



Colt News



Continental Elementary School Newsletter

November 2019

Hello Colt Families & Happy November,

As the holidays approach, please remember the importance of sticking to routines and remaining consistent with school and home expectations. Students notice the "adult holiday stress" that may be exhibited and sometimes affects the thoughts and behaviors of students. We would like to continue to optimize the teaching and learning that occurs daily.

The Love and Logic website is a great resource for Parenting Tips for students of all ages. There are also articles in Spanish. They are free and offer great tips to many types of misbehaviors- www.loveandlogic.com. If you would like to discuss Love and Logic techniques that you are trying to implement, I would love to hear from you. I always enjoy hearing parenting success stories! Keep up the GREAT work parents!

Another reminder to keep the IXL work up! Here are some research based facts from the IXL website:
Answering at least 15 questions per week has a measurable impact on student outcomes. Already meeting that

goal? Aiming for 30 or 65 questions per week will have an even bigger impact.

- Striving toward mastery (a SmartScore of 100) is the most effective way to drive student growth on state assessments.. Proficiency (a SmartScore of 80+) is our main goal.

Please make sure that your children have taken the diagnostic. They have to manually select "Diagnostic" in order to determine appropriate level of instruction, remediation and/or acceleration.

Our 5-8th grade Student Advisory students have come up with some clever incentives to offer our students in order to increase and improve IXL usage! Stay tuned!

Again, we are grateful for our Freeport McMoran Grant that has allowed us to purchase this program and devices for our students to participate in IXL. Our community support is AMAZING!

Thank you all for all that you do for our students, staff and community! I am grateful for the opportunity to continue to serve as your proud Superintendent!

Ms. Roxana Rico

Principal's Message

Dear Continental Families,
As we enter into the month of November we have much to be thankful for. We are thankful for all of our hard-working and talented students, passionate teachers and staff, devoted parents, families, and community members of Continental. Thank you to all of you who attended the open house for elementary and middle school. It was nice seeing you all and having the chance to meet more of you. It is always a pleasure speaking with you and getting to know you.

To start the month of November our Civics Club will be hosting a Fall Dance for our 6th-8th graders on November 1st from 3:00-5:00pm in the gym. On Monday November 4th our Board Meeting will be taking place. I hope you all are able to attend as we will be honoring our Colt of the Month Students. We will also be discussing important school information. Monday November 11th there is no school in observance of Veteran's Day. Upon returning to school students will have ATI Benchmark Testing November 12th through the 15th.

On Thursday November 14th we will have the World's Largest Letter/ Envelope Assembly coordinated by one of our dedicated parents, Mr. Carew Papritz. Many of you may be aware

of last year's attempt made by Continental students to make it into the Guinness Book of World Records. We will make our 2nd attempt and are very excited! If you would like to join us for the school wide assembly it will be from 9:00-9:30am. I also hope that you are able to attend Donuts and Dialogue on November 15th from 7:45- 9:00am in the Community Room. This is a time to gather together with Superintendent Rico, Preschool Director Jenny Lichtsinn, Student Services Director Mr. Lathen, and myself. We can answer any questions you may have. We also look forward to getting to know you more. The week of November 25th-29th students will be on Thanksgiving Break.

I would also like to take this time to thank our PTC for the successful Walk-a-thon and Trunk-or-Treat. The events that PTC organizes- with the help of many of you our dedicated parent volunteers- helps to bring our school community closer together. Thank you PTC for all that you do! We are grateful for you!

As always, please remember that I am here for you if you have any questions, concerns, or would simply like to catch up. I wish all of you a happy November with your family and friends and want you to know how thankful I am to be your principal.

Respectfully,
Mrs. Cuevas



Nationwide, more than five million K-12 students don't have access to broadband Internet once they leave school. This lack of access puts them at a disadvantage from their more affluent, digitally connected peers. This disadvantage is called the Homework Gap.

According to the Consortium for School Networking (CoSN), the past twenty years have seen great progress in giving more in-need students access to the digital tools and programs they need to succeed in today's society

But CoSN also credits the "the increased use of technology in instruction" with widening the Homework Gap for those families who do not have reliable broadband internet access at home.

With this in mind, Continental Elementary School District has partnered with Kajeet to offer families who do not have reliable broadband internet access the opportunity to check out a Kajeet SmartSpot for use at home.

The Kajeet SmartSpot is a filtered mobile hotspot device, providing students with a safe, simple wireless connection to the Internet. Please contact your student's classroom teacher if you are interested in checking out a Kajeet SmartSpot.



Join us for Donuts & Dialogue on Friday, November 15th! Parents, Community Members and Staff are invited to dialogue with the Superintendent, Principal, Director of Student Services & Preschool Director. The gathering will be an opportunity for interactive conversation on a variety of school-related topics. We will gather in the Community Room from 7:45am-9am. Hope to see you there!



We would like to invite any veterans to attend. Builders Club will be sponsoring our annual Veteran's Day assembly on Friday, November 8th at 8:15am.



Dear Colt Families,

Our Red Ribbon Week was a success! I loved seeing so many students dressing up for the Spirit Week and signing their names on the Pledge Banner that was in the cafeteria. This year's 2019 theme was, "Send a Message. Stay Drug Free."

In the counseling classroom for the month of November, students are learning about Empathy: Putting yourself in other's shoes." Being a good listener is a great way we can show empathy each day. We will also explore what Bullying is and we define it by 4 things: 1. Mean on purpose 2. Excluding others 3. More than once 4. One-sided. Bullying can be things like repeated, on purpose, and one-sided: name calling, leaving others out on purpose, gossiping, or spreading rumors that aren't true. We will also incorporate how to use problem solving skills like using I-Messages, building student confidence, staying calm, giving space, and telling a trusted adult.

Finally, before winter break, students will discover the importance of Coping Skills when we are faced with stressful situations. There are many helpful coping skills I will be teaching students to help them deal with these moments and they will get a helpful handout to take home!

Small groups are going very well! We will be changing groups and adding a few different topics next semester. This year small groups were developed by teacher referrals, so please reach out to your classroom teacher to find out next Semester's themes.

Don't forget to check out Kelso's Choices at www.kelsoschoice.com to review all 9 ways students are learning about how to solve a small problem. Also, another great teacher and parent resource for students with socio-emotional learning is Newsela. You can search for these types of lessons at www.newsela.com.

I wish all Colt families a very relaxing, enjoyable, and FUN Thanksgiving Break!

Kris Godfryt, M.S.
School Counselor



Dates to remember

Robo Calls sent prior with more information

- Nov. 1 - Middle School Dance
- Nov. 4 - Governing Board Executive Session & Regular Meeting
- Nov. 6 - Early Release/Noon Dismissal
- Nov. 7 - PTC Committee Meeting
- Nov. 8 - Veteran's Day Celebration - Dress to represent Government Service
- Nov. 11 - Veteran's Day No School
- Nov. 14 - Largest Letter/Envelope Assembly at 9am - 9:30am
- Nov. 15 - Progress Reports Go Home
- Nov. 20 - Colt of the Month Assembly
- Nov. 22 - Stage Band at 1:45pm
- Nov. 22 - PTC Grandparent's Bingo
- Nov. 22 - Colt Buck Store
- Nov. 25-29 - Thanksgiving Break No School

