



Falcon Homeschool Program Newsletter

November 14, 15 and 16 2023

UPCOMING DATES:

November 20-24 Thanksgiving Break
November 28, 29, 30 Parent Partnerships Social

Front Desk Number: (719) 495-5373

Class Updates:

Arts and STEM Exploration

Ms. Jill

I am thankful for each and every one of our arts families and I wish you a blessed Thanksgiving week! During our rhythm studies, we will continue to perfect our bucket drumming piece, "Reed Pipes" and then begin looking at a new piece. We are also working on mastering half notes and rests. For our stem and art focus times, we are continuing to work hard on our "Creating a Creature" unit. This week students will begin writing a monologue for their creature that describes its adaptations. They will also work on making a clay 3D version of their creature. Please email me at jill.foster@d49.org with any questions that come to your mind!

Ms. Katrina

This week we will begin designing our adaptation animal puppets. We will be using the great work students are doing in Ms. Jill's class as a plan to base our puppets and performance on. We will start with creating shadow puppets for a light and shadow puppet show. Students will also be doing a "Thankful" reflection and a math puzzle. I am so thankful for all of my FHEP students and families! I hope you all have a great Thanksgiving break next week. Please do not hesitate to reach out with any questions. Email: katrina.trujillo@d49.org

Ms. Stacy's Class (K-1)

Wishing you all a Happy and enjoyable Thanksgiving. Every year I take the time to compose a list of things that I am thankful for and I can easily say I am Thankful for my amazing students and their wonderful families. I truly am the luckiest lady to get to spend my days with your amazing children. In Science, we will be learning what a landform is and examples of landforms. In Social Studies, we will be learning the history of Thanksgiving. I have an odd ask but I will be traveling over Thanksgiving and I am in need of a family to take our worm farm home to make sure worms have food. Not much responsibility other than checking that soil is not dry and worms have plenty of leaves. If you are interested please send me an email. Appreciate the consideration. Have a wonderful week and please don't hesitate to contact me with any questions or concerns. stacy.kley@d49.org

Ms. Kassi's 2/3 Class

Patriots, we are finishing up our America the Beautiful unit and will be beginning our end of the unit project. Students will be designing and creating their own American symbol based on what is important to them about our country. Students may design a painting, sculpture, model, sewing, drawing, flag, etc.... I would like to have many materials

available for students to create their symbol. ***Our class is in need of styrofoam pieces, shoe boxes, felt pieces, craft feathers, non-toxic metallic paint, and fun foam sheets.*** If your family can donate supplies, please send them to class with your student(s).

In science, our classes will be participating in a rock cycle activity with STARBURST candy. Students will not be allowed to eat their candies in class but we will be using them to show the rock cycle: sediments into sedimentary rock with pressure, which turns into metamorphic rock with heat and pressure, and finally into igneous rock with extra heat. The candy will remain in a baggie throughout the whole activity and will be brought home for families to decide if they can eat them.

Please do not hesitate to email me anytime with any questions or concerns at kassi.nemeth@d49.org.

Ms Leanne's Class (4-5)

Enjoy your Thanksgiving break. I'm so thankful to work for the Falcon Homeschool Program! For art, we'll be making an agamograph (say that three times fast). Last week students worked on building wind turbines. This week we will create anemometers and read the book, "The Boy Who Harnessed the Wind". We'll continue to learn about the Underground Railroad and try to write secret messages to our

classmates! Don't hesitate to contact me if you have any questions or concerns. Have a great Thanksgiving break. leanne.mckinney@d49.org

Ms Katrina's Class (6-7)

I am so proud of our students on how hard they have been working to prepare for our Greek mythology play. This week we will be finishing sets and props and will begin to rehearse. Students need to plan on wearing all black (or as close to it) for the day of the production. We are also asking each student to come up with a costume that best represents their character in the play and Ancient Greek culture. Our play will be performed at school during the day for the younger students in December. We will film the production so that parents can view it at the showcase night. This activity is a cross-curricular production with the Bridge and 6th/7th Enrichment students covering language arts and social studies standards. I am so thankful for all of my students and FHEP families! I am so blessed to be able to work with you each day! I hope you all have a great Thanksgiving break next week. Please do not hesitate to reach out with any questions.

