



KIVA KIDS

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From the Desk of Ms. Susan

The past week, was one of many activities, the same with this next week. Middle School students have a walking field trip on Thursday. I am trying to find a way that I will need to go with them, as I am a bit of a history geek, and love learning all I can about our country's history.

Parents we ask that you turn in your Intent to Re-Enroll and Parent Surveys this week. These documents are used for planning for the future. We do greatly appreciate your help with them.

Please be sure to send warm clothing as the temperature is starting to stay low during the day, and we do try to get the students outside into the fresh air each day.

As always if you have questions or suggestions please feel free to call me on my cell at (970) 759-5869 or email me at susan.likes@kivacharter.org.

**PLEASE
NOTE**

Intent to Re-Enroll

The Intent to Re-Enroll form was emailed to you on Monday, January 15th. These re-enrollment forms are due back to the school no later than Friday, January 26th. To ensure your student a spot for the 2018-2019 school year, please be sure to return them. If you have questions, please call Ms. Susan at the school.

Kiva's Week at a Glance Five Day Week for Students

Monday, January 22nd - Destination
Imagination - 3:00 - 4:00

Tuesday, January 23rd - Kiva Cafe - 7:30am
- 7:45am - Beech Campus

Wednesday - January 24th -
Early Release 1:15pm

Thursday - January 25th - Kiva Cafe -
7:30am - 7:45am - Beech Campus
Middle School - Civil War Field Trip

Friday - January 26th - Kiva Cafe - 7:30am
to 7:45am - Beech Campus
Intent to Re-Enroll for the 2018-2019 School
Year Due in Office

Saturday - January 27th - Substitute
Orientation - 11:00am to 1:00pm

A Peek Forward - Save these important Dates

January 26th - Intent to Re-Enroll forms due to the Office for the 2018-2019
School year

January 27th - Sub Orientation - 11:00 - 1:00pm - Beech Campus

Middle School Project



"Kiva Constructors" in Mr. John's Classroom incorporated the help of Mr. Nathan Larsen, Jonathan "JJ" Lewis, and Roger Bonga to address a classroom need! Kiva's Middle School Students exercised the essential skills of identifying a shortage of stools to sit on in the classroom. While planning and executing their project, the students learned essential skills in:

- Research and Information Gathering
- Teamwork
- Organization
- Math
- Communication
- Empathy
- Problem Solving

The end result was truly amazing! The students embraced practical life lessons in following and giving instruction and handling tools in a safe and respectful manner. Being a lifelong learner comes with all ages. This opportunity created an awareness between the students and the mentors. Critical thinking skills and the bridging of learning and communication styles had to be executed to efficiently accomplish a common goal that was successfully met! Kudos to a job well done!

February 2nd - Nominations Committee Meeting - 1:00pm - Cortez Library
February 6th - School Accountability Committee - 4:00 - Beech Campus
February 8th - Finance Committee Meeting - 5:30pm - Beech Campus
February 9th - No School - Teacher Workday
February 12th - Children's House Board Meeting - 5:30pm - Empire Campus
February 15th - Family Innovation Night - 5:30pm - Beech Campus
February 19th - No School - Presidents Day
February 23rd - No School - Teacher Workday
February 24th - Sub Orientation - 11:00am - 1:00pm - Beech Campus
February 26th - CKMS Board Meeting - 5:30pm - Beech Campus
Feb 26 - March 1 - Parent Teacher Conferences - Beech Campus

Montessori Tidbit

Executive Function part II

Maria Montessori used the term normalization to refer to what we today refer to as executive functions (creative and flexible thinking, ability to focus and concentrate, and giving considered rather than impulsive responses). Recent studies have shown direct correlations between authentic Montessori programs and executive functions and self regulation. Mindfulness activities, which are common in Montessori classrooms, are shown to improve executive functions in children compared to control groups. Repeated practice and constant challenge are also associated with increased executive functioning in children, both of which are intrinsic qualities of Montessori schools.

Hands-on learning and peer tutoring (both foundational pieces of Montessori practice), produce better results in academic achievement and executive functioning. A recent 3-year study by Lander University found a number of interesting benefits of Montessori programs that were not found in non-Montessori schools. Children in Montessori environments were able to solve conflicts with less supervision and more frequently exhibited feelings of contentment and joy. The work habits of Montessori students were significantly higher and they were more likely to be proactive in problem solving in cognitive tasks. The Montessori children were also more capable of asking clarifying questions and seeking out information when tasks were not completely understood. Recognizing areas of academic strength, monitoring their own correctness on academic tasks, and developing internal standards for their performance are other areas that Montessori children exceeded non-Montessori peers. The positive results for Montessori children affirm the efficacy of Montessori practice in fostering beneficial work habits, internal motivation and executive functions.



MYSTERY READERS NEEDED

We are still in need of Mystery Readers. The school will be starting a new program using Mystery Readers. These readers will come in to the classroom and spend approximately 30 minutes reading to students. It could be the entire class or small groups. We hope to kick this program off, no later than January 29th. If you are able to spare 30 minutes per week, please contact Ms. Wendy with your dates of the week, and times, and we will get a schedule ready to go. Thank you for your assistance. If you have any further questions, please contact Ms. Susan.

Student Pickup and Drop Off

A gentle reminder, please make sure to drop off and pick up your students, using the Drop Off Zone on North Street. Please DO NOT park on Beech Street or North Street, or behind the businesses off of Main. I realize it is very cold out at this time, but please be respectful of our business neighbors and their need for close parking as well. Thank you for all your assistance in this matter.



School Accountability Survey

You should have received via e-mail your Parent Survey from the School Accountability Committee. This survey is used for planning and goal setting for the remainder of this school year and the future. Please be sure to fill this very important survey out as your voice is needed.

