

# Bison Bulletin

February 2021

Clear Sky Elementary

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**Kellie Roe**  
Principal

**Katie Berry**  
Asst. Principal

**Attendance Line:**  
303-387-5902

**Office Phone:**  
303-387-5900

**School Day:**  
9:10am - 4:00pm  
**Office Hours:**  
8:30am-4:30pm

**Clear Sky PTO**



*Advertising in this  
newsletter does not imply  
endorsements by the  
school or district.*

## Message From the Principal

Dear Parents,

We have had a great start to the year! Thank you for supporting our Tutus and ties day! It was great to be a little silly and have some fun! We were also able to support a great cause in the Hope and Help Center!

Professional Development is important for our teachers and I appreciate your support while our teachers take these days to learn. On February 12th our teachers will have multiple opportunities to continue their learning. In the morning our primary teachers will continue work that they have begun on the "Introduction to The Science of Reading." course that they are required to take through the Colorado Department of Education. There are six online modules in "Building a Strong Foundation: Developing Early Literacy Skills" professional learning series, aimed at supporting teachers' efforts to teach reading foundational skills in grades K through 3. Our teachers are working hard to learn how to best meet the needs of our students! While our primary teachers are learning about reading instruction, our intermediate teachers will be learning about DBQ. DBQ is an engaging and rigorous project that helps teachers teach students to "read smart, think straight and write clearly" through historical inquiry. In the afternoon all of our teachers will be learning more about Stemsopes, our science resource that provides exciting opportunities for our students. Thank you for your support as our teachers work to be better for their students!!

Congratulations to our Apple Award winners!! Anne Clark, our BASE assistant director is our classified winner. Anne is a delight to have in our BASE program. She is warm and welcoming and has great relationships with all of her students!. Michelle Hanson, kindergarten teacher, is our certified award winner. Michele is an incredible teacher that builds close relationships with her students. She is known for her warm heart and outgoing personality. Way to go Anne and Michelle!

It is my pleasure to serve as your principal. As always, if you have any questions or concerns, please don't hesitate to contact me!

Sincerely,  
Kellie Roe



continued...

## The Berry Patch

Hello Clear Sky Families,

As many of you know, state mandated testing happens in April. You can access the schedule and information on this testing on the CSE website. Once on the website, please go to the parent resources tab, scroll down and click on the State Mandated Testing tab. It is very helpful to the school if parents look at the schedule and do their best to schedule any appointments that might be necessary outside of our testing schedule. We know that is not always possible, but we appreciate any support with our testing schedule. Please feel free to reach out with any questions about the testing.

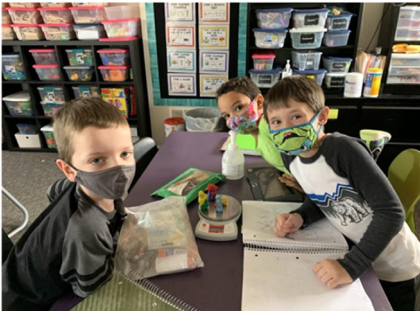
Thank you for all that you do for our students!  
Mrs. Berry

## Science Lab

This month we conducted some fun experiments, STEM challenges, and topics surrounding winter. It was so much fun to have the students back in person for some hands-on learning. Please see the pictures included in this newsletter. Thank you for sharing your students with me. Feel free to contact me at any time with questions or comments.

Mrs. Anderegg  
[Christy.Anderegg@dcsdk12.org](mailto:Christy.Anderegg@dcsdk12.org)

### January Pictures from the Science Lab



Creating snowmen out of clay and learning how to use a scale and measure in grams.



Using our sense of sight and magnifying glasses to investigate snow.





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## Science Lab, continued...



Combining art and science while learning about snow crystals and the famous scientist, Snowflake Bentley.



Learning about temperature, thermometers, and investigating glow sticks in various temperatures of water



Designing a snowflake that falls "slowly" and learning about measuring and taking averages.

## Physical Education

### This last month in PE...

#### K-6th

In December, we learned about 3 concepts of fitness during remote learning at home! We learned about Flexibility, Muscular Endurance, and Cardiovascular Endurance. Students worked on individual exercise goals and routines.

### Now in PE...

#### K-2nd

We were introduced to Speed Stacks and have been playing new games this month with our new Stack Cups! Our main lessons are about developing hand-eye coordination, muscle memory, manipulative skill building, and balance! With a lot of practice and focus, we continue to work at building up speed on our stack routines!



