



## Falcon Homeschool Program Newsletter

**April 23, 24, and 25 2024**

### UPCOMING DATES:

**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**

**May 9: Student Showcase for FHP @ IVES students**

**May 21-23 Last Days of School (early release 12:30)**

**Front Desk Number: (719) 495-5373**

### **Class Updates:**

#### *Arts and STEM Exploration*

##### *Ms. Jill*

We are quickly beginning to wrap up the school year! Showcase night is coming in just a few weeks! In Arts, we will be creating Animal Art Journals to complement our study of Carnival of the Animals. This week we will travel to the continent of Oceania first, where we will listen to Kangaroos and finish drawing animals of Australia using the art element of shape. We will then review the art element of line as we listen to and learn about the continent of Antarctica and its penguins, whales, and seals. Please email me at [jill.foster@d49.org](mailto:jill.foster@d49.org) with any questions that come to your mind!

##### *Ms. Amber*

Hello everyone! This week in STEM we will be building STRAW-KETS and launching them outside. We will use what we know about motion and Newton's Laws to predict how the rockets will move. Please do not hesitate to reach out with any questions. Email: [amber.albrecht@d49.org](mailto:amber.albrecht@d49.org)

##### *Ms. Stacy's Class (K-1)*

It's field trip week! Looking forward to a great day at the Denver Aquarium on Wednesday. Be on the lookout for more information and details to come to your email for a great day.

This week in Social Studies, we will begin constructing our communities that we have been learning about the last few weeks. You will get a chance to see our Classroom Communities on Student Showcase Night. In Science, we will be learning about the elusive, funny looking eel of the deep.

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

[stacy.kley@d49.org](mailto:stacy.kley@d49.org)

##### *Ms. Kassi's 2/3 Class*

This week we will continue our discussion of Ancient Rome by learning about the Roman Republic and the army. Students will learn about shield design meanings and make their own.

In science, we will be learning about physical changes that can be made to matter. We will participate in a science exploration: changing the state of water- demonstrating physical changes.

Please do not hesitate to email me anytime with any questions or concerns at [kassi.nemeth@d49.org](mailto:kassi.nemeth@d49.org).

### ***Ms Leanne's Class (4-5)***

We will continue to learn about skyscrapers this week. In art we will make stained glass windows and learn about Frank Loyd Wright. The battle we will focus on this week in our Civil War unit is the Battle of Gettysburg!

Everything for our field trip is due tomorrow, Tuesday, April 23rd. That means filling out the survey, bringing in a signed permission slip and money. 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. I will send a detailed email with all the reminders over the weekend so you will know what to expect on the day of our field trip Tuesday,

April 30th. Don't hesitate to contact me if you have any questions or concerns.

[leanne.mckinney@d49.org](mailto:leanne.mckinney@d49.org)

### ***Ms Amber's Class (6-7)***

Hello everyone! This week in Science Enrichment we will be continuing our adventures in electromagnetism. We will be introduced to the VASMIR Rocket Engine and how it uses electromagnetic radiation as rocket fuel. We will also be conducting a static tester lab and hoe charges move. In Social Studies, we will be continuing our journey through ancient China by continuing to study our character and given dynasty. Please do not hesitate to reach out with any questions.

Email: [amber.albrecht@d49.org](mailto: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.

## ***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](mailto: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 4- Challenges to tackle: I can't get my child to do school!***

Welcome FHP families to our series on looking ahead to next year! The next few weeks, we are looking at challenges you may have had in your homeschool this year and how to reflect, problem solve, and create changes for next year.

This week we will focus on the most common homeschool challenge: **Children not wanting to do school**. Reflection questions and thoughts to consider:

**-Is your curriculum too difficult or too hard?** Always look for curriculum that allows your students some challenges but also some successes.

**-Are you as the homeschool leader honoring your school day?** Are you distracted by too many things going on (laundry, younger siblings, your phone...)?

**-Do you have solid routines and procedures in place so your children know what to expect?**

**-Are aspects of your school day negotiable and not negotiable?** Do your children understand areas of choice and areas they do not get to choose?

**-Are your words expressing the importance of your school day?** I am so guilty of this in my homeschool years so absolutely NO judgment here! Are you saying things like, *"Let's get finished with school so we can do some fun activities!"* *"You can play video games when you finish school."* Remember phrases like this express to children that school is not fun and that it is something they may want to rush to finish. In our house to combat these phrases, I established a time, 2:00 pm in the afternoon so even if my children were finished with school they did not have choice time. They could read, play learning games, finish chores, etc. This helped my children honor their school day and not rush through their work.

Stay tuned next week when we discuss another common homeschool challenge!

*Homeschool Challenges will be one topic we will discuss in our Homeschool 101 Workshop coming in August 2024 and all FHP families are welcome to attend.*

*Find Joy in your every day!*

Ms. Kassi, FHP Home Based Education Specialist  
kassi.nemeth@d49.org