Dear Families,

Jeffco is starting a new system that is in tandem with Jeffco Connect called Enroll Jeffco. The District is asking that everyone, regardless of whether changes in school are being made or not, use the Enroll Jeffco link to inform Foster and the District of your intentions for where your child will be next year. If you are already in Dual Language, don’t worry! This does not mean you are reapplying, this is just simply letting us know that you will be at Foster next year. Please take some time to do this.

As I shared in our last newsletter, the District has given us the thumbs up to add 7th grade Dual Language in year 2019-2020 and then 8th grade Dual Language in 2020-2021. This is incredibly exciting news and we wanted to be sure that 5th and 6th grade Dual Language students will be able to stay for a K-8 experience, with the middle school model starting next year for 6th and 7th grade students.

We will be having information nights and both student and parent committees forming to help create what this experience will look like. If you or your child would like to participate in the creation of this amazing experience, please let me know or show up for a meeting. We will be the very first two-way Dual Language PK-8 program in the District, and one of very few in the state of Colorado. There is no better way to help your child reach the seal of biliteracy!

We also continue to strengthen our STEM program with the addition of some after school STEM offerings, including coding, 3D printing, and delving into hydrocell car creation. As we learn more, we are able to offer some amazing opportunities to our students. We plan to continue to push ourselves to increase the level of STEM both throughout the day and after school as well.

In Peace,  
Leigh  
Accountability Committee

The Accountability Committee met last month and discussed the proposal of Foster becoming a Dual Language PK-8 school. We will be forming parent committees and would love for you to join us in this work of looking at moving forward with the future of our school. We will also be leading some community nights as well. We hope you will join us for our next Accountability meeting which will be on Thursday, February 7th at 3:00 in Leigh’s office. Please join us!
Hello Kindergarten Families,

January has been a great month. We especially enjoyed watching all of our learners show off their growing abilities at our PBL night!

Next month is looking like another busy and fun time of learning. We will celebrate our 100th Day of school on Friday, February 1st. Then we will celebrate Valentine’s Day on Thursday, February 14th with a party in our classrooms starting at 2:30pm. We will be sending home more information about these celebrations.

Reminder: Parent/teacher conferences will be held on;
Tuesday, February 5th and Thursday, February 7th.
As always, thank you so much for your continued support of your child’s learning!

Ms. Melissa, Ms. Shannon, and Ms. Alma
We hope everyone had a restful break. Our first few works we reviewed our first grade behavior expectations and what they need to work on to become a second grader.

First grade has been working hard learning how to add more detail to our writing and editing our mistakes.

We have also been working hard earning first grade dollars and creating products to sell in our school store for our economics unit. On February 8th students will be able to use all of the first grade dollars they earned to buy products that other first graders created.

Please remember that we are using iPads every day and they need brought to school and charged.

Ms. Rosa, Ms. Brie, Ms. Stephanie
Dear Second Grade Families,

It was really nice to get back to our routines the first week of January. Students made a big effort remembering and practicing procedures and expectations in our classrooms, and school. We are really proud to see them grow in the areas of responsibility and respect to the peace promises we all agreed at the beginning of the school year.

- During reading we have been learning about author’s purpose. We have compared and contrasted stories with thinking maps. We asked questions, made deep connections about a topic, and we were able to tell what we learned. At the end of the month we started reading non fiction, paying attention to the features of the text, and investigating about a topic related to weather and climate for our PBL.
- In writing students started the year writing about “how to make” something. We also started writing about a topic related to weather and climate. Students guide their research through questioning, using multiple sources, pictures, bulleted lists and using graphic organizers. These investigations will be ready for you to enjoy, during our 2nd grade program on March 14th.
- In math we learned about geometry and measurement. The math centers gave them opportunities to learn attributes of shapes, and use different measurement units to find the lengths of objects. At the end of the month we practiced skip counting with money (5,10,25 cents), using values up to $1.00.
- During social studies students are learning about economy topics like saving, spending, goods and services, taking financial decisions, especially when there is scarcity of goods and services. Students are also earning “Dojo money” in the classroom when they are following the peace promises. In the following weeks we will have a market where students can use their money, and practice making decisions when choosing goods and services.

On February 5th and 7th we will have parent teacher conferences, please sign up for a spot. On February 6th we will have our field trip to Arvada Center (thanks for volunteering). March 14th our PBL and 2nd grade program.

Thanks for your support at home making sure your student knows the importance of having an environment full of respect and responsibility towards learning.

Your 2nd grade teachers,

Ms. Marcela, Ms. Heidi and Ms. Hollie
Dear third grade families,

We hope this note finds you well in the New Year!

We HEAVILY rely on iPads to get our work done! Please remind your child to bring their iPad charged daily. It is an extreme interruption to students’ learning when their iPad is inaccessible, either because it is not at school or not charged. Please also make sure that your student is bringing the hard cover for their iPad, which is expected in order to keep the iPad safe when in transit.

