

Knightly News



Normandy Elementary

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Ms. Andrea Cosens, Principal

Volume 1, Issue 5 January 14, 2018

Dear Normandy Families,

I hope your New Year is off to a fantastic start! The staff and I are excited about all that lies ahead during the second half of the year including creating meaningful learning experiences, student growth, and all of our upcoming community events. We hope to connect with each of you soon. Enclosed is information about updates to our website, choice enrollment, PTO, PIE and a few other items.

Some of you may have noticed that Normandy's website has changed a bit. Over winter break, Mrs. Brant updated the teacher websites. To access your teacher's website from our homepage, hover over 'Classrooms' and then 'Teacher Pages.' Select your child's grade level and on the next site you will be able to access individual teacher pages. If you have created a bookmark for your teacher's page prior to January, please delete the bookmark and create a new one. Over the next few months you may see a few other changes, too. We welcome feedback from our community about the accessibility of the site or information you might want to see posted.

First Round Choice Enrollment and Kindergarten Registration are under way! At the end of this week all families currently enrolled at Normandy will be sent an Intent to Return Form. Please take a moment to fill out the form and send it back to school. The intent forms help us estimate how many students are returning and the number of spaces available for families interested in open enrolling. If you are currently open enrolled at Normandy, you do not need to fill out a new open enrollment form. Normandy is considered your home school. If you have any questions, or know of families who would like to learn more about Normandy, please feel free to reach out to me. I am happy to help!

Our PTO has been hard at work organizing community events, as well as preparing for the Silent Auction. Please join us for our next PTO meeting this Thursday, January 18th at 6:00pm. You can learn more about our auction, updates to our school, funds awarded to teachers, community events, and how you might get involved. January, February, and March are the perfect months to join us as a new board will be nominated in April and finalized in May. This is the perfect opportunity to find out how PTO positively impacts our community, and commit to volunteering for events or board positions.

On Thursday, January 25th at 6:30pm, our Partners In Education committee will meet in the library. Our P.I.E. committee is comprised of community members, teachers, and the principal. Together, we tackle issues that impact daily life at Normandy. Some issues we have discussed this year are traffic and safety, ideas for gaining more family input, assessment scores, social emotional learning, and Normandy's budget. All are welcome to join us as we look toward creating the best possible future for our students.

Last, our Watch D.O.G.S. program has been an integral part of our year at Normandy. We would love to have our dads, grandfathers, uncles, or older brothers come visit Normandy and help with security, recesses, and learning. Spending a day at Normandy is a great opportunity to learn alongside your child(ren), as well as mentor other students. Please use this [link](#) to volunteer to spend a day at Normandy. We love our D.O.G.S.!

Your family's experience and each child's success is of utmost importance to me. At the end of the newsletter is a new feedback form for families to use to ask questions, share comments and concerns, or to recognize staff. I look forward to seeing you at all of this month's fun events and community meetings. I welcome your questions, concerns, and comments. Please do not hesitate to use the attached form, send me an email, or contact me at (303) 982-4766.

Educationally yours,

Andrea Cosens, Principal

Sixth Grade Owl Pellet Dissection



4th Grade Medieval Proceedings



Kindergarten Holiday Happenings



From our LAMP Team

Physical Education

Welcome Back! This month the students will be learning to manipulate long handled sticks and short handled sticks in Scooter hockey! Hockey is a great way to practice stick handling skills. Using scooters also allows students to gain some upper body strength. They will also get to try both offensive and defensive positions.

The prizes are in for Jump Rope for Heart! If your student was patiently waiting for them to arrive and they have not gotten them, please have them come see Ms. Patterson before or after school.

Music Notes

Time is quickly flying by in the music room. We have a lot planned from now until the end of the year! We'll continue practicing our musicianship skills as well as learning new skills.

5th and 6th grades are working on their guitar skills for these next 2 rotations. We are first working on fret numbers, then reading single note melodies, and we'll end our unit with chords. **4th grade** is working on reading more complex rhythm patterns and expanding our vocal range with new solfege notes. We are also learning and practicing new songs on the recorder.

