



Falcon Homeschool Program Newsletter

February 27, 28 and 29 2024

UPCOMING DATES:

March 7th: Bridge Move up Day

March 13: Arts and Stem Field Trip to the Planetarium

March 18-29: D49 Spring Break, school closed

Front Desk Number: (719) 495-5373

Class Updates:

Arts and STEM Exploration

Ms. Jill

It is hard to believe our third quarter is starting to wrap up!! Last week, we finished listening to and analyzing all the sections of Holst's "The Planets!" This week we will begin a creative art project called "Me as A Planet." We will also continue to work on different ways to play the bucket drums and add musical elements like dynamics (volume) and tempo (speed) to our music.

Please make sure to complete the survey and get your permission slips turned in this week for our field trip to the Planetarium! Ms. Amber and I are so excited to join you on this trip in a couple weeks! Knowing your plans will help us set up parent drivers as needed!

Please email me at jill.foster@d49.org with any questions that come to your mind!

Ms. Amber

This week we will be taking advantage of the nice weather and testing Newton's laws with projectile rockets. We will also present our ISS invention to help astronauts live in space. Please do not hesitate to reach out with any questions.

Email: amber.albrecht@d49.org

Ms. Stacy's Class (K-1)

Hope you all have been enjoying the gorgeous weather we've been having. Looks like Wednesday will be a tad cooler so please send in those jackets so we can have an enjoyable recess.

This week in Social Studies, we will explore what school was like long ago. In Science, we will be learning about the amazing Jellyfish that live in the sunlight zone of the ocean.

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

Hello fellow Egyptologists! This week we will be completing our last lesson in our Ancient Egypt unit and we will study pyramids, tombs built for the Pharaohs. We will even be creating a pyramid for our apple mummy to have a final resting place. Hopefully robbers do not steal all the Pharaoh's belongings and treasure!

In science, we will continue working on our Elves and the Baker simple machine project! **For this project we are in need of empty thread spools, buttons, cardboard, and wooden skewers! If you can donate items to our class I would appreciate it!**

2/3rd Grade Families, please also mark your calendars for our spring field trip to Garden of the Gods on

Thursday, April 4th (the first Thursday after spring break). Please keep an eye out for the field trip survey Ms. Nancy will be sending you. We will need parent volunteers to drive and/or chaperone. Please do not hesitate to email me anytime with any questions or concerns at kassi.nemeth@d49.org.

Ms Leanne's Class (4-5)

I hope you had a chance to look at the board outside my room and admire your child's Cubist portraits! We sure had fun making them last week. This week, we will be mimicking George Braque's cubism collage style, using a variety of materials. I love seeing how creative the kids are. Last week, students built beam bridges and learned that by changing the shape of the material you could change its strength. Now we'll look at truss bridges and how this type of bridge made beam bridges stronger. In social studies, students saw first hand what a soldier's life was like during the Civil War. We'll pretend to be Civil War

soldiers this week and build our own pup tents. Then write a letter back home to loved ones.. Don't hesitate to contact me if you have any questions or concerns.

leanne.mckinney@d49.org

Ms Amber's Class (6-7)

In science this week we will be continuing our unit in rocks and minerals with a rock identification lab. We will be channeling our inner geologists and using the scientific method to properly identify rocks and minerals found on earth. In social studies this week we will be continuing our trek through the west to mine for gold. We will be continuing our pioneer challenges and tasks to prepare for our next claim jump round. Please do not hesitate to reach out with any questions. Email: amber.albrecht@d49.org

PROGRAM REMINDERS

Chaperone and Driver Info

Spring Classroom Field Trips are Quickly Approaching - Have you completed a background check yet?

Field trips for our program depend on parent drivers and chaperones. If you would like to help out our program and volunteer, you will need to have a background check completed by District 49.

- If a background check is completed between July 1 and Feb 28, the background check is valid through June 30.
- If a background check is completed between March 1 and June 30, the background check is valid until June 30 of the following year.

