



ROADRUNNER EXPRESS

Foster Elementary
Jefferson County Public Schools

Office 303 982 1680

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**October
2019**

Principal's Page

Dear Families,

As we move into our winter weather, please be aware that Jeffco has started to implement a 2 hour late start on days where we could still have school, just starting two hours later.

Please remember that when the district calls for a 2 hour delay:

We will not offer before school care

We will start our day at 10:50 and students should not be dropped off before this time

We will not have breakfast for students



**November
2019**

2 . . . Labor Day-NO School

13 . . Individual Pictures

13 . . PTA Mtg. 9-10AM

16 . . PTA Mtg. 6-7PM

19 . . Field Day

20 . . NO SCHOOL Prof.Learning

25 . . 1 Day Count thru 10/9



We have staff members and families who live across the metro area and appreciate that the district recognizes that there are some mornings where safety comes first. Thank you for understanding about this change, which brings us in line with many years of practice in nearby school districts.

Happy November to you all! Hoping this quick month brings you joy as you remember the many things in your lives to be grateful for. For me, the Foster community continues to be one of my favorite things to be grateful for!

In Peace, Leigh

Accountability Committee

We hope you will join us for our Accountability meeting, which will be on Thursday, November 14th at 3:00 in Leigh's office. We will continue to discuss the proposal of Foster becoming a Dual Language PK-8 school and give you some updates on school growth and data. Please join us!



Kindergarten

Hello Kindergarten Families!

October came and went in a blink of an eye!

We enjoyed being able to sit down with you at parent teacher conferences. Thank you all for coming. We also had fun during our first field trip to the Arvada Center; it was new and exciting.

In class, students are beginning to use iPads as tools for learning. Please make sure you send the iPad back to school every day and that it is charged.

Continue to discuss with your child the importance of being safe, respectful, and responsible at school and at home. There are many more exciting lessons on the horizon but establishing a peaceful learning environment is our top priority.

Thank you
Ms. Shannon, Ms. Alma and Ms. Melissa





Halloween was so much fun! Thank you for your help with the costumes and class parties! In reading we are working with each of your children in small reading groups.

In writing we are continuing to write our personal narratives. Encourage your students to write at home.

In Math we are continuing to add and subtract numbers and solve word problems. as well as math facts to 10.

We have been talking all about different traditions for our Social Studies unit.

We hope you have a wonderful Thanksgiving break!

Your Friends,

Miss Brie, Ms. Rosa and Ms. Melissa



2ND GRADE

Hello 2nd grade families,

We want to thank you for attending conferences in October. It was a pleasure to meet and talk about your child's progress. We completed the CoGAT testing and results will be in soon. Now for the academic update:

In reading students are using comprehension strategies such as predicting, visualizing, questioning, and inferring using text evidence to support their thoughts.

In writing they started to explore many different kinds of poetry, and continue working on personal narratives.

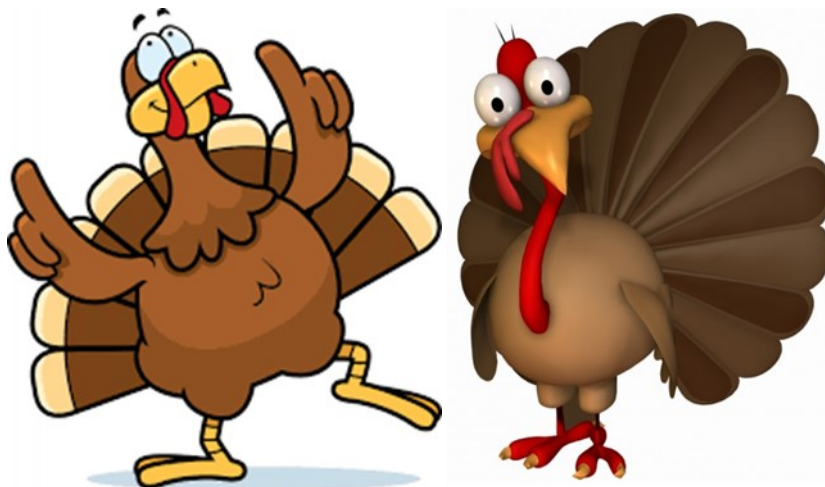
In Math we are developing our knowledge of two digit addition. We have been working on writing numbers to 1000, understanding greater than and less than, and place value.

