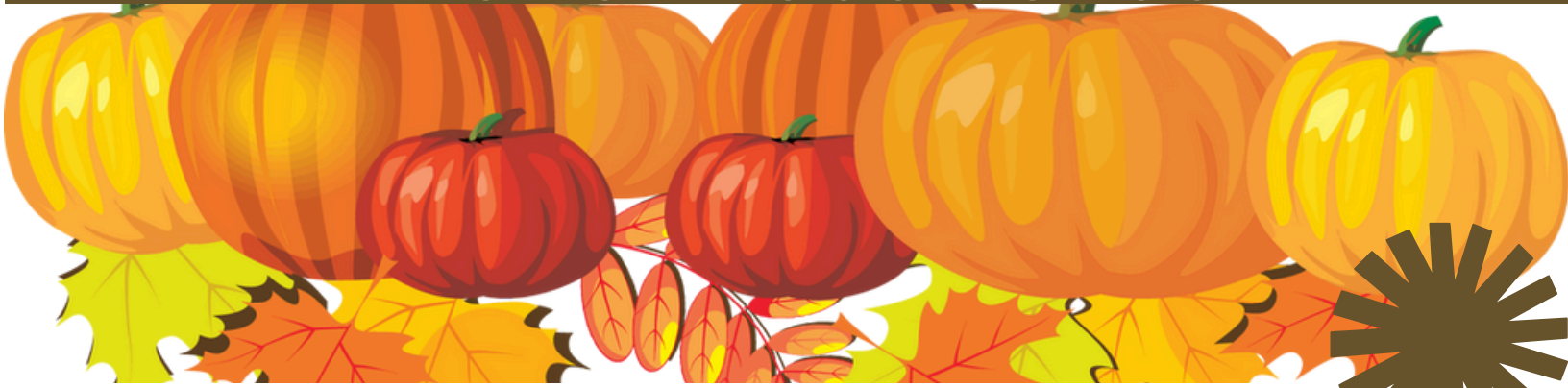


OCTOBER NEWSLETTER 2024

Cottonwood School



Upcoming Events

Mondays @1:00 Indian Ed for All classes

10/4 & 25-Book Mobile 1:30-2:30

10/17&10/18 - NO SCHOOL

10/14- Tinworks Art Tour at 719 N Ida Ave, from 1:30-3:00. **Pick up there at 3:00.**

10/21- 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**.

spireclimbingcenter.com/waiver

10/25-Hot Lunch of pizza and veggies. You don't need a packed lunch but make sure your child still has a snack.

10/28- 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 28th 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, 10/25** 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.

Indian Education for All Classes

We will continue with discussing more traditional life of the first people of Montana and introducing Native American games. It has been a fun project and studentst have been enjoying learning about the different tribes, their way of life and history.

OCTOBER NEWSLETTER 2024

Cottonwood School



Classroom News

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 motion. 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 addition 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. **Practice math + facts** at home too, K : adding 1 and 2 to a number within 5, 1st adding within 10, 2nd: adding within 18. Math problems will be a lot faster to solve by memorizing 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 comma 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 correctly** (all lower case letters start up top) p,a,n,i, m,e,t,c and the new ones for this month h,o,f,b,g,r,s,u at home too (most important skill to learn in k). Please keep **reading** at home **for** at least **15 minutes** everyday! 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.

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 multiplication and 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, 3rd graders** will be practicing drawing conclusions from characters' actions and text/graphic features. For grammar, third graders will be focusing on nouns and suffixes. **4th graders** will be looking at cause and effect along with fact and opinion. They will also be looking at nouns and homonyms. **5th 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 working on personal narrative **writing** this month. In **science**, we will be continuing our Magnetism and Electricity FOSS kit. We will also be starting to learn about Matter through learning parts of the atom and looking at the periodic table. 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 Africa.