

IMPORTANT DATES:

November:

- 10 Choir Veterans Program
Gym 2:00 & 6:30pm
- 11 No school for Students
- 15 Accountability Meeting 3:45pm
- 16 Cultural Connections Family Potluck
6:00pm
- 17 1st Grade Program 2:30 & 6:30pm
5th grade Future Bruins Night
6:00-9:00pm *Cherry Creek High School*
- 18 PTO meeting 9:00 am Café
- 22 4th grade Field Trip: DMNS
- 23 No school for Students
- 24-25 Thanksgiving Holiday- No School

December

- 6 Accountability Meeting 3:45
- 15 2nd Grade Program 2:30 & 6:30pm

Important Phone Numbers:

Main Office: 720-554-3200 Fax: 720-554-3288

Attendance: 720-554-3295

If your child will be absent from school, please call the school absence number by 9:00 a.m. to report the absence.

Kids Club: 720-554-3266 Before and After School

Cottonwood Kitchen: 720-554-3271

Cottonwood Nurse: 720-554-3208

SCHOOL HOURS: 9:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.



Lost & Found

Please note, our lost and found will be emptied at 8:00am Monday November 14th.

Please have your child check the lost and found area outside of the cafeteria to retrieve their lost items .

Also, photos of some of the lost and found items have been posted on the PTO webpage <http://cottonwoodcreekpto.com/lost-found/>.

Community Information Corner

Many of our community partners share information with us. To access information from the following organizations, please visit the Cottonwood Community Information Corner at the entrance of the school:

Science Matters

Bike Path Learning: Foreign Languages

Young Rembrants

Destination Imagination

Boys Scouts of America

Girl Scouts

Chess Club

JW Kim Tae Kwon Do

Lego Club

Kindergarten

Thank you all for attending conferences this week. It is nice spending some time with you and being able to share your children's amazing progress. Their reading and writing skills are really taking off. They are developing a large sight word vocabulary as well as learning strategies for what to do when they come to an unknown word.

In math, we have been busy, busy, busy learning about tally marks, 2D and 3D shapes, counting (by 1's, 5's, 10's), doubles and counting by 2's, and number sense. Wow... we are so impressed with how much these little guys are learning in such a short period of time!

In Science, we have just begun our "Animals 2X2" unit. First up we will be comparing goldfish to guppies and learning about what they need to survive. Several more fun critters to compare are coming soon! J A big thank you goes out to our Cottonwood SEM coordinator, Jennifer Stern, for arranging Science Matters to come and do some fun experiments with us around this unit.

We are looking forward to our traditional Kindergarten Thanksgiving feast this month. Keep an eye out for more information coming soon. We are thankful to be able to teach in such an amazing community and are thankful for all the support you give to us and to your children each and every day!

1st Grade

Our halls are adorned with some pretty amazing turkeys! We appreciate the time and creativity you spent with your child making this family project.

We are learning a lot about American history during our study of Thanksgiving. Your child will probably be able to add a lot of interesting dinner conversation to your Thanksgiving table. We are learning about the hardships the Pilgrim's endured in their new home and the many ways they were helped by their Native American neighbors. The children are writing organized sentences about Pilgrim life. They will complete this booklet and share it with you at the end of November.

We are very excited about our upcoming musical program, "A Time to Give Thanks." The performance will be in the gym on Thursday, November 17th at 6:30 pm. Please have your child come up to their classroom at 6:15 pm for the evening performance.

Now that the weather is getting colder children are bringing, (and losing!) jackets and sweaters. Please make sure your child's coat is labeled with their last name so that we can help remind them what to take home.

Remember, our Thanksgiving break begins on Wednesday, Nov. 23rd and we return on Monday, November 28th.



2nd GRADE

We hope everyone had a wonderful Fall Break. It was so much fun seeing your kids on the Monday when we returned and everyone was in their character costumes. You all did an amazing job and were so creative with costumes, it was a fun day!

Thank you to everyone who attended our 2nd Grade Parent Share Day last month. The kids were so excited to share all of the hard work they have produced since the school year started. The 2nd Grade Team is very proud and we look forward to meeting with everyone during conference week.

We have recently started Bridges Unit 3: Addition & Subtraction Within One Hundred. In this unit your child will make graphs and answer questions about graphs; solve addition and subtraction story problems; add and subtract 2-digit numbers using efficient strategies; and represent addition and subtraction on a number line.

We are finishing up our personal narrative unit in writing and will be starting a unit on opinion writing. In social studies, we are talking about the election, Veteran's Day and will be teaching a unit on communities. In reading, we continue building our comprehension strategies to enhance comprehension skills. We will be working on reading short stories and then writing complete summaries of the story read.

