

# Bison Bulletin

November 2017

## **Clear Sky Elementary**

P age I

#### Kellie Roe Principal

Katie Berry Asst. Principal

1470 Clear Sky Way Castle Rock, CO 80109 Ph. 303-387-5900

Attendance Line: 303-387-5902

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

**Clear Sky PTO** 



### **Message from the Principal**

Dear Parents,

Happy Fall! Wow, we were so lucky with the weather when Avid Adventures was here! 8 days in October without rain or snow! I hope your children had a wonderful time experiencing the rock wall, kayaking and the bike course! We had almost 20 students learn how to ride a bike during their Avid Adventures experience. I couldn't have been more excited! I would love to hear your feedback on Avid Adventures. Did your child love it? Hate it? Learn something new? Our hope is that they have a new interest in being active in the outdoors!

While our students were busy outside with Avid Adventures the kids inside continued working hard on their academics. It is our goal that all students reach their highest potential in all areas and we have created our school goals around that idea. We have four goals that we will be working on for the next couple of years. Our broad goals this year are:

- 1.CSE will provide consistent, quality literacy instruction
- 2.CSE will provide consistent, quality math instruction
- 3.CSE will engage and empower students through PBL
- 4.CSE will empower students and staff to create and sustain a positive learning community

While we have four goals that we will be working on, providing high quality literacy instruction has been our primary focus so far this year. We have been basing our work on Jan Richardson's book The Next Step Forward in Guided Reading. All of our teachers were given a copy of the book and our 3 staff development days so far have been focused around this work. Jan is convinced that there is no instructional approach more powerful than guided reading and we are already seeing a difference in our students! We know that students that are not strong readers will suffer their entire lives and we are committed to help them reach their highest potential in reading!

Please talk to your child's teacher about reading. Find out what you can do at home to help. Together we can make sure that all of our students are strong readers that find joy in reading. If you would like to learn more about what we are doing around literacy instruction I would be happy to chat more with you about it!

As always if you have any questions or concerns please don't hesitate to contact me.

Thank you for trusting your children to us. It is a privilege to work with them! Sincerely,

Kellie Roe

## Community starts with neighbors who care.

That's what our town is made of. State Farm® has a long heritage of helping out in the community. That's why I'm proud to support Douglas County Schools.

Get to a better State®.



David Topolnicki Ins Agcy Inc David Topolnicki ChFC CLU FLMI CASL, Agent 390-C South Wilcox Street Castle Rock, CO 80104 www.davetop.com



1201196

State Farm, Bloomington, IL

## **Important Dates to Remember:**

November 1st 2nd Vision/Hearing Screening

November 6th CSE Day at Café Rio (all day)

November 7th NO SCHOOL (Professional Development)

November 10th Bison10ial day – wear your Bison

Spritwear!

November 11th DCSD Community Night at the Nuggets

November 14th MAC Daddy of a Dodgeball Game

November 15th Thanksgiving Feast Day

**CVHS** Feeder Concert

November 17th Sweet as Pie 1st grade Event

November 22nd – 25th NO SCHOOL Thanksgiving Holiday

Nov.27th – Dec 1st PTO Holiday Shop

December 12th SAC Meeting @ 9:15 am in Bungalow

December 13th CSE Winter Holiday Concert @6pm -

7:30 pm

December 18th CSE Band/Orchestra Winter Concert 5-

6pm

Dec. 22nd – January 7th NO SCHOOL - Winter Break

January 8, 2018 School Resumes – HAPPY NEW YEAR!



Don't forget – **Spirit Day is every Friday**- wear your blue, white or gray/ silver

<sup>\*\*</sup>some dates and times may change - notifications will be made by Thursday folders, emails or phone blasts



#### **Berry's Bits**

Hello Clear Sky Families,

November is the time of giving. With Thanksgiving right around the corner, it is a good time to reflect on all of the things that we are thankful for. I have an amazing list of things to be thankful for, including my wonderful family and an amazing school to work at each day! I try and find the time with my own children to talk about what it means to be thankful and how we can show thanks.

