



Falcon Homeschool Program Newsletter

April 16, 17 and 18 2024

UPCOMING DATES:

April 16, 17, 18–Purple Up (wear purple) for Our Military Families

April 24th: Ms Stacy's field trip to the Denver Aquarium

April 30th: Ms Leanne's field trip to the Royal Gorge

May 9: Ms. Amber & Ms. Heather's field trip to the Gazette

Front Desk Number: (719) 495-5373

Class Updates:

Arts and STEM Exploration

Ms. Jill

We have another busy week in store during our arts studies this week! We will be learning about how to add the element of texture into art. We will start learning about hand independence as we tackle new bucket drum pieces playing on multiple parts of the drums at one time. Finally, we will listen to both old and new movements of the "Carnival of the Animals" and will focus on how to draw a variety of Australian animals as our gallery of animals continues to grow! Please email me at jill.foster@d49.org with any questions that come to your mind!

Ms. Amber

Hello All! I hope everyone enjoyed the warm and sunny weekend. This week in STEM we will be continuing to learn about Newton's Laws and how they apply to Space Travel. We will also be creating and launching our Straw-kets! Please do not hesitate to reach out with any questions.

Email: amber.albrecht@d49.org

Ms. Stacy's Class (K-1)

Hope you all got outside to enjoy the beautiful weekend. Looking forward to another wonderful week. This week in Science, we will be traveling deeper into the ocean, to the twilight zone. Here we will be learning about the fascinating Squid. In Social Studies, we will explore different jobs in a community and tell why they are important.

Our field trip is fast approaching on April 24th. Please be sure to fill out the survey, hand in permission slip and money by April 17th, as this is the deadline we need to have everything turned in by. Even if you are not planning on joining us please fill out the survey to let us know.

Have a wonderful week and please don't hesitate to contact me with any questions or concerns.

stacy.kley@d49.org

Ms. Kassi's 2/3 Class

This week we will be learning about Ancient Roman aqueducts and bathhouses in Social Studies. We will be constructing our very own aqueducts in class individually or in small groups. **For our aqueducts we are in need of cardboard boxes, toilet paper tubes, and paper towel tubes. We also need aluminum foil if anyone would like to donate.**

In science, we will be discussing gasses. We will be completing a carbonating demonstration in class together.

Please do not hesitate to email me anytime with any questions or concerns at kassi.nemeth@d49.org.

Ms Leanne's Class (4-5)

We have another great week planned. In art, we will learn about Joseph Stella and do a fun mixed media line project. In science, we will start our next unit, Skyscrapers. More building challenges are to come! Did you know that most of the battles during the Civil War have two names? We'll learn why this week and learn about another important battle that happened during the Civil War.

Our field trip survey to the Royal Gorge was sent out and we are in full swing collecting money and looking for chaperones. I sure hope everyone can go, but if you can't, you still need to fill the survey out to let us know. Feel free to reach out if you have any questions or if you aren't sure you've turned everything in. I'll be needing lots of drivers and chaperones. I appreciate your willingness to help in advance. We have the best parents! Don't hesitate to contact me if

you have any questions or concerns.

leanne.mckinney@d49.org

Ms Amber's Class (6-7)

Hello Everyone! I hope you all enjoyed the bright and sunny weekend. This week in Science Enrichment we will be diving into electromagnetism, and using the VASMIR Rocket Engine as our study phenomena. We will be exploring the magnetic component of electromagnetism through inquiry stations. In Social Studies Enrichment we will be continuing our studies in Ancient China, learning about the art of the tea ceremony, and how other celebrations give insight to the culture. We will be designing paper lanterns to display at our "Ancient Chinese Tea Ceremony" (more details to come, keep an eye out for a parent email and survey). Please do not hesitate to reach out with any questions. Email: amber.albrecht@d49.org

PROGRAM REMINDERS

New Field Trip Policy

IMPORTANT - We have a new policy for completing paperwork for field trips: First you must complete the survey that will be sent to you via email three to four weeks before the field trip. It lets us know if your child is attending and if your child needs a ride. Then we need your permission slip, and money; if money is needed, turn these in together. All of these steps need to happen before the field trip. Our teachers have put a lot of time and effort into finding wonderful field trips that go with their curriculum, that they feel their students will love and benefit from. We want all our students to experience our field trips.

