

SHAWSHEEN SHOUT OUT!

February 2020

Shawsheen Elementary

4020 W. 7th Street, Greeley, CO 80634

Telephone: 970-348-2300

www.shawsheen.greeleyschools.org

Absentee Line: 970-348-2302

We appreciate you and your time!

Thank you for coming to your child's conference. If you missed it please call your child's teacher to reschedule. There is a Parent Survey called Panorama Parent Survey located in the Quick Links section on our Shawsheen webpage. Or you can go to the link below to take the survey. Thank you for your feedback!

<https://surveys.panoramaed.com/greeley/6425966544/surveys>

February is 5210+

February is 5210+ month! Notes will be coming home this week and discussed at Parent Teacher Conferences. Logs will be filled out daily and returned March 3 to Mr. Z. Those who complete the challenge will receive their t-shirt in May. Top 15 schools will be awarded with money for PE equipment. Families who complete the challenge on the blue family log with 20 check marks will have a chance to win a \$50 Kings Soopers gift card! Top 5 schools with family participation will earn prizes for PE equipment. The 5210+ challenge us to eat 5 servings of fruits and vegetables each day, spend 2 hours or less on recreational screen time, get 1 hour or more of physical activity and drink 0 sugary drinks. The + is nine or more hours of sleep each night. Good luck!

We need YOU!

Our next Parent Group Meeting is Feb. 11 at 7:45am or 5:30pm. Choose the time that works best for your schedule. Childcare is provided at the evening meeting only (no charge). We discuss school business, budget, fundraisers, and other school events. We appreciate our parent support! This next meeting we will finalize our plans to prepare for our Spring Carnival. Remaining meetings are Mar. 10 and Apr. 14.

FREE English Classes for Adults

Do you know someone who is interested in learning English? Free classes from 6:00pm-7:30pm on Tuesdays and Thursdays at 4754W. 31st St. Greeley. Free Child Care provided. Call 406-868-8158 to get more information.



Upcoming Events

Feb. 6

Parent Teacher Conferences

3:30pm-7:00pm

Feb. 7

February Birthday Treats (Optional)

Feb. 11

Coffee with the Principals – Parent Group Meeting 7:45am or 5:30pm

Feb. 17

No School

Feb. 28

Student Council Snack Friday

Mar. 2

Read Across America Day

Mar. 6

March birthday Treats (Optional)

Mar. 10

Coffee with the Principals - Parent Group Meeting 7:45am or 5:30pm

Adults must check in at the office with ID and wear a badge to be in the hallways during school hours. Thank you for abiding by this safety rule.

More Important News

Safety

We do our best to remove snow and ice as soon as we can. Please continue to abide by the safety rules and park your vehicle before letting your child(ren) exit your vehicle. DO NOT stop in the street and let your child(ren) out of your vehicle – the police have been ticketing parents for this. Consider using side street that are less busy especially when it gets closer to the bell at 7:45 and traffic tends to be worse. Students need to be in class at 7:50am to be considered on time. Thank you!

News from the Teachers

Special Education

Our upcoming IEP day is on February 11th. Our last IEP day is March 10th. Your child's case manager will be reaching out to you to confirm your meeting date and time. As always, please contact our team if you have any questions.

Mrs. Krueger and Mrs. March

Music

Guitars and Ukuleles are coming up in your student's music class. We will work on basic chord progressions and explore a blues riff or two! No need to bring an instrument from home but if you need help tuning that old instrument in your closet, drop by before or after school!

Mr. Easter

PE

We had a great turn out for Tri-Star Basketball Competition! We had over 60 students compete in passing, shooting, and dribbling challenges. We have 2 students from each age group boy and girl that will represent Shawsheen at the city finals on March 7th at Union Colony Prep School. Good luck and have fun!

February is 5210+ Month. Student logs will be kept at school and filled out daily to track healthy habits. 5 servings of fruits and veggies a day, 2 hours of screen time a day or less, 1 hour of physical activity, 0 sugary drinks- only drink water and milk, and + means 9 hours or more of sleep. If you get 80 check marks in February you will receive an awesome t-shirt in May.

5210+ Family logs will be sent out first week of February. Fill this out as a family turn it in and be entered to win a \$50 Dollar gift card to King Soopers. Good luck!

We will focus on healthy habits in this month and start our Jump Roping unit as well. It is going to be a great month!

Mr. Z



Volunteer

You can become a volunteer at Shawsheen! Simply come to the office and register on-line. **Do not forget your ID!** We need all different kinds of support. No matter what your schedule is, we can use your help! PLEASE attend the next Parent Teacher Group meeting Tuesday, Feb. 11th at 7:45am or 5:30pm. That, too, is a GREAT way to support your child's school.

Art

Kindergarten students are working on their beautiful pattern hearts and using India ink drawing tools! First grade students have been busy building their tree houses and thinking like an architect to build their structure, they are also making Chris Uphues hearts. Second grade students are working on silly face cities inspired by the artist James Rizza and his work. Third grade students are working with positive and negative space. Fourth grade are finishing up their dynamic dragon eyes working with value and will be moving on to work with positive and negative space. Fifth grade students just started making circle looms, working with rotational symmetry and building on their weaving skills.

