



Falcon Homeschool Program Newsletter

May 14, 15, and 16 2024

UPCOMING DATES:

May 21, 22, and 23: FHEP PEP Hat Day

May 21-23 Last Days of School (early release, dismissal at 12:15)

Front Desk Number: (719) 495-5373

Class Updates:

Arts and STEM Exploration

Ms. Jill

I enjoyed seeing so many of you at Showcase night! I really appreciated watching you share in your children's work and enjoy the slideshow together! Thank you for being a partner with me in your child's learning this year! As we wrap up our last full day of arts, we will expand our creativity with some art challenges, perform some percussion routines, and see if we can solve a mystery through a drama circle activity. Please email me at jill.foster@d49.org with any questions that come to your mind!

Ms. Amber

Hello All! We are in our last stretch of school for the year. I would like to thank all the students and families for their grace during this time as I've been dealing with some health issues. In STEM this week we will be launching our Space Landers and seeing how they hold up to the impact. This will give us insight on how we can improve our landers and follow the engineering process. Please do not hesitate to reach out with any questions.

Email: amber.albrecht@d49.org

Ms. Stacy's Class (K-1)

I wanted to give a heartfelt thank you for your sweet words of understanding and encouragement as my family and I travel through a difficult time.

It's hard to believe that we are in the last full week of school. I have had such a wonderful school year, I truly am not ready for it to end as I have adored your children and watching them grow and learn has been such a joy.

In Social Studies, we will look at the difference between wants and needs. In Science, we will learn about the marine food chain.

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

It is hard to believe we are getting ready for our last full day week of our school year!

This week we will be learning about the Colosseum and gladiators in Ancient Rome. Students will be making a gladiator/soldier helmet.

In science we will be participating in our Smores Lab. We will be looking at our three ingredients: graham crackers, marshmallows, and chocolate to see if they went through a physical or a chemical change.

If your student can not have any of the three ingredients for smores: Honey Maid Graham Crackers, marshmallows, and Hershey's chocolate

bar please email me asap! Students do not have to eat their Smore to participate in the Lab. Please do not hesitate to email me anytime with any questions or concerns at kassi.nemeth@d49.org.

Ms Leanne's Class (4-5)

What a great night we had our Student's Showcase! Thank you for coming and making the evening a priority. Your kids have grown so much this year and we sure have had fun! This week we will wrap up the Civil War by talking about reconstruction. If weather permits, we will be outside painting like Jackson Pollock! Lastly for science, we'll be building domes. Please make sure you have filled out the survey for next week about pizza and walk to the park. It's going to be a great day. Don't hesitate to contact me if you have any questions or concerns.

leanne.mckinney@d49.org

Ms Amber's Class (6-7)

Hello All! We are in our last stretch of school for the year. I would like to thank all the students and families for their grace during this time as I've been dealing with some health issues. This week in Science Enrichment we will be finishing up our unit in electromagnetism by researching a problem that we are facing here on earth and coming up with a solution using electromagnetism phenomena. In Social Studies Enrichment we will be finishing our unit in Ancient China with the final tea ceremony and presentation. Please do not hesitate to reach out with any questions. Email: amber.albrecht@d49.org

PROGRAM REMINDERS

Last Days of School-May 21, 22 and 23

The last days of school this year will be half-days. Our schedule will follow the layout described below:

8:15-8:30 arrival

8:30-9:00 Morning Meeting

9:00-9:45 instructional activities lead by classroom teachers based on units taught throughout the year

9:45 leave to walk to the park/set up for indoor games (depending on weather)

10:00-11:00 time at the park (or inside, depending on weather, students can choose between playing on the equipment or games in the field)

11:00 walk back to school from the park/clean up indoor games (depending on weather)

11:15-11:45 lunch (pizza provided by FHP from Parry's Pizza)

11:45-12:15 special time in classrooms-end of year reflections on learning and favorite memories

12:15 main doors will open to prepare for pick up

12:15-30 dismissal/pick up from classroom (parents please pick up your students from the classroom as always)

A survey was sent out today. If you haven't filled it out yet, please use the following survey link to select your child's pizza preference and to give permission for your child to walk to the park with FHP staff and students on their Enrichment day. ***SURVEY MUST BE COMPLETED BEFORE MAY 14 2023.***

Survey Link: <https://forms.gle/CW4Jf4XAw4aYEGtb6>

FHEP PEP Wear a hat the last week of school

For your last week of school we'd like to do a FHEP Pep. Everybody is invited to wear a hat next week. Since we are going to the park that day, we thought it'd be fun and helpful 😊 Please remember that the hat should still be school appropriate with no references to drugs, alcohol, weapons, etc... We will be having classroom time that morning too, so it shouldn't disrupt the teaching learning process either.

Showcase Thank you

Wow! What an outstanding night! We hope you enjoyed it as much as we did! We love seeing our families support their homeschoolers by attending the evening and allowing your children to share their enrichment and academic experiences with you even more. If you weren't able to make it, I suggest talking with your child's teacher to see if they can share their work with you for a few minutes after school one day this week. Your children learn so many wonderful things in our program, and they practice so many meaningful skills—we're so grateful for your support in their learning when they're with us!

Appreciation Last Week: Thank you

Thank you to the many students and families that showed appreciation to our wonderful teachers last week! Your kind words and generosity really mean a lot to us. We couldn't love our jobs more, and that's because of supportive, kind, caring families like you!

STAR 360–April 15 - May 15 Testing Window–Last Two Days!

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.

Tentative Calendars for 2023-2024 School Year

Please see below for our **tentative** calendars. Please note that these are only **tentative** and may change. We will send our finalized calendar via email over the summer with our other important information such as the supply list.

[Enrichment Calendar](#)

[Bridge Calendar](#)

Homeschool Helpful Tips

Looking Ahead to Next Year: Part 5- Challenges to tackle: Homeschool Sabotages

This week we will focus on common homeschool sabotages.

Families, I know how difficult homeschooling can be which is why I can accurately identify homeschooling sabotages that we as the teacher may be responsible for causing. And yes, *I was guilty of ALL of these over my homeschool years!* Take a look at the list below and reflect to identify if you could instantly improve your homeschool if you made some small changes.

Homeschool Sabotages

- **Consistency**: How predictable and constant is your homeschool and discipline plan? Students are so smart! If they know they can whine and complain to get out of school for the day, guess what? They will whine and complain every single time they do not feel like doing the work.
- **Balance**: Are you doing too much or too little in school and for family activities?
- **Honoring your school day**: Are you too busy to homeschool? Do you find yourself on the phone, at appointments, doing chores, and/or simply doing an activity for yourself during the school day? We MUST find a healthy balance of consistency and flexibility in our homeschool. We homeschool for flexibility but we are also the ones who are the primary educator and responsible for our children's education. Perhaps analyze where your attention is during your homeschool day.
- **School Attitude and Language**: Are you as the homeschool parent using language that helps your children know how important the time they spend on school is each day? Do they know the value and importance? Do they know everyday they are getting closer to their goals for the future? Or are we saying things like, "Let's get school done so you can play video games." Of course this tells the student that we need to hurry up with school so we can do "the fun" activities.

Ten Minutes to a Better Homeschool: Consistency

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1dh5rxR-hGc>

Creating Consistency in Your Homeschool

<https://pambarnhill.com/consistency-in-your-homeschool/>

I hope these four common homeschool sabotages helped you to analyze your homeschool so you can take back your homeschool! Next week, we will be discussing ways to take back your homeschool.

Find Joy in your every day!

Ms. Kassi, FHP Home Based Education Specialist

kassi.nemeth@d49.org