However, our new policy is that all items are due no later than one week before the field trip: the survey, permission slip and money (if applicable). If those items don't get turned in one week prior, your child will not be able to attend the field trip. We will have a list on the board in the multipurpose room of all the upcoming field trip dates and what's needed for each one. Your child's teacher will also have due dates on their wipe boards outside their classrooms.



Bridge Program Pre-Assessments

We are planning on administering pre-assessments for RISING Bridge Program students (students entering their second year of the Bridge Program do not need to pre-assess) on April 16, 17, and 18th during their time here with us. An email containing more detailed information about what to expect will be sent out on Tuesday, April 9.

STAR 360–April 15 - May 15 Testing Window

If you would like your child to take the STAR 360 assessment during this middle-of-year window, the opportunity is here! Click [here](#) to learn more.

Chaperone and Driver Info

Spring Classroom Field Trips are Quickly Approaching - Have you completed a background check yet?

Field trips for our program depend on parent drivers and chaperones. If you would like to help out our program and volunteer, you will need to have a background check completed by District 49.

- If a background check is completed between July 1 and Feb 28, the background check is valid through June 30.
- If a background check is completed between March 1 and June 30, the background check is valid until June 30 *of the following year*.

To complete a background check follow this link and complete the application linked at the bottom of the page. The cost of the background check is \$5.00. Thank you so much for your willingness to help our program with this need. [Volunteer applications](#)

****Please note that if you would like to go on the field trip with your student, but are NOT chaperoning or driving other students, you do NOT need to have a background check completed.**

If you have any questions regarding volunteering, please contact Ms. Nancy at nancy.carder@d49.org

Help for High School: A Day of Seminars and Workshops

Thursday, Apr 25, 2024@ The Campus

Our FHP staff is so excited to invite all current middle and high school FHP parents to our second Help for High School Day filled with helpful seminars and workshops. This year we will be having three different sessions which all focus on something different: High School 101, Transcript Workshop, and Concurrent Enrollment Info Session. Parents may sign up for one session or all three! If interested please register for the workshop by April 24th using the following link for the sessions you would like to attend: [Help for High School](#)

Homeschool Helpful Tips

Looking Ahead to Next Year: Part 3- Scheduling, a week of your homeschool

Welcome back FHP families to our series on looking ahead to next year! This week I would like you to analyze your schedule and review the reflection questions you thought about the last two weeks.

For each child and each subject consider the following questions:

- Do I, as the teacher, honor our homeschool day? *Am I distracted with chores or other activities? Am I scheduling too many appointments or extra activities during our "school time?"* As a former homeschool mom, I am guilty of this one!
- Does our family have a regular routine that we follow each school day with an appropriate amount of flexibility? Are our school days predictable so that my children that need routine can thrive but flexible enough for my children that are more carefree?
- Have I considered my childrens' learning styles compared to my own teaching style?

-Could I combine subjects for multiple children so that our schedule is lightened (especially social studies, science, and electives)?
-Am I happy with the amount of outside of the house activities? Are we doing too much or too little?
-Do I have different types of curriculum on different schedules? *You do not need to complete every subject, everyday! Multiple scheduling types: daily, block, loop, one day per week, etc.*

Altering your homeschool schedule can change your entire homeschool for the better!! Different parts of your curriculum can be scheduled differently according to the needs and values of your family! Most successful homeschool schedules follow a flexible but routine format. You can not be too flexible or too rigid! Continue to analyze your daily and weekly schedule to find the perfect balance for your family.

How to create your schedule will be one topic we will discuss in our Homeschool 101 Workshop coming in August 2024 and all FHP families are welcome to attend.

Scheduling Resources

Put Your Homeschool on Autopilot: Module #4 <https://pambarnhill.com/product/autopilot-new/>

Finding Freedom in Your Homeschool Schedule (Pam Barnhill: Your Morning Basket Podcast: <https://pambarnhill.com/freedom-in-your-homeschool-schedule/>

Find Joy in your every day!
Ms. Kassi, FHP Home Based Education Specialist
kassi.nemeth@d49.org