

ROADRUNNER EXPRESS

FEBRUARY 2024



MANY CULTURES



Foster
Dual Language PK-8



ONE FAMILY

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Foster
Dual Language PK-8

Principal's Page

MS. LEIGH HIESTER

IMPORTANT DATES

2/1 . . . PTA Meeting 6-7pm via Zoom
 2/5-2/9 . . . Book Fair
 2/8 & 2/9 . . . Parent/Teacher Conferences
 2/9 . . . NO SCHOOL (Modified Contact day)
 2/15 . . . SAC Meeting @2:30pm Conference Room
 2/15 . . . Family Dance @ 5:30-7pm
 2/16 . . . NO SCHOOL (Teacher Work day)
 2/19 . . . NO SCHOOL (President's Day)
 2/22 . . . 3rd, 4th, & 5th Grade Showcase @5:30-7pm
 2/23 . . . Class Picture Day
 2/28 . . . Pink Shirt Day (No bullying day)
 2/28 - 3/1 . . . Read Across America Week

Dear Foster Families,

I hope this message finds you well as we dive into the month of February. Here are some important updates and highlights from our amazing school!

Students were able to complete the Winter MAP assessments and we are pleased to say that we are seeing some good growth, especially compared to where we were last year as a school. Even with starting a new math curriculum this year, Illustrative Math, we are seeing an increase in student academic growth across the whole school. We will continue to improve and strengthen the skills of our students and look forward to a strong finish with our Spring MAP assessments and CMAS testing.

Our Robotics teams in both Elementary and Middle School have been bringing home trophies from every competition they have competed at this year and we are so proud of them! Thank you **Ms. Brie**, **Ms. Stephanie**, and **Ms. Tracie** for all you do to help our students be successful. Thank you also to our parents and other volunteers who make sure the students have what they need, have time to practice, and get them to the competitions. We are excited to see how far they go!

We are excited to start a new night of celebrating student learning K-5 that we are calling our **Foster Showcase**. Before the Pandemic, Foster once had a night of performing and sharing learning by each grade level. After much discussion and thought, we are moving to having a more meaningful showcase of learning so that parents can experience the different grade level standards being taught at that time across the different subjects.

This new evening event will take place on two different nights: Primary (K-2) Showcase will be April 4th and the Intermediate (3-5) Showcase will be February 22nd. Each grade will have a time to report to the Band room (behind the gym) and a performance time. There will also be time to visit classrooms to see what the students are learning about. More information will be shared by your classroom teacher.

Principal's Page

MS. LEIGH HIESTER



Parent Teacher Conferences will be held the evening of February 8th and during the day on February 9th. We will also be inviting some students in for testing on February 9th as needed as we do not have students that day. We will also have our Book Fair in the library during this same week.

Our annual **family dance** will be held on **February 15th from 5:30-7:00PM**. We have an amazing professional DJ who will be leading the fun and will also have food, a photo booth, and more! Please join us for this community event.

Thank you for your ongoing support and partnership in creating a positive, inclusive learning environment at Foster Dual Language PK-8. If you have any questions or concerns, feel free to reach out to our dedicated staff.

Wishing you a wonderful February!

In Peace,
Leigh

Foster School Accountability Committee

Please join us for our next School Accountability Committee (SAC) meeting of the school year. The SAC meets several times a year to discuss our school Unified Improvement Plan, school performance framework, budget, staffing, and student achievement. Our next meeting will be on February 15th at 2:30 in the Conference room. Please join us!

A MESSAGE FROM THE PTA:

Dear Foster families - come join us for our annual Family dance!

When: Thursday, February 15th, 5:30-7pm

Where: Foster Gym

What: Dancing (music by DJ Drake!)

- Free Food
- Photo Booth
- Plus [roadrunnerfoodtruck](#) available for additional purchase!



Vice Principal

MS. REBECCA MEINE

IMPORTANT DATES

2/1 ... PTA Meeting 6-7pm via Zoom
2/5-2/9 ... Book Fair
2/8 & 2/9 ... Parent/Teacher Conferences
2/9 ... NO SCHOOL (Modified Contact day)
2/15 ... SAC Meeting @2:30pm Conference Room
2/15 ... Family Dance @ 5:30-7pm
2/16 ... NO SCHOOL (Teacher Work day)
2/19 ... NO SCHOOL (President's Day)
2/22 ... 3rd, 4th, & 5th Grade Showcase @5:30-7pm
2/23 ... Class Picture Day
2/28 ... Pink Shirt Day (No bullying day)
2/28 - 3/1 ... Read Across America Week

Hello Foster Families,

It has been a super-fast January! We came back from break and jumped right into ACCESS for ELLs assessment. The students have done a wonderful job staying focused on doing their best and using the technology smoothly. I remember when ACCESS online was new. Educators were worried that our youngest students would have trouble navigating an assessment online, and now we see that they absolutely can navigate the assessment without issue!

Our state assessment, Colorado Measures of Academic Success (CMAS) is coming up in April. The 3rd-8th grade student test window is April 1- April 26. All students will be tested in English Language Arts (ELA) and Math. Grades 5 and 8 will take CMAS Science as well. The window for science is April 8-April 26th.

In January our staff had the opportunity to be trained in understanding and co-regulating emotional responses of our students, which ties into our Social Emotional Learning Curriculum and the Proactive Behavior Support Team (PBST). Although the research states that self-regulation is not fully developed until the mid-20's, we can support students through co-regulation by developing safe and nurturing relationships, having predictable routines, and maintaining our own calm and modeling strategies we have taught through our SEL lessons.