We are also exploring our world in Geography. We learned about maps and globes and the different terms and tools we use to understand people and places. This coming month, during science, we will have our first "Project Based Learning" experience. We will explore different habitats, and we will answer the question "How do environments help plants and animals meet their basic needs for survival?" We are planning our trip to the zoo as part of this unit. We will let you know as soon as a date has been set.

As always, please reach out with any questions or concerns.

We thank you for all of your support and look forward to yet another month of learning.

2nd grade team
Ms. Hollie and Ms. Elena





Report Cards

You will receive your student's report card on Friday, November 15th in a white folder. Please review the information included. The report card is yours to keep. Sign and date the white folder and send it back to school with your student as soon as possible. Please keep in mind that we reuse the white envelope for your student's next report card. Thank you!

Red Folders (Friday Folders)

Your student's red folder is full of important information. Please take a moment to review paperwork in their folder. Your student is expected to bring their folder back on Monday, clean and with the important paperwork completed.

Reading and Math Flash Cards

We recommend that you encourage all reading activities at home. We do not have homework at Foster, however, reading daily will help with their reading development. We would also recommend that student's know basic addition math facts and multiplication facts with automaticity. Do not hesitate to talk to your student's teacher if you need resources for reading or math.

What we are learning in 3rd grade:

Math – We will discover why an understanding of measurement and data help us to represent and solve problems in the real world.

Reading – We will use text features to identify the main idea in the text that we read.

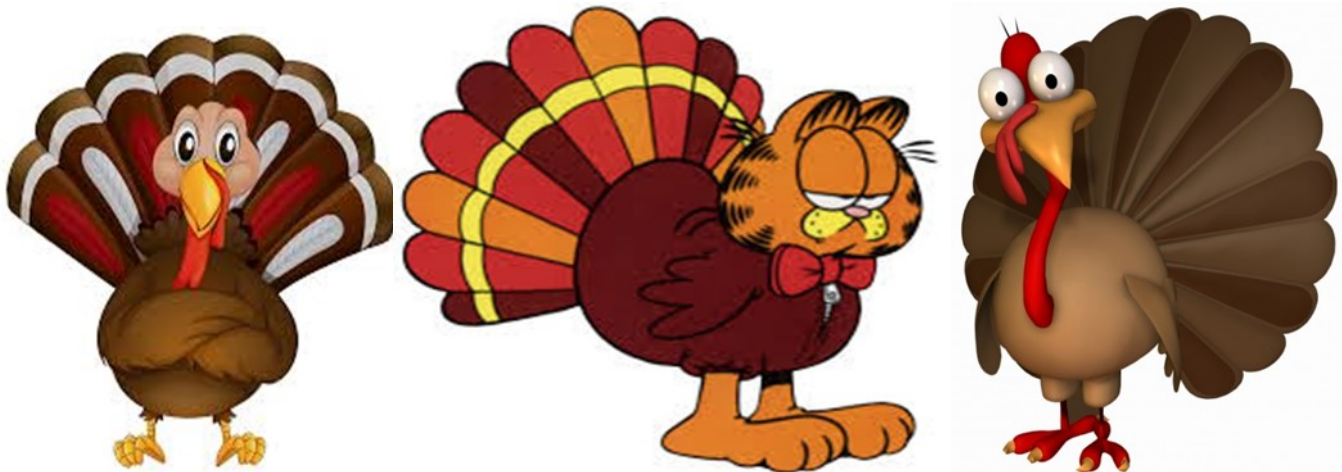
Writing – We will learn how our writing can teach others.