In Reading and Writing we are all about Nonfiction! We will use this opportunity to complete a research project about a topic that students are passionate about. Applying the reading and writing strategies we have learned throughout the year, students will also learn about researching, note taking, and citing sources. Our upcoming writing unit will involve persuasion.

In Math we are working on writing and solving word problems using all four operations. This includes one step and two step operations per problem. Next we will jump into geometry. This unit 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, Front Row or Khan Academy to stay sharp on their math skills when at home.

Social Studies brings us to our Economic Marketplace unit. Students will be creating a business proposal for a new shop in Olde Town Arvada. Throughout this process, students will understand the value of money in the role of both a producer and consumer within our classroom Mini-Society. In addition, they will create their own financial goals for their small business! Please be on the lookout for more information about Market Day, where your students will participate as both a producer and a consumer.

Upcoming Events (More information coming soon!):
Tuesday, February 5 and Thursday, February 7: Parent/Teacher Conferences
Thursday, February 14: Market Day and Valentine’s Day Party
Wednesday, March 13 or Thursday, March 14: Field Trip to Rocky Mountain National Park

Thank you,
The third grade team
So far 2019 has been a very productive year in 4th grade! We have our middle-of-year MAP tests, DRA’s and ELD’s as well as Access tests all behind us now. We are in the homestretch for our second trimester which ends on February 22nd. There is a lot going on in February, so please make sure to keep up to date with our Friday Folders and Class Dojo.

Here’s what we will be studying in February:

We are going to have an exciting PBL starting the 2nd week of February around designing exhibits for a Colorado History Museum. This PBL will go across content areas including writing (research writing) and social studies (Colorado History, Geography & Government). We will be presenting our PBL projects at our 4th grade program, which will be on April 18th at 5:30pm.

**Reading:** Analyzing Text Structures (cause & effect, compare & contrast, description, sequence, problem & solution).

**Writing:** PBL (research writing)

**Math:** Conclusion of Measurement and beginning of Fractions and Operations

**Social Studies:** Colorado!

**Science:** Healthy Competition (ecosystems)

**IMPORTANT DATES FOR FEBRUARY**

- Tuesday, February 5th & Thursday, February 7th: Parent/Teacher Conferences
- Wednesday, February 13th: Field trip to History Colorado Center (watch Friday folders for permission slips)
- Wednesday, February 14th: Valentine’s Day Party (more information to come)
- Friday, February 15th & Monday, February 18th: No School for Students!
- Tuesday, February 19th: Teachers out for Long Term Planning
- Friday, February 22nd: End of 2nd Trimester

-The 4th Grade Team
Ameritowne and Outdoor lab were both great! Way to go 5/6 graders. Thank you to all of the parent volunteers who joined us at Young Ameritowne! We enjoyed watching the students grow and learn in different settings.

Please check with your student to make sure that they have all of the materials needed in class. For example, pencils, iPad stylus and notebooks.

As you know the weather in Colorado is unpredictable, please make sure your students are prepared for the weather.

Have a wonderful New Year!
All the best,
5th and 6th Grade
Read Across America will be celebrated at Foster the week of February 25 - March 1. Students will be coordinating and planning events throughout the week. The purpose of Read Across America week is to elevate the joy and importance of reading for all. Stay tuned as students begin to advertise and advocate for events throughout this special week.

Please encourage your child to carefully and thoughtfully care for their school device. This would include:

- Charging the device nightly
- Bringing charged device to school daily
- Making absolutely sure the hard case covers the glass screen when iPad is in transit
- Reporting any malfunction in the device or charger
- Letting teacher and/or library staff know if case is damaged
- Keeping the device labeled (hard cover and device)
- Leaving all district stickers in place

Using the device only with the direction/supervision of an adult

Book Fair is coming! Our Spring Book Fair will be held during the week of Parent/Teacher conferences, February 4-8. If you would like to volunteer to set-up, break down, or be a part of running the fair, please contact library staff or fill out the volunteer form found in this newsletter.

It’s time for progress monitoring of Advanced Learning Plans for students who have a plan in place. Teachers will be explaining and discussing what students have accomplished related to goals at parent teacher conferences. Families are free to continually initiate conversations with teachers related to meeting strength-based goals throughout the year; however, periodic updates are a part of the plan with progress being documented at least three times during the year. Please chat with your child’s teacher if you have any questions related to Advanced Learning Plans.
Congratulations to our Foster Elementary School Spelling Bee winners:
6th graders
   Miriam Sanchez
   Trevor Seale

4th graders
   Fidel Flores Gaytan
   Giana Rizzo.

These students will move on to compete at the Arvada Area Spelling Bee in February. Way to go!
Welcome back from the holiday break! I hope it was restful and everyone had time to spend with family.

We will be starting our recorder unit in January. I usually start recorders in 3rd grade and give them an introduction and then we play in consecutive grades after that. I have recorders that students may use, but you are welcome to buy one that they can keep with them also. Borrowed recorders must stay at school during the unit.

