



# MUSTANG NEWS

Volume 1, Issue 4

December 2011

Happy Holidays!

It is hard to believe, but the holiday season is here!

Winter is definitely here, so please remember to send your child to school in clothes appropriate to the weather. We will only bring students in before school or during recess if it is raining or snowing hard, or if the temperature/wind chill is below 15 degrees. If you need assistance with finding or providing winter clothing, please give us a call and we will be happy to help you!

A special thank you to everyone that attended the Parent Information/Student Celebration night on November 10<sup>th</sup>. It was a great evening, and we had a huge turnout. I hope everyone that attended now has a better understanding of how wonderful the Integrated Arts Focus is.

This is an important reminder that the 2012-2013 school year registration for kindergarten is currently going on at Mountain View. It is important that you come in and register your child if they are attending kindergarten next year. The child needs to be 5 years old on or before October 1<sup>st</sup>. Please help us spread the word throughout the community—the more early registration we receive, the more likely we can accommodate family needs and if necessary plan for extra classes.

This is a reminder that dogs are not allowed on the school campus during school hours. I understand that people enjoy walking their dogs to school, but this is a safety concern for our students. This is a board policy and one that is strictly enforced through the district safety department. Thank you for respecting this policy.

We have had an over abundance of calls from parents wanting to get messages to their students regarding after school. I realize that things can come up during the day and you need to let your child know. With that being said, please help us out by making plans in the morning. It is distracting to a class when we have to continually give messages to students. Thanks for your help with this.

Just a reminder that winter break is December 19<sup>th</sup> through January 3<sup>rd</sup>. School reopens on Wednesday, January 4<sup>th</sup>

Above all, enjoy the magic of the season and enjoy spending time with family and friends.

My best to you and yours during this holiday season!

Sincerely,

Nancy Pitz  
Principal



## Preschool News

My how time flies! It's already December and the holidays are around the corner. This month we will be having fun with the Gingerbread Man. We will act out the classic story and work on our numbers, letters and story sequencing. We also will be making gingerbread cookies and houses. If you happen to see the Gingerbread Man catch him if you can! For a holiday theme, and to tie into our Preschool Standards, we will be talking about how different people around the world celebrate Christmas or not celebrate Christmas. Kids will gain a greater understanding of cultures and will get to share how they celebrate Christmas.



Ms. Gabrielle and Ms. Robin

## Kindergarten News

The Kindergarten students had a great time in November with many new experiences. We learned a lot at Miller Farms where we harvested vegetables. We loved standing on the risers and showing off our Standout Math to our parents at Family night. Learning about traditions and comparing how kids lived long ago to how they live today was really interesting and fun. We are glad to have electricity and bathrooms! We can hardly wait for the holidays in December to learn more about traditions, learn new vocabulary, and read, read, read! Many of us can already read many sight words and sound out the rest. In Math we are counting and doing number stories which will be fun at holiday time, too! All of our days are packed with learning but we sure have fun along the way!



## First Grade News

December is a very busy month, at home and at school. It's important that over the winter break you continue to read and work on snap words with your child. Here are some websites your child can go to over the winter break to have fun and keep reading. Below are websites we visit at school during computer lab. They should be able to type the website in, though they may need you to write it down so they can spell it correctly. We hope you have a wonderful holiday with your friends and family.



[www.Starfall.com](http://www.Starfall.com)

[www.coolmath-games.com](http://www.coolmath-games.com)

[www.wacona.com\(click on the turtle\)](http://www.wacona.com(click on the turtle))

[www.pbs.org](http://www.pbs.org)

## Introducing Elizabeth Strain-Student Teacher for Ms. Stubblefield

Hello, my name is Elizabeth (Betsy) Strain and I will be student teaching in Ms. Stubblefield's class this spring. I hold a bachelor's degree in English literature from the University of Colorado and am currently studying elementary education at Regis University. I have been completing my coursework this fall and visiting the classroom every week. It has been my pleasure getting to know all of your little learners the past few months and becoming a part of the wonderful Mountain View community. I am excited for the opportunity to become part of your child's learning experience and know we will have so much fun exploring, creating, and learning about our world, together.



## Mrs. Maher's Class News



We had a great November learning about our community, jobs, states and money. We started a small business selling crafts and earned money for the USO. Thanks to everyone who shopped at our store. Our store has earned over \$40.00 for the USO. Great Job Kids!

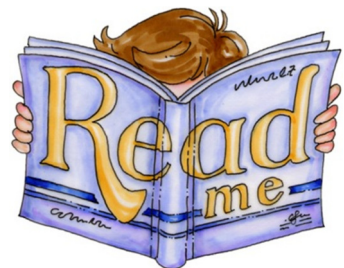
Please practice addition and subtraction facts to 12 with your child everyday. The students need to know their facts quickly in order to add and subtract big numbers (52 + 69). As of right now most of the students are struggling with their basic math facts. Thanks so much for all of your help.

In reading we are working very hard to read with more speed and fluency (smoothly). You can help at home by reading with your child every night. Please remember to return the book that I send home everyday. This is the best practice for your child.