3rd grade is focusing on singing, playing, reading, and moving to music in 3-beat meter.

2nd grade is learning new solfege notes. We spent a long time focusing on just three notes by reading, writing, singing, and playing. Now we are adding new notes to learn! We are also learning about tied rhythms and half notes.

1st grade has arrived at learning about beat! This is the very beginning of learning music definitions. It is such an exciting time. We've worked months showing the beat with our bodies, now we are able to define it and label it.

Orff Ensemble is being offered Thursday afternoons immediately after school. It was a way for students to learn xylophones, percussion, and recorders outside of the music classroom. Our rehearsals will be geared toward a final performance on Thursday, March 1st.

Colorado Elementary All-State Choir is held this month. Six of our students will represent Normandy in this wonderful opportunity. Isabel Pritchard, Ellie Sykes, Jenavie Tran, Chloe Watson, Carson Cash, and Ryan Lee have been working hard and will make Normandy very proud!!!

Troubadours and Mini Minstrels are on break until the week of February 26th.

Happy 2018,
Marisa Rodriguez

Technology

Today, technology comes to us in many forms and at Normandy we like to expose our students to a wide variety of educational technology experiences in order to help prepare them for their future. Just as we have a variety of technology in our homes we try to provide similar variety at school. We have no idea where our students will be in 10-20 years yet alone what they might be doing with tech. This week the Consumer Electronics Show brought out all the bells and whistles of new advances but for now we need to stick with tried and true technology in the district in order to protect everyone's privacy. Jeffco is very strict in protecting our students' privacy online and we continue that lesson at Normandy. Our kindergarten and first graders recently learned about computer privacy by learning about usernames and passwords for logging onto our computers. We will continue this discussion about privacy online by looking at our digital footprint in older grades during the coming weeks. At home you can continue this conversation about online safety by monitoring the sites your child visits and the kind of information you allow to be shared online. A couple items I will remind the students is, "Once you've written/posted online there is no erasing it" and "If you wouldn't say the words you type out loud don't type them either." Wishing you wonder as you explore - Mrs. Brant, Librarian

The Columbine Area Festivals are coming up soon. An area festival is where all of the performing ensembles from the elementary level through the high school level get together to perform one massive concert. Both band and orchestra will have their area festival on January 22nd in the Columbine High School Gym. The orchestra concert will start at 5:30 and the band concert will start at 7:15.

Gregory Gates

Band/Orchestra Teacher

Columbine Area Elementary Schools

Artistic Endeavors

Most grades are currently working in the three-dimensional realm using materials such as clay, wire, and paper mache. It is exciting to see the students using their fine motor skills in a different manner as they make their art creations. The following information explains current and upcoming concepts at each grade level.

First grade: Currently, they are learning about sequence and pattern while exploring geometric shapes to create a wall hanging using clay. This concept will continue as they learn how it creates rhythm in an artwork.

Second grade: Second graders have been exploring portraits and self-portraits, and learning how artists communicate emotion through color and facial expression. Landscapes and color groups will follow in the third trimester.

Third Grade: Learning about public art and how an artist makes a proposal for a public art piece has been the current activity. Students will follow this by making mobile sculptures that will hang in the art room and other areas of the building. This will be a science integrated unit in which they learn about kinetic energy and different types of levers.

Fourth grade: Fourth graders are currently making awesome medieval clay dragons as an extension to their medieval studies in their homerooms. The dragons will be placed in a three dimensional landscape. Color schemes will be investigated in the third trimester.

Fifth Grade: Recently they have been learning about contour drawings, gesture drawings, and learning how to draw the figure in correct proportions. Figurative sculptures are then made using pipe cleaners and paper mache. In the third trimester they will explore linear perspective.

Sixth grade: Recently, they have finished self-portraits using different values of torn paper. They have just started their clay unit which is inspired by ancient Greek pottery. They will learn various hand-building techniques. High and low contrast will be learned as they decorate their clay pots.