Our Proactive Behavior Support Team (PBST) aligns to a portion of co-regulation strategies by developing clear and concise student expectations in the categories of Safe, Responsible, and Respectful. The team developed these expectations for the cafeteria and recess initially, and we will continue to develop them for other areas of the school. We created posters and have them hanging in the cafeteria! Further, we worked with the middle school team to create expectations specific to middle school in the same categories of Safe, Responsible, and Respectful. These expectations will be taught in the Advisory class and elevated throughout the day.

We are excited to welcome back Reading for Peace to our K-5 students in February. Reading For Peace is the oldest free program of The Conflict Center- over 34 years of visiting elementary age students! Their rich library promotes inclusivity, feelings, and peaceful conflict resolution. They practice small group discussion and problem-solving. Their goal is to be a different voice that supports peace and encourages everyone to work through problems by being respectful and constructive.

As a reminder, students will go outside for recess when the temperature is 20 degrees +, so please be sure (even middle schoolers) are prepared for the weather! Additionally, we do not have supervision after school, so students must be with a parent or guardian if playing on the playground, otherwise they need to be in front of the school waiting for their car or bus.



PRESCHOOL

MS. ANILU • MS. GISELA

IMPORTANT DATES

2/1 ... PTA Meeting 6-7pm
2/5-2/9 ... Book Fair
2/8 & 2/9 ... Parent/Teacher Conferences
2/9 ... NO SCHOOL (Modified Contact day)
2/15 ... Family Dance @ 5:30-7pm
2/16 ... NO SCHOOL (Teacher Work day)
2/19 ... NO SCHOOL (President's Day)
2/23 ... Class Picture Day
2/28 - 3/1 ... Read Across America Week
2/28 ... Pink Shirt Day (No bullying day)

Dear preschool families,

We are super excited to meet with you to talk about the growth your student has shown during our parent/teacher conferences on February 8 and February 9. It is a pleasure to be part of your students' learning experience.

We will be concluding our Study Unit #4 "What's the matter in your motion?" on February 15 and will be starting our Study Unit #5 "Is What I Want, What I Need?" on February 20th. The focus of this lesson will be about how money is earned, and that choices can be made on how to spend and save money, based on wants and needs. Day to day, the classroom will be alive with learning that will build our students' foundation for financial literacy and economics.

During purposeful play centers, children will participate in classroom jobs, exchange pretend money in realistic scenarios, dramatize work associated with the job(s) that are performed at places within a community, and sort coins and currency.

As we've been planning to bring learning to life in exciting ways at school, we invite you to do the same at home! You are your child's first teacher -we encourage you to make connections as your family engages in the behaviors and choices that surround work, earning and spending money, saving, and giving! Ideas to share in these experiences include:

- Co-create grocery list
- Co-create responsibility chart
- Create an earnings system, reinforcing the concept of working to earn money
- Penny/savings jar
- Donating time/community outreach
- Use vocabulary as you're immersed in these experiences including:
 - want, need, choice, money, coins, bills, small, big, brown, silver

Key Vocabulary:

want, need, choice, money, coins, bills, physical attributes of coins (small, big, brown, silver, etc.), bazaar

Literacy: Students will be learning our Estrellita segment #4, letters n, f,b,j in Spanish. We encourage you to practice the sound chart with your students and find words, pictures, and items that start with the letter sounds. Some games you can play at home to reinforce phonological awareness are I Spy-initial sound (exp. something that starts with mmmm), rhyming games, or clapping each syllable of a word. Reading at home and talking about the stories are a great way to build vocabulary and comprehension skills.

Math: Students will continue to solve simple addition and subtraction number stories. They will have the opportunity to create number stories, act them out, and use objects to solve number problems. We will introduce the names and values of coins and continue to work on shapes, counting, and number recognition.



KINDERGARTEN

MS. ALMA • MS. ANNIKA

IMPORTANT DATES

2/1 ... PTA Meeting 6-7pm
2/5-2/9 ... Book Fair
2/8 & 2/9 ... Parent/Teacher Conferences
2/8 ... 100th day of school celebration!
2/9 ... NO SCHOOL (Modified Contact day)
2/14 ... Valentine's Day Celebration
2/15 ... Family Dance Night
2/16 ... NO SCHOOL (Teacher Work Day)
2/19 ... NO SCHOOL (President's Day)
2/23 ... Class Picture Day
2/28 ... Pink Shirt Day (No bullying day)
2/28 - 3/1 ... Read Across America Week

Hello Kindergarten Families,

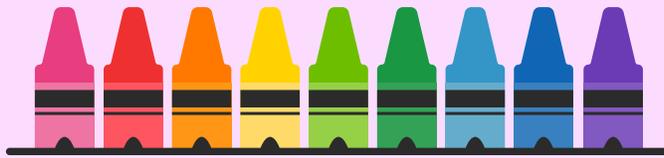
January was a great month. Students are working hard and showing us what they know.

In **reading** and **writing**, we will start our 6th module "Home of the Free and the Brave" In this module, children meet some of our greatest leaders, from Washington to King. They discover our unique symbols, like the bald eagle and apple pie, and our enduring freedoms. They explore our different landscapes and diverse people, learning that we all contribute to making the USA special. **Reading** will be in **English** with Ms. Annika and **writing** will be in **Spanish** with Ms. Alma. Do not forget to look at the Parent Module letter; it has great information on how to help your child at home.

We will also start our 6th **Math** unit where students answer "how many" questions and count out groups within 20. They will also understand that numbers 11 to 19 are composed of ten ones and one, two, three, four, five, six, seven, eight, or nine ones. Finally, they will write numbers within 20.

Our New **Social studies** unit is Geography: Different Places, Different Ways to Live. Throughout this unit, students use maps and globes so they understand how these models represent our world. Students identify different settings where people live around the world and they begin using specific geographic vocabulary (close, far, mountain, ocean, etc.). Students describe different settings, which might include the types of food, clothing and shelter found in each place.

As always, thank you so much for your continued support of
Your child's learning!