Mrs. Fryer

Kindergarten

In math, we will be learning about number bonds and how to break apart numbers. We are working on counting to 100 and recognizing numbers to 20.

In reading, we are reading story books and reading whole words and sentences at a time. Reading every day is very important. Please read with your child as often as possible.

In writing, we are writing sentences and stories with more detail. We are continuing to add to our word wall and add words every week.

In science, we are working on our Wood and Paper Unit. In this unit, students are exploring the properties of wood materials. We will discover what happens in a variety of hands-on experiments to see how these wood materials interact. We are also focusing on the real world applications wood has in our lives.

Mrs. Duplex, Mrs. Kotalik and Mrs. Maresh

First Grade

RMSE:

We continue to work on building phonics skills, building fluency, and comprehension within our RMSE groups. Students continue to work on Lexia to build on their reading skills.

Just a reminder, RMSE homework is sent home nightly. Please listen to your child as he/she does his/her homework. Additionally, please sign and return it the following day. This is a crucial piece of their reading instruction in first grade.

MATH:

We completed Module 3: Ordering and Comparing Length Measurements as Numbers. Students learned how to order objects by length and compare the lengths of two objects; express the length of an object as whole number of length units such as centimeters; and organize, represent, and interpret data with up to three categories.

We are currently on Module 4: Place Value, Comparison, Addition and Subtraction to 40.

Math homework is sent home weekly on Thursday and needs to be returned the following Wednesday. Homework should be a review of that week's lessons taught in class. Please let your child's teacher know if you need additional support or resources for doing the homework at home.

WRITING:

We are wrapping up *Being a Writer* Unit 4: Writing Stories About Me and getting ready to start Unit 5: Writing Nonfiction. In this unit, students explore writing nonfiction about themselves, the class, a place in the school, their peers, and favorite objects. Students also learn about the characteristics of nonfiction by reading and discussing nonfiction books. This unit is usually a favorite in writing!!

OTHER:

We look forward to seeing everyone at Parent Teacher Conferences. If you're unable to attend your scheduled date or time, please contact your student's teacher as soon as possible to reschedule.

Our Valentine's Day parties will take place on Friday, February 14th in the afternoon. Stay tuned for more information as the date gets closer.

Thank you for your continued support! As always, please feel free to contact us with any questions or concerns!

Mrs. Z, Mrs. Duvall, and Mrs. Hill

Second Grade

February brings many new learning opportunities in 2nd grade!

Writing: Our focus this month will be exploring and writing non-fiction. We will learn factual information about different animals and then organize this information into a written passage. In addition, students will be able to respond and build on one another's thinking and learning. Make sure to ask your child about what they are learning.

Math: In Mission 5, we will be adding and subtracting within 1,000. We will also be solving word problems to 100.

Literacy: We are reading mostly non-fiction text. Our focus will be on the main topic and key details that support that topic. We will continue to practice identifying the two words that form a contraction and put them in a sentence. For example: they are = they're, I will = I'll, will not = won't.

Science: We are investigating the properties of air and weather and how they impact the environment, people, and animals.

Check your child's Thursday folder for the Valentine list that went home January 30th. Your child can start bringing the cards for classmates on Tuesday, February 11th.

Ms. Hyland, Mrs. Kautz, and Ms. Wikoff

Third Grade

Reading: Unit 4

In unit 4, the 3rd graders are working on asking and answering questions to demonstrate an understanding of what is being read, along with referring back to the text to support their answers. They are also working on two types of text structure (cause/effect and compare/contrast), as well as finding the point of view and theme of a text. We are continuing to prepare students for their first CMAS tests in April.

Writing: Expository Nonfiction

The 3rd graders are finishing up their opinion writing unit this week. We will start to focus on expository nonfiction writing for the month of February and most of March. The students will immerse themselves in learning about nonfiction text and begin to write about an animal that they would like to research.

Math: Introduction to Fractions

In this unit, the 3rd graders have been learning about fractions! They are beginning to recognize parts of wholes, equal parts, and fractional units. The students have been working collaboratively to solve tough word problems together and are continuing to fill in their holes in math by using Khan Academy on our laptops.

Science/Social Studies:

In science, the students are learning about different types of rocks, rock cycle, and soil types. In social studies, students are learning about people and communities, what a culture is, and what makes a community unique.

Weekly Homework:

Homework packets are sent home on Thursdays and are due the following Thursday. The due date is always printed on the top right corner of the top page. We ask parents/guardians to work with students to develop a homework schedule that works best for your family. Additionally, we ask parents/guardians to check over student's work and sign the front page of homework indicating you have done so. Students are asked to read 20 minutes per night and to complete four reading log entries per week. The homework packet may also include cursive practice, math practice, spelling and reading practice. Thank you for supporting your student as they work through their homework each week.

Binders and Planners:

Students will be bringing their binder home each night. Inside it, you will find their planner pages, homework packets, Thursday folder items (on Thursdays) and assignments we are currently working on. It is very important that binders come back to school every morning because they contain everything students will need for the day. Please help your student develop a nightly routine which includes putting their binder back in their backpack after you sign their planner and they work on their homework. Before you sign their planner each night or morning, please take a moment to discuss the information included on it each day. Signing the planner indicates that you have received the information included on the planner and that you've discussed it with your student.