Keith McConnell

Meet Our Special Education Team

Suzanne Sever, Learning Specialist

I started my career in the general education classroom teaching 4, 5, 6th grade for 10 years. However, I went back to school to get a special education endorsement at Metropolitan State College in Denver. I have B.A. in Speech Communication and a Master's degree in Elementary Education from Miami University and Xavier University in Ohio. Jeffco has been my home for 7 years as a 1st grade teacher/learning specialist, learning specialist in the Literacy Language Labs, and Significant Support Needs Teacher. In my spare time, I enjoy teaching group fitness classes at 24 Hour Fitness and hanging out with my husband, Mark.

Andrea Steinberg, LSW

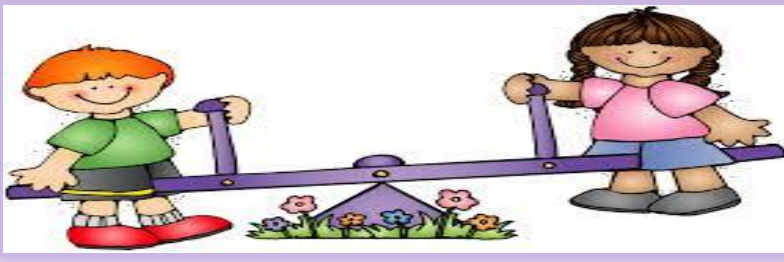
I am the full time social worker for Normandy Elementary and I enjoy working with our amazing community every day! My background is in Child Welfare, and while receiving my Masters in Social Work from MSU Denver I completed my internship at an elementary school in Denver and fell *in love with the school setting*. My job includes supporting students in classrooms, teaching whole class lessons on social skills, solving problems and respecting differences, and working with students who have individualized education plans. This year we implemented the Second Step program for whole class *social-emotional learning*. Our students are working through units on skills for learning, empathy, emotion management and problem solving. We get to watch videos, work in groups, and dance to songs - our students have so much fun! In my free time, I enjoy hiking, being in the mountains, sharing meals with my family & friends, and reading. I am a Colorado native and it amazes me that I continually find new places to explore! I look forward to continuing work with our exceptional Normandy students and families to support the community in academic, behavioral and social-emotional growth. Feel free to reach out anytime!

Laney M. Kemper, M.A., CCC-SLP

Laney is a speech-language pathologist from Columbia, MO. She received a Bachelor's of Health Science from the University of Missouri-Columbia and a Master's of Science in Speech-Language Pathology from the University of Northern Colorado. Laney has previous work experience in the Columbia Public School District where she worked in Early Childhood Special Education. Aside from working at Normandy, Laney also works at Carmody Middle School in Lakewood. Laney has loved getting to know the Denver area and loves to explore the mountains on the weekends. She enjoys being outdoors, watching Mizzou sports, and spending time with family and friends.

Laura Voorheis, Learning Specialist

I am excited to be a Learning Specialist at Normandy Elementary. I just graduated with a Masters of Education in Special Education from Regis University after student teaching nearby at Dutch Creek Elementary. At Dutch Creek, I became acquainted with the Columbine community and learned how to align evidence-based interventions with student goals. Before student teaching, I worked as a special education paraprofessional for three years at Lumberg Elementary. At Lumberg, I learned the values of patience and empathy when working with all students. I spent my past two summers as a therapeutic counselor for Spectra Autism Center, where I worked with students with autism within the community setting. My job at Spectra allowed me to see the challenges students with special needs face within their communities so that I can better address those challenges within the classroom. I am looking forward to getting to know both you and your students over the coming months.



Social Emotional Learning

Dear Normandy Community,

Welcome back! We had a busy first week, and your students did a wonderful job making the transition into a new year of learning. I was so impressed by their renewed effort and participation! In our Second Step lessons, we are finishing up some work on empathy, and moving into friendship skills and managing strong emotions. Don't forget to check Seesaw for updates and ideas for connections you can make at home!

5th and 6th grade parents – Seesaw is coming to you soon with updates and information on our whole class social-emotional learning! We are working out some details so keep your eyes open for an email inviting you to join. You can use this application on the computer or download the app to your phone. More instructions soon! I'm so excited to share this with you.