During this season, do your best to make the time to reflect with your family about the importance of giving during the current and upcoming holiday season. There are some many ways to give thanks. Random acts of kindness or donating food, clothes or toys are all ways to give during this season. Also, sitting together with the family to eat dinner or play a game helps students (and adults) realize what we have and what we are thankful for.

It is so easy during this busy time of year for memories to fly by and not leave a mark. Slow down during this time of year and remember what is important and create memories!!!

Thank you for all you do for our students, Mrs. Berry







#### **Art Room News**

Happy Fall from the art room! Original Works orders will be arriving around November 30th. I can't wait to see them!



All grade levels will be starting new projects this month.

**Kindergarten** will be learning about primary colors (red, yellow and blue) and how to mix them to create new colors.

1st grade will explore the work of Paul Klee and create projects based on the artwork "Castle and Sun".

**2nd grade** will be viewing later works of Henri Matisse and learning about geometric, organic, positive and negative shapes. They will create a Matisse-inspired collage based on their knowledge of these terms.

**3rd grade** will be looking at the work of the author and illustrator Lois Ehlert and will be creating a "Birds in Aspen Trees" project.

4th grade will be viewing Chinese art and create a landscape banner inspired by their style.

**5th grade** will be discussing graphic design and creating a soda bottle label for their own invented soda.

**6th grade** will be discussing narrative art. They will choose a favorite memory and create a "Memory Tin" to tell the story of their memory.





#### **Learning Commons**



A huge thank you goes out to all the parents and volunteers who helped make our Fall Scholastic Book Fair a great success! Research shows that when families demonstrate an interest in reading and children have access to a home library of books, kids read more. And kids who read more are better readers. Thank you so much for your commitment to Clear Sky and to the students!

#### MARKER RECYCLING

Crayola and schools across North America are banding together to help kids understand the importance of their role in protecting the environment. Clear Sky is in our second year of participating in the earth-friendly project! Please bring in your used markers for recycling and repurposing! Please drop them in the repurposed box in the front of the Learning Commons!

Carolynn Kranse CSE Librarian

#### **Innovation Lab**

The third round of Innovation Lab gets underway the week of November 6th. Students continue to practice the LAUNCH Cycle, a kid-friendly approach to the Design Thinking process. During this round in the lab, students are focusing on coding/computer programing. Based on their grade level, students will complete an introductory lesson on coding, and will then move on to their challenge. Many grade levels will be utilizing Scratch or Scratch Jr. during this unit. Below are the challenges that each grade level will be working on during their coding rotation:

**Kindergarten**: How might we complete activities as a robot?

**1st Grade:** How might you complete activities as a robot and then use coding to write your own story?

**2nd Grade:** How might you complete activities as a robot and then use coding to write your own "Choose Your Own Adventure" story?

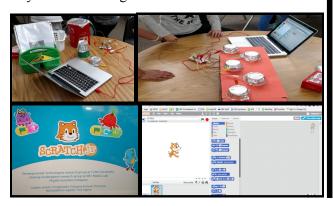
**3rd Grade**: How might you create an interactive logic puzzle?

**4th Grade**: How might you create a computer-based game using a vehicle that was created for your Extraordinaire?

**5th Grade:** How might we improve on the "Operation" game that we created?

6th Grade: How might you create a digital version

of your cardboard game?



#### Want to donate?

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

Clorox Wipes, Duct Tape, Rechargeable AA Batteries, A Snap CIrcuit Jr. Kit, and An old Operation game...we need it for dissection:)

Visit out updated Google Doc (https://goo.gl/3RlMpJ) to see what materials we need. If you want to volunteer your time, please feel free to contact me.