Social Studies – We will explore Metropolitan Areas: Places of Change.

Thank you to all that came to parent teacher conferences. We enjoyed sharing all your student's success.

Sincerely,

Ms. Nikki 3rd Dual & Ms. Paola 3rd Dual Ms. Whitaker 2nd / 3rd Traditional





4TH GRADE

4th Grade News!

November has arrived! Halloween and Día de Muertos were fun and successful. The students have set goal in every subject and are working hard to achieve their own.

The cold weather has surprised us by starting a little sooner than usual, please make sure your child is wearing appropriate clothing for the weather. The end of the 1st trimester is approaching fast and so it's the final scores for the Harry Potter House Cup.

In **Reading** we are working on text features

In **Writing** we are working on researching and composing informative and expository writing.

In **Math** we are working on division. Please make sure your child keeps practicing the multiplication facts every night! The expectation in 4th grade is that students have mastered their multiplication facts by the end of the school year.

In **Science/Social studies**, we are learning geography and the different regions.

Please remember to visit our classroom Class Dojo frequently for up-to-date information about what is going on during the week, field trips and important updates. Some students still do not have headphones, so please be sure to check with your child to see if they need a pair for school.

IMPORTANT DATES FOR NOVEMBER

Thanksgiving Break November 24-29

Mrs. Vicky veortiz@jeffco.k12.co.us

Ms. Stephanie shultine@jeffco.k12.co.us



5th Grade

Hello 5th Grade Families,

We enjoyed meeting so many of you at parent teacher conferences. Thank you for taking time out of your busy schedules to come! Please continue to keep the communication open and reach out with any ideas, suggestions, or questions.

We are doing lots of learning and growing in 5th grade so far! At the start of November, we will be bringing some new units. See below for the focus of these new units.

Math - Multiplying with whole numbers and decimals. Keep practicing those multiplication facts up to 12. This is very important!!

Reading - We are reading texts and working hard to identify the main ideas and support it with details from the text

Writing - Informational Writing where students will include facts details from the text as evidence.

Science - Earth Science and then moving into Social Studies where we will explore the American Revolution.

If you have any questions, please feel free to reach out to your child's teacher.

Tiffany Alvarez (Traditional) - tiffany.alvarez@jeffco.k12.co.us
Kristin Steele (Dual - English) - kristin.steele@jeffco.k12.co.us
Julie Cole (Dual - Spanish) - julie.cole@jeffco.k12.co.us





English Lang. Arts

Welcome to fall! Welcome to the 2nd quarter.

The second quarter will run from 10/15/19-12/20/19.

I hope you are all enjoying the middle school experience at Foster!

We will start Unit 3 on Nov. 4th .

* 6th grade= Weighing Experiences and Roles to Uncover Points of View.

* 7th Grade= Distinguishing Points of View and Perspectives.

Please be sure your student is practicing spelling. They have a spelling assessment every two weeks.

The next book study for 6th grade will be Bridge to Terabithia.

The next book study for 7th grade will be Boy in the Striped Pajamas.

Have a great Fall Break and stay warm! Love, Mrs. Vanessa

Spanish Lang. Arts Ms. Valentina Lowitsch vlowitsc@jeffco.k12.co.us

We are starting our 2nd quarter. Please make sure to check Campus frequently to see how your students are doing at school. We are finalizing our first unit

6th Grade: an anecdote story about a moment in their bilingual life.

7th Grade: an autobiography

The second unit will start October 29th

Enjoy the bright colors of fall

Ms. Vale

Math Michael Chavez Michael.Chavez@jeffco.k12.co.us

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Ms. Vale

Science Ms. Nidya Caviedes nidya.caviedes@jeffco.k12.co.us

Hello Foster family,

It has been a very exciting first quarter of the school year. In 6th grade we have learned all about the properties of matter. In 7th grade we've learned about mixtures.

Our second quarter will go from 10/15/19-12/20/19.

