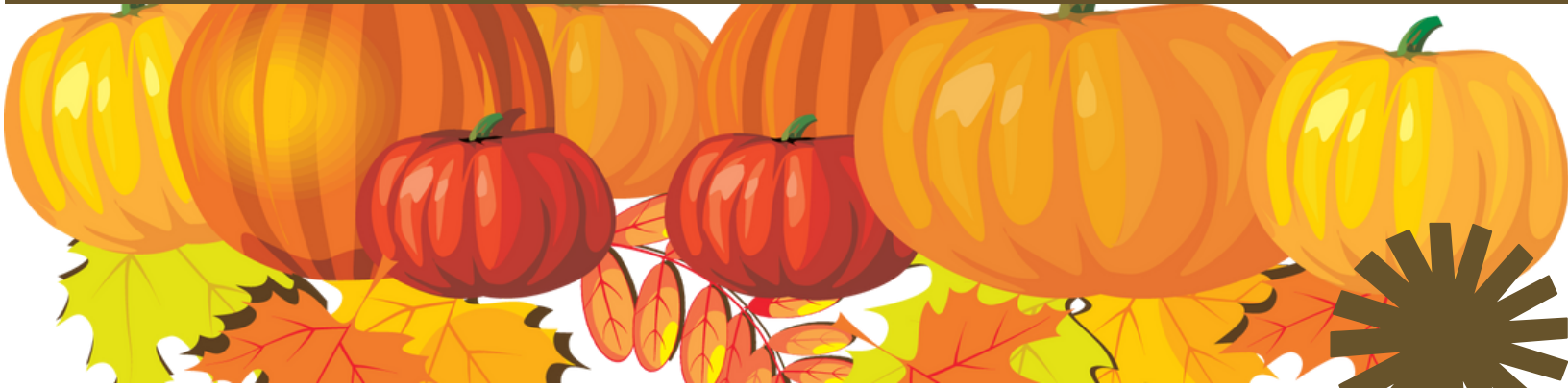


OCTOBER NEWSLETTER 2023

Cottonwood School



Upcoming Events

Rocks and Minerals Classes on Thursdays 2:00-3:00

10/9 - Visit to the **Emerson** Cultural Center for a tour of their exhibits and a follow up art class 1:30-3:00.

Bring \$1 for the cost of the materials for the art lesson. **Pick up** at the front steps of the **Emerson** (111 S Grand Ave.) **at 3:00.**

10/13 & 27-Book Mobile 1:30-2:30

10/19&10/20 - NO SCHOOL

10/23 - Rock Climbing P.E. at **Spire** (13 Enterprise Blvd.) 1:30-3:00. **Pick up** there **at 3:00.** Please make sure your child has a **waiver online** spireclimbingcenter.com/waiver

10/30- Historical Halloween 2:15-3:20 Please sign up for an item to bring on parent board. All are welcome, historical costumes are encouraged for parents too!

HISTORICAL HALLOWEEN



We will have our Historical Halloween Party on Monday, October 30th 2:15-3:20. Students will be choosing a deceased or living famous person who has impacted society in a positive way and write a short report about them at home. Think inventors, scientist, writers, artists, leaders, naturalist, musicians, composers etc... They dress up as that person and give a short (max 1 min.) presentation on the life of that chosen person (who, when and where she/he lived/s, what did she/he do to become famous) starting at 2:15. Please bring K students at 2:15 so they can be part of it. Parents write or print report for kindergarten students, highlight information and they can try to memorize some of it. We will assist K students presenting their speech. Please help your child to write the bio and have her/him practice their presentation at home. Please bring reports to school by Friday, 10/27 so the teachers can check the reports.

Let us know if you have any questions.

Students bring their costumes in the morning and get ready in the afternoon between 1:30-2:15.

We will have some quick games and sit down for treats afterwards. Parents are invited to come and join us!

Please sign up for an item you can bring bring to our little party and drop it off in the morning of.

SPANISH

We would like to welcome our new Spanish teacher Senorita Savannah Moore. She is currently attending MSU and graduating in January with a Spanish major. She has taught at Hyalite elementary, we are excited to have her and we are looking forward to working with her.

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Classroom News



Lower Elementary

The lower elementary is humming with lessons from simple to dynamic addition, phonics boxes, word study and grammar boxes and so on. The students have been enjoying science and history activities on which we will be continuing this month like fundamental needs of people (clothing), concept of time, and experimenting with principles of sound. K will experiment with properties using touch. We will dive into the study of Continents (K), North America (1st), and the United States. (2nd)

In math K we will be adding with the colored beads, 1st will discover dynamic subtraction with beads and the stamp game, and 2nd will continue on with multiplication with the large bead frame. K will be introduced to the decimal system with teen boards. Number sense will be again the focus in all grades for this month. First grade will be completing bead chains and finding out about odd/even/cardinal/ordinal numbers, and abstract addition. 2nd grade will explore more mental math, rounding, estimating, properties of addition and subtraction, fact families, and inverse operations to help memorize math facts. First grade students need to be practicing addition facts **within 10**, and **2nd grade within 18**, **K understanding adding 0 and 1 to numbers within 5**, at home too. Use just oral games or flashcards. Math will be a lot easier and faster with memorizing all the facts!

In language we are on the move in the grammar boxes with article and in word study with prefix. Mechanics of our language will include discussing and reviewing end punctuation and their usage, also practicing singular and plural rules. K will be plunging into middle and end vowel sounds, learning more letter sounds, rhyming, and building some CVC words with the moveable alphabet. **Every student should be reading for 15-20 minutes at home. K should practice writing lowercase letters and numbers, and recognizing letter sounds: p,a,n,i, m,e,t,c,** and the new ones for this month **h,o,f,b,g,r,s,u,**(write letters correctly and show pictures/objects with it, b-bear, ask "What sound does this letter make?"). In botany and zoology: animal kingdom, food chains, vertebrates/invertebrates, root and leaf studies, and plant life cycles are on stage.

In Cosmic Education we are onto the second Great Lesson, the Coming of Life and its follow up lessons. We will look at our interactive timeline with fossils, learn about the Clock of the Eras, and roll out the "Black Strip". We will continue with the Coming of Humans and discuss B.C. and A.D. on our history timeline.

Upper Elementary

Everyone in upper elementary has gotten used to our morning work period. Students have been working hard in both lessons and their independent work.

In **math, 3rd grade** will be learning more about division using long division material, word problems, and patterns. **4th grade** is looking at multiples/factors along with number/shape patterns. **5th grade** is starting powers of 10 and decimals this month.

In **ELA, third graders** will be practicing drawing conclusions from characters' actions and text/graphic features. For grammar, third graders will be focusing on nouns and suffixes. **Fourth graders** will be looking at cause and effect along with fact and opinion. They will also be looking at nouns and homonyms. **Fifth graders** will be practicing determining a story's theme as well as adjectives and abbreviations. For **spelling** some students are focusing on spelling patterns/rules while others are learning more about the meanings and parts of words. **October reading logs will be coming home for students to record books they read at home.** We will be starting narrative **writing** this month. In **science**, we will be continuing the solar system FOSS kit. This month in **social studies** we will be continuing physical geography. 3rd graders will be focusing on North and South America. 4th graders will be learning their US states, capitals, and abbreviations. And 5th graders will be looking at Asia and Europe.