GRADE 1

MS. BRIE • MS. ROSA

IMPORTANT DATES

2/1 ... PTA Meeting 6-7pm
2/2 ... Field Trip to Museum of Nature & Science
2/5-2/9 ... Book Fair
2/8 & 2/9 ... Parent/Teacher Conferences
2/9 ... NO SCHOOL (Modified Contact day)
2/12 ... 100 days of school celebration
2/14 ... Valentine's Day Party
2/16 ... NO SCHOOL (Teacher Work day)
2/19 ... NO SCHOOL (President's Day)
2/23 ... Class Picture Day
2/28 - 3/1 ... Read Across America Week
2/28 ... Pink Shirt Day (No bullying day)

Dear First Grade Families,

It's amazing to think that in the blink of an eye January is over.

Thank you so much for all you do for us including sending in snacks and volunteering to help in the classroom and our upcoming field trips. We are also excited to meet with you for Parent Teacher Conferences and to celebrate all your students' hard work.

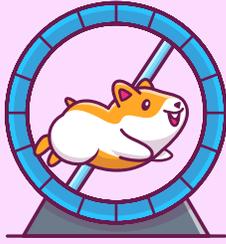
Starting February 5th we will start Module 6, Celebrate America, with **Reading in English** and **Writing in Spanish**. In **Mathematics** we will start our unit 5 about adding within 100. Math will be done in Spanish.

Please keep a lookout for the Reading, Writing and Math unit explanations in Friday Folders.

In **Social Studies** we will be talking about different leaders and what makes a good leader.

Keep reading and filling in your reading log. Also keep a lookout for more fun reading activities to come in the month of February.

Just a reminder that students need to wear jackets to be able to go outside, they will not be able to go outside if they forget their jackets at home. Also, please make sure your students bring their charged chromebooks every day. We encourage your students to read at home, explore their chromebooks, and practice counting to 120.



GRADE 2

MS. LAURA • MR. ABEL

IMPORTANT DATES

- 2/1 ... PTA Meeting 6-7pm
- 2/5-2/9 ... Book Fair
- 2/8 & 2/9 ... Parent/Teacher Conferences
- 2/9 ... NO SCHOOL (Modified Contact day)
- 2/15 ... Family Dance @ 5:30-7pm
- 2/16 ... NO SCHOOL (Teacher Work day)
- 2/19 ... NO SCHOOL (President's Day)
- 2/20 ... Field Trip to Colorado History Museum
- 2/23 ... Class Picture Day
- 2/28 - 3/1 ... Read Across America Week
- 2/28 ... Pink Shirt Day (No bullying day)

Literacy:

We have completed our literacy unit about leadership and we will move on to Module 6 which focuses on seasons and extreme weather events. This literacy unit aligns well with science. Students will be reading and writing about our natural world. Ms. Laura will be teaching Reading and Science and Mr. Abel has Writing and Math. We are so excited to see our students grow as readers and writers and can see a lot of wonderful growth!

Math:

In math students will be working on identifying the value of money and counting money! This is always fun to support at home. Please count change with your student! Also, students will be looking at the attributes of shapes, telling time and dividing objects into equal parts such as quarter, half and third. We will post a video and send home some practice work for students to show you!

Science:

We will continue to explore earth's systems and processes that shape our earth this month. Questions for students to ponder have been: How does the earth change over time? How does the earth change quickly? How are landforms made? What causes earthquakes? We have been having so much fun experimenting and learning!

Extra note:

We will be taking a field trip to History Colorado on Feb. 20th following a 4 day weekend, please take note!

IMPORTANT DATES

2/1 ... PTA Meeting 6-7pm via Zoom
2/5-2/9 ... Book Fair in the Library
2/8 & 2/9 ... Parent/Teacher Conferences
2/9 ... NO SCHOOL (Modified Contact day)
2/15 ... Family Dance @5:30-7PM
2/16 ... NO SCHOOL (Teacher Work day)
2/19 ... NO SCHOOL (President's Day)
2/23 ... Class Picture Day
2/28 - 3/1 ... Read Across America Week
2/28 ... Pink Shirt Day (No bullying day)
2/29 ... Field Trip (Museum Nature & Science)



GRADE 3
MS. MARI • MS. PAOLA



Hello Third Grade Dual families,

We are looking forward to meeting with you all again during Parent-Teacher conferences to discuss your child's progress. This month is packed with lots of fun things like the **Book Fair**, **Family Dance** and a **field trip to the Denver Museum of Nature and Science!** Be sure to check Class Dojo for important updates and announcements, and if you ever have any questions or concerns do not hesitate to let us know!

Here is what we are learning in class with Ms. Paola:

Writing: Over the next four weeks in module 6, our class will develop knowledge about the behavior of animals, with a focus in the genre of nonfiction text. We will read texts about behaviors and characteristics that help animals to survive. The children will also write a scientific paper for an imaginary magazine.

Math: For unit 6 students generate and represent length measurement data in halves and fourths of an inch on line plots. They learn about and estimate relative units of measure including weight, liquid volume, and time, and use the four operations to solve problems involving measurement.

Section A Goals: Measure lengths using rulers marked with halves and fourths of an inch to generate data for making a line plot.

Section B Goals: Measure and estimate weights and liquid volumes of objects.

Section C Goals: Solve problems involving addition and subtraction of time intervals in minutes.

Tell time to the minute.

Section D Goals: Solve problems involving the four operations and measurement contexts.

SLD: In order to support our HMH unit for module 6 students will focus on their Spanish fluency and phonemic awareness. They will also review and practice the vocabulary from Arriba la lectura. The students are also focusing on the right pronunciation of Spanish words and phrases.