#### Want to learn more?

Visit these two resources to learn more about: Design Thinking -

https://www.ideou.com/pages/design-thinking LAUNCH - http://thelaunchcycle.com/

#### Jennifer

Innovation Lab Specialist @ CSE STAR Discovery Educator & LC Member BrainPOP Jr. Technology Advisor http://www.theteacherscorner.net

#### **English Language Learner (ELL) Update**

Aurora Green Aurora.green@dcsdk12.org Abeer Sawaged abeer.sawaged@dcsdk12.org

303-387-5954

Dear Families,

We hope all of our student got to enjoy the AVID adventures!

Our Reading Together program will launch this week starting on Thursday, 10/26! Parents letters were sent home and based on the sufficient response received, we will start with Phase I where tutors will mentor as reading partners with students within our program to enrich and develop reading strategies through mentor text. We are so excited that our students both tutors and tutees develop reading skills and strategies that will help them access the content learned in the classroom.

Please don't hesitate to call or email us with any questions or concerns.



Queridas familias,

Esperamos que hayan disfrutado de la programa de AVID Adventures!

Nuestro programa de Reading Together se ha puesto el jueves, dia 26 de este mes. Empezamos con la Fase I, donde tutores serán mentores de compañeros dentro de nuestro programa para enriquecer y desarrollar la lectura. Estamos tan contentos de que nuestros estudiantes y el tutor puedan desarrollar habilidades y estrategias que les ayuden a tener acceso al contenido de la lectura aprendido en el aula.

Por favor, no dude en llamar o enviar un correo electrónico con cualquier pregunta o preocupación.





## **Thanksgiving Feast**



Our Annual Thanksgiving Feast will be held during lunches on **November 15<sup>th</sup>** this year. Parents are invited to come have lunch with their student and enjoy a Thanksgiving meal. Turkey, Mashed potatoes & gravy, green beans, harvest bar, rolls & Yummy cookie. Milk or water included

Cost \$4.00 for adults \$2.85 for students - deadline to register to purchase a meal for a non-student is Wednesday, Nov 8<sup>th</sup>.

You may send a note with your student or send an email to: <a href="mailto:Theresa.Boltz@dcsdk12.org">Theresa.Boltz@dcsdk12.org</a>. Do not send money now. Pay on the day of the mail with exact change if possible. You are welcome to attend even if you do not purchase a meal. The deadline is in place so our kitchen manager may order enough food to feed both students & families.

This is one of our most popular events of the year. Lunch & recess times are extended this day to accommodate the extra numbers.

11:15 am-  $2^{nd}$  grade 11:45 am  $-6^{th}$  grade 12:15pm  $-K/1^{st}$  grade

12:45 pm  $-3^{rd}$  grade 1:15 pm  $-5^{th}$  grade 1:45 pm  $-4^{th}$  grade

#### Needed:

## Adopters needed for CSE's Holiday Adoption Program!

Last year CSE partnered with neighboring schools to adopt families who benefited from extra support during the holiday season. With the help of our amazing community, we were able to provide needed items and fun extras for some of our families. We would love to continue this program this year, but we need your help.

If you are willing and able to adopt a family this holiday season, please send your name and contact information to Lauren Bennett at <a href="lebennett@dcsdk12.org">lebennett@dcsdk12.org</a>. All donators and recipients will remain confidential.

Thank you in advance for your support!

#### **Nutrition Services:**

Nutrition Services is looking for a Kitchen Assistant at CSE. Work while your kids are in school with a starting pay of \$11.25/hr. Most shifts are between 9 am and 2 pm Monday through Friday. Please contact Dawn Kidd at <a href="mailto:dawn.kidd@dcsdk12.org">dawn.kidd@dcsdk12.org</a> or apply online at: <a href="mailto:https://www.dcdsk12.org/careers">https://www.dcdsk12.org/careers</a>

#### **Student Fees:**

Please go to <a href="www.clearskyelementary.com">www.clearskyelementary.com</a> and choose Online Payments (at bottom of page) to pay all or a portion of outstanding school fees. Also, if your student is on Free/Reduced Lunch, send a copy of your letter into the office to have fees waived.

