

Wingate Elementary School



November 2016

Carol Wethington, Principal | Tricia Nelson, Secretary | Debbie Mast, Secretary

Important Dates

School Accountability Committee Meeting

November 8, 2016 6 pm
@ Library

5th Grade Music Concert

November 10, 2016 6:30 pm
@ Gymnasium

Elementary Planning Day No School

November 11, 2016

Salvation Army Food Drive Begins

November 14, 2016

Thanksgiving Luncheon

November 17, 2016

2nd Grade Music Program

November 17, 2016 6:30 pm
@ Gymnasium

District School Account- ability Committee Meeting

November 29, 2016 6:00 pm
@ Library

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November Message From The Principal

Hello Wingate Families!

I want to thank all of you for attending Parent/Teacher Conferences in October. It is critical to the success of all our Wingate students that we work together, family and school, to meet each child's individual needs. Teachers love this time of year because it is such a pleasure to meet with you to celebrate your child's successes and to identify, discuss and plan for any areas in need of support. The communication and teamwork that happened during conferences was truly inspiring!

Students have worked exceptionally hard the first nine weeks. Reading, math, writing, social studies and science projects line our hallways. Their efforts are evident in the quality work I see every day. The second nine weeks tends to ramp up in rigor and your students will be working harder than ever. A good night's sleep, a great breakfast, healthy snack and strong lunch goes a long way in helping your child grow and learn as much as possible.

Our wonderful Colorado weather is changing and I want to remind you and your students that it is important to dress so that they will be comfortable in school. During this time, when it's cold in the morning and warm in the afternoon, students dress in layers. Those layers come off during afternoon recess and we end up with an overflowing Lost-And-Found Station! The lost and found items are donated at the end of each nine weeks. If all families can occasionally check and pick up any items left, it would help us not to get overwhelmed. It is located in the cafeteria.

Lastly, I want to thank all of our wonderful parent volunteers! You are generous with your time and energy and it makes a difference. I enjoy walking through classrooms and seeing you reading with kids, working on math, helping with projects or just talking with students. Our volunteers are such a positive addition to the school and we couldn't do it without you!

Sincerely,

Carol

Kindergarten News

One little, two little, three little pumpkins...lots of pumpkins in kindergarten! In October kindergarten took a field trip to Studt's Pumpkin Patch and Corn Maze. While we were there kindergartners got to see firsthand how corn and pumpkins grow and pick out the perfect pumpkin! They also got to climb the hay mountain, jump on the pumpkin jump, do the zip lines, visit the petting zoo, and more! Even the bus ride was an exciting first for some of our kindergartners! When we returned to school, the children participated in a variety of pumpkin themed learning stations that included measuring, sink or float, counting, the life cycle of a pumpkin, tasting, graphing, and more!

1st Grade News

We are excited about the start of 2nd quarter in 1st grade! We have finished our study of maps and globes and now we are learning all about the history of Thanksgiving and traditions that families have around the holidays. Our study of Thanksgiving will make history interesting and engaging. We hope you'll hear all about their learning over the holiday break!

We want to thank you for continuing to read with your child each evening! Reading done at home supports what we are doing in the classroom. We know this routine can become difficult with all of the activities you have going on and we really appreciate the time you dedicate to growing your 1st grader as a reader. Thank you!

-Mrs. Roach, Mrs. Van Pelt, & Mrs. Kennedy

2nd Grade News

Hurricanes, Tornadoes, Floods, Blizzards, Oh My! Second graders spent some time researching and becoming experts about these extreme weathers. We finished off our learning with a trip to the News station. This month we will be learning all about forces and motion, the election, and nonfiction.

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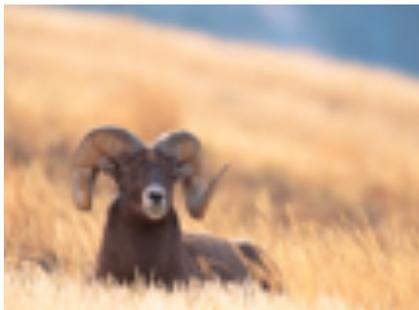
3rd Grade News

Mrs. Anderson and Mr. Pingleton’s third grade are working extremely hard! We are a quarter into 3rd grade and they have all made smooth transitions! We are in the middle of learning about the rock cycle and creating power points to demonstrate our learning. We are also learning the art of persuasion –not begging or arguing. We read the book “I Wanna Iguana” and wrote about what kind of pet we should get for the classroom (hypothetical) Come check them out in the hall! We are learning that perseverance and hard work lead us to great outcomes!