In 6th grade we will be studying Ecology, including biotic and abiotic ecosystems as well as the processes of ecosystems. In 7th grade we will explore the wonderful world of living organisms, including the cells and recognizing the functions of the body systems.

Remember that students have weekly homework and should be writing all of their assignments down in their planner daily. Some homework assignments are as simple as bringing in materials in order to do labs at school. These materials are counted as part of their grade since we aren't able to complete the necessary labs if we don't have the materials. Students are notified of all exams at least one week before the test and should be writing the dates down in their planners as well.

Please make sure your student is using his/her planner in every class and in the evenings. We will be continuing to guide students in weekly grade checks, organizing their lockers and backpacks and coming to class with all the materials they need to succeed.

Social Studies Mrs. Carissa Soto Rodriguez carissa.sotorodriguez@jeffco.k12co.us

Hello Middle School Families! Thank you to everyone who attended conferences. It was great talking to you about your amazing kiddos! It's crazy that we're already $\frac{1}{4}$ of the way through the school year. The beginning of our second quarter is a great opportunity for students to start over fresh, focus and work hard to make improvements from the first quarter or continue what they've been doing. Please remember that your child should be using his/her planner every day and should their have grades, assignments and missing work written in the planner every week.

This past month has been full of tons of learning in Social Studies. In 6th grade, we've been learning all about the ancient civilizations of the Western Hemisphere including the Aztecs, Mayas, Incas and Inuits. We have also spent some time getting ready for Outdoor Lab and by the time you read this, we will have returned from an amazing week learning in the mountains.

In 7th grade students have been working hard on their group research projects about one of the ancient civilizations of the Eastern Hemisphere including Egypt, Mesopotamia, India, China, Rome & Greece. At the beginning of November we will begin our second unit, Civic Relationships in a Global Community. As part of Social Studies, I want students to pay attention to what is going on in the world around us. To help with this, students have a current event homework assignment that is due every other Friday.

6th graders should be looking at current events that are occurring in the Western Hemisphere (the Americas)

7th graders should be looking at current events that are occurring in the Eastern Hemisphere.

Links to different news websites are on my class website in the Links & Tools section.

<https://tinyurl.com/MsCarissa> (Quick link to my website)

Due Dates for the next month:

November 1st, November 8th, November 22nd

Counseling Center Ms. Nicole nicole.head@bvsd.k12.co.us

Hello Foster Families,

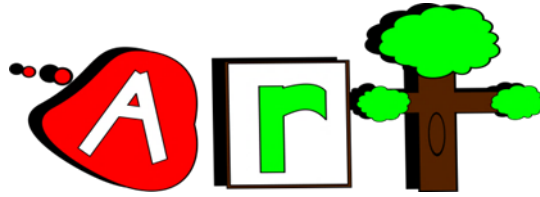
I am very happy to be joining your team and am very much enjoying getting to know your students.

The most common question I'm hearing from families is, "How much should I help my middle schooler at home?" This is a wonderful question. Like math and science, learning to be organized, manage grades, and stay on top of homework takes learning and practice. So, for the second quarter, please be comfortable helping as much as your student is willing to let you. The goal is to build independence with these skills by 4th quarter, not that they start this year with those skills already intact. We highly recommend that students use their planner in every class and in the evenings.

Also, in recognition of Suicide Awareness Month, I would like to take a moment and encourage you all to talk to your student about this very important topic. For those students with phones, it can be life changing to save emergency contacts into their phones. I would recommend Colorado Crisis Services: 1-844-493-8255, or you can text TALK to 38255. Also, they may use the Safe 2 Tell line (877-542-7233) to report any concerns they have about themselves or a peer who may have shared suicidal thoughts with them. Finally, the app MY3 is a wonderful way for students to have a safety plan at all times. We lose too many people to death by suicide, and having these measures in place truly does save lives.

In October, we will begin career and college curriculum. The more our students envision themselves in many possible post secondary roles, the happier and more motivated they will be in school. We will also continue to guide students through weekly grades checks, organizing their lockers and backpacks and coming to class with all the materials they need to succeed.





