

LITTLETON LEDGER

"Developing Creative and Collaborative Problem Solvers Who Persevere with Respect and Hope"

Jim Verrill, Principal

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February 2020

Home of the Firebirds

Important Dates

3rd-28th: K-8th AZELLA Testing
3rd: PAC Meeting at District Office 5:30-6:45PM
5th: Hobbies and Recreation day of play School Wide
6^h: District Science Fair 4:30-6:30PM at District Office
6^h: K-1 Awards in Cafeteria 8:00-8:40 AM, 2-3 Awards in cafeteria 8:45-9:20 AM
7th: 4-5 Awards in Cafeteria 8:00-8:40 AM, 6-8 Awards in cafeteria 8:45-9:45 AM
10th: Kids at Hope Assembly 8:00 am Basketball Courts
11th: PTA Monthly Meeting 5-6PM Library
11th: Governing Board Meeting at District Office 6-8PM
13th: Family Dance in Cafeteria 5:30Pm -7:30Pm
17th: NO SCHOOL/Holiday Recess
19th: Teacher Job Fair at District Office 4:00-6:30 PM
21st: PTA Movie Night in cafeteria 6:00-8:00PM
24th & 25th: Spring Pictures (Dress Down)
25th: Governing Board Meeting at District Office 6-8PM
26th: PTA \$1.00 Dress Down

Dear Littleton families,

It is that time of year! We want all families to take the opportunity to choose the right school for them. Blue School Choice forms were sent out of January 24th and we are still trying to get every student's form in. Our school will continue our focus on science, technology, engineering and math through the study of computer science. Our students have had some mazing experiences this year learning to code, building robots and using some of our powerful computer science gadgets to solve problems. Please make sure you turn the blue forms in and reserve your spot at Littleton Elementary STEM: Computer Science Academy!

Respectfully,

Jim Verrill
Principal

Kids at Hope

We will be celebrating Hobbies and recreation with a day of play on Wednesday, February 5, 2020. We want to encourage our students to have positive outlets to enjoy their time at school and at home!



Safety

The safety and well-being of our Firebirds is a top priority. Parents, please be sure to call in and let us know if your child is going to be absent from school. We look forward to your students being here every day, but if they have to miss, we want to be sure they are accounted for and safe. Thank you for your continued support!

Health and Wellness

FROM THE NURSE'S OFFICE

IMPORTANT NOTICE! Mycoplasma Pneumonia

Mycoplasma pneumonia (MP) is a contagious respiratory infection that spreads easily through contact with respiratory fluids. It is sometimes called "walking pneumonia". Symptoms: dry cough, low-grade fever, mild shortness of breath especially with exertion, and fatigue. The West Valley has seen an increase in cases. At times, this illness can be serious. If your child has had a cough for more than four days, please see your doctor immediately.



Dental Sealant Program

Some of the "Dental Sealant" staff were on site January 23, 2020. Please be thinking about whether you want your student to receive sealants.

Vision & Hearing Screenings

By now, many parents/guardians have received referral notices for either hearing or vision. Please do not forget to have your student(s) seen by a professional. Notices are going home because your student(s) are having difficulty hearing or seeing. Please send us information from the doctor showing how the issue is being resolved. Please be sure to send all documentation directly to the Nurse's Office.

Immunizations

The Nurse's Office would like to thank **ALL** parents on their extraordinary efforts regarding immunizations. Littleton Elementary School is doing very well with keeping up with immunizations largely due to our great parents.

Clothing

We would like **ALL STUDENTS** to have an extra change of clothing (including underwear and socks). We can avoid calling parents, if the student packs extra clothing.

TECH TIP

What are the five most important things parts should make sure their kids know before sending them off to surf the web?

1. Then Internet remembers everything we post on it, forever.
2. The internet will share everything we tell it with anyone who asks, even if they are not our friends
3. Once we post something online, we can never take it back
4. Not everyone online is a friend, or who they say they are.
5. It's always okay to talk to an adult about something bad on the internet

Expert tips provided by Ryan Moreau to the CoolMomTech.com

Make Your Day

"No one has the right to interfere with the learning, safety or welfare of others."

"Do what you expect and do your best." At the beginning of the school year, the teacher and students jointly agree on the rules of the entire school, which are also the classroom rules. The result of this process is that students have discussed the need for rules in general, the benefit of school-wide rules and have individually agreed that school-wide rules will provide a learning environment that will keep everyone safe with a focus on learning. This process results in students taking ownership of school rules. Make Your Day is a collaborative program between students, teachers and parents, not a program imposed by an adult.

Grade Level Happenings

PRESCHOOL

We had a successful Kindergarten Showcase in January! Thank you to all of the families who participated. The Kindergarten transition process has officially started. Please continue to be on the lookout for more information!

KINDERGARTEN

Kindergarten is excited to begin counting down to first grade by working on our "teen" numbers in math. In reading, we will take our letter sounds and blend them to begin reading words. In science we will get a little "Spacey" and in social studies we will continue learning more about our American symbols.