Please welcome Mrs. Knudson who will be here throughout Mrs. Fowler's maternity leave.

Mrs. Fowler/Mrs. Knudson and Mrs. Grover

Fourth Grade**Reading: Unit 3- That's the Spirit!**

Fourth grade students are finishing up Unit 3. During the last few weeks of Unit 3, we will be focusing on Author's point of view using a variety of biographies and persuasive articles. Students will then be exploring Unit 4 called, Fact or Fiction! They will continue on their Literacy journeys by reading a variety of genres including Narrative nonfiction, Fantasy, and Expository texts. We are continuing to cite evidence and organize answers in written form. Students need to be able to determine the meaning of words and phrases at a fourth grade level. It is super important that your student be

reading as much as possible. This increases their fluency level and helps them be able to comprehend fourth grade material.

Writing: Fiction

We just finished "Author's Chair", where students were able to share their published Writing with their classmates and teachers. The final copies will be hung in the hallway so you can check them out during Parent Teacher Conferences.

Math: Fraction Equivalence, Ordering, and Operations

We are jumping into Unit 5, which focuses a lot on fractions as well as a variety of operations. Students will continue to build off of their multiplication and division skills, to compare fractions using a variety of different operations. We will also be solving real-world word problems involving fractions and operations.

**Note: It is important that the students are fluent with their multiplication skills. There are skip-counting songs found on YouTube that will help with memorization.

Science- Magnetism and Electricity

This week we experimented with magnets and discovered that magnets display forces of attraction and repulsion. We will be identifying conductors and insulators as we continue to understand circuits and electricity. Please have your student share what they are learning!!

Second Step:

We completed the Bullying Prevention Unit and now are working on strategies that will help us in all parts of our lives. All the lessons will focus on "empathy" and walking in someone else's footsteps. Empathy is a crucial foundation for healthy communication and relationships. Students with empathy have better peer relationships and offer more help and emotional support to others. These behaviors are linked to better grades and higher achievement.

Planners: DLIQ

IMPORTANT!! We are asking that you check your students planning page every night. We are now using the DLIQ strategy. The students need to state what they DID, what they LEARNED, what was INTERESTING, and a QUESTION they still have. This is an AVID strategy our school is using. We like it because it lets the kiddos pick what they choose to write about. Please take the time to go over this with your child. Sometimes our lives get so busy and it is just a nice way to talk about and share about something going on in their days.

Homework: Every Thursday

Homework will be sent home on Thursday and needs to be returned by the following Thursday. We are going to start grading the homework. There will be a reading log and some type of literacy strategy or skill practice. Our homework is determined by setting high expectations for your student. Homework should not be saved until last minute, it will require thought and hard work. We believe in them so much that we are setting the bar high!!

IMPORTANT! We will be attending "Shrek the Musical" on February 6th. Your student needs to return their permission slip and \$3 as soon as possible!! Thank you!!

****Remember it is okay to struggle, it just means your brain is growing!!**

Ms. Johnstone and Mrs. Wagner

Fifth Grade

Math

Before the break, we took our unit test for module 3: adding and subtracting fractions. Module 4 will focus on multiplying and dividing fractions, multiplying and dividing decimals up to the 100ths place, using line plots to display data, and solving word problems. Please help students by pushing them to complete their fluency math problems in their homework every week. We will also be doing something new in math to enrich student learning. We are using MAP SKILLS and it is associated with NWEA, the test that tracks student growth and achievement.

Writing

We are finishing up our expository nonfiction unit. In this unit, the students have been choosing topics of interest and using a variety of sources to gather information. We are fine-tuning our research skills such as taking notes, sorting information, and exploring expository text features. We can't wait to see what they create! Ask your child about their topics. When we express interest in their work, they become more invested to create amazing writing pieces!

Science

We are studying the human body. We are focusing on the form and function of each body system. Students are also learning how the body systems are connected and work together. We will continue our learning until the end of February. Ask your child about the systems they've learned and the activities we have done in class to build that understanding! Our human growth and development will take place the week before spring break.

Literacy

We wrapped up the third unit in reading. We've been investigating the theme, main idea, and making inferences. We've also focused on Costa's Levels of Questioning. This AVID strategy helps train students to constantly ask themselves questions while reading and to expand their level of questioning beyond a "level one" to form a deeper understanding of the text. Students are using this strategy in all subject areas. Please continue to encourage your child to read every night. Practice makes perfect!!

Fundraiser

Our 5th-grade fundraiser is underway. Please make sure that students are collecting and safely storing the money they earn from selling the candy bars. Please contact your child's teacher if you have any questions. We appreciate your support in raising money for our field trip!

Conferences

Thank you for participating in conferences! We loved meeting with all of you and continuing to build the bridge between home and school. Don't hesitate to reach out to your child's teacher for anything you need or have questions about.

Mrs. Bass, Mrs. Kleiber, and Mrs. Strecker