

Thursday Thoughts - October 21, 2021

**BEGINNING IN NOVEMBER ALL STUDENTS (EVEN WITH A PARENT) MUST CROSS WALNUT AT THE CROSSWALK.** *(I mean... Legally, this should be happening anyways.)*  
:) WALNUT IS CLOSED OFF, BUT WE STILL HAVE TRAFFIC FOR BUSSING AND HANDICAPPED LICENSED VEHICLES. WE HAVE HAD SOME CLOSE CALLS WITH KIDS CROSSING WALNUT IN THE BUS LOOP TO GET TO PARENTS ACROSS THE WAY-- **TOGETHER, LET'S ENSURE ALL KIDS ARE SAFE** -- USE THE CROSSING GUARD!  
THANK YOU.

Additionally, it would be extremely helpful if you pick up your kiddo/s and head home. It has been brought to my attention that staff members are having a hard time determining who has been picked up and who has not been at the end of the day. Again, this is for safety. We love you all and love that you have some time with other families during this crazy time! We just want to make sure all of our kiddos are getting home safe and sound.

**PANORAMA RESULTS**~ As discussed in a previous Thursday Thoughts, students were surveyed in the first quarter. The Panorama Student Survey measures student perceptions of teaching and learning, culture and climate, and student experience in the classroom and school. There are five categories within the 4th and 5th grade survey. Four of them are nationally ranked categories (1) teacher-student relationships, 2) Rigorous expectations, 3) Belongingness and 4) Engagement) and one is at the district level and therefore not ranked. In all of the 4 categories, we are at the 80th-99th percentile nationally! THIS IS REALLY AWESOME! For the district level survey K-5, we are at 77%. Our staff members are digging into the data and looking for next steps!

Mrs. Ousley (school counselor) is working with students on our "PEACE PLACE". The Peace Place is a designated location for children to work through normal peer conflict. We implemented this last year and are working through the steps to reinstate it. The Peace Place uses four PROBLEM SOLVING steps to help them work through conflict- S- Say the problem, T- Think of solutions, E- Explore consequences and P- Pick the best solution for a win-win.

Bullying IS NOT tolerated in district 51 and here at Tope it is no different. Students are learning the difference between the words- RUDE, MEAN and BULLYING. RUDE- when someone says or does something unintentionally hurtful and they do it once. MEAN- When someone says or does something intentionally hurtful and they do it once, that's mean. BULLYING- When someone says or does something intentionally hurtful and they keep on doing it even when you tell them to stop or show them that you're upset- that's bullying. They are also learning strategies to work though each level and who to access for support.

## **OUR ANNUAL READ-A-THON FUNDRAISER HAS OFFICIALLY COMMENCED!**

This year, we are raising money to continue to fund Art AND to help STEAMIFY the library! Our library is on its way to being an **UPDATED AND INTERACTIVE** area for learning! We have some **BIG HOPES AND DREAMS** from previous 2nd grade PBL learners (now 5th graders) that we would like to be able to bring to life!

**THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING OUR ANNUAL READ-A-THON FUNDRAISER!**

### **CURRENT PBLs**

**2ND GRADE PROBLEM** ~ Steam at Tope 2nd graders need a way to investigate, preserve and honor our past, celebrate the present and envision our future journey on our path to awesome for our school's 80th birthday celebration.

**3RD GRADE PROBLEM** ~ How do we prevent White-Nose Syndrome from entering the caves of Colorado to prevent the endangerment and eventual extinction of bats?

**4TH GRADE PROBLEM** ~ Steam @ Tope 4th graders need a way to take ownership and action now to protect the sustainability of our recreational spaces in order to preserve our community's culture and heritage.

**5TH GRADE PROBLEM**~ Steam @ Tope 5th graders need a way to develop a sense of belonging so that all learners feel important within our school community

### **A LITTLE BIT ABOUT LUNCH!**

**It is IMPERATIVE that you take a moment to fill out the link for Free and Reduced lunch. It is located on the D51 website under "Quick Links"**

**<https://www.myschoolapps.com/Home/PickDistrict>**

### **HEALTHY LUNCHES = HEALTHY MINDS= ENGAGED LEARNERS**

**At STEAM @ Tope, we care about the WHOLE learner**

**<https://familydoctor.org/tips-for-healthy-children-and-families/>**

**Visitors and Volunteers** -Just a quick reminder that ALL visitors and volunteers in the building **MUST** come in through the front doors and sign in - **NO EXCEPTIONS**. We must follow all safety and security procedures. Thank you for following this expectation.

## TEN WAYS FOR CHILDREN TO STAY HEALTHY

- Start the day with a healthy breakfast. It refuels the body and provides energy for the day.
- Let kids help plan and prepare 1 meal each week.
- Eat together as a family as often as possible.
- Take time eating, and chew slowly. It takes 20 minutes for the brain to tell the body that you are full.
- Eat more vegetables and fresh fruits. Aim for a total of 2 cups of fruit and 2 1/2 cups of vegetables each day.
- Eat more whole grains. Examples include oats, brown rice, rye, and whole-wheat pasta. Try to eat at least 3 ounces of whole grains each day.
- Drink plenty of fluids. Choose water, low-fat or nonfat milk, and low-calorie beverages.
- Serve a variety of foods.
- Serve food in small portions.

**Create a beautiful life at home with your child,**

*Carrie Bollinger*

"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

### IMPORTANT DATES

25 - Storybook Pumpkin Patch begins sprouting!  
27 - Walk/Bike to School Day - meet at Sherwood  
28 - Pumpkin Judging  
29 - Halloween Costume Parade 1:15 pm

