

MARCH NEWSLETTER 2024

Cottonwood School

Upcoming Events

3/1– End of Trimester /
Report Cards issued

3/4, 3/18, and 3/25 – Swim P.E.
Classes 2:00–3:15 at the Ridge
Pick up at the Ridge Athletic
Club's front door (4181 Fallon St.)
@ 3:15 Please be on time!

3/8 and 29 Bookmobile

3/11–3/15 –Spring Break

3/26 – **Cross Country Ski PE** at
CrossCut meet at Lone
Mountain Gym at 9:15 and pick
up will be there at 3:00. Pack a
sack lunch, a snack, and a
water bottle in a backpack.
Dress in layers and waterproof
clothing and gloves. Sunscreen
if needed.

No school for K!

3/28–**Experts' Night 5:00–6:00**

Save the date! Standardized
tests 4/22–25 Attendance is a
must. No school for K

Swim PE at the Ridge

The structured swim programs for schools at the Ridge Athletic Club consist of swim lessons and recreational times. Students will be divided up into groups for a 30 minute lesson according to their age and ability level. We will be changing into our swim suits here at school, but looking for a dad to come at 3:00 and help the boys change in the Ridge men's locker room. Let us know if you are available! Please have your child bring a towel and a swim suit, (swim goggles are optional) for each of the three times we will be going. Pick up there at 3:15!

Experts' Night

Cottonwood School will be hosting Experts' Night on Thursday, March 28th from 5:00pm–6:00pm. This is a great time for our students to share the lessons they have been working on or just love, with all of you. Make sure to put it on your calendar, your attendance will be greatly appreciated by our students. This event is for Cottonwood School students only so please leave the little ones at home and give your undivided attention to our students.

When you arrive you will receive a "passport" list with all the lessons that are taught by our students, choose which one you want to learn about, we encourage to try to experience as many lessons as you can. Lessons range in all subjects. Always a fun night of being a "student"!

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Classroom News



Lower Elementary

The month of March will bring more outside of school P.E. classes with swimming and a well needed Spring Break.

In math we are off to measurements starting with length, then weight and capacity, fractions for K, multiplication story problems for 1st, and more multiplication/division facts depending on grade levels. Please do practice those math facts at home too! In geometry we will study triangles and K will be introduced to the constructive triangle boxes.

In science we will be continuing on our Aquarium unit with food chains. We will be studying the parts and types of seeds, mammal, amphibian, and platyhelminths according to grades.

In history, we will dive into some civic studies with communities, laws and responsibilities of citizens and local government lessons. We will continue fundamental needs with looking into social acceptance.

In geography we will be exploring parts of the river and lake, and second will move onto Midwest States. Kindergarten will work with more puzzle maps like South America and Australia.

Language continues to be very much alive in our class as always. Through writing reports students are learning about sentence structure, as well as the foundations for a good paragraph. They also get a chance to use the spelling rules we have been working on. Please have your child read their president's report to you. (In Friday Folders) We will explore fairy tales in writing workshop. We continue to work on parts of speech by Montessori grammar symbol worksheets. We will be learning about antonyms with word study boxes and homonyms with language puzzles. Kindergarten will explore adjectives with the small environment, learn about present tense and usage of period, and continue on blends with the tap it boards, and the phonics boxes. Have your child read everyday for at least 20 min. during Spring Break to practice fluency and to decode letter-sound combinations easily.

Upper Elementary

For March, Upper Elementary students will be starting new lessons and learning opportunities. In **math**, 3rd graders will measure liquid volume and mass then start geometry. 4th graders will be solving problem with money and measurements then moving onto geometry. 5th graders will be converting units and then looking at geometry. In **ELA**, 3rd graders will be using details to determine the author's purpose and the reasoning for the sequence of events in texts. They will be looking at indirect objects and types of sentences. 4th graders will be looking at text and graphic features in informational texts. They will focus on conjunctions and adverbs. 5th graders will be looking at themes and determining the main ideas from informational texts. We will be starting our Poetry Madness this month. Students will be reading two poems a day, learning poetic devices, and completing a poetry bracket. After, they will be writing their own poems. **March reading logs will be coming home and must be returned by the end of the month.** In **science**, we will continue our plant and animal population unit. In **social studies**, will start looking at Montana history.