Here is what we are learning in class with Ms. Mari:

Reading: At the end of module 6, Animal Behaviors, students will understand what behaviors help animals survive. Students will listen to, read, and view a variety of texts and media that present them with information about animal survival. A genre focus on nonfiction will provide students with opportunities to identify the author's purpose, central idea, and text structure in order to better understand unfamiliar texts. As students build their vocabulary and synthesize topic knowledge, they will learn more about the way animals utilize behaviors and characteristics, or traits, to help them survive.

Science: In science, we will begin Unit 3, Inheritance and Variation of Traits. Some of the essential questions for this unit are: How do organisms grow and develop? How are the characteristics of one generation related to the previous generation? Why do individuals of the same species vary in how they look, function, and behave? How does genetic variation among organisms affect survival and reproduction? By the end of this unit, students will understand that reproduction is essential to the continued existence of every kind of organism. They will also understand that many characteristics involve both inheritance and environment and sometimes the differences in characteristics between individuals of the same species provide advantages in surviving, finding mates, and reproducing.

ELD: In English Language Development (ELD), we are building our listening, speaking and comprehension skills in English. This month students will engage in some Drama through literature. We will read a book and perform character interviews along with freezes.

Reminders:

- Daily reading is an important habit in 3rd grade. Please be sure to read every night, in both languages, with your child.
- Please remember that students have access at home to a wonderful program called MAP Accelerator. This program uses their recent data from their middle of the year MAP assessment to target specific skills. Students can log on through Clever in their Chrome JeffcoBookmarks.
- Library checkouts are on Friday, so please return books by the previous Thursday.
- Please bring a healthy snack for your child or donate a healthy snack for 50 students.



GRADE 4

MS. VICKY • MS. STEPHANIE

IMPORTANT DATES

2/1 ... PTA Meeting 6-7pm via Zoom
2/5-2/9 ... Book Fair
2/8 & 2/9 ... Parent/Teacher Conferences
2/9 ... NO SCHOOL (Modified Contact day)
2/12 ... NAEP Testing
2/14 ... Valentine's Day Party @2:40pm
2/15 ... Family Dance @ 5:30-7pm
2/16 ... NO SCHOOL (Teacher Work day)
2/19 ... NO SCHOOL (President's Day)
2/22 ... 3rd, 4th, & 5th Grade Showcase @5:30-7pm
2/23 ... Class Picture Day
2/27 ... Molly Brown Museum comes our classroom
2/28 - 3/1 ... Read Across America Week
2/28 ... Pink Shirt Day (No bullying day)

In Reading, We read all about different types of art in Spanish. Some of the things included sculptures, dancing, music, photographs, etc. Students had a blast listening to Beatles music and dancing music from different cultures. Our next unit will be about what makes Earth's natural wonders exciting and unique in English.

In Writing, students just finished up their Module 5 unit about why people are extraordinary with expository Essays in English. Our next unit will be writing letters to experts about Earth's natural wonders in Spanish.

In Math, we finished up our unit on multiplicative comparison and measurement. That means students interpreted, represented, and solved multi-step problems with division and multiplication. They also learned how to convert units of measurement with a given system from larger to smaller units.

In Social Studies, We just started our geography unit about Colorado in Spanish. We had to reschedule with Rosey Waters to incorporate drama in our classroom. Our next unit will be about different types of waves in Spanish.

Thank you so much for those of you who came to our field trip to the Art Museum. We had a great time.

ACCESS Testing: We are officially done with ACCESS testing as a whole group. We have one or two students that still need to make up a day that they missed, but they will be pulled separately.

SAVE THE DATE: STEM Night: March 7th 5:30-7PM



IMPORTANT DATES

2/1 ... PTA Meeting 6-7pm
2/5-2/9 ... Book Fair
2/8 & 2/9 ... Parent/Teacher Conferences
2/9 ... NO SCHOOL (Modified Contact day)
2/15 ... Family Dance @ 5:30-7pm
2/16 ... NO SCHOOL (Teacher Work day)
2/19 ... NO SCHOOL (President's Day)
2/23 ... Class Picture Day
2/28 - 3/1 ... Read Across America Week
2/28 ... Pink Shirt Day (No bullying day)

Reading: Art for Everyone with Biographies and Informational Text

Students will read a variety of texts that present them with information about how people create and share different art forms. Students will have opportunities to identify central ideas, point of view, author's craft, theme, figurative language, and literary elements to help them understand the texts. Students will learn about the powerful impact of various art forms.

Writing: Personal Narrative Writing

Students will write about a personal memory from their life including all the elements of personal narratives (sequential order, vivid details and description, and thoughts and feelings. Students will use correct narrative structure and figurative language throughout their writing.

Math: More Decimal and Fraction Operations

Students will solve multi-step problems involving measurement conversions, line plots, and fraction operations, including addition and subtraction of fractions with unlike denominators. Students will learn about powers of 10 and converting numbers.

Social Studies: Early US History- The American Revolution

Students will learn about why countries declare independence, develop a sense of multiple perspectives through events, and understand key events that define this revolutionary period in United States history. Students will analyze documents and events and identify themes that point towards our nation's founding ideas, principles, and beliefs.

Important Reminders

- Band and Orchestra
- Monday 1:50 Woodwinds, Violins, Violas
- Wednesday 1:50 Brass, Percussion, Cellos, Bases
- Thursday 10:20 Everyone
- Students brought home a practice log. Students are to be practicing at home. This also means that they should return their instrument on band and orchestra days.

MIDDLE SCHOOL NEWSLETTER



English Language Arts

Science

IMPORTANT DATES

- 2/1 ... PTA Meeting 6-7pm
- 2/5-2/9 ... Book Fair
- 2/8 & 2/9 ... Parent/Teacher Conferences
- 2/9 ... NO SCHOOL (Modified Contact day)
- 2/15 ... Family Dance @ 5:30-7pm
- 2/16 ... NO SCHOOL (Teacher Work day)
- 2/19 ... NO SCHOOL (President's Day)
- 2/23 ... Class Picture Day
- 2/28 - 3/1 ... Read Across America Week
- 2/28 ... Pink Shirt Day (No bullying day)



Social Studies



Mathematics

Spanish Language Arts

Hello middle school families!!

