science, students will continue learning about different types of weather through science experiments, books, technology, and collaborative learning.

<p>Notes and Reminders</p> 	<p>Upcoming Events</p> 	 <p>Peace Promise of the Month: Focus on Learning</p>
<p>Parents please help charge the iPad every night. We need a full battery each day. Thank you.</p>	<p>Please stay tuned for time and date for our upcoming show case of all of the student learning around our weather unit. Stay tuned for more info!</p>	<p>– Encourage and lift the notion of how education is a gift and is a key to future success. Talk about how focusing on learning helps strengthen the brain and knowledge feeds the brain and is nourished by new learning. Discuss and try foods that are helpful in boosting the brain's grey matter. The more we elevate enthusiasm for learning from home the more their love for learning will be engrained into our students' minds and hearts and carry them through college. Thank you for all of your support. Parent Tip: Have a family picnic at a local college campus. Walk the halls and browse the library.</p>





Hello Third Grade Families!

Thank you to all the parents and family members who came out for conferences. It was great to see you and to share what has been going on in class.

We are taking our field trips to Rocky Mountain National Park on March 13th (Miss Laura's class) and March 14th (Ms. Vale and Ms. Julie's classes). We will be snowshoeing, so please begin to collect winter clothing and shoes for your students. In addition, please be on the lookout for more information in the weeks to come.

We are continuing to use our iPads every day, and we rely on Google Classroom and Notability to get our work done! Please remind your child to bring their iPad charged daily. If they come without their iPads, they are unprepared for the day. This has become a bit of an issue. (Please also remind them to bring the protective cover as well.)

We are finishing up our math unit on perimeter and area. Please ask your child about the difference between the two. Perimeter is the distance around an object (polygon), and area is the measurement of the middle in square units. They are still confusing this. Soon we are working on FRACTIONS! This includes putting fractions on a number line, comparing fractions, finding equivalent fractions, and solving word problems involving fractions.

Reading and Writing bring us from Nonfiction to Digging Deeper in Fiction and Reviewing Previous Learning. We will employ our reading and writing skills and strategies to make the transition from learning to read and write to reading and writing to learn.

Thank you for your support with Mini-Society!! In March we will be launching our second Project-Based Learning Unit centered around our Science topic of Changes in Matter. Students will be answering the driving question of: "How can we, as third graders, use our understanding of the states of matter to make a positive impact on the future of alternative energy options in Colorado?" Within this project, we will explore the three states of matter (solids, liquids, and gases), alternative energy, and then students will discover their own answer to the driving question. Students will also be reading nonfiction texts to gather information about these concepts, and use that information to write a presentation that informs our community about ways we can make a positive impact on the future of energy. If you know of any resources in our community or would like to get involved in this project, please contact us!



Thank you for all of your support!
The Third Grade Team
¡Hola familias de tercer grado!



4TH GRADE



4th Grade News!

Wow! It's hard to believe that it's already March and Spring Break is just around the corner! March and April are busy testing months for 4th grade. Please keep up-to-date on our testing dates and times via Class Dojo and our classroom websites so you can help your 4th grader be successful on these important tests.

What are we learning??

Reading: We will begin our unit on Finding Connections Across Texts. The focus of this unit is for students to independently apply multiple strategies at the same time in literary and informational texts.

Writing: We will be concluding our unit on persuasive writing. Watch out, your 4th grader may try to convince you to buy a dog. J

Math: Fractions and decimals: In this unit, students will be able to use drawings and models to explain equivalent fractions. Read, write, and model decimal numbers and compare and order decimals using landmark numbers.

Science: A Special Breed: Past and Present Living Systems. Students will be comparing fossils to each other or to living organisms reveals features of prehistoric environments and provides information about organisms today.

IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER:

Friday, March 9th: 2nd Trimester Report Cards go home!

Friday, March 16th: Early Release @1:10pm

Monday, March 19th-Friday, April 27th: PARCC/CMAS (We will update you via Class Dojo & our website about specific dates and times of our tests. 4th graders will take mathematics and language art)

Monday, March 26th-Friday, March 30th: Spring Break!

Thank for your support!

	Sincerely,
Mrs. Tiffany	tialvare@jeffco.k12.co.us
Mrs. Vicky	eortiz@jeffco.k12.co.us
Mrs. Carissa	csotorod@jeffco.k12.co.us



Grade 5

Hello 5th Grade Families!

Thank you to the families who contributed to the Valentine's Day Party.

We really enjoy celebrating as a 5th grade community.

We will be taking PARCC soon and CMAS for Science. For your reference, here is the information from February again.

“As we begin testing this Spring, please make sure your students are sleeping well, eating well, exercising, and practicing test-taking strategies at home. There are also some stress reducing strategies that we use here at school, so please help reinforce those at home as well. Some of the strategies are taking a deep breath or taking a break or using your growth mindset and utilizing all the skills and concepts you already know to persevere through tough problems.”

Enjoy Spring Break!!!

Kristin Pearce

kpearse@jeffco.k12.co.us

Terese Woolworth

twoolwor@jeffco.k12.co.us

Vanessa Gonzalez (email preferred)

vagonzal@jeffco.k12.co.us



It's all about 6th Grade

Hello 6th grade families,

We enjoyed meeting with all of you at conferences! Thank you for making time to meet with us.

During the month of March, the students will study of rates, ratios, and percent's. This unit offers many practical applications of math. For example, many stores offer a 20% discount. Have your child figure out how much of a discount that would be, and find the total price.

For literacy, we will be reviewing all the different forms of writing. We will be doing a lot of prompt writing in preparation for the upcoming PARCC assessment. We will also be reading both fiction and nonfiction and demonstrating understanding through comprehension questions and short constructed responses.

In science, the students will be building upon what they learned at Outdoor Lab with their unit on water, followed by a study of ecosystems.

Let us know if you have questions.

Thank you!

The sixth grade team



Music Notes

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