Did you know Normandy has a program to help students who might need extra food on the weekends? The Backpack Program sends home food at the end of each week. Please feel free to reach out to me with questions about this resource or if you are seeking a resource I might help you find!

Thank you as always for your support and sending your students to us every day!

Andrea Steinberg
School Social Worker
Normandy Elementary



GIRL SCOUT DAISY

Girl Scouts is the place for every G.I.R.L.! As a Girl Scout Daisy, your girl will practice leadership with grit like a go-getter, problem solve like an innovator, embrace challenges like a risk-taker, and show empathy like a leader — all in a girl-led environment where she can feel free to let her full, magnificent personality shine through. Kindergarten and first Grade girls are invited to bring their parents to a fun meeting to learn more about Girl Scout Daisies! Tuesday, January 23, 4:30-5:30 at Normandy Elementary School. There is power in every G.I.R.L. Unleash it early (and often!) at Girl Scouts. As a Girl Scout Daisy, your girl will meet new friends, explore the outdoors, make a difference in her community, and so much more.

Our Science Fair is Coming!

Set your calendar for Saturday, Feb. 24.



Registration is now open. Use the Science Fair link on the school website to register and find more details. Cost is \$3 per student. Upon payment, students can pick up their presentation board from the main office.

Categories include: Individual, Grade-level Partner, or Sibling. Every participant earns an award, goodie bag, certificate and an ice cream treat. Best in Show and Division Winners are also awarded.

Family Information meetings will be held at 3:30 and 6:00pm in the Library on Wednesday, January 10. Students will have a Science Fair Rally during school on Jan. 12 to get their minds working and excitement building! Hope to see you there!

<https://sites.google.com/a/jeffcoschools.us/normandysciencefair/>

KISS N' GO REMINDERS

- **The speed limit is 20 MPH during pick-up & drop-off.**
- **Avoid texting & talking on your phone.**
- **As you are waiting to pick up your student or to pull out, please continue to pull forward.**
- **From Plymouth & Kendall, to the bend in the Kiss N' Go near the baseball field, is a NO PARKING ZONE. Please do not double park anywhere along Kendall.**
- **Always use the crosswalk.**
- **No U-turns anywhere along Kendall in the school zone.**



Silent Auction Tickets now on sale!

March 3, 2018 6-11pm, The Barn at Raccoon Creek

\$45 each includes heavy appetizers, desserts, snacks & one free beer coupon
CASH BAR

Please join us for an evening of entertainment and fundraising for our school, including a silent auction, live auction & live trivia with prizes!

Purchase your tickets by January 31 and be entered into a raffle to win two lift tickets to Arapahoe Basin Ski Area

To pay by cash/check (preferred method), please complete the form below and return to Normandy via your teacher or the front office.

Please visit www.normandyfundraiser.com for full event details or to pay by credit card using PayPal

Remax Synergy, Megan Kempf, Realtor is sponsoring the Normandy Teacher Knight which includes tickets and a happy hour - If you would like to sponsor a Normandy staff member, please note below

Name(s) attending _____

Email _____ Phone _____

Number of tickets total _____ Method of payment _____

I would like a SEPARATE bidder number for my spouse _____

I would like to buy an additional ticket for a Normandy staff member _____



Food For Thought BakPak Program

Beginning **Friday, September 8th**, (and each Friday thereafter), the **Food For Thought BakPak Program** will distribute sacks filled with food to students who need food during the weekends. The **Food For Thought BakPak Program** is a partnership of businesses, faith-based ministries, and the communities of SW Jefferson County who care about hunger needs of students in our schools. This program is designed for families who are struggling and may need support to provide adequate food for their children on weekends. The weekend bags consist of meals for each participating student. The food will be packed in a plastic grocery bag. It will fit in the child's own backpack or will be easy to carry. The food is distributed each Friday afternoon.