Thank you for all of your continued support! Here we go...2nd Trimester!

Take care,
Rebecca Buell, Kathy Feeley, Kate Howard, Natalie Morris and Erin Wehrle.

3rd Grade

Exciting things have been happening in third grade! Our walking tour of downtown Denver was very exciting! Knowledgeable tour guides, wonderful parent volunteers, and interesting sights made our field trip most enjoyable. Your child can now be your official tour guide on your next trip downtown!

We are enjoying talking with you and your children during conferences this week. During the second trimester, we would appreciate your help in reminding your child to work on areas that were discussed at his/her conference. We believe that it is a valuable life lesson to reflect on the good that we do, but also reflect and think about ways to improve in all areas of our life. It is so good for your child to see you asking questions and showing interest towards their learning. Thank you for the support you are giving to your child in this area.

In math, we have just started Unit 3, Multi-Digit Addition & Subtraction. This unit reviews and extends students' thinking about place value, multi-digit addition and subtraction, and problem solving. The ideas of rounding to the nearest ten and the nearest hundred are explored. Students will use rounding as a way to estimate and check the results of adding and subtracting multi-digit numbers. At home, students should continue practicing basic addition and subtraction facts as well as keeping up with their basic multiplication facts.

Since the first FOSS science kit has arrived, we are currently learning about soils, rocks, and landforms. Students have learned that soil is made up of rock material and humus during this science unit.

Again, thank you for all you do to support us and this great group of children.

Fourth Grade

Wow! We can't believe that it is already November and the end of the first trimester! We have all really enjoyed getting to know your children and see the amazing things they can do! We are excited to see how much they will grow the rest of the year!

To end our science unit of Environments, Party Safari came to our school to display their Scales and Tails! The kids got to see snakes, lizards, a turtle, and a toad and learn all about how they adapt to their environments. It was a fantastic learning experience for the kids to connect what we learned in our science unit. In November, we will be visiting the Denver Museum of Nature and Science where we will watch an IMAX about animals, but also see the Colorado animal exhibits as well as the gems and minerals exhibit.

During our social studies time, we are delving right into the beginnings of Colorado History! Our classes have discussed the geography of Colorado and created maps to reflect the many various land attributes that we are lucky to have in Colorado. In November and December, the fourth grade will be learning about the history of the people that came to Colorado, starting with the American Indians and working our way through the gold rush and the settlement of towns.

The fourth grade is utilizing a program called Tenmarks in our math classes, which is a great way to challenge the thinking of our students with the concepts that we are learning in class. This website allows students to watch videos on how the problems are solved as well as get hints to help them. We encourage you to take a look at the great questioning that is included in these assignments!

We feel so fortunate to have all of the support from our wonderful parents! Thanks for a great first trimester, and we look forward to the rest of the year!

Fourth grade team

Grade 5

In the season of giving thanks, we would like to thank our parents for all of the support they provide for Cottonwood students each day! It's true that good education comes from a good team, and you are an important part of our team. Thank you so much!

As we move into November, we've recently celebrated some important events. By the time you read this, the first round of Parent Teacher Conferences will be in progress. Please know that you may continue to contact us with any further questions or concerns that arise. We were also able to celebrate Red Ribbon Week, our drug awareness event, with Officer McKnight who brought in Birds of Prey that have been damaged by chemicals and the environment. The students were amazed to see these birds up close and learn how ingesting something can permanently impact your quality of life. We are also participating in several Veterans Day events including the choir program and listening to Veterans talk about their experiences in the armed forces. This year we are fortunate enough to have relatives of our 5th grade students as our Veterans Day speakers. The real life connection to dedication and service to our country was such a gift. We are enjoying our Scholastic Book Fair. Thanks for your support of your child's reading growth and the library's funding at the same time!

Big things are happening in the classroom, as well. Science classes have finished up their studies of *Living Systems* and are moving into the area of *Mixtures and Solutions* along with covering the topics of *Natural Resources* and *Plate Tectonics*. Social Studies classes have finished looking into very Early America and are beginning the study of America during the Colonial and Revolutionary War times. Our next math units will focus on polishing the addition and subtraction of fractions, decimals, and place value, including division and metric conversion. Additionally, subjects such as Algebraic Principles and Geometry will be touched on. Language Arts classes are delving into poetry, novel studies, and the writing of pieces to inform and persuade.

We are excited to see what the late fall and early winter will bring with your students!

