

DECEMBER NEWSLETTER 2024

Cottonwood School



Upcoming Events

12/6 - Bookmobile 1:30-2:30

12/13- Costumes are due!

12/17 - Drop off for Dress Rehearsal at the Gallatin Gateway Community Center at **8:25**

12/19 - Winter Program at 5:15 at the Gallatin Gateway Community Center

12/20 - Baking Cookies 1:00-3:00. Please let us know if you are available and signed up for it. We are looking for 2-3 volunteers.

12/16 - Email receipt are due for Bridger ski trips grades 2-5

12/23-1/5 - Winter Break
See you back at school on 1/6!

1/7- Ski day at Bridger for 2nd-5th **No School for K and 1st grade**

Winter Program

The students are diligently practicing to be ready to perform "The Polar Express" play and our music program. They are putting in a lot of time and dedication and will be helping to produce the props and the sets. We are so proud of them and we assure you will be too. **Check sign up sheet for helping with the program on parent board.**

There is **one dress rehearsal** on Tuesday, December 17th at 8:25. This will be held at the Gallatin Gateway Community Center (145 Mill St. Gallatin Gateway). Please **drop off at center at 8:25 on 12/17.**

The Winter Program will be held on **December 19th** at **5:15** at center. Please **arrive at 5:00** so children can get dressed! The program will begin right away with the play. We will continue with the music program with a chance to change. We look forward to seeing you and all your family in the audience! After the program commences we will have treats for 15 minutes then please gather your kids to go home so we can clean up the building.

We are looking for costumes (see list that went home on **Tuesday, 11/26**). Please let other families know if you have a certain costume or parts of it. Please read the descriptions, but it does not have to look exactly like the pictures. All costumes need to be here at school on **Monday, 12/16**. Please make sure your child has **shoes** that go with the costume.

PE Ski Trips (2nd-5th)

(new-must be 7 years or older to participate)

Bridger has a new price model for ski PE this year. Regardless of students needing lift tickets or rentals there is a \$45 student flat rate to be paid by families. Scholarships are still available. This keeps the program affordable for kids who wouldn't otherwise get the opportunity to ski/ride. Students who already have lift passes and gear have the option of not participating in the lessons for financial reasons only and instead just ski and drive with their parents to Bridger that day. They can then join us for afternoon skiing with chaperones. Please email the sale receipt back to us by 12/16. Let us know if your child won't be participating for financial reasons. For more info on the days of skiing, see upcoming emails about registration and the January newsletter!

December NEWSLETTER 2024

Cottonwood School



Classroom News

The short month of December will be busy. We will be working on perfecting the play and practicing the music program every day, as well as making props and scenes on some afternoons. This is a very exciting and exhausting time of year. Please help your child to be successful by making sure they get plenty of sleep. Also remind your child to wash their hands frequently, we need all of our actors to be healthy.

Lower Elementary

In math first graders will be exploring more abstract regrouping addition and dynamic subtraction with the materials. Elapsed time will be one the focus of second grade studies amongst word problems and checker board. Kindergarten will continue the measurements of time with the quarter hours, learn about quadrilaterals, and will be exploring the decimal system with the golden beads. Please keep **practice addition and subtraction facts within 18 (2nd) within 10 (1st)** at home too! Please **read** a lot **during the break**.

In language we will be talking about antonyms and continuing on adjectives, conjunctions, and on blends (in K). Second grade will finish apostrophes and learn more rules of singular and plural forms of words. In writing we will be composing letters to Santa and learning the format of it. K will explore more heart words.

In Social Sciences K will be learning about carnivores / herbivores. Second grade will write more reports about United States' animals and landmarks. We will all learn and review land and water forms. We will be working with the motion of roll in science and finish our unit with it. We will also be talking about December/January holiday celebrations around the world.

Upper Elementary

In Upper Elementary students are excited for winter and looking forward to our Winter Program. In **math**, 3rd graders will be solving area and word problems. 4th graders will be working on solving larger division problems without material and then they will be starting with area and perimeter. 5th graders will be working on multiplying and dividing decimals and fractions. In **ELA**, 3rd graders will be looking at themes of different texts as well as comparing and contrasting these texts. In grammar they will be looking at linking verbs. 4th graders will be looking at how the sequence of events affects a story and looking at graphic features. In grammar they will be looking at adjectives and prepositional phrases. 5th graders will be looking at facts and opinions in different texts as well as drawing conclusions by using text evidence. In grammar they will be continuing their advanced study of verbs. We will be doing fewer spelling and writing lessons during December to allow for enough time for play practice. **December reading logs will be coming home for students to record books they read at home, these need to be signed and brought back to school when we come back from winter break.** Students will continue to work on their continent geography through the pin and biome maps. 4th graders will be reviewing their knowledge of all 50 state's locations, capitals, and abbreviations. In science students will be problem solving with electricity and looking at the telegraph.

Please have your students keep reading over break and work on multiplication and division facts 1-12.

Have a great winter break :)