



Falcon Homeschool Program Newsletter

March 5, 6, and 7 2024

UPCOMING DATES:

March 7th: Bridge Move up Day

March 13: Arts and Stem Field Trip to the Planetarium

March 18-29: D49 Spring Break, district closed, no school

Front Desk Number: (719) 495-5373

Class Updates:

Arts and STEM Exploration

Ms. Jill

Wow!! Our "Me as A Planet" projects are amazing! I cannot wait to show them to you at the showcase night! This week in Arts, we will hear how composers 'added' onto Holst's Planets composition by writing pieces for Pluto and Earth years later. We will then create our own musical "Earth speech pieces" using the rhythms we've learned this year! Finally, if time allows, we will participate in a funny and informative space related Drama Circle!

Next week is our field trip to the AFA Planetarium!!! If you have not turned in your email survey and permission slip, please get them turned in ASAP! This week we will finalize parent drivers, give the planetarium our final attendance numbers, and plan any other arrangements!

Please email me at jill.foster@d49.org with any questions that come to your mind!

Ms. Amber

We will be continuing our studies in space by exploring Newton's Laws of motion and how they apply to objects on earth and space. We will be writing short stories to highlight all the things we've learned about space in a creative and interactive way. This will prepare us for our field trip next week to the USAFA Planetarium! Please do not hesitate to reach

out with any questions.

Email: amber.albrecht@d49.org

Ms. Stacy's Class (K-1)

Looking forward to another exciting week in K/1. This week we will close up our Social Studies unit about what life was like long ago. We will be reviewing what we learned about how the life in the past was different from the life we enjoy now in the present. In Science, we will be continue to explore more about the fascinating jellyfish. We will be finishing up the making of our jellyfish project this week.

I just want to express my gratitude and appreciation to all my families as it is such an honor to partner with you each week teaching your children.

Another reminder to mark your calendars for April 24th for our K/1 field trip to Denver Aquarium. You will be receiving more information as the date gets closer.

Have a nice 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 starting our new units: Ancient Rome and States of Matter.

We will learn where Rome is located on a map and why that area grew into a huge civilization.

In science, we will review the three basic states of matter and describe matter by observable properties. We will be completing a lab where we will look at different crackers and describe each. ***We will not be eating the crackers!***

Please note, our field trip survey was sent out last week by Ms. Nancy. Please fill out the survey even if your child will not be attending. We will also need parent chaperone drivers to help carpool students that need a ride. All three 2/3rd grade class days will attend. Garden of the Gods: Geology Field Trip, Thursday, April 4th.

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

Ms Leanne's Class (4-5)

Exciting news, I scheduled our spring field trip to the Royal Gorge, April 30th. Information will go out after break but I wanted to let parents know now, so they can plan ahead. All parents and siblings will be welcome. It's a long drive, 1 hour and 35 minutes, but worth it to see and walk on the highest suspension bridge in America. Like I said, all the details will be sent out after spring break, on Tuesday April 2nd. This week, students will be reading first hand accounts from soldiers of the Civil War. We'll be looking at a variety of primary sources. In honor of Dr Seuss's birthday, we will read some of his books and

use some oil pastels to create our own Seuss characters. Lastly, in science will take a closer look at how a suspension bridge works. Don't hesitate to contact me if you have any questions or concerns.

leanne.mckinney@d49.org

Ms Amber's Class (6-7)

In science this week we will be continuing our discovery of earth's rocks and minerals. We will be creating a rock "WWE Character" and highlight all of the rock's specific identifiers and characteristics. We will record a "WWE style introduction" for the rock and enjoy the entertainment in class. In social studies this week we are continuing our travels west for the Pikes Peak gold rush. Some groups truly got to experience the fate of the pioneers and lost it all this week and some struck gold! However we will have a claim jump round in hopes to redeem our hard work and strike it big! We will have no classes on Thursday for our Enrichment students because of *Bridge Move Up Day* (more info further down in the newsletter). Thursday students may come on Tuesday instead. Please do not hesitate to reach out with any questions. Email: amber.albrecht@d49.org

PROGRAM REMINDERS

Note from the Registrar's Desk

Hello wonderful FHP families. Thank you to all of you who completed our Intent to Return Survey. We are thrilled with how many of our families will be returning next school year, 24-25. We have placed your student(s) on our official rosters for next year based off of your survey answers. You will be receiving a confirmation email within the next month.

However we do understand that sometimes plans change. If your plans change, whether that be moving, or changing educational needs, etc., please let Ms Nancy know as soon as your plans are finalized. All of our classes are filling up quickly, so as a courtesy to families on our waitlists, we don't want to hold a space for your student(s) if they will not be returning.

Thank you so much, Ms Nancy - nancy.carder@d49.org

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

Picking up students early

The end of the day is a very busy time for our teachers and front office staff. They are working on wrapping up their day with your children: finishing teaching lessons, putting students' things in their portfolio and proper places, and making final announcements. We understand the occasional appointment may arise, but we ask if you need to pick up your child early, please do it before 2:30. Remember, calling or emailing us before, will also help us get them ready for you too.

We require our parents to come into the building to pick up their students. This gives you a chance to have a short conversation with your student's teacher each day and this helps build positive relationships. Please be sure to park in a designated parking space. We will open our main door **at 3:10 pm** so that you may come into the building and head to your student's classroom. Teachers will begin dismissal, from their classrooms, **at 3:15 pm**.

FHP T-Shirt and Hoodie Orders

If you missed out earlier in the year, Brandy Wilson is doing FHP shirts and hoodies again! There will be forms available this week in the multipurpose room. The window for ordering will be available until March 14th; the order form has several options for designs and colors. Please return the completed orders to Ms. Rachel with payment or venmo name on the top of the order form- she has included specific details on the forms as well. She is then hoping to have orders returned by April 2nd after spring break.

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 Building Resiliency in our Children

As parents, we want our children to be strong problem solvers, to be able to face new challenges, and to feel self confident in the world. Eventually, we as parents want our children to be successful, confident, and happy adults. But how can we help encourage all of these resiliency skills in our children?

Here are a few tips and tricks that are helpful when raising resilient children:

- Allow children to make age appropriate, safe decisions for themselves.
- Teach children how to solve age appropriate problems themselves; do not solve all their problems for them.
- Teach children how to handle their emotions and feelings in positive ways.
- Help children learn to advocate for what they need.
- Allow children to fail as long as safety is not a concern but we learn so much through failure. (I know this is so hard as a parent).

- Help your child and family understand growth mindset and how to learn from mistakes. A phrase we use in our house is, *"Sometimes you win, sometimes you learn."* So when kids fail, always take advantage of the teachable moment.

Here are a few more articles if you would like to read more about raising resilient children:

[Promoting Mental Health: Homeschool Strategies for Resilient Kids](#)

[Developing Resilience in Homeschooled Children](#)

Find Joy in your every day!

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

Parent Interest Inventory - FSCP

D49 has partnered with the Colorado Department of Education Office of Family, School and Community Partnerships and they want to hear your voice in making sure the District is picking the right information to share with you!

The District is asking that you take a minute to complete the below survey and indicate what you, as a parent or guardian, would like to have more information about as you support your child through their educational journey.

Thank you for your feedback and input!

Please complete and submit the survey by March 11th. Survey Link: [Parent Survey](#)