The 5th Grade Team



**NOVEMBER
2016**



**Cottonwood Creek
Centennial, CO**

**Newsletter
Volume 2**

Cottonwood Creek Café Newsletter

Vegetable of the Month

Peppers are the National vegetable of the month for November. We cook green peppers in our spaghetti and meat sauce and our straw hats. We also offer green peppers as one of our many fresh vegetable sides.

Beach Day 2016!



We had fun celebrating Beach day with Chef Brandon. We sampled our Beef and Bean Chili with Cornbread.

Election Day Nov. 8th!

Please join us as we celebrate the Presidential election. All students, staff and community that purchase a complete school lunch on November 8th will receive a free President Cookie.

Veterans Day Rips!

We will offer Rips as a fruit choice with a hot lunch. Student can also purchase them as a snack for \$1.00. Help us honor our past and current veterans.

Menus

Need more info on our menus allergens or nutritional facts? Check out www.CCSDCAFE.org

Find us on Instagram! Cottonwood Creek Elementary School

Holiday Meal Nov. 17th

Mark your calendars for our annual Holiday Meal! Let us do the cooking for you! Come feast with your students! Turkey, mashed potatoes with gravy, green beans, dinner roll, spices apples, carrots and a piece of delicious pumpkin bread for dessert! An adult meal is only \$4.05.

We would love to celebrate with you this season of THANKS! Thank you for letting us nurture and feed your kids. We love seeing them every day!

Breakfast 7:30-9:00am

Start your day off with a healthy meal! We offer a variety of cereals, breakfast entrees, fruits, and whole wheat toast. Come try our many delicious choices!



Contacts: (720)-554-3271

Sonia Sands kitchen manager
ssands@cherrycreekschools.org

Gretchen Wilkinson assistant manager
gwilkinson@cherrycreekschools.org

Ms. Lorraine, Ms. Veronica, and Ms. Judy are our awesome relief workers!



Come join us for a Bounce for Bucks Event!

Where: 7969 E. Arapahoe Rd
Greenwood Village, CO 80112

When: Friday November 11, 2016

Time: 2 hours - available from 10:00 am - 2:00 p.m.

Cost: \$14.00 each for two hours

jumpstreet® is honored to support Cottonwood Creek Elementary PTO with this event. A portion of all entrance fees will support Cottonwood's PTO! Don't miss out on the fun!

In order to participate please review the following instructions:

- Visit the following personalized link for your group waivers:

https://www.smartwaiver.com/auto/?auto_waiverid=558466a446bea&auto_tag=CWCreek

- You must be 18 or older to sign a waiver
 - Minors must have a waiver completed by a parent/guardian over the age of 18
- Each jumper is required to fill out a new waiver prior to arrival
 - Returning guests are required to fill out a new waiver for group events

CHERRY CREEK SCHOOLS PRESENTS:

A Fun Interactive Course for Parents: "Guiding Our Children to a Mathematical Future"



Join Us: February 2 & 16
6:00-8:30pm

Heritage Elementary

6867 East Heritage Place South, Centennial

Learn with...

the power to impact your children's future and strategies to help your child with math now

practical and fun ideas to support your children's mathematical development with time for make n take activities

the understanding of what a true "number sense" is and why it is critical

the ability to be a critical consumer of educational math opportunities

a great list of games to add to your gift shopping list, or for building your home games collection

To Register:

Email or Call Liz Wegner:

ewegner@cherrycreekschools.org

OR

720-554-5022



Dedicated to Excellence
Cherry Creek Schools



In this series, you will learn how young children develop mathematical understanding. Cutting edge research will be shared along with practical tips and fun learning ideas, focusing on the areas of computation and number sense.

February 2

Come join us for an interactive evening to learn about how current research into the development of mathematical thinking impacts how we teach math to our students, in particular, how we teach computation. Through examining our own math teaching, as well as student strategies, we will discover how current research has impacted the way we teach. In addition, we will discuss math fact learning to reveal practices that lead to strong math fact understanding and fluency, and practices that can impact math learning. Toward the end of the evening, we will explore commercial games families can play at home to have fun with math while deepening understanding of these concepts.

February 16

In Part 2 of our series, we will explore research that focuses on multi-digit computation and will extend our understanding from math facts (session 1) to place value understanding as it relates to computation. We'll examine several techniques, in order to establish a case for reformatting math education experiences for students. Through this process, we will reveal the rationale for several instructional practices. Parents will learn with a better understanding of current practices and tools to support their students and with a list of games to play at home that support these concepts.

These sessions are free but space is limited so

please act fast to reserve your spot today!

Come to one session or both.