Your child has homework to do everyday. Please help them to complete the homework and return it to school. Your child can always practice FRY words, practice spelling words, practice math facts, read the BOOK in the BAG, finish math papers, write a short story, write their spelling words in sentences or finish work I send home. The students listed below have returned the most homework for the month. Keep up the great work!

### Homework All Stars

Adrian	Isaac	Leo	Mercedes
Analily	Jacob	Mariah	Tyler
Angel	Jaya	Matthew	



## Second Grade News

2<sup>nd</sup> grade parents we really need your help in math. There is a memorization piece in math that requires repetition. By the end of December we would like all 2<sup>nd</sup>



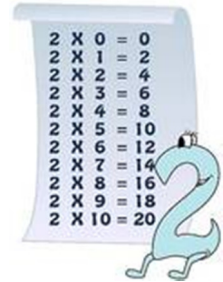
grade students to have addition and subtraction facts to 10 memorized. (Examples,  $2+6=8$ ,  $4+5=9$ ,  $7+3=10$ ,  $6-4=2$ ,  $8-3=5$ , you get the idea.) Your child needs to be able to give you the answer without counting on fingers. The 2<sup>nd</sup> grade teachers realize memorizing facts is time consuming, that's where your help comes in. Review facts while cleaning up the kitchen, making dinner, driving in the car, waiting in lines, put the T.V.

on mute during commercial and do math fact, make it a game and see how many your child can do in a minute, and buying or making a set of flash cards is helpful. Before the end of the year students will need to have fact to 20 memorized. We are also working on doubles to 20. Examples of doubles are  $4+4=8$ ,  $5+5=10$ ,  $9+9=18$ . Most students know doubles 1 to 5. Try to concentrate on doubles 6 to 10. Thanks for all your support.

The 2<sup>nd</sup> grade team.

## Third Grade News

Third graders have just started their study of multiplication. We are studying the 0, 1, 2, 3 facts this week. They have a baggie of flashcards here in the room plus a skip counting book to help complete activities. We will be drawing arrays to help us understand the concepts better. Multiplication flashcards are available at Dollar Tree or Wal-Mart. Please consider buying a set so you can drill them at home.



Every other week we study five new VOCABULARY words that match our literacy units. It is amazing how many words they have already learned. Our next unit is called *Roads to Travels On*. It shows changes in transportation and technology from the frontier times to what might be encountered in the future.

Questions to ask your student about STATES:

What state is shaped like a big, fat boot?

What state grows sunflowers as a main product?

What state has the Iditarod Race?

What state produces most of our citrus fruits?



## Fourth Grade Happenings

Happy Holidays to you from 4<sup>th</sup> grade!



Our 4<sup>th</sup> grade snowshoe trip will be at the beginning of February. Mr. J's class will be going Feb. 13<sup>th</sup> and Mrs. Brush's class will be going Feb. 17<sup>th</sup>. Although the snowshoes will be provided free of charge, and the entrance fee to the Rocky Mountain National Park will be waived, the cost of the bus is quite expensive. The charge per student will be \$15 (Again that is just for the bus. The bus to the museum was over \$400). Please start putting aside money for this enriching experience. The rangers will be addressing our Science and Social Studies standards.



Our December Math unit brings us, Angles and Polygons. Students will be using a protractor for the first time and delving into geometric shapes and their attributes. The vocabulary is challenging, so we will be sending home a list. Please take the time to go over a word or two when you get the chance; in the car, at dinner, while on a walk, etc.

In writing we are currently working on Essays. The students know what a Thesis statement is and are working hard to find supporting details. Their essays will include at least 5 paragraphs, with each supporting detail making up a complete paragraph. Please ask them about it. The more they can talk about and describe their ideas, the better their essays will be.

Reading is all about Thinking Like a Scientist. The themes are "Why Does Water Move?" and "What Makes Soil Different?" Our reading strategies are monitoring understanding and asking questions. We are also studying verbs- action words along with helping and linking verbs.

Enjoy the time with family and friends and please keep on reading!!!! Remember, 21.7 minutes a day of reading can increase your vocabulary by 1 million words in 1 year!

Mrs. Brush and Mr. Jiron



## Mrs. Saunders 4/5 Class Happenings



November and December are two of my favorite months as a teacher. Not only do we work very hard on our academics, but we also think and write about the season of the holidays. We have great discussions about being thankful and why Thanksgiving and Christmas are so important to each of us.

We also keep ourselves busy with many new concepts in math, reading, science, and literacy. This month, in math, we are following our new Math Expressions program and learning about place value, decimal addition and subtraction, rounding of numbers, and the metric system. One great piece of the program is the continued review and practice of previously-learned lessons. The consistent repetition is proving to be very beneficial for the kids.

In science, we have focused on the scientific method and the steps to the process of conducting an experiment. The students are learning that an experiment can only allow for one variable to change. Also, we have talked a great deal about displaying data in order to analyze it. We have worked with bar graphs, line graphs, and pictographs. The Stand-Out Math program chants have helped us to remember the order of interpreting graphs and drawing conclusions from them.