Letters from previous years may also be sent in.

Letters can also be emailed to

Susan.Snider@dcsdk12.org

Please email Susan
(Bookkeeper/Administrative Assistant) at the above email for any questions or concerns.

**Residential Speeding:** We have received multiple reports of excessive speed and unsafe driving in the neighborhood surrounding CSE before and after school. We ask everyone to please be mindful of the children & parents walking to and from school by following traffic rules and slowing down in the school zone.



#### **Notes from the Registrar**

Open Enrollment Changes:

1st round now Open - November 1<sup>st</sup> at 8:00 am End - December 1<sup>st</sup> at 4:00 pm.

Open Enrollment is only necessary for families who are looking to attend a school other than their assigned neighborhood school.

To open enroll, parents will access the OE tool through EngagED Parent Portal.

Parents without an account will use the link on the landing page to create one. (If a parent creates a new account and open enrolls, when they already have an account, their application may be void)

Tour dates Nov 9th Thursday Nov. 14th Tuesday Nov. 27th Monday 10-10:30

#### **Parent Portal:**

Families new to CSE will need to set up a parent portal account to access information such as

- Infinite Campus for attendance, grades and other pertinent school information
- Grades and report cards for elementary students via EngagED
- Open Enrollment Applications via EngagED
- Express Check In
- Bus Route Information

After your child is enrolled you will receive a auto generated email from Douglas County school district with your GUID code and a link to start the self registration process.

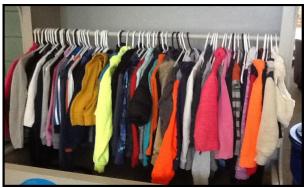
You will enter your GUID in the field labeled "Guardian GUID".

Questions may be directed to kanoi.oili@dcsdk12.org

#### **Lost & Found**

Our 2<sup>nd</sup> graders have taken on the task of keeping our Lost & Found cabinet organized and they want everyone to know that it is overflowing with lost jackets and lunchboxes & water bottles. All items remaining in our Lost & Found will be donated after Winter Break.





#### Butter Braids! Butter Braids! Butter Braids!

6th Graders are selling butter braids to help fund their Outdoor Eduction trip in April. Contact a sixth grader or sixth grade teacher to order. Orders/payments are due on November 6th & delivery to the school is on November 15- just in time for the holiday season! This year's flavors include apple, blueberry cream cheese, cinnamon, strawberry cream cheese, as well as caramel rolls! (\$13 each). There is also a NEW savory butter braid- 4 cheese and herb! (\$14). Also NEW this year is GLUTEN FREE cookie dough-chocolate chip oatmeal walnut and double chocolate! (\$13). Stock up for quick holiday breakfasts!

#### Star Bison of the Month



Star Bison of the Month is a way for us to celebrate the kiddos that are showing excellent B.I.S.O.N behavior, which stands for **B**e Respectful, Integrity, Safety, **O**wn It and **N**ever Give Up.

They are on display on the windows across from the music room. The student will get to keep the notecard/picture as a keepsake as each new month goes up. Stop by and see the display if you are in the building.

#### **DCSD Community Events**

November 11<sup>th</sup>: DCSD Night at the Nuggets vs. Orlando Magic @Pepsi Center -Discounted tickets and every purchase benefits the school of your choice. Order tickets online at: www.nuggetstix.com/DC1718 Follow the link and select your school

For more information please contact Aaron Maldonado at 303.405.1334 or Aaron.Maldonado@TeamKSE.com

#### **Avid4 Adventure**

We want to extend another huge **THANK YOU** to our **PTO** and **BASE** program for their financial support which enabled us to have Avid4 Adventure on our campus for our Kindie  $-5^{th}$  grade students. Without their assistance the cost would have been prohibitive.

## Waste Free Wednesdays

Congratulations to our latest Waste-Free Wednesday winners! Please remember to help CSE reduce the amount of trash we add to the landfills and bring a waste free lunch.





