

Thursday Thoughts - September 16, 2021

THIS WEEK we are CELEBRATING being a STEAM school! EACH day has been devoted to an individual letter in STEAM! ALSO, we had some AMAZING kits available for teachers to check out and for kids to access! (ROBOTS, MAKEY MAKEY KITS, SNAP CIRCUITS, ETC.) Additionally, many learners had the opportunity to do art, investigations, engineer design process challenges and SO MUCH MORE! WE WILL FINISH UP WITH OUR MAKERSPACE EXPECTATIONS TOMORROW AND ALL STUDENTS WILL BE LICENSED TO USE OUR MAKERSPACE!!!! Tomorrow, we will end the week by discussing the letter M for math in our morning announcement. REMEMBER, morning announcements can be accessed through our website so that you can stay abreast of what our focus is surrounding social emotional learning activities! TOMORROW is our PTA MOVIE NIGHT! This year, PTA selected the movie, "MEET THE ROBINSONS"!!!! AAAAWWWWEEEE - One of my all-time favorites! IT IS A GREAT TIME TO BE AT STEAM @ TOPE!

***Quick Movie Summary** - When an orphaned child genius named Lewis has his science fair project ruined by forces from the future he must join with another boy who claims to be from the future to steal his invention back, fix it and save a new found family from a bleak future where mind control devices enslave the masses. The main theme of the film is to **'keep moving forward'**, to never let failure block the path to success, to learn from your mistakes and utilize that knowledge*

Standard Operating Procedures for MOVIE NIGHT 2021

- 1) PLEASE FIND A SEAT AND WHEN THE MOVIE BEGINS-- REMAIN SEATED.
- 2) PLEASE REFRAIN FROM CELL PHONE USAGE DURING THE SHOW.
- 3) BE RESPECTFUL OF OTHERS AROUND YOU AND USE A WHISPER VOICE WHEN COMMUNICATING.
- 4) ONCE IT IS DUSK, THE PLAYGROUND IS OFFICIALLY CLOSED.
- 5) ENGAGE WITH YOUR FAMILY AND ENJOY THE SHOW.
- 6) DO NOT ARRIVE INTOXICATED AND DO NOT INTOXICATE YOURSELF UPON ARRIVAL.
- 7) YOU MAY BRING BLANKETS, CHAIRS, SNACKS, ETC. FOR COMFORT!
- 8) MASKS ARE HIGHLY RECOMMENDED, BUT ARE NOT REQUIRED OUTSIDE. HOWEVER, IF YOU ENTER THE BUILDING TO USE THE RESTROOM, A MASK IS REQUIRED.
- 9) BE RESPECTFUL OF SOCIAL DISTANCING.
- 10) BE KIND.

We had an awesome turnout at PTA! We LOVE seeing the new faces. Keep your eyes open for a lot of upcoming events!!!!!!

Here is a link for our [D51 STEM WEBSITE](#)

WHAT IS PBL?

Problem-Based Learning (PBL) is a teaching method in which complex real-world problems are used as the vehicle to promote student learning of concepts and principles as opposed to direct presentation of facts and concepts. In addition to course content, PBL can promote the development of critical thinking skills, problem-solving abilities, and communication skills. It can also provide opportunities for working in groups, finding and evaluating research materials, and life-long learning (Duch et al, 2001).

This semester, 2nd, 3rd, 4th and 5th graders will be participating in a PBL. More details will be shared soon!

Fall is quickly approaching and we have definitely experienced a change in weather! **JUST A FRIENDLY REMINDER that WE DO NOT HAVE A LOST AND FOUND.** Please label your child's jackets, coats, gloves, etc. and it will be returned to them. **THANK YOU!**

Teacher Communication ~ We definitely support open communication with parents. By now, teachers should have communicated to families their process and protocol for contacting them. **Please remember that mornings are not the best as there is limited time to get all learners in, hands washed, breakfast served and class started.** If you would like to meet, please email a request to staff OR call the office. **THANK YOU!**

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. REASONS TO APPLY~

1. P-EBT Benefits: Your family may be eligible to receive additional funds to buy food for children in your household during the pandemic through the Pandemic Electronic Benefit Program.
2. D51 Discounts: Families can receive discounted school/test fees, bus passes, utilities and more.
3. D51 Funding: Additional resources to support healthy meals for students, afterschool programs and additional nutrition programs for students.

Privacy Reminder: All information provided is confidential and protected.

Families who qualify for meal benefits in the 2021-2022 YEAR will also receive the 30 day carry over eligibility for the next school year.

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)

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.**

Create a beautiful life at home with your child,

Carrie Bollinger

IMPORTANT DATES

September

21 - Watch DOGS Sign up event
24 - Student of the Month Assembly
27-28 NO SCHOOL
28 - Parent Teacher Conferences

"Around here, however, we don't look backwards for very long. We keep moving forward, opening up new doors and doing new things, because we're curious... and curiosity keeps leading us down new paths." ~ Walt Disney