



Cottonwood Newsletter

February 2022



Schedule of Events and Field Trips

2/4- Hot Lunch Chicken
noodle soup and bread

2/7 and 14-MOSS classes

**2/10 - 100th day of
school** Please bring 100
pieces of a small dry items
(Cheerios, raisins, etc.)
counted out in a bag. We
will combine it to create a
tasty trail mix at the end
of the day.

**2/14- Valentine's Day
exchange** at 2:45

**2/15 - Ski P.E. at Bridger
Bowl 9:10-3:15** Meet at
Lone Mountain parking lot
and pick up there at 3:15
No School for K

2/18 1:30 Spelling Bee

**2/21 - Presidents' Day /
No School**

2/28 - Ice Skating P.E.
2:15-3:15 at Fairgrounds
Pick up there at 3:15

Valentine's Day Exchange

We will exchange cards and have a treat on Feb. 14th at 2:45. Please ensure that cards are addressed to all students in advance at home and ready to hand out. Let us know if you need a class list. Students will put their cards in the individual Valentine's bags, we made, in the morning. We ask you to make cards that tell one thing your child appreciates or likes about the other students, example: I like when you're helpful... You are great at ...
No candy in cards please! Everyone will choose 3 cards to read out loud during the exchange. We will have some treats after the exchange. Let us know in an email if you would like to provide treats.

Spelling Bee (competitive for 4th gr.)

"Bee" ready in February! The Spelling Bee will take place at the Gallatin County Courthouse (downtown), on the third floor, starting at 1:30. All parents are invited to come and watch the Bee. We will have treats afterwards. **Please pick up your child at the Courthouse at 2:45.** All students will be participating but only competitive for 4th grade. We are practicing at school and word lists varying by grade will be sent home to study. Please help your child memorize their words and remember it is supposed to be fun and exciting.

Ice Skating PE

We will be renting skates for those who does not have one at the pavilion at the Fairgrounds. Please make sure your child has waterproof pants, light waterproof coat, gloves and hats and their skates that day. Pick up will be at the Fairgrounds in front of the entrance at 3:15.

Updates From Our Classrooms

In lower elementary in **language** we will be focusing on dictionary skills, alphabetical order, and writing constructed responses through the Journeys series in **reading groups**. We are working in parts of speech with preposition using the grammar boxes and the prepared grammar sentences. Kindergarten will get serious by exploring lot of new concepts like articles, singular and plural rule, capitalization, end punctuations, and blends. In Writing Workshops we are finishing our personal narrative writing pieces, learning about sound effects and using interesting word to make our writing more detailed. In **math** there are all kinds of operation works going on from addition to multiplication. We will finish algebra studies with equations and more number patterns and keep practicing multiplication tables. K will work on static addition with stamp game, and start on number sense by comparing numbers and money concepts. 2nd is concentrating on more money concepts and start on division with the materials. In **geometry** we will look at quadrilaterals, congruence, similarity and equivalence, area and perimeter. K will continue with classifying triangles by angles and exploring curvilinear shapes. *Please do practice with your first grader addition and subtraction within 10 and multiplication facts 2s and 5s*, it makes such a difference when students have memorized them. *2nd should know all +/- facts and $\times 2/5$. K should know all addition and subtraction facts within 5*. In **science** we will continue on pebbles and sand experiments which students have been enjoying a lot. In botany and zoology, students will work on parts of the fruit, types of fruit, study of the reptiles, fish, and cnidarians. In **history and social studies** we will build the timeline of U.S. presidents then research our chosen presidents' biography. We will start on mapping skills and talk about the parts of the government. We are moving through the fundamental needs like communication. K will discover puzzle map of North America and 1st grade will continue with reports about animals, landmarks, and culture of South America. 2nd grade will be learning the South region of the US.

In *Upper Elementary* students have been working hard learning new concepts in all subjects. In **math**, third graders will be using what they learned about area to find areas of more than one shape. They will also be diving into two-step multiplication and division word problems. Fourth graders have been using long division material and will work up to dividing three and four-digit numbers with a two-digit divisor. Then, they will be moving into the area and perimeter of multiple shapes. In **reading groups**, third graders will be looking at a variety of different texts including plays, fiction, and informational texts. They will be focusing on using evidence from the text to analyze events and make inferences. Fourth grade will be looking at different biographies to learn about people and history. They will also be evaluating points of view using evidence from different texts. All students are finishing up their word studies on homophones and will be moving on to homonyms. Students are also focusing on prepositions and adverbs in grammar. In **writing**, students will be researching to write a longer opinion piece on a topic of their choice. In spelling, students will be focusing on word patterns as well as separate morphemes within a word. In **science**, we are continuing our water unit. Students will be exploring the three states of matter as well as doing experiments on how hot and cold water mix. In **social studies**, we will be finishing up world geography and moving on to our unit on government.

Thank you to all the ski chaperones for their help with our ski P.E. We feel so lucky that we can go on ski trips as a school!