Congratulations to the Second Quarter award recipients! Thank you to all of the families who were able to join us for our second quarter award ceremony!!

Principal's Honor Roll: 4.0 GPA

- Vivienne Battista
- Brandt Benage
- Sarah Benage
- Isabella Burgos Van Woensel
- Kaden Cochenour
- Reagan Davis
- Elliott Gluth
- Olivia Gluth
- Kayleen Legarda
- Maia Middleton-Nitchals
- Enrique Poot
- Ben Thiessen
- Penny Thomas
- Grey Vasel

Honor Roll: 3.5-3.9 GPA

- Eric Castillo Monge
- Daniel De la Cruz
- Hendrix Demers
- Evelyn Estrada Lopez
- Violet Flores
- Edgar Flores Gaytan
- Yizel Gonzalez Perez
- Sofia Gutierrez
- Jackson King
- Soleil Louis
- Edgar Nunez Victorio
- Sebas Ramos Johnston
- Josefina Rossi
- Alexandra Sanchez
- Juan Sebastian Sepulveda Herrera
- Kendra Soto
- Damian Valero Rojas

English Language Arts

- 6th: Maia Middleton-Nitchals & Kendra Soto
- 7th: Destiny Rosales & Mario Sosa
- 8th: Cruz Garcia Leyva & Alexandra Sanchez

Science

- 6th: Enrique Poot & Josefina Rossi
- 7th: Yizel Gonzalez & Eric Castillo
- 8th: Kamilah Palacios & Soleil Louis

Social Studies:

- 6th: Angel Gomez
- 7th: Reagan Davis and Pepito Pinon Balderrama
- 8th: Oscar Enriquez de Luna & Penny Thomas

Spanish Language Arts

- 6th: Edgar Flores and Olivia Gluth
- 7th: Hali Quijada and Damian Valero Rojas
- 8th: Violet Flores and Cruz Garcia Leyva

Excellence in:

Growth Mindset

- Asael Candia
- Briana Ibarra
- Damian Valero Rojas
- Juan Sebastian Sepulveda Herrera
- Johan Pinto Duran

Caring Classmate

- Daniel De La Cruz
- Kimberly Rivera
- Reagan Davis
- Ever Ledezma Pena
- Alexander Nevarez Gonzalez

Using Target Language

- Hudson Phi
- Johan Pinto Duran
- Juan Sebastian Sepulveda Herrera

Academic Growth

- Jose Poot-Medina
- Rosario (Soe) Osorio
- Alexander Nevarez Gonzalez
- Emill Arroyo
- Karen Ortega Duran
- Ailyn Carrillo Estrada
- Asael Candia
- Celina Balanga

Math

- 6th: Vivi Battista & Isa Burgos Van Wosel
- 7th: Eric Castillo Monge & Daniel (Sebas) Ramos Johnson
- 8th: Violet Flores & Hendrix Demers

Art

- Edwin Ramirez

Music

- Akane Chihuahua Ayala
- Sofia Gutierrez
- Diana Rivera Limones
- Cruz Garcia Leyva

P.E.

- Andy Vargas Saenz
- Edgar Flores Gaytan
- Maximiliano Hinojos Lizamo

Computer Science

- Sebastian Brown
- Sammiely Santiago

Band

Advanced: Angel Tapia Anguiano

Intermediate: Elliot Gluth

Orchestra

Advanced: Reagan Davis

Intermediate: Luis Burciaga Holguin

CONFERENCES!! Please make sure you sign up for conferences if you would like to chat with any or all of your child's teachers. We will be having conferences on **Thursday, February 8th from 4-8pm** as well as **Friday, February 9th in the morning.**



ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS

MS. CARISSA • carissa.sotorodriguez@jeffco.k12.co.us

This past month middle school students have been working on short informational writing. At Foster we use the acronym [TIDE as a guide for short constructed responses](#). This helps students organize and support their writing.

Here's what we'll be working on in the next month!

- In 6th grade we have just started reading the novel, *Holes* by Louis Sachar. We are focusing on the themes represented in the novel as well as the development of characters, setting and events. The culmination of this book will require students to create a character analysis or write a thematic essay. We will also watch the movie version of the novel when we are finishing the unit.
- In 7th grade we are working on a unit around point of view and perspective in fiction. We are reading the novel, *The Giver* by Lois Lowry. As we read the novel we will be discussing the essential questions, What is the relationship between freedom and responsibility? and Should people sacrifice freedom in the interest of security? Students will write an argumentative essay and watch the movie to culminate this unit.
- In 8th grade we have the pleasure to be working with the amazing Rosey Waters from Imagination Makers for the next few weeks on using theater to engage with themes in texts. I have worked many times with Rosey over the years and am super excited to bring this amazing opportunity to the middle school students. Once we finish working with Rosey, we will begin our novel study of *The Outsiders* by S.E. Hinton. Once we finish our novel study, students will have the opportunity to watch the movie as well.

I look forward to talking with many of you during our second semester conferences. Please let me know if you have any questions or concerns.



SPANISH LANGUAGE ARTS

MS. GABY



6th Grade: Students are working on researching different resources about the different types and elements of self-care at the different developmental stages from birth to adolescence to adulthood in order to write a narrative on the different elements of self-care during the different developmental stages.