#### 6th Grade News



Sixth grade has wrapped up our first project of the year with a district created video. Our students worked to create a video with our district videographers to share why our school is so special! We will post the video as soon as it's available. We also kicked off our second project about water.

Three classes went for a long arduous hike and two classes create picture collages. We are off to a great start!

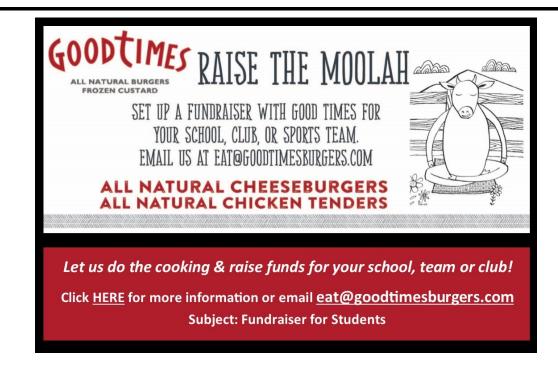
#### **CSE Photo Club Donations**

Yay! Our club has doubled since last year and we are in need of used **Point and Shoot** or **DLR** cameras with their chargers. Our many duties include taking pictures of students in extracurricular events as well as class events.

One of our needs this year is to have more cameras. We welcome anyone who would like to donate any of these cameras to our club, we would appreciate it. If you have any questions, please email or ask Ms. Green (ELL)

#### **SSN EAIV Classified Substitutes Needed**

If you are interested in subbing for our SSN Program (Significant Support Needs), please watch for a substitute job posting for an EAIV or contact Susan Snider at <a href="mailto:susan.snider@dcsdk12.org">susan.snider@dcsdk12.org</a> for details. We are in need of substitutes to cover when the regular Educational Assistants are out sick or on a personal day.





#### **Vision/Hearing Screening**

#### Dear Parents:

Each year Douglas County Schools conduct vision and hearing screening for all students in the state-mandated grade levels K, 1, 2, 3, 5, 7 and 9, as well as new students to the District. The school nurse consultants oversee the vision and hearing mass screening and the audiologists conduct any additional hearing testing that is necessary. The District Vision & Hearing Screening Team conducts the mass screenings and, because it is responsible for many thousands of students, utilizes parent volunteers to expedite the process.

It is important for you to understand that this is a mass screening to detect academically significant vision and hearing problems. Certain visual or eye problems will not be picked up in a screening program, therefore, it should **not** be considered a substitute for a professional eye exam, particularly in students who are experiencing difficulty in visual tasks or who have frequent visual complaints.

Students will be vision screened using a Sloan standardized letter chart, an LEA symbol chart or the Spot Vision Photo Screener. The Spot Vision Photo Screener by Welch Allyn (SPOT) is powered by sophisticated technology that detects the indication of the following vision issues: near sightedness, far sightedness, unequal refractive power, blurred vision, pupil size deviations and eye misalignment. The process is improved if students with glasses are wearing them or at least have any corrective lenses with them for the screening. **This helps to avoid unnecessary referrals for an eye exam.** 

The hearing screening may be done on a day your child has a cold or an ear infection. If your child is on medication for an ear problem and is being followed by your doctor, please inform the vision and hearing team at <u>rimartinson@dcsdk12.org</u>. If any problem is detected during the hearing screening, your child will be referred to the Douglas County School District Audiology Department for a more complete evaluation.

Referral letters are sent to the parents of students who fail the vision or hearing screening. Please return the completed referrals as it assists us in updating your student's records and improves the follow up process. Hearing and vision referrals are to be returned to the school. Any questions that you may have about the school hearing and vision screening can be answered by the school nurse at the phone number listed below

If you would like to opt out of vision or hearing screening, please request the opt out in writing at least the day before the screening so that the request can be sent to the appropriate personnel.

Thank you in advance for your support of these very important programs.

