Bison Bulletin

January 2023

Clear Sky Elementary

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Kellie Roe

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.

A Message from the Principal

Dear Parents,

Happy New Year! I hope you had a wonderful holiday season and were able to spend some quality time with your children! (And I hope you weren't stranded at any airports!!) We are excited to have them back and are ready to start the second semester.

I have recently been reflecting on how difficult it is to be a parent today. There are so many pressures on parents to choose the right school, get their child on all of the right sports teams, sign them up for music lessons and the list goes on and on. When my kids were young we didn't have the choices that you are faced with today. Our kids went to their neighborhood school, and while the pressure to do year-round sports was just beginning, I don't think it is anything like it is today. I have to admit I am glad that mine are all grown!

As you are contemplating what activities to sign your child up for next I wanted to share with you some recent research that I have been reading. I have just finished reading an article in Mind/Shift by Kristina Swartz where she says, "Over the past 50-60 years, play time in kids' lives has been drastically cut. School days and years are longer and parents often schedule enrichment activities for their children instead of giving them space to direct their own play. Children are rarely given the freedom to direct their own activities, leading to a persistent rise in children feeling that they have no control over their lives. And, while correlation doesn't prove causation, Dr. Peter Gray, who has

been studying play for years, says there's strong evidence that in this case, the decline in play is leading to a rise in depression and acute anxiety among young people."

I wonder how many of us are overscheduling our kids? Are we allowing them time to just play, with no coaches, or umpires or rule books just kids being creative? Maybe this is the season where you decide not to sign them up for t-ball, or to take a break from piano lessons. Maybe this season you send them outside to play. To pretend they are horses, to make a fort under the trampoline or do the latest Tiktok Dance!

You never know, it might take some stress off of you as parents as well! You have a very difficult job. I am always here for you. Please let me know how I can help support your family!

Sincerely, Kellie Roe



Abeer Sawaged

adsawaged@dcsdk12.org

303-387-5954

303-547-0606 cell

English Language Learner (ELL) Update

Hannah Roudani hroudani@dcsdk12.org

Dear families,

We hope you all had a wonderful holiday break and a Happy New Year! Spending time with family and friends is something that we all cherish to create memories that last a lifetime!

One way we monitor our students' progress in acquiring academic English is through ACCESS through ELL's (Assessing Comprehension and Communication in English State-to-State for English Language Learners). ACCESS is a secure large-scale language proficiency assessment given to Kindergarten through 12th graders who have been identified as English Language Learners.

This year, the ACCESS testing window for CSE is January 17th-February 10th. Please be sure your child has plenty of rest and time for a nourishing breakfast.

Please don't hesitate to contact us with any questions or concerns @ 303-387-5954 or email us at <a href="https://hready.com/hready.

Thank you for all you do!

Abeer Sawaged and Hannah Roudsni

Queridas familias,

¡Esperamos que hayan tenido unas maravillosas vacaciones y un Feliz Año Nuevo! ¡Pasar tiempo con familiares y amigos es algo que todos apreciamos para crear recuerdos que durarán toda la vida!

Una forma en que monitoreamos el progreso de nuestros estudiantes en la adquisición del inglés académico es a través de ACCESS a través de ELL (Evaluación de la comprensión y comunicación en inglés de estado a estado para estudiantes del idioma inglés). ACCESS es una evaluación segura de dominio del idioma a gran escala que se administra a estudiantes de jardín de infantes a grado 12 que han sido identificados como aprendices del idioma inglés.

Este año, la ventana de prueba de ACCESS para CSE es del 17 de enero al 10 de febrero. Asegúrese de que su hijo tenga suficiente descanso y tiempo para un desayuno nutritivo.

No dude en comunicarse con nosotros si tiene alguna pregunta o inquietud al 303-387-5954 o envíenos un correo electrónico a hroudani@dcsk12.org o adsawaged@dcsdk12.org.

¡Gracias por todo lo que hacen! Abeer Sawaged and Hannah Roudsni



In the Innovation Lab

January will be the continuation of our fourth rotation: Robotics. This unit has students, at all grade levels, applying their previously learned computer science and computational thinking skills, while using various types of robots. We will be continuing our work with the LAUNCH Cycle throughout this unit. Below are the design challenges that each grade level will be working on during our robotics unit:

Kindergarten: How might we retell some of our favorite stories using BeeBot, indi, and Code Mouse robots? **1st Grade:** How might we retell some of our favorite stories using BeeBot, indi, Code Mouse, and Dash robots?

2nd Grade: How might you program Dash to navigate a maze you have designed and constructed?

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

4th Grade: How might you design and build a LEGO robotic device to help someone? Maybe a friend or family member?

5th Grade: How might you program the Ozobot to run a mini golf course? (The obstacles on this course were constructed by the 4th graders during our circuit unit.)

