

Thursday Thoughts - August 26, 2021

TOYS - Per our handbook, toys are not to be brought to school. They can be a distraction to the learning environment, but also get lost. PLEASE support us in not bringing toys to school. Also, popular right now are the POP ITS! The jury is still out on the effectiveness of toys such as these (Pop its!, Fidget Spinners, Fidget boxes, etc.) Teachers are setting up classroom expectations around the use of POP ITS!. If they are used as toys, then they will be sent away.

Healthy School Meals FREE all year! Why do parents still need to apply?

Healthy school meals are FREE for all students the entire school year! The question now is...why should parents still apply for Free and Reduced Meal Benefits? See the three reasons in our **ATTACHED** link. For further information, please read the **ATTACHED** article from the US Department of Agriculture.

Looking for the school lunch menus? You can access them here
digitally-
[https://schools.mealviewer.com/district/MesaCountyValleySchool
District,CO](https://schools.mealviewer.com/district/MesaCountyValleySchoolDistrict,CO)

PTA Pool Party is tomorrow at Lincoln Park Pool from 5-7 pm. We hope this gives you some time to enjoy your child/ren and other families from STEAM @ Tope Elementary! Come splash around for a bit! See the attached flyer for more information!

COVID Protocols- Please stay informed with updates and changes through Dr Sirko's Friday email communication.

Just a reminder ~ Friday is EARLY RELEASE! Students will be dismissed every Friday at 2:00 pm.

Growth Mindset Announcements happen daily at 9:05. You can find a copy of these announcements linked in the Tope website. We invite you to read these and support the learning at your home as well! Our theme this month is FAMILY!

Student Fees - Thank you to those that have paid the student activity fee. You can continue to turn in the \$35 fee. You can send it

with your child in an envelope and their teacher will get it to the office, and a receipt will be returned to you. Student fees are not just for field trips. Student fees are utilized for planners, Monday folders, social studies materials, holiday and classroom crafts, and many more things. Thank you for supporting your child's learning in this way.

MORNING DROP OFF- We will continue to have **drop off time** as close to 8:50 as possible. Thank you for honoring this new system. ***DO NOT DROP YOUR CHILD OFF PRIOR TO 8:40, WE DO NOT HAVE SUPERVISION AVAILABLE.***

THINK SHEETS- Think sheets provide an opportunity for children to think about their actions. Think sheets are a "green zone" approach that allow students to think about a behavior, what the actual expectation is and what needs to happen to be ready for learning.

Think sheets should be used as a coaching tool only. Grounding, spanking, yelling, etc. should never accompany the coaching process. Here are some guiding questions as you visit with your child-

"Tell me a little bit about what happened today..."

"Why do you think you had to fill out a Think Sheet?"

"How can we prevent this from happening tomorrow?"

These think sheets are a "green zone" support, meaning that all Tope students need opportunities to think about their behavior at any given time. They do not go on their record or follow them for years.

Thank you for all of your flexibility and support with getting this year started. We continue to grow and develop our plan to support our learners in a safe environment. Our goal is to stay in school!!!

Create a beautiful life at home with your child,

Carrie Bollinger

Important Dates

August

27 - PTA Family Swim Night 5-7

September

1 - School Picture Day

6 - NO SCHOOL - Labor Day

7 - NO SCHOOL - Teacher Plan Day

17 - PTA Movie Night