7th Grade: We are continuing unit 3, *Our Surroundings/ Community* students will focus on how people participate in various types of communities as individual citizens and as members of a group. Students are delving into various newspapers and magazine articles about different the different types of communities and the purpose of communities in order to examine main ideas and supporting details of the different passages, as well as how authors communicate their purpose and point of view in feature articles and other sections of periodicals.

8th Grade: We are continuing unit 2, *Latino Leaders and Leadership*, students will learn about leadership and how Latin(x) leaders affect their communities. Students have examined the different traits of the personality of different exemplar latin leaders. The students have analyzed the biographies of various Latinamerican leaders from different professions/ arrears in order to apply their learning of the traits of exemplar leaders. In the following weeks, the students will be researching a Latinamerican leader of their choosing to research and write a biography.



SCIENCE

MS. NIDYA

6th Grade:

We have been working on ecosystems with their intraspecific and interspecific relationships. Students will recognize the interactions in ecosystems and the importance of caring for the environment for the stability of all living beings.

7th grade:

We are learning about the human body systems and the care we must take to maintain adequate health and avoid diseases. We are recognizing some common diseases that are caused by a lack of adequate nutrition.

8th grade:

We will be learning about the properties of light and sound, demonstrating Newton's theories on light and how sound can manifest with different intensity.



SOCIAL STUDIES

MR. JOAQUIN



6th Grade: Economic Successes

We are continuing with Economic Systems and Economic Choice. We have been doing Drama to help us understand these concepts more deeply. To finish off the Unit, we will be creating our own business and shooting a short commercial.

7th Grade: Exploring Geographic Connections and Civic Issues

We will be exploring in-depth the different ways in which our modern world is interconnected. We begin with economics, looking at trade in the eastern hemisphere and how countries compete with another for resources. Then we move on to humanitarian issues and how various NGO's (Red Cross) and IGO's (UN) collaborate to provide aid around the world.

8th Grade: US Territorial Expansion

We are still focused on Manifest Destiny and expansion west. We are analyzing the consequences it had on the Natives people as well as the institution of slavery. Our final project for the Unit will be writing a poem analyzing these changes.



MATHEMATICS

MR. ALEX



Esteemed families,

Thank you for continuing to support your learner. I want to let you know that I will not be present at conferences. I will be attending a conference in Seattle regarding math pedagogy. If you have any questions or concerns about your learner, please email me at alex.arceo@jeffco.k12.co.us. Please find below the latest updates regarding our learning in math class.

8th Exponents and scientific notation

Students were introduced to exponent notation in grade 6. They worked with expressions that included parentheses and positive whole-number exponents with whole-number, fraction, decimal, or variable bases, using properties of exponents strategically, but did not formulate rules for use of exponents.

In this unit, students build on their grade 6 work. The first section of the unit begins with a lesson that reviews exponential expressions, including work with exponential expressions. In the next two lessons, they expand their work to numerical bases other than 10, using exponent rules with products of exponentials with the same base and contrasting it with products of exponentials with different bases.

The third section of the unit returns to powers of 10 as a prelude to the introduction of scientific notation. Students consider differences in magnitude of powers of 10 and use powers of 10 and multiples of powers of 10 to describe magnitudes of quantities, e.g., the distance from Earth to the Sun or the population of Russia. Initially, they work with large quantities, locating powers of 10 and positive-integer multiples of powers of 10 on the number line. Most of these multiples are products of single-digit numbers and powers of 10. The remainder are products of two- or three-digit numbers and powers of 10, allowing students to notice that these numbers may be expressed in different ways.

7th Expressions, Equations, and Inequalities

In this unit, students use tape diagrams together with equations to represent situations with one unknown quantity. They learn algebraic methods for solving equations. Students solve linear inequalities in one variable and represent their solutions on the number line. They understand and use the terms “less than or equal to” and “greater than or equal to,” and the corresponding symbols. They generate expressions that are equivalent to a given numerical or linear expression. Students formulate and solve linear equations and inequalities that represent real-world situations.

6th Expressions and Equations

In this unit, students learn to understand and use the terms “variable,” “coefficient,” “solution,” “equivalent expressions,” “exponent,” “independent variable,” and “dependent variable.” They begin to write coefficients next to variables without multiplication symbols. They work with expressions that have positive whole-number exponents and whole-number, fraction, or variable bases, using properties of exponents strategically to evaluate these expressions, given a value for the variable. They find solutions for linear equations in one variable and simple equations that include exponents.

ELECTIVE CLASSES

•ART •GYM •MUSIC •BAND & ORCHESTRA •COMPUTER SCIENCE



PHYSICAL EDUCATION

COACH CASEY



Elementary:

In the month of February, we have a focus on friendship. We are going to play many team sports, trying to improve collaboration and support between teammates. These skills are integral not only in sport but also need to work as a team in many unique aspects and fields.

Middle School:

In my middle school elective class, we have tournaments in a variety of sports. Just like primary school children, there is a focus on sportsmanship.



VISUAL ARTS

MR. JESSE

Welcome to Art news 2024! We are continuing to create some amazing art work and we will have an in school exhibition at Foster! Feb 22nd will be our student work showcase for 3rd through 5th. The younger grades will have their showcase later this year.

Kindergarten has been creating works of art while learning about the basics in art. We have been focusing on basic shapes, lines and colors.

1st grade has been learning about the difference between organic and geometric shapes and how they can be used in art

2nd grade has been creating art work that focuses on space and how to make something look far far away.

3rd grade has been creating their own Loteria cards. These will be on display for our student showcase later this month

4th grade has been working on their Colorado artist themed drawings. These will be on display for our student showcase later this month.

5th grade is continuing to work on their self portraits. These will be on display for our student showcase later this month.