Nurse: Kelly Driver, RN BSN 720-284-7545



#### **PTO Update | November 2017**



November already? Wow! We hope that you had a chance to enjoy the beautiful weather and some of the fun events around school lately, such as Avid 4 Adventure and our Donuts with Dudes breakfast. Here is what your PTO has currently in the works.



Family Day at Café Rio is coming up on Monday, November 6<sup>th</sup>. You can eat at Café Rio ANY TIME DURING THE DAY on the 6<sup>th</sup>. Be sure to show them your voucher (either printed out or electronically on your phone/tablet) and Clear Sky will receive 20% of the proceeds. Look for vouchers to come home in Thursday folders, and to be emailed out.

It's a MAC Daddy of a Dodgeball game! Our annual Dodgeball with Dads event is coming up on Tuesday, November 14<sup>th</sup>. Come any time between 7:00pm and 8:30 pm to the Miller Activity Complex (MAC), located at 1375 Plum Creek Parkway. This is always a fun event. We hope to see you there!





A new Box Tops contest has begun! As you collect the Box Tops, please put them in a zip lock bag, or use the collection sheet that came home with your student, and turn them into the school. Be sure to include your teacher's name so your class gets credit! The class with the most Box Tops will get a cookie party. Contest ends December 4<sup>th</sup>.

The Holiday Shop is coming soon! Dates this year are November 27th - December 1st.

This program makes it possible for children to experience the joy of choosing their own special holiday gifts for family and friends. The Holiday Shop will be set up at the school and supervised by our parent volunteers. We believe this program can create wonderful memories for the children while teaching them to budget their money and make their own decisions. There will be a large variety of gifts in different prices ranges to choose from. We will be sending home a "money control" envelope, that you can use to help your child decide who they should buy gifts for, and how much they should spend. You can even suggest ways that your child can earn extra shopping money!

Be on the lookout for the flyers and envelopes to come home in Thursday folders. And as always, we can't do this without your help! A signup will be send out soon with time slots for parents to come and help out. Thank you in advance for helping to make the Holiday Shop a positive experience for our students!



#### **PTO Update | November 2017**

Planning is underway for our Adults only Spring Event on Saturday, April 14, 2018, at Lone Tree Golf Club. This will be a fun Fiesta night complete with Mexican Buffet, photo booth, and DJ! We will also have a live and silent auction. We need your help to make this event a success. If you are interested in becoming a sponsor, if you have a donation, or you want to provide items for the swag bags, please email Suzanne Uhrich at CSEPTORewards@gmail.com. Thank you!

#### **Upcoming PTO events:**

Monday, November 6<sup>th</sup> Family Dinner Night at Café Rio Tuesday, November 14<sup>th</sup> MAC Daddy of a Dodgeball game

Monday, November 27<sup>th</sup> – Friday, December 1<sup>st</sup> Holiday Shop

#### We encourage you to follow our CSE PTO in these ways:

https://www.facebook.com/ClearSkyElementaryPTO/ Facebook:

Website: http://www.csepto.com/

Email blasts: Sent out each week by Susan Snider in the front office, these email blasts will contain

information about upcoming PTO needs and planned activities

Alone we can do so little: together we can do so much.



Communications

Sponsorship space in this newsletter is extremely affordable! Reach parents in your local community & support schools!

Businesses that want to sponsor this school, please contact TSCA at info@tscaschools.com or 970-239-1641.

## **CSE October Memories**

## **Avid4 Adventure**



## **CSE October Memories**



**Donuts with Dudes @ Bison Park** 





EST. 2008

#### Bison10ial

In honor of our Bison10ial we decided to have a little contest for the kids, but why should they get all the fun!!

So here is your chance to participate and win a CSE Bison10ial T-shirt.

Guess all 46 staff members from their elementary school pictures and email your answers to Femcbee@dcsdk12.org by November 10th.

The person with the most correct guesses will win. So happy guessing!!!