## In the Innovation Lab

February has brought the end of our current robotics unit. This unit had students, at all grade levels, applying their previously learned computer science and computational thinking skills, while using various types of robots. In kindergarten and 1st grade we also spent some time with the Scratch Jr. app. I felt it was important for students to have this experience since they missed out on it during our remote learning. Below are the robotic design challenges that each grade level worked on during our unit:

**Kindergarten:** How might we retell some of our favorite stories using robots?

**1st Grade:** How might we retell some of our favorite stories using robots?

**2nd Grade:** How might you create and tell a story using a robot?

**3rd Grade:** How might you program Sphero to navigate a maze?

**4th Grade:** How might you create a robotic device to help someone?

**5th Grade:** How might you program the Ozobot to run a mini golf course?

**6th Grade:** How might you program a robot to play an everyday game?

(You can find photos from some of the classes on the following page)

## Hour of Code

### Want to do some fun coding at home?

You might remember back in December that all of the CSE students participated not only in the Hour of Code (HOC), but in our coding unit as well. You can still find all of our HOC resources on the Innovation website via this [LINK](#).



Want to learn more about Design Thinking or LAUNCH? Visit these two resources:

Design Thinking - <https://www.ideo.com/pages/design-thinking>

LAUNCH - <http://thelaunchcycle.com/>

## Want to Donate?

We are always looking for materials, expertise, and extra hands! We are currently looking for the following items:

Clorox Wipes, paper towels, Snap Circuits, old games that might be missing pieces or are no longer being played, an old Operation game...we need it for dissection. Visit our updated Google Doc (<https://goo.gl/3RIMpJ>) to see what materials we need. If you want to volunteer your time, please feel free to contact me. You will find a form on the "Maker Program Materials" page.



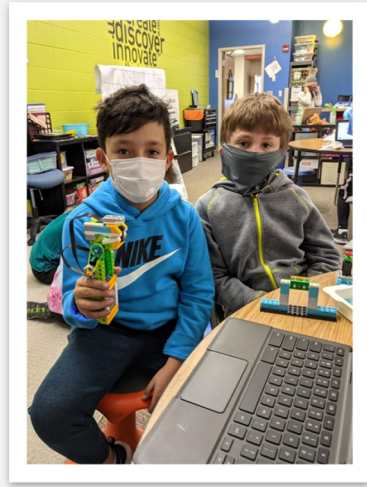
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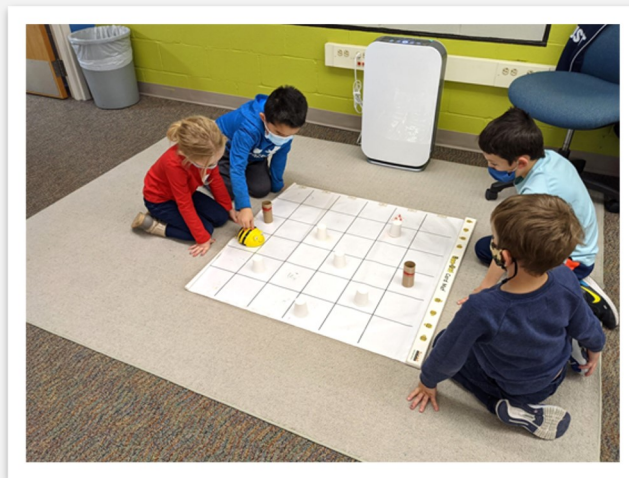


## In the Innovation Lab, continued...

A couple of the mazes designed, built and coded using the Sphero.



Students used LEGO WeDo kits to build and code a mechanical hand.



Students using BeeBots.

## Tip from Psychologist Mr. Phil

Research shows that people remember the first and last things you do, so make a good impression and end on a high note! For more information, check out the *serial-position effect*.

Make it a great week,

Mr. Phil

## Fire Safety Poster Contest

Clear Sky Elementary had 3 students win the annual Fire Safety Poster Contest. The purpose of the contest is to give local students an opportunity to collaborate with CRFD in fire safety. The winning entries are made into decals and placed on the side of a fire truck where it will ride throughout the entire year! Almost every resident and visitor of Castle Rock gets to see the artwork on the fire trucks throughout the year! Congratulations Annalie Carlson, Sienna Mandrioli and Makayla Mooney!



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