If you wish for your student(s) to participate in this program, please complete the information below and return to the school office as soon as possible. If participating in this program, your student's name will be shared with Ms. Windle (enrollment secretary), Andrea Steinberg (school counselor) and the BakPak program coordinator for the purpose of labeling the bags.

If you do not need assistance, but may be interested in making a monetary or food item donation toward this program, please let Andrea Steinberg know.

If you have any other questions, please contact Andrea Steinberg at 303-982- 4766 or email her at andrea.steinberg@jeffco.k12.co.us.

_____ **Yes, I would like my child(ren) to participate in this program.**

Parent Name: _____

Student: _____ Classroom Teacher: _____

Student: _____ Classroom Teacher: _____

Student: _____ Classroom Teacher: _____

Student: _____ Classroom Teacher: _____

Student: _____ Classroom Teacher: _____

Normandy's Newsworthy Notes & Feedback

Please return to Andrea Cosens, Principal, or to our Office Staff.



I have a question, a concern or something positive to share:

Name (optional): _____

Daytime Phone (optional): _____

Normandy Elementary's Staff Appreciation



We would like to give you an opportunity to share your appreciation of our staff. Simply complete the form below and return it to the office. Your message will be delivered to staff. Thank you!

Dear _____,

Join us for a special screening of

SCREEN AGERS



GROWING UP IN THE DIGITAL AGE

BY: Columbine High School

WHEN: 01/25/18 6:00PM

WHERE: 6201 S Pierce St Littleton, CO

TICKETS: \$0

screenagersmovie.com





Dear Families of Future Columbine Students,

I am very excited and proud to announce that Columbine High School has been chosen, as one of a select group nationally, to offer the **Advanced Placement (AP) Capstone Diploma Program**. Columbine will be the first AP Capstone Diploma School in Jefferson County and one of the few statewide.

The AP Capstone Diploma program is a challenging program for motivated students. It is built on the foundation of our existing AP courses while adding two AP courses -- AP Seminar and AP Research -- and is designed to complement and enhance the in-depth, discipline-specific study experienced in other AP courses. Through earning an AP Capstone Diploma, students will be able to earn college course credit, college admission distinction, and valuable college and workforce readiness skills. AP Capstone is an innovative program that equips students with the independent research, collaborative teamwork, and communication skills that are increasingly valued by colleges.

In order for students to earn an AP Capstone Diploma they will have to:

- Pass 4 AP Exams of their choice throughout their four years in high school.
- Take and pass the exams and requirements for both AP Seminar and AP Research.

Columbine has maintained a strong AP program for many years, and our students have had a great deal of success in the many AP courses and on the AP exams. Last year, we had 416 students take 761 exams, and 70% of those students earned a passing score of 3 or greater on those exams. In addition, 56 students were AP Scholars, students who earned a 3 or better on 3 or more AP exams. Therefore, we feel strongly that the AP Diploma is attainable and within reach for many of our students.

If you have specific questions about the **Columbine AP Capstone Program**, please contact Columbine High School Assistant Principal, Shannon Vigil at Shannon.Vigil@Jeffco.k12.co.us.

In addition, we can provide further information at the CHS Showcase on Tuesday, January 9th at 6:30 in the Columbine Gymnasium at AP information night on January 23 at 6:30 pm in the Columbine Auditorium. You can also view information through the below links:

- [AP Capstone program brochure](#), [AP Capstone student brochure](#)

The major universities in Colorado, and hundreds of prestigious universities, like Harvard and Yale, have confirmed their support for AP Capstone by signing a statement of support endorsing its rigorous interdisciplinary approach, and/or by granting credit for a qualifying score in AP Seminar, AP Research, or both. Students at Columbine that complete the AP Capstone program could have their freshman year of college completed before they graduate from high school!

As your son/daughter makes the transition to being a Rebel, please discuss enrolling in AP courses and this unique and distinguished program.

We look forward to working with your son/daughter over the next four years at Columbine.

Regards,

Scott Christy
Principal
Columbine High School

Many thanks to our generous Silent Auction Sponsors:



Megan Kempf
Realtor®
303.408.9997

