

R.O.A.R Report

Visit us at: <http://rimrock.mesa.k12.co.us/>
Old editions will be archived on our website.



Mission Statement: *Is to be a school community where all learners (students, staff and parents) are valued and continuously strive to achieve our personal best. Si usted necesita una traducción en español favor de llamar al 254-5339. Estamos para servirles.*

November 19, 2014

Upcoming Dates

Wednesday, November 19, 2014 – PTO Spin City Skate Night – 3:00 – 9:00

Thursday, November 20, 2014 – Thanksgiving Feast

Thursday, December 4, 2014 – 4:00 – PTO Meeting - Library

Focus on Learning:

Staff Learning



As a staff we are continuing to work on supporting our learners at all levels (Responsive Instruction). To help us think about how the concept of fractions grows across the grade levels, we had

Abe Wallin, Regional Math Specialist from Idaho, join us in our Wednesday learning. He also guest-taught in Mrs. Slipka's class where he modeled questioning as well as an open-ended problem involving fractions (if your child is in her class, you might ask about the problem). His work has many of us excited and talking about the progressions of mathematical concepts across the grades. As you talk/work with your child(ren), having them represent fractions in many ways (pictures, words, and numbers) as well as discussing their relationship with whole numbers (for example, is it closer to 1 or 0 or bigger or smaller than a $\frac{1}{2}$ and how do they know), helps build their understanding for later work.

Math Night

On Thursday, November 13, we were joined by approximately 15 families from Mrs. Moon and Ms.

Williams room for our first family math night! Our Math Coach, Mrs. Casto and one of her partners from Pomona, Mrs. Westbrook, provided math games and tools to each family to take home as well as play during this evening. Questioning strategies and game variations were discussed as the families played the games. There were lots of laughs and great conversations – it was really nice to see the interactions among family members as well as with other families. I know these games will provide lots of learning opportunities for many evenings to come. We look forward to hosting more of these events – keep an eye out for future communication!



Focus on Safety:



Drills

On Thursday, November 13, we held our first lock down drill of the year (we had a Shelter-in-place first quarter). Having students think about where they would go at any time of the day if we had a lock down helps us to safely secure all students quickly. Also, processing the importance of the drill reinforces the need to keep calm and focus on the adult they are with at the time of the drill. Any conversations you have with your child(ren) in regards to these drills are greatly appreciated and help our students focus on safety. We will have two more lock down drills this year (one in each of the remaining quarters).

Parents Corner

A Big Thank You!



Conference week is always busy and non-stop. Teachers spend countless hours preparing to share information at each conference. We wanted to say thank you for coming in and meeting with your child's teacher – we almost hit 100% for the fall conference period. We know communication

between home and school is a crucial component of success for each child and we greatly appreciate your time and support.

Along with thanking you for supporting your child(ren), we also wanted to thank our PTO for supporting us with the fabulous taco bar during conferences. We felt very spoiled and are extremely appreciative for the wonderful meal. We'd also like to thank our Student Council for pizza on our other evening of conferences!

News from our PTO

Greetings from Rim Rock PTO! Another successful pie fundraiser is behind us! Thank you to everyone who helped and sold products, our intake was right under \$7000. Awesome! Our vehicle magnets have now arrived and are available in the office for \$5. T-shirts and sweatshirts

(\$10 and \$20) are fully stocked for child and adults sizes, also available through the office. Our monthly school night at Spin City is on November 19 from 3-9pm. It is school spirit night...wear your blue proudly. PTO will be sponsoring a Winter Wonderland party on **January 28** at the school from 4-6:30pm (this is a change in date). The event is open to students, parents, caregivers and siblings! Come and join us for a hot cocoa bar, popcorn, coloring, games, prizes and get a winter picture taken of your student (will be sent home before winter break)! This is FREE entertainment and food! PTO would like to thank you for all your help in supporting us and helping make Rim Rock Elementary a wonderful school!

Lost and Found

With the colder weather, please make certain your child is dressed warmly. Also, the lost and found is overflowing. There are probably some coats, mittens and hats that could be used right now. Please check for anything that may belong to your child. Thank you!



Toy Run



Dear Parents and Students,

With the holiday season soon approaching it is time to think of those who are less fortunate. Rim Rock will be participating in our 8th annual Harley Davidson Toy Run. The Harley Owners Group is teaming with the Salvation Army to provide toys for children. We will be collecting toys at Rim Rock beginning Wednesday, November 12. Members of the Harley Owners Group will collect the toys on Friday, December 5th at 3:00. This is a really exciting time for the students. The kids will greet the members of H.O.G. outside in front of the school and watch as the members make some “noise” as they ride in on their Harley’s. They will then load all the toys, sing a few holiday songs, say their thanks and drive away. Toy donations should be new and unwrapped. There will be a decorated box, across from the office that you can put the toys in at any time. Toys are needed for children ages newborn to 18 years old. Please consider having your family donate to this worthwhile cause this year.

For questions or for more information please contact: Sarah Jensen at 254-6770 or sarah.jensen@d51schools.org.

The Counselor’s Corner



November’s character word is **gratitude**. Gratitude means thankfulness, appreciation, and/or the quality or feeling of being grateful.

“Developing gratitude helps students to focus on what is working in their lives, and also to train their minds to notice the good things that are all around. Learning to appreciate

even the little things in life, such as a sunny day, a smile or a good meal, improves one’s outlook substantially, and helps to develop a more optimistic and resilient attitude. What we focus on is what grows — and gratitude promotes positivity.” ([Edutopia: http://www.edutopia.org/blog/elementary-social-emotional-curriculum-2-appreciation-randy-taran](http://www.edutopia.org/blog/elementary-social-emotional-curriculum-2-appreciation-randy-taran))

What are you thankful for?

Stay tuned for the December character word.

News from the Cafeteria

Our students “Eat Smart” at School Lunch!

In recent years we have seen the “food pyramid” changed to “my plate”, recipe changes, staff changes. The most significant change has been the move back to the “good ol’ days” of **scratch cooking right here at your school!**

As part of the new “my plate” healthy meal guidelines, we have posted the enclosed circle graphic in all school lunch lines to help students with food choices, it’s easy, simply choose at least 3 colored circles (food groups) and at least one should be red (Fruits) or green (Vegetables).

Students can choose up to five food items and can have seconds with fruits and veggies. Studies reveal students who are able to self-select fruits and vegetables, consume more of a balanced meal and subsequently increase student achievement.

School dishes have been “kid tested” by our culinary team each spring to gain input & feedback from our students before we finish the menu for the next school year. Please see link below for the 2014-15 school menu.

<https://connect.d51schools.org/sites/shared/food/Pages/elementary.aspx>

“We fuel successful learning”