Students should have headphones/earbuds to use with their iPad. When we use iPads in music, 99% of the time we are doing something music related and sound is a major part of that. If possible, replace broken headphones/earbuds for your child so that they have access to them during music. Thank you

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

Happy new year from the Foster PE department! I hope everyone had a restful and enjoyable break.

February will be a busy month as students in primary grades focus their work on manipulative movement skill development (i.e. throwing, catching, striking etc.) and intermediate students focus on skill application and game strategy. Fifth and sixth grade students will also be completing healthy nutrition campaigns in art, using the information learned during our nutrition unit in PE.

Our fourth annual Jump Rope for Heart (now known as the kids heart challenge) event fundraiser will kick off on March 1st with a fun assembly, keep an eye out for more information coming home in Friday folders afterward.

Our official Kids Heart Challenge event day will be Friday, March 22nd during your student’s specials time.

Check out www.heart.org for more information about the kids heart challenge and the people they help with the funds we raise.

Stay healthy, stay happy!

Ms. Sammy Chumacero
Did you know that as many as 6 million to 12 million people worldwide get head lice every year, and cleanliness has nothing to do with who will be the targets of the blood-sucking insects.

Head lice are a common problem that typically affects school-aged children and their families. They can attach to the hair of anyone's head, and it doesn't matter how clean, dirty, rich, or poor the place/person is. Though head lice may be a nuisance, they do NOT cause serious illness or carry any disease.

Head lice are tiny bugs about the size of a sesame seed. Their bodies are usually pale and gray, but their color may vary. One of these tiny bugs is called a louse.

Lice lay and attach their eggs to a hair strand close to the scalp using a sticky substance that holds them firmly in place. The eggs and their shell casings are called nits. Nits are oval and the sizes of a knot of thread that blends in with the hair. After the eggs hatch, the empty nits stay on the hair shaft.

Head lice live about 28 days and develop in three phases:
- **Egg or nit** ~ Eggs/nits hatch in 6 to 9 days. Eggs are usually found within 4 to 6 mm of the scalp and do not survive if they are farther away.
- **Nymph** ~ The nymph looks like an adult head louse but is much smaller. Nymphs become adults about 7 days after hatching.
- **Adult louse** ~ An adult louse multiplies fast and lay up to 10 eggs a day. It takes only about 12 to 14 days for newly hatched eggs to reach adulthood. This cycle can repeat itself every 3 weeks if head lice are left untreated.

Head lice move by crawling; they cannot hop or fly. They are spread by close, prolonged head-to-head contact with the hair of an infested person. Spread by contact with clothing (such as hats, scarves, coats) or other personal items (such as combs, brushes, or towels) used by an infested person is uncommon. Head lice feed specifically on human blood (not animal blood) and don't stray far from their food source. They're not going to strike out on expeditions to find new heads. When away from a person they're going to die within 24 hours, because they must have human blood.

Control of head lice depends on prompt diagnosis, effective treatment and teamwork! Your help in inspecting your child frequently throughout the school year for the presence of head lice would be greatly appreciated.

- **Seat your child in a brightly lit room.**
- **Part the hair and look for crawling lice/nits the scalp a section at a time. Live lice** are hard to find. They avoid light and move quickly.
- **Nits** will look like small white/yellow/brown specks and be firmly attached to the hair near the scalp. The easiest place to find them is at the hairline at the back of the neck or behind the ears. Nits can be confused with many other things such as dandruff, dirt particles, or hair spray droplets. The way to tell the difference is that nits are firmly attached to hair, while dandruff, dirt, or other particles are not.
- **Use a fine-tooth comb to help you search the scalp section by section**

Notify your student’s school health room if lice are found or if you have any questions or concerns regarding lice and your student.
The most effective way to treat head lice is with head lice medicine followed by the comb out method every 2-3 days for 2-3 weeks.

- Choose a product that contains *Permethrin*. Over-the-counter treatments contain 1% permethrin. Anything higher than 1% must be obtained from your healthcare provider.
- After each treatment and then daily, use comb-out method to remove nits and eggs.
- Follow the directions on the package exactly as written.
- Never let children apply the medicine. Medicine should be applied by an adult.
- Do not use medicine on a child 2 years or younger without first checking with your child's health care provider.
- Never place a plastic bag on a child's head.
- Do not leave a child alone with medicine in his or her hair.
- Repeat the treatment in 7 - 9 days after the first treatment (according to manufacturer’s recommendations).
- Contact your student’s healthcare provider if lice remain following 2 treatments of recommended shampoo.

In order to avoid a recurrence the environment must also be treated:

- Wash your student's clothes/ towels/ bed linens/hats in hot water and dry on high heat if they were used within 2 days before head lice were found and treated.
- You do not need to throw these items away. Items that cannot be washed may be dry-cleaned or vacuumed.
- Vacuum all furniture/mattresses.
- Do not spray pesticides in your home.
- All household members and close contacts should also be checked and treated if necessary.

**NEVER** use a lice treatment if live lice are not seen, unless you are using a product stating it is ovicidal (eliminates nits). **MOST PRODUCTS ARE NOT OVICIDAL.**