MS. KATIE'S MUSIC NOTES

Katie Oaks - General Music, K-8

katie.oaks@jeffco.k12.co.us



Hello Foster families! As we move into February, here is what will be happening in music classes: In Kindergarten, students work on finding their voices, specifically their singing voice! Students in 1st grade will be learning to differentiate between a steady beat and rhythm. Students in 2nd grade will celebrate Black History Month with Bill Withers by learning "Lean On Me" and "Beautiful Day."

Students in 3rd grade will begin playing recorders and start their journey through Recorder Karate! Foster will be loaning each student a recorder to play, but you may also purchase your own recorder. Please email Ms. Katie to confirm before ordering - there are many different types of recorders and it can be confusing!

In 4th grade classes, students will be learning about The Beatles and their impact on popular music history. Students in 5th grade will learn about the beginnings of American Blues music and write their very own blues song.

There will be a Showcase of Learning for students in grades 3, 4, and 5 on Thursday, February 22, 2024. More information will be coming out soon!

Our third quarter middle school music elective - Musicals and Theater Arts - is working hard. We also have our elementary drama club preparing their parts. Students will be performing Shrek, The Musical in March! We will have two school shows: Wednesday, March 13th and Thursday, March 14th, at 2:00. Our evening show for families and friends will be on Thursday, March 14th, at 5:30. I hope to see you there!



BAND/ORCHESTRA

MR. READING & MS. BRELLS



Band:

Middle School: We welcomed back our students and have hit the ground running! We are working on preparing 3 different songs for our next concert. This concert will be on **February 29th at 5:30pm at Arvada High School**. Students should arrive by **5:00pm** in the auditorium and the concert will be in the gymnasium. This is our area festival where the students will be combined with other elementary students, middle school students, and high school students from across the Arvada Articulation Area.

Be on the lookout for practice logs! Practice logs should be completed weekly where students should practice for one hour a week. Practice logs do not count unless they are signed.

5th Grade: We are doing fantastic in the 5th grade band! Students are passing belts, learning new notes/rhythms, and are becoming more advanced musicians by the day! We have our next concert coming up on **February 29th at 5:30pm at Arvada High School**. Students should arrive by **5:00pm** in the auditorium and the concert will be in the gymnasium. This is our area festival where the students will be combined with other elementary students, middle school students, and high school students from across the Arvada Articulation Area.

We are currently working on a full length band piece that will be quite a challenge. This is the earliest we have ever done a piece like this and it's because of the great work that your students are doing. If your student is looking to take a more advanced step, private lessons will be the greatest next step for your student. Working with a private teacher will help them get one on one help, advance with more rigorous material, and allow them to be challenged even further. If you are interested in private lessons, please contact Mr. Reading to receive a referral to a local instructor who is trusted.

Orchestra:

Middle School: We have been working diligently on learning the music for our next concert on **February 29th at 6:30pm at Arvada High School**. This will be an orchestra only concert for the Arvada area. We will be combining Elementary, Middle, and High schools together for a concert! This is a very exciting concert that the students look forward to. The advanced orchestra has one extra song that includes learning a new time signature of 6/8. It is tricky because it is a different way to count than how they are used to. They are doing a great job with it and are starting to get used to the new time signature. The intermediate orchestra is working hard on their music for the concert. We have also been working a lot on learning note names and finger numbers. This is very important especially as they improve their playing skills. Knowing their note names and finger numbers helps everyone learn songs faster and the ability to work on more advanced techniques.

Be on the lookout for practice logs coming home! Practicing is a key part of getting better at our instruments and the short amount of time we have in class just isn't enough time to get where we need to be! Students should be practicing at least 60 minutes a week at home with any more time becoming extra credit. Practice logs need to be signed by family members to be counted as properly turned in! They will be due every week on Mondays.

5th grade: Our next concert is coming up quickly on **February 29th at 6:30pm at Arvada High School**. This will be an orchestra only concert for the Arvada area. We will be combining Elementary, Middle, and High schools together for a concert!

The students have been practicing with their bow for about a month now and are starting to get the hang of it. The bow hold itself if the trickiest part to master. Every time you grab your bow you have to check it, as well as checking it during and after you play. It takes a lot of muscle memory to master and without practicing it a lot and checking that they are doing it correctly then they will not learn it with proper technique. We have started learning about eighth notes and how to play them. Eighth notes are faster notes than the quarter notes that we have been playing. When learning a new rhythm we have to figure out how the way we use our bow changes with it. With faster notes you need a faster bow speed and to use less bow. It takes a bit of time to get used to but the students are doing well with it!



INSTRUCTIONAL COACHES

MS. VANESSA • MS. VALENTINA

Greetings Foster Community,

I hope this newsletter finds you all warm and healthy. In this update, I wanted to elevate a few things. First, Parent Teacher conferences. They will take place in the evening of 2/8 and during the day on 2/9. Keep an eye out for digital sign ups.

Secondly, our Grade Level Showcases for learning are coming up. Intermediate (grades 3,4 and 5) Showcase Night will be on 2/22/24 and Primary (Kinder, 1st and 2nd) Showcase Night will be on 4/4/24. Please keep an eye on Class Dojo for specific information. This year, we will have rotations for performances and each classroom will showcase the learning in the classrooms.

Next, if your K-3 grader is beginning to receive High Dosage Tutoring, you will receive an introduction letter. If your student is continuing you will see a continuing letter. Data will be shared at Parent Teacher conferences.

Finally, please remind students to practice on MAP accelerator and Lexia/Amira if they are looking for things they could do at home for practice. IXL also offers 10 free question problems each day.



HIGH DOSAGE TUTORS

MR. SETH MR. OCTAVIO



Kindergarten

We are continuing to isolate the sounds that we hear in spoken words while transitioning to spelling words. We are working with small, 3-4 letter words currently. The students have all been improving a great deal and are showing more confidence in their phonics knowledge.

1st Grade

We have been working with and identifying digraphs in words. The digraphs that we have learned are sh, ch, ck, th, ph, and wh. Next we will be transitioning to the trigraphs dge and tch.