STEAM-A-PALOOZA

WORLD OF TOMORROW

Join us on November 12th at Grandview High School from 9:00-3:00 for a free event filled with innovation, hands-on learning and fun! This year's theme, World of Tomorrow, reflects the dynamic fields of Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, and Math.



Explore the World of Tomorrow with student projects, VEX Robotic competitions, and incredible activities with vendors like the Arapahoe County Sheriff Bomb Squad, Museum of Nature and Science, Colorado Maker Hub, Star Lab Planetarium, and SO MUCH MORE!

Sign up today at www.steamapalooza.com



Our STEAM-a-Palooza robot mascot needs a name! Do you have a good idea? Don't forget to enter into the name contest on the STEAM-a-Palooza website before the event! The winner will be announced during STEAM-a-Palooza and they will receive a super STEAM prize!

Lastly, make sure to bring canned and non-perishable food items to donate to SECOR (Southeast Community Outreach), a local non-profit aimed at helping kids and families in need of food.



Hope to see you there!





**CHERRY CREEK SCHOOL DISTRICT
COMMUNITY NIGHT WITH THE DENVER NUGGETS**

Supported by Cherry Creek Schools Foundation



VS



Denver Nuggets vs Toronto Raptors

Friday, November 18th • 7:00pm • Pepsi Center

*****For guaranteed seating, purchase by Monday, November 14th. All purchases after this date are subject to availability*****

Alternate Night: Denver Nuggets vs. Miami Heat
Wednesday, November 30th at 7:00pm at Pepsi Center

TICKETS:

Lower/Club Level: \$37 (regularly up to \$108)

Upper Level: \$16 (regularly up to \$34)

A portion of every ticket purchased will benefit Cherry Creek Schools Foundation.

Order tickets online at:

www.nuggetslix.com/1617cherrycreek
Follow the link and select your school

*The Top Selling Schools will be able to
participate in special experiences including
those below:*

Red, White & Blue Gown:

Hold the American Flag on the court during the National Anthem

High-Five Fan Tunnel:

High-five players as they enter the court for warm-ups

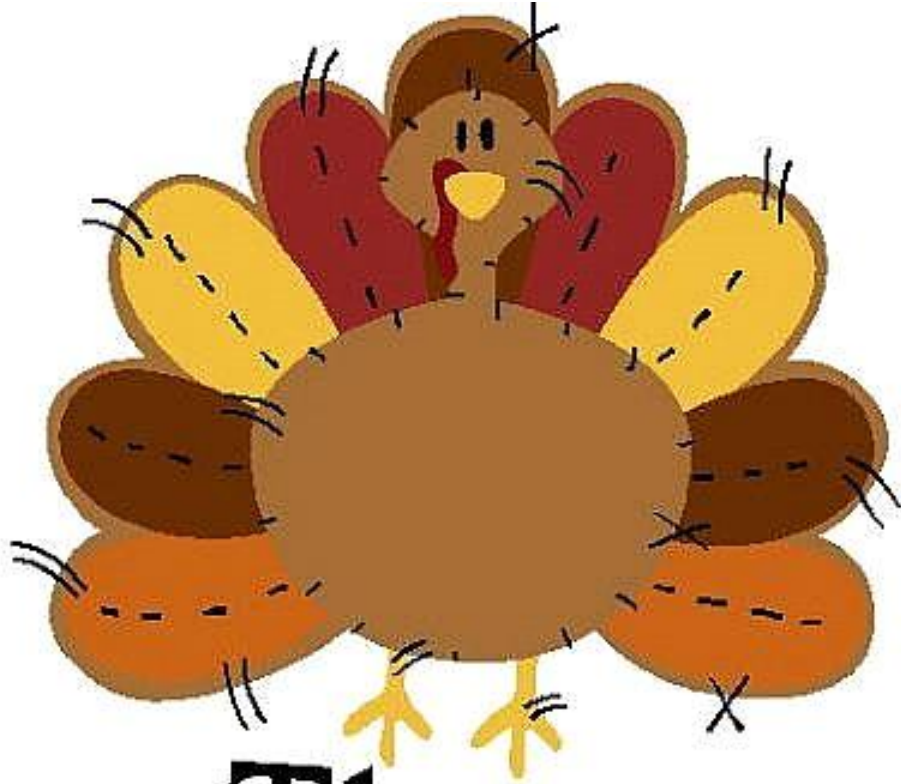
For more information, contact

*Lyndsay Marchbanks at
303.405.7635 or*

Lyndsay.Marchbanks@teamksd.com



Cherry Creek Schools
Foundation



Happy Thanksgiving

No School November 23-25th!