For reading, we are enjoying our Fantasy Unit Novels. The kids are in a Literature Circle group of 5 kids and are reading one of these books: *The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe*, *Ella Enchanted*, *Holes*, *Coraline*, or *The Indian in the Cupboard*. They all seem to be enjoying the stories and are working very hard at being good team members in the groups. Each night, the students are assigned a chapter to read and then are required to do a job as a follow-up. The jobs that rotate are Discussion Director, Super Summarizer, Literary Luminary, Artful Artist, and Word Wizard. Ask your kids to explain the roles of each job to you. They are doing an impressive job.



## Have you returned your Library Book November Winners!

Mrs. Bart	Nevaeh Suppes and Anthony Sanchez III
Mrs. Knaus	Tamia Foy- Townsend and Dylan Luther
Mrs. Thomas	Kiara Lynch and Colton Provost-Jacobs
Mrs. Maher	Sedona Clifford and Israel Jacobs
Ms. Stubblefield	Madison Martinez and Efrain Hernandez
Mrs. Tafel	Naylie Gonzales and Gael Garcia
Mrs. Horowitz	Judianna Mercado Ortiz and Christopher Hull
Mrs. Mearing	Jailene Gauna and Christopher Moran
Mrs. Cook	Callie Davis and Orion Loyd
Mrs. Humble	Victoria Davis and Jacob Butler
Mrs. Pewthers	Rosario Gomez Acvcedo and Glenn Dallas
Mrs. Brush	Ashley Casey and Gavin Haggerty
Mr. Jiron	Rochelle Paredes Ordaz and Evan Rivera
Mrs. Saunders	Savannah Davis and Marek Starling
Mrs. Huber	Kaitlyn Moran and Chepe Lara Alday
Mrs. LaFaye	Jennifer Beltan Camarena and Garrett McGuire



## P.E. News for the Month of December



What an amazing month of P.E. it has been here at Mountain View! We spent the last few weeks working on and through the obstacle course called "HEART CITY!" This course is shaped like a human heart and allows the kids to both get an enormous amount of exercise while learning about how the heart works. The kids learned about healthy habits that promote heart health. We learned about the dangers of smoking, the importance of daily exercise, and the importance of eating healthy foods and how all of the factors affect the health of you and your body!! As December rolls around we will begin to work on the climbing wall and finish up the month with some exciting cooperative games! As always I look forward to working with your kids and just a gently reminder to send your kids to school with the proper P.E. footwear. As the snow begins to fall just remember to tuck those athletic shoes in their backpacks so they can change into them when they come to P.E.

Thanks Again,  
Mr. Law



## A Sombrero for Santa

Our holiday musical, "A Sombrero for Santa," will be presented on Wednesday, December 7<sup>th</sup>, at Longs Peak Middle School. All students in first, first-second combo, third, and fifth grade will be performing in the program which will begin at 7:00pm.

## Lost And Found

Parents please check the lost and found brown box in the cafeteria before the winter break. There are many coats, hats, mittens and lunch boxes in the box. All items not claimed will be donated to the Our Center on the 18<sup>th</sup> of December.

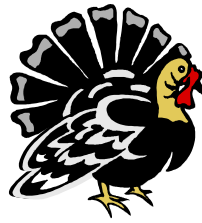


## Canned Food Drive

Mountain View students and Staff are collecting food for the Community Food bank. Please send in your donations between December 1<sup>st</sup> and December 13<sup>th</sup>. Together we can help make a difference in the lives of many community families.



December 1 <sup>st</sup> -13 <sup>th</sup>	Canned Food Drive
December 5 <sup>th</sup>	Report Cards Go Home
December 7 <sup>th</sup>	Late Start Day School Starts at 10:50am
December 7 <sup>th</sup>	Late Start Movie-Cars II at 8:20am
December 7 <sup>th</sup>	Holiday Program for 1st, 1-2 <sup>nd</sup> combo, 3 <sup>rd</sup> , and 5 <sup>th</sup> grades @Longs Peak Middle at 7:00pm
December 8 <sup>th</sup>	Pizza with Pitz at 11:00am
December 12 <sup>th</sup>	PTO Meeting in the Library at 6:00pm
December 19 <sup>th</sup> - January 3 <sup>rd</sup>	Winter Break
January 4 <sup>th</sup>	School Resumes at 8:20 am



## PTO NEWS

Thank you everyone for coming to the Fall Festival and donating all those great baked items! We had a good turn out and we hope everyone had a great time.

December's meeting will be on the 12<sup>th</sup>. We will address the parent feedback/survey's that have been turned in. Thank you parents for filling out the surveys. We truly want to make this PTO great and have parents involved.

Kale Charles, Director of Curriculum will also be attending this meeting to discuss the new report cards and to answer any questions.

With all the breaks that are coming and going we wanted to wish everyone a safe and fun holiday season!

### Agenda for December's Meeting

- Welcome and Introductions
- Mr. Charles-report card update
- Approval of November minutes
- Treasurer Report
- Principal Report
- Teacher Requests
- Parent Survey's
- Open Floor

As always, if there are any suggestions or questions please let me know!

Ivory Jones

PTO President

303-834-5731

Happy  
Holidays!