To complete a background check follow this link and complete the application linked at the bottom of the page. The cost of the background check is \$5.00. Thank you so much for your willingness to help our program with this need. [Volunteer applications](#)

****Please note that if you would like to go on the field trip with your student, but are NOT chaperoning or driving other students, you do NOT need to have a background check completed.**

If you have any questions regarding volunteering, please contact Ms. Nancy at nancy.carder@d49.org

Picking up students early

The end of the day is a very busy time for our teachers and front office staff. They are working on wrapping up their day with your children: finishing teaching lessons, putting students' things in their portfolio and proper places, and making final announcements. We understand the occasional appointment may arise, but we ask if you need to pick up your child early, please do it before 2:30. Remember, calling or emailing us before, will also help us get them ready for you too.

We require our parents to come into the building to pick up their students. This gives you a chance to have a short conversation with your student's teacher each day and this helps build positive relationships. Please be sure to park in a designated parking space. We will open our main door **at 3:10 pm** so that you may come into the building and head to your student's classroom. Teachers will begin dismissal, from their classrooms, **at 3:15 pm**.

Tentative 2024-2025 School Year Calendars

In the spirit of continued partnership with our families, we wanted to share next year's tentative calendars. Please click the links below.

[Enrichment](#)

[Bridge](#)

FHP T-Shirt and Hoodie Orders

If you missed out earlier in the year, Brandy Wilson is doing FHP shirts and hoodies again! There will be forms available this week in the multipurpose room. The window for ordering will be available until March 14th; the order form has several options for designs and colors. Please return the completed orders to Ms. Rachel with payment or venmo name on the top of the order form- she has included specific details on the forms as well. She is then hoping to have orders returned by April 2nd after spring break.

Bridge Move-Up Day-Thursday, March 7th (impacts 6th/7th Thursday Enrichment class)

Parents of current Bridge 2 students, Move Up Day is Thursday March 7th! Move Up Day is an opportunity that we plan for students to allow them to see our Academic Program which is held at The Campus so that our students can experience a smooth, confident, and purposeful transition from the Bridge Program to the Academic Program. Ms. Amber, Ms. Heather, and Ms. Katie will be attending Move-Up day, so we are offering our Thursday 6/7 Enrichment students the opportunity to join us on Tuesday, March 5th instead of Thursday, March 7th. No Bridge Academic (English and Math) classes will be held on Thursday, March 7th, so Bridge 1 students will attend class only on Tuesday, March 5th.

Information Sessions for Next Year

If you are eagerly awaiting learning about the options available for next year, we are excited to share these options with you. If you know of other families that are interested in enrolling, we are happy to announce that we have our information ready to roll for our Enrichment and Bridge Programs, and prospective families can begin by clicking [here](#).

To learn more about our Academic Program (grades 7-12), please plan to attend our Information Session that is scheduled below:

Tuesday, March 5 at 3:00

6113 Constitution Avenue
Colorado Springs, CO 80915

*Attendance is highly recommended for families moving from the Bridge Program to the Academic Program.

Homeschool Helpful Tips Homeschooling with Younger Children

A common challenge that many homeschool families face is homeschooling with young children. Here are a few tips and tricks for homeschooling with young children and a link below to a podcast from Julie Bogart of [Brave Writer](#). If you have young children at home, listen to the podcast to receive encouragement if you find yourself juggling the needs of younger children while trying to honor your school day with your older children.

Homeschooling with Littles:

- Be flexible!!
- Try to complete school subjects that need full attention while younger siblings are napping or eating a snack
- Provide high interest activities For toddlers and preschoolers ONLY when you need them playing independently: age appropriate learning videos, pattern blocks, playdoh, slime, other learning manipulatives. *I used to do this with my son and we called his play, his "school."*
- Find another homeschool family and swap childcare once a week. This would be a great time to complete a science lab, reading lesson, or cooking project.
- Save a subject or two for the evening when you may get spouse support (if applicable)

[A Brave Writer's Life in Brief: Homeschooling with Babies and Toddlers in Tow](#)

Find Joy in your every day!
Ms. Kassi, FHP Home Based Education Specialist
kassi.nemeth@d49.org