



## Falcon Homeschool Program Newsletter

February 20, 21, and 22 2024

### UPCOMING DATES:

February 19th: President's Day District closed

Front Desk Number: (719) 495-5373

### **Class Updates:**

#### *Arts and STEM Exploration*

*Ms. Jill*

**Look for an email this week from Ms. Nancy with a survey for our upcoming field trip on March 13 to the Planetarium! Please let Ms. Amber or I know if you have any questions!**

In Arts this week, we will finish listening to the last movement of Holst's 'The Planets', which is his version of the planet Neptune. We will also continue working on our bucket drum pieces as well as see how well we can write music notes and rests to show what we remember. Finally we will assess how our shape art unit tasks went as we prepare to learn more about the element of value next week. Please email me at [jill.foster@d49.org](mailto:jill.foster@d49.org) with any questions that come to your mind!

*Ms. Amber*

This week we will be using the engineering design process to create something that would be useful for the astronauts to use on the ISS to help with their every day. We will look into how zero gravity affects the body and can make living difficult. 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)*

I can't express my gratitude and appreciation enough. Your children are precious to me. Watching them exchange valentines with one another and listening to

them be so excited and thankful for one another was just refreshing. Thank you also for the sweetness you shared with me. You all are so generous and kind. This week we have another fun week ahead. In Science, we will be learning about the graceful Sea Turtle that lives in the Sunlight region of the ocean. I got a bit over ambitious thinking I could squeeze it in last week so this week it is. In Social Studies, we will be continuing to learn about what it was like long ago. This week we will be examining the jobs that people had.

I have a special ask from you dear parents. We recently have been experiencing a LONG line for the microwave which takes up students time to actually eat. Please send lunches that do not need to be heated or send in those that just need warming up. We just don't have the time to cook meals. Your help with this is much appreciated.

Have a great 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*

Hello wonderful 2/3rd grade families! We have a wonderful week planned once again!

In social studies, we are discussing sAncient Egyptian religion and mummies! We will be learning the steps to the mummification process and making our own apple mummies!!

In science, we will be learning about simple machines and how they make our lives easier by decreasing the force needed to do work. We will also be starting *The*

*Elves and the Baker*, a project based learning activity where students will be using simple machines to help make believe elves reach the top of a human size bowl and carry their ingredients. This week we began our plan and our construction. We will be working on this project for a few weeks, until spring break. **For this project we are in need of any thread spools, buttons, (for pulleys and wheels), wooden skewers, and cardboard boxes/pieces.** Thank you so much for supporting our learning!

*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 have such kind students, our Valentine exchange last week went great. We will continue to learn about Picasso this week, by doing another fun cubism activity. Now that we know about beam bridges and why a lot of them have movable parts, students will be doing their first bridge challenge. Our bridge challenges use the engineering process and we focus on continuing to improve our "protocols". In social

studies, we'll be comparing and contrasting the union and confederates uniform. 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)***

This week in science enrichment we will be finishing our crystal making lab and observing how the different solutes produce crystals. Our crystals should be finished growing by now. We will also be using the scientific method to practice identifying different types of rocks like geologists do. In social studies enrichment we will be continuing our travels to mine for gold as the pioneers did. Some groups took big risks that paid off, others weren't so lucky, but we will learn how certain historical claim sites will pay off in riches. Please do not hesitate to reach out with any questions. Email: [amber.albrecht@d49.org](mailto:amber.albrecht@d49.org)

## **PROGRAM REMINDERS**

### ***Tentative 2024-2025 School Year Calendars***

In the spirit of continued partnership with our families, we wanted to share next year's tentative calendars. Please click the links below.

[Enrichment](#)

[Bridge](#)

### ***Bridge Move-Up Day–Thursday, March 7th (impacts 6th/7th Thursday Enrichment class)***

Parents of current Bridge 2 students, Move Up Day is Thursday March 7th! Move Up Day is an opportunity that we plan for students to allow them to see our Academic Program which is held at The Campus so that our students can experience a smooth, confident, and purposeful transition from the Bridge Program to the Academic Program. Ms. Amber, Ms. Heather, and Ms. Katie will be attending Move-Up day, so we are offering our Thursday 6/7 Enrichment students the opportunity to join us on Tuesday, March 5th instead of Thursday, March 7th. No Bridge Academic (English and

Math) classes will be held on Thursday, March 7th, so Bridge 1 students will attend class only on Tuesday, March 5th.

### ***Information Sessions for Next Year***

If you are eagerly awaiting learning about the options available for next year, we are excited to share these options with you. If you know of other families that are interested in enrolling, we are happy to announce that we have our information ready to roll for our Enrichment and Bridge Programs, and prospective families can begin by clicking [here](#).

To learn more about our Academic Program (grades 7-12), please plan to attend our Information Session that is scheduled below:

Tuesday, March 5 at 3:00

6113 Constitution Avenue  
Colorado Springs, CO 80915

\*Attendance is highly recommended for families moving from the Bridge Program to the Academic Program.

### ***Homeschool Helpful Tips***

#### ***Colorado Department of Education Proposed Changes***

FHP families! We know many of you have heard that the Colorado Board of Education (BOE) will be deciding on a few *part time publicly funded changes* this February 2024 proposed by the Colorado Department of Education (CDE). *These changes will not affect all publicly funded part time programs.*

Our FHP staff wants to reassure our community that none of these changes will affect us at the Falcon Homeschool Program no matter what the Colorado BOE decides. We hire fully credentialed teachers, follow CO State Standards, only loan curriculum, and do not offer asynchronous online learning in the K-5 grades.

Thank you to the many families that have brought your concerns to us; we always aim to serve our families the very best we can, and your input helps us do that. If you have any more concerns please feel free to contact me to discuss further.

*Find Joy in your every day!*  
Ms. Kassi, FHP Home Based Education Specialist  
[kassi.nemeth@d49.org](mailto:kassi.nemeth@d49.org)