6th Grade: How might you complete the "Choose Your Own Robotic Adventure" challenge? Students will have the opportunity to design their own challenge using any of our robots: Ozobot, Sphero, RVR, LEGO Mindstorm, and Dash & Dot.

CAMP INVENTION IS COMING BACK!

Camp Invention® is coming back to Clear Sky Elementary with an all-new program, Wonder!



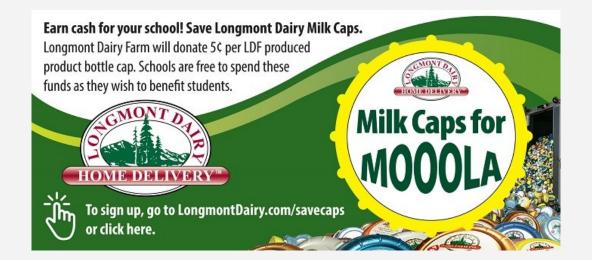
In partnership with the National Inventors Hall of Fame®, CSE is excited to once again offer the nationally acclaimed Camp Invention program to children entering kindergarten through sixth grade. This popular program has earned rave reviews from parents, teachers and — most importantly — campers! Children who join this inspiring, weeklong summer experience will engage in open-ended, hands-on exploration of science, technology, engineering and more! Taking on a variety of exhilarating activities each day, campers have fun collaborating with friends, thinking creatively and inventing their own solutions to real-world challenges.

The camp runs **June 5th-9th**, with Mrs. Jensen once again serving as Director. The all-new 2023 program will spark the imagination of both new and returning campers with an adventure full of inspiration, innovation and unforgettable discoveries!

During this action-packed, confidence-boosting program, young innovators will:

- Design and build their own mini skate park, customize their mini skateboard and practice persistence as they take on ramps, bowls, rails and more
- Transform a robot into a one-of-a-kind stuffie while exploring genetics, finding inspiration in nature and taking pride in their individuality
- Take on the role of event planner as they design a grand celebration, invent a Party Assistant and create a light-up party hat and bubble art banner

Continued...



In the Innovation Lab, continued...

• Launch their own pop-up business while building entrepreneurship skills, making smart financial choices, using green energy and attracting customers

Early registration discounts are available! Register using SUM25 by 3/30 to save \$25 off the \$275 registration fee. Availability is limited, so visit invent.org/mylocalcamp or call 800-968-4332 to secure your child's spot today!

If you have or know a middle or high school student that would be interested in serving as a leader during our camp, please contact Mrs. Jensen at jennifer.jensen@dcsdk12.org

Looking for Resources at Home?

Here are the free and fun STEM/Makerspace/Innovation/Creation resources for January. Find additional resources on my website by clicking <u>HERE</u>.

SNOWFLAKES!

The white stuff is on the ground and snowflakes always provide opportunities for fun learning and family time. Find 50 free, snowflake activity printables here.

The Kahn Academy - Link

Take the time to show your student that you are a life-long learner. While finding a resource for your student, choose a topic for yourself!

WANT TO DONATE?

We are always looking for materials, expertise, and extra hands! 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.



Science Lab

Winter is such a fun time in the science lab.It's the perfect time to learn about the science of snow, the structure of a snow crystal, and all things related to winter! One of my favorite activities to observe is the students using math and science to create snow crystals out of Keva Planks.











News from the CSE Library



Welcome to the new school year if you ever have any questions regarding the library weiter it is regarding check outs or fines, feel free to reach out via email. femcbee@dcsdk12.org

Do you have an extra hour or so a week to volunteer in the library? We are looking for loving parents, grandparents or community members to come and help with reshelving books. If you are interested please contact Fran McBee femcbee@dcsdk12.org

Star Bison

Star Bison is our student of the month recognition. These students are nominated by teachers and other staff for showing excellence in being Bison Strong. Congratulations to these students for being our December Star Bisons!!! Dec 2022 Star Bison.pptx



Student Council News for January 2023



They are working on for fun events to help with CVHS Madd Week and Valentine Grams coming soon...

Book Donation Drop-Off

Do you have books you are looking to get rid of , CSE is hosting a donation drop off box with DreamBooks.



Physical Education Today @ CSE



Hey Bison friends and family,

Welcome back from Winter Break!

Every class at the start of this new semester will celebrate our new year with our bowling in the dark unit! We will start learning how to keep score and follow-up with a 4-step approach routine. Working on skills in P.E. is so much fun at CSE!

Mr. McCoy



Sponsorship space in this newsletter is extremely affordable!

Reach parents in your local community and a significant portion of your investment goes back to the school! Want to sponsor this school? Please contact Rob Mangelson at Rob@tscacolorado.com or (720) 878-4107.