2nd Grade

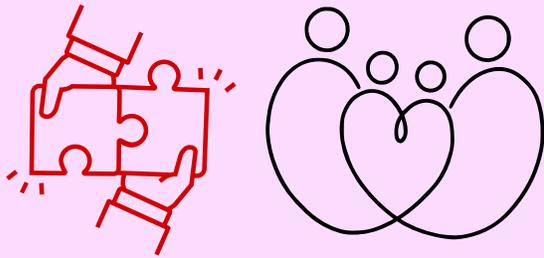
We are currently working on vowel teams that spell long vowel sounds. We previously learned about the Long O spellings; oa, and ow. We are currently working on the Long I spelling; igh. Next we will be transitioning to the Long E; ie and ey.

3rd Grade

We are currently working on the various spellings of R-controlled phonemes. Some examples of R-controlled phonemes are; ar, or, er, our, ore, oor, and oar. Students are using the skills that they are learning and applying those to oral reading.



Teach
Love
Inspire



FAMILY LIAISON

MS. KENIA

Hello wonderful Foster families!
February is upon us! Let's work together to help our students succeed!

IMPORTANT DATES

- 2/1 ... PTA Meeting 6-7pm
- 2/5-2/9 ... Book Fair
- 2/8 & 2/9 ... Parent/Teacher Conferences
- 2/9 ... NO SCHOOL (Modified Contact day)
- 2/15 ... Family Dance Night
- 2/16 ... NO SCHOOL (Teacher Work day)
- 2/19 ... NO SCHOOL (President's Day)
- 2/23 ... Class Picture Day
- 2/28 - 3/1 ... Read Across America Week
- 2/28 ... Pink Shirt Day (No bullying day)

IDEAS TO HELP YOUR STUDENT'S HOME-LEARNING PROVIDED BY THE [PARENT INSTITUTE NEWSLETTER](#)

K-2

1. . Start a chain of hearts. Cut out small hearts. Each day, write a reason you love your child on one and attach it to the chain.
2. Make an I'm Bored Box. Fill it with craft activities and things to read.
3. . As you do errands together, talk to your child about the different jobs people do.
4. Take a short walk with your child before bedtime. Take turns describing what it feels like outside

3-5

- Review [FOSTER SCHOOL RULES](#) with your child. Say that you expect your child to follow them.
- Call your local fire station and ask if you can schedule a visit with your child.
- Read a story. Ask your child to tell you one thing about the beginning, one thing about the middle and one thing about the ending.

6-8

- Have a Device-Free Day. Read, play games or listen to music instead.
- A planning calendar can help your child stay organized this school year. Get or make one together.
- Visit a local historical site with your student.

Did you enjoy these ideas? [HERE ARE MORE!](#)

REMINDERS

- SCHOOL STARTS AT 8:40AM & ENDS AT 3:40PM. THERE IS NO ADULT SUPERVISION BEFORE OR AFTER THESE TIMES!
- It is now time to complete your [PANORAMA FAMILY SURVEY](#) Please do so BEFORE 2/23!
- If your student is absent [LEAVE A MESSAGE ON THE ATTENDANCE LINE](#) to excuse his/her absence at (303)-982-1672

CONTACT INFORMATION

EMAIL

Kenia.QuezadaLeanos@Jeffco.K12.CO.US

VOICEMAIL

303.982.1680

WHATSAPP



USEFUL LINKS

[schoolcafe](#) [Infinite Campus](#)



RESOURCES

COMMUNITY Table | Gather around [Arvada Food Bank](#)
 Jefferson County **PUBLIC LIBRARY** [Jeffco Public Library Events](#)
the ACTIONCENTER [Clothing, food assistance](#)
 COMMUNITY • COMPASSION • CONNECTION
hazel [Mental Health Assistance](#)



PROJECT PREPARE *in February*

Come out to cheer on your **Champion Robotics Team**. The Robotics team is more than halfway through their season, and you don't want to miss all the excitement!

Advanced Competitive Robotics Tournament Schedule

- 2/2/24 MS Jeffco Tourney, Friday, approx 4:30pm-8 @Manning Middle School, 13200 W 32nd Ave, Golden, CO 80401,
- 2/3/24 Elementary Jeffco Tourney, Saturday 8:30am-12:45 @Manning Middle School 13200 W 32nd Ave, Golden, CO 80401
- 2/24/24, Blended State Tourney, Saturday, 8am-2:30 Moffat County Tournament @Sandrock Elementary School, 201 East 9th Street Craig, Colorado 81625
- 3/7/24 Foster Event, Thursday 5:30pm-7:30 @Foster- STEM night to talk about our bots
- 3/9/24 Blended Jeffco Finals, Saturday, 8:00am-3:30 TBD
- 3/9/24 MS & Elementary VEX IQ Full Volume State Championship Tournament, Saturday, 8:00am-3:30 @Silver Creek High School, 4901 Nelson Road, Longmont, Colorado, 80503

Support the Foster Robotics Team! (And brighten someone's day!)



What: Give a carnation flower as a gift to show how much you care.

When: February 14 & 15

Where: Flowers will be delivered to classrooms at Foster on February 14 or available for purchase at the Family Dance on February 15.

Cost: \$1.00 per flower



Order now: (send cash or check payment to the school; checks should be made out to Project Prepare with Robotics Club in the memo line)

TO: _____ 1 flower

FROM: _____ bouquet

RECIPIENT GRADE & CLASS: _____

Join Arvada Basketball for

FUTURE BULLDOG NIGHT



Admission is free with a food donation to benefit Arvada's resource room and Arvada Community Table

Feb. 6th
Boys 5:30 pm
Girls 7:00 pm



AHS VS ENGLEWOOD HS