4th Grade News

Colorado Ecosystems

Fourth Graders will be devoting their Science time, and much of their Reading and Writing time, to researching the Ecosystems we have here in Colorado! They will discover what the different ecosystems are like, the animals and plants that live within those systems and the adaptations that help plants and animals be successful. Our fourth grade biologists will gather and present information on a Colorado animal. This project not only meets our state standards for science, but lets kids make great connections to the areas that are all around them!



In Math, we will be moving from our study of Multiplication and Division into an exploration of Geometry!

Be on the lookout for our Denver Field Trip Parent Information meeting, held in November! We’ll outline general information for the trip, so there will be plenty of time to prepare details for this amazing experience scheduled for Spring!

5th Grade News

Here we are at the end of the first quarter. We’ve just completed our personal finance unit with a visit to Ameritowne. It was such a valuable experience for our fifth graders. They actually got to work for a day in the adult world. They came back to school tired out and a little more appreciative of their working parents and teachers. Now we’re looking forward to second quarter science as we investigate Weather, and Earth Changes. In math we’ll learn about fractions and percent’s. Books for Pizza deadline is November 17th. For those students who completed the six book challenge, we’ll celebrate with a pizza party and a movie on the 18th. We’re looking forward to seeing you at conferences next week!

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Spanish News

¡Hola! We have learned so much in the last couple of months. Here is a summary. We started Spanish this year by learning how to introduce ourselves, and ask a friend in class what their name is. I also phonetically pronounced the kids' names in Spanish. They thought that was really fun. We then learned the alphabet, and the fact that the alphabet has more letters than in the English alphabet. We moved from learning introductions to learning colors, counting to 31 (the most days in a month), the months of the year and days of the week. I had the kids come up and tell their birthdates in Spanish. As they presented their birthdays to their classmates, they learned that dates are written differently in Spanish. We learned the word for fall/autumn, which is otoño. The cultural lesson was the history of how Mexico celebrates Independence Day. The kids were intrigued with how different the culture is, and are looking forward to their next lesson on culture, which will be to color the flags of the 21 Spanish speaking countries. Each student will be assigned a country's flag, color it, and again come up to present to their classmates in Spanish what country their flag represents, the colors of their countries flag are and a historical fact about the flag. I will guide them. It has been a fantastic few months. ¡Gracias! Señora Christina

Art News

ART NEWS: We are continuing to have fun and use our creativity in art! Kids have made woven turtles, scarecrows, sugar skull inspired collages, clay pinch pot creatures, and skeletons with cursive name ribs in October. They also worked really hard on their Original Works pictures. These included watercolor self-portraits, owls and elephants! Thank you to everyone who ordered products from Original Works to support Wingate's art program. Kids are THRILLED and so PROUD to see their creations on products. The deadline for orders was Nov 1st and I expect to receive products at Wingate on Dec. 1st (plenty of time for Christmas). Please look for items coming home with kids in early December.

** I would love a few volunteers that I could email when I have art to hang up in the halls. The school looks so happy with art filled halls. Please email me at ellen.balzer@d51schools.org if you are able to give a half hour once in a while. Thanks!!!!

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Art Heritage News

Amazing accomplishments. Various projects included drawing about an invention, practicing writing backwards (Leonardo wrote backwards so people wouldn't steal his ideas!), drawing figures using ovals and working on proportion, and creating a drawing around Mona Lisa's face and hands. It was a lot of fun and such a wonderful artist to study. This month kids will be learning about Australian Aboriginal Art and doing Dreamtime Paintings. Aboriginal Art consists of symbols and were used as a means of communication. The art work was almost always ceremonial or religious. Look for these masterpieces to be displayed in the halls and then coming home.

Our program is running so smoothly thanks to the 23 parent volunteers we have in the classrooms teaching Art Heritage. This incredible and unique program wouldn't happen without these volunteers. Thank you!



*Ellen Balzer
Artist in Residence & Art Heritage Coordinator*

Salvation Army Food Drive

Every year we are asked to help support the Salvation Army with their canned food drive for the Grand Valley and Mesa County.

Wingate will have boxes in front of every classroom door beginning Nov 14th through Dec 13th. If you are able please join us in donating non-perishable food items. All food donated goes to families in need in the Grand Valley.

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