1ST GRADE

ELA: First grade will finish Wonders Unit 4 and start Unit 5. The story topics for Unit 5 are: inventions and sounds all around! For phonics we will focus on pulling our small groups every day to ensure all students are receiving the skill help they need based on the phonics screener.

Math: We will be finishing Go Math chapter 6 and starting chapter 7: comparing numbers- greater than, less than, equal to.

2ND GRADE

Soc. St. Students will be able to think like global citizens to earn spend and save money for important items they may want.

Science: Students will be identifying living and nonliving things. They will be learning about the different animal and plant life cycles.

Reading: Students will be reading about nature. Students will be identifying syllables. We will be learning about the controlled "r" sounds for phonics. Students will be reading folktales and poetry this month.

Math: We will be working on three-digit subtraction with and without regrouping.

Please continue to and with read nightly to your student.

3RD GRADE

ELA: In third grade, we are working on refining some of our reading skills! We have been learning how point of view is "who tells the story" but also the way a character or narrator thinks and feels in the

story. Additionally, we are working sequence, which lets us understand how a story progresses over time. In writing, we have been working on personal narratives. This helps understand how to tell and share our own stories, with our unique voices in a thoughtful way. Next, we will be tackling “pour-quoi” tales and building our myths!

Math: We are currently conquering division and we are doing a great job at it! Next, we will be moving on to fractions. We will learn how to partition them, make halves, fourths, sixths, and eighths! It’s a lot of fun to be adding to our math skills in third grade.

Social Studies: We are learning about the impact of Spanish explorers on ancient Native Arizonan populations. This helps understand our state’s history but also how Arizona’s people adapted and changed with new arrivals.

Science: We are exploring the science of life with plants! We are learning all about how plants germinate, sprout, grow, change, and bloom. We may also be getting some...HISSING COCKROACHES to explore the science of life and animal behavior. We are not sure how our teachers feel about this...

4TH GRADE

Math: We will continue our work with fractions. Students will learn how to multiply fractions by whole numbers.

ELA: Students are going to take a look at three different text structures: Cause and Effect, Problem and Solution, and Theme.

Science: Fourth grade will learn about Energy, and the Inquiry process.

Social Studies: Students will use newspapers from Studies Weekly to learn more ancient societies.

5TH GRADE

ELA: In language Arts we are studying about Author’s Viewpoint.

Math: In Mathematics, we are working with all kinds of fractions and mixed numbers.

6TH GRADE

ELA: We will be studying central/main idea, point of view, and story structure by reading informational texts about the Japanese Internment camps and the Great Depression.

Social studies: We will continue to study Medieval Europe through the Renaissance.

Math: We will continue to work on and explore rational number and how to plot ordered pairs on a coordinate plane.

Science: We will be learning about gravity and how gravity affects tides.

7TH GRADE

Math: In the month of February we will continue to practice two step equations with and without inequalities which is in Chapter 3 and 4 in order to review for the AZMerit State Test. We will be starting Chapter 5 which includes ratios, rates, proportions, and slope. We will also learn probability.

ELA: In preparation for quarter Interims and AZ Merit Writing Assessments, 7th Grade ELA classes will be writing Argumentative Essays, working specifically on strategy (C.E.R.C.A.) and structure (5-paragraphs), during the month of February.

Science: In the month of February we will be continuing our third unit in science. The focus of this unit is on Physics and begins with the study of the laws surrounding force and motion. Students will be introduced to the person and findings of Sir Isaac Newton as well as other famous scientists that have all contributed to humanity's understanding of the universe and how it works. In February, we will be both studying and experiencing Newton's three laws of motion. I look forward to exploring these concepts with each of my seventh grade students!

Social Studies: In 7th Grade we will be learning about WWII.

8TH GRADE

Math: 8th grade math will be working on solving systems of linear equations using graphs and our mathematical skills!

ELA: In the month of February, 8th grade will continue working on mastering the art of determining a text's main or central idea, with the use of objective summaries, while reading texts such as: Little Women, Born Worker, and The Adventures of Tom Sawyer. A review of essay organization and structure will also occur early in the month to prepare students for their post-writing test that will be taken on February 10th.

Science: During the month of February we will be continuing our unit on physics by further studying the transfer of energy through matter. We will be studying in great detail the patterns through which energy travels through matter in the solid, liquid, and gaseous states. We will also be studying the size-tiers of matter beginning with atoms, then elements, and then molecules. The month of February will serve as a preliminary introduction to the next set of standards: Energy Transfer Through Waves.

Social Studies: In Social studies, we will be covering Political Change (political parties, interest groups, and elections).

CASA Team

For the month of February, the CASA classrooms will be learning about President's Day and the importance of the holiday. The students will be picking a president to read about and make a "Did you Know" poster. The students will also be engaging in STEM activities as a whole group and as individual classrooms. Students will be engaging in building rafts, discovering what sinks and floats and color changing flowers for Valentine's Day.

For hygiene, the CASA students will continue to practice brushing teeth, applying deodorant, and brushing hair.

As for Life Skills, the CASA students will be continuing practicing washing dishes, folding clothes, vacuuming, and cleaning tables.