Can you believe it's already November?!

In the next few weeks and months the Foster art students will begin to create artwork that is a little more surreal and free form then we have recently done.

I have also been in contact with Original works program to have the students create art work that can be put on aprons, coffee cups etc.. Many exciting things are on the art front.

Original works packets will be send home on 10-21.

This will explain the program

Empty bowls is coming up.

Washington DC meeting for fund raising (Middle school)



Music Notes

Every homeroom class is developing a community atmosphere in the music room environment. Being a close knit and welcoming family is crucial to our ensemble successes.

All classes are continuing to refine their ensemble skills, instrumental and vocal techniques. Students are reading and performing with music notation.

They are also incorporating technology into their everyday learning with music creation and notation software as well as district pushed apps to aid in the implementation of the JeffCo music curriculum.

Feel free to stop by and chat with any questions or wonderings you may have about the music program at Foster!

Allison Bequette
Allison.bequette@jeffco.k12.co.us



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

November is nutrition month in the gym! Students in grades K-5 will complete units in healthy eating habits including food group identification, nutrition label analysis, creating food logs and will have a chance to research a variety of foods and diets. I encourage you to identify food groups, look at food labels, make noticings about sugar content, vitamins etc. so students can have as much exposure to real applications of our lessons in a variety of situations (grocery shopping, meal time, packing lunches and more!).

In middle school, students in the games and sports from around the world elective are learning the origins, significance and strategies behind a variety of physical activities from places outside the United States, please see the syllabus for grading policies and check infinite campus regularly for grade updates.

Ms. Sammy Chumacero
Physical Education



From the Library



Digital Citizenship topics will be addressed throughout the year to support students in the safe use of technology. November's topic is News and Media Literacy. This topic includes considering the credibility of sources when researching and consuming digital information. You may support your student's understanding of this topic by using the linked family letter and having conversations related to their learning.

Family Letter: News and Media Literacy

[English](#) [Spanish](#)

Additional resources related to Digital Wellness and Digital Citizenship may be found at www.commonsensemedia.org.

ATTENTION!! Families of fifth, sixth and seventh graders:

As you know, our district's Technology Use Agreement includes an expectation of payment by families for damages to school devices. Lenovo, our vendor for Chromebooks, offers an extended warranty option. Families may purchase an extended warranty which will provide payment for damages to Chromebooks. Typical costs for repairs are:

\$100 Screen Repair \$50 Keyboard \$20 Lower Case

An additional charge for labor can also be added. Devices must be repaired through Jefferson County Public Schools. Warranties may be purchased anytime during the first year for a period of one to four years. A four year warranty with unlimited occurrences is less than one screen repair. To learn more, please access this document:

[LENOVO ADP \(Accidental Damage Protection\) WARRANTY INFORMATION](#)

This warranty applies only to Chromebooks; there is no extended warranty available for iPads.

Gifted Education



Goals for Advanced Learning Plans are in place as of November 1. Families discussed appropriate goals with teachers during conferences or in other ways. Each student will have an academic and an affective goal in place for the school year. If you have questions related to your child's ALP and their goals, please contact the classroom teacher. Our GT Building

Leader/Liaison is also available for support and information and can be reached at carla.coverdell@jeffco.k12.co.us or in the library.



November



Reading Challenge Due: December 2nd

Turn in your checklist by the due date for a chance to win a prize!

Read a picture book (not a chapter book) that you have never read before. November is Picture Book Month!

- ◇ Read a story about a character who travels to new places.
- ◇ Read a book about Native American history or experience. It is National Native American Heritage Month!
- ◇ Read a story about characters who cook or eat a big meal.
- ◇ Read a book about a family and talk about how they are similar to and different from your own family.

Read a book about kindness. November 13th is World Kindness Day!

Student Name: _____

Grade/Teacher: _____

Parent Signature: _____