Email: katrina.trujillo@d49.org

PROGRAM REMINDERS

Impact Aid Form 2023 - Please Return to School This Week

D49's Impact Aid Forms were sent home with your student(s) last week. If you did not receive yours, please follow up with your student's teacher. These yellow forms help us receive federal funding, and we need to get them back from all our FHP families. Even if all your answers are 'no' to the questions, please still sign it and hand it back in. Questions, please contact Nancy Carder at nancy.carder@d49.org

Homeschool Helps: Homeschooling Through the Holidays

It is that time of year again! We are entering into the craziness of the holiday season! Every homeschool family seems to be different during this time of year. Some families continue their homeschool routine through the holidays and others take the whole month of December off to focus on the season. Whether you are continuing homeschool through the holidays, taking a whole month off, or your family is somewhere in between, please always do what is best for your family to enjoy

the peace of this time of year! Below is a great article I found for some holiday homeschool tips, tricks, and activities! Enjoy!

<https://www.7sistershomeschool.com/homeschooling-through-the-holidays/>

Find Joy Everyday in the Journey
Ms. Kassi, FHP Home Based Education Specialist

Upcoming Parent Partnerships Meetings Changed to Parent Social November 28, 29, 30 8:30-9:30 AM

FHP Families, due to work-related scheduling conflicts, I need to change our upcoming Parent Partnerships Meetings from an event that I lead and attend to one that I do not. I apologize for the change, and I hope to resume attending and presenting in the future. The upcoming session was planned to focus on motivating reading practices for our readers. I see this as an opportunity for a sharing of common reasons why children can be reluctant to enjoy reading and what we can do to overcome the challenges. Start thinking about these questions:

***Does my child enjoy reading?**

***If your child is an emerging reader, what do you do throughout the day to foster their recognition of letters and sounds?** (letter and sound scavenger hunt, charting which letters and sounds your child knows, weekly letter or sound theme for play, etc)

***What kinds of literature does my child enjoy reading?** (articles, fiction stories, chapter books, comic books/graphic novels, etc.)

***What do we do to foster this enjoyment?** (weekly or monthly trips to the library, weekly or monthly trips to a bookstore we love, a reading group with friends, a family reading time with flashcards, books, etc)

***Does my child have any obstacles to overcome to enjoy reading?** (such as dyslexia, ADD/ADHD, ASD, etc)

***What do I do to help my child to still enjoy reading?** (audiobooks, pairing reading with an enjoyable activity such as watching the movie after we've read the book or cooking together from a cookbook, keeping reading times shorter such as the Five Minute stories from Disney, reading high-interest books to my child, pairing a nonfiction article with an activity my child loves, etc)

***What do I do to model strong reading habits?** (alternate reading of physical books and digital books and articles for myself, let my kids see me reading books, having a family reading time each day or night, etc)

***If we have fallen off-track in our home with the reading practices I would like for my family, what can I do to get back on track?**

Thanksgiving Break Next Week

D49 schools (including FHP) will be closed next week for the Thanksgiving holiday. We hope you enjoy a truly wonderful Thanksgiving. We are grateful for you!

Weather Alert Information–From D49’s Social Media

Winter is coming, D49!

We love the sun, and we certainly enjoy plenty of it, but we also know to expect a few changes as we settle in for winter, which can disrupt our calendar from time to time. We’ll let you know as early as we can when the weather will create an adjustment to our schedule. Now is a great time to check in with your school to make sure your contact information is up to date!

Watch for our alerts via email, text, online at [d49.org](https://www.d49.org) and on social media as well as from our media partners. Here are a few other items to keep in mind:

We Make Our Call Early

We know delays and closures are a change to the normal routine for everyone. We work hard to make timely and informed weather decisions (frequently as early as the night before) to give parents and guardians an opportunity to plan for the disruption to their calendar.

Two-Hour Delay

We cancel morning preschool on two-hour delay days. Everything else (including bus pickups, BASE49 and bell schedules) are pushed back by two hours. Check out your school’s Bell Schedule web page for additional information. FHP will still end at our regular time (3:15PM).

We Don’t Close by Zone

Because we can experience conditions with varying intensity districtwide during inclement weather, and because many of our students and stakeholders travel between zones daily for school and work, for the safety of all travelers, when we close, we fully close.

For more information check us out here: <https://www.d49.org/Page/441>

In a nutshell, you will not be getting text alerts as you may have in the past. FHP will try to send emails, but we can’t guarantee it. Please be sure to check the D49 website before you leave in the morning when there is questionable weather. If you ever arrive at school and see that no one else is here, please don’t ever leave your child unattended, and check the D49 website for the most up-to-date information.

Pictures From the Field Trip

If you have any photos you would like to share from the field trip, please send via email to Ms. Rachel at rachel.white@d49.org. Screen shots work as well! The photos would be used by teachers for them to add in to slideshows for student showcases.