

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 254-5484. Estamos para servirles.

On-Line Family Handbook – <http://www.rimrockfamilyhandbook.weebly.com>

Like us/Follow us on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/Rim-Rock-Elementary-178372062579265/>

November 29, 2017

Upcoming Dates

Thursday, December 7 –PTO Meeting – 4:00pm

Thursday, December 7 – 1st Grade Music Program –
6:00 – Fruita Middle School

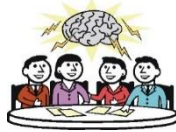
**Saturday, December 16 – Rim Rock Craft Show –
9:00 – 1:00**

Monday, December 25 – Monday, January 8 – Winter
Break

Focus on Learning

School Advisory Council - Unified Improvement Plan (UIP)

Our School Advisory Council shared our UIP with Mrs. Deb Lamb, member of the District Advisory Council, on November 16. As a staff we have two improvement strategies we are working on to increase student learning. We are continuing our two from last year with some additional actions steps. Our first improvement strategy is: Grade level teams will operate as Learning Communities - teams will monitor their growth toward grade level goals on the LC continuum provided by the district. Focus on sharing practices - observing others, bringing student work to the meeting. This means when teachers meet together during the week and during Wednesday early release time, they are talking about your children. They are putting student work on the table, discussing teaching strategies and next steps to support your children.



Our second improvement strategy is: Teachers will implement Units of Study - students moving vertically within the school will hear common language, and have common structures in each class.

This means each classroom operates as a workshop – students participate in a mini-lesson, go give it a try while the teacher monitors their learning through conferencing and small groups. Students might meet and talk with a partner to increase their understanding, or compose a reflection to something they have read. At the end of the workshop, students

come back to together to share their work and learning. In the primary grades, you might have heard about our word detectives, or students practicing their “snap” words. Students are working on their fluency and stamina. In the intermediate grades, students are beginning to set and monitor goals using a progression (ask them to see it) or a rubric to determine their current understanding and set next steps.

From our common focus on our new Reading Resource, we saw each group of learners show at least 10 points growth as measured by comparing their PARCC scores the previous two years. We know with a continued focus and a common language as well as common expectations, we can continue to see this kind of growth in our learners. Our teachers have committed to challenge themselves by observing others, having colleagues observe them, putting student work on the table to discuss craft moves, monitor student learning through conferencing and small group work and constant vertical (K-5) conversations. Change is difficult, but we are choosing to “Embrace” it together! Just as we encourage your children to be learners, we are learners too. As always, our ultimate goal is to support ALL learners in our building in their journey to mastery.

Focus on Safety

Lock- Down Drill

We held our first official lock down drill on Monday, November 13. Local law enforcement and district security officers are always in attendance during these drills. We had a Shelter in Place drill in October, but this was the first drill we actually went into a complete lock-down. Having conversations with your child(ren) about the importance of drills, both fire and lock down, prepares them and makes them a little less “scary.” All of our staff constantly reinforces making Rim Rock a safe place where all children can learn – these drills are just one step in that process. During second semester we will



have one more lock down drill as well as four to five fire drills.

Focus on School Community and Culture

Counselor Corner

In November, we are focusing on emotional awareness- specifically gratitude. Gratitude is an emotion, a personality trait and a mood. Gratitude is a happy feeling that comes from appreciation for what we have. When we focus on what we are thankful for, we are more likely to experience feelings of happiness. “Recognizing and focusing on what we are thankful for increases our health, happiness, promotes growth mindset, and learning. “Developing an “attitude of gratitude” is one of the simplest ways to improve your satisfaction with life.”

<http://www.forbes.com/sites/amymorin/2014/11/23/7-scientificallly-proven-benefits-of-gratitude-that-will-motivate-you-to-give-thanks-year-round/#10e0a50c6800>

During November lessons, we identified emotions felt by the characters in the stories we read. Talking about story characters’ emotions with children helps them to make connections to their own emotions. “Children who are tuned in to their own emotions – and don’t feel overwhelmed by them – are more likely to notice and feel empathy towards others. This reduces the occurrences of bullying, enables stronger friendships and develops advanced social skills. It supports caring, kindness, generosity, gratitude and enjoyment of other people’s happiness.”

<http://kidsactivitiesblog.com/60980/5-mindful-games-kids>

For more ideas on how to teach kids about feelings at home check out:

<http://www.kiddiematters.com/9-ways-to-teach-children-about-feelings/>

Check out this awesome short video about the benefits of gratitude-

The Gratitude Experiment:

https://safeshare.tv/submit?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.youtube.com%2Fwatch%3Fv%3DU5IZBjWDR_c

News from Mrs. Jensen in PE

Our grand total for Heavenly Hat Day was \$1260.69. Thank you for supporting this organization and joining in our fun!

The Annual Toy Run started on Nov.13th and will run through Dec. 1st. Please bring an unwrapped **new** toy for ages newborn-18 years old and place them in the big decorated box across from the office. Dec.1st at 3:00 the H.O.G. will come and pick up the toys and make some noise. All students who bring a toy to donate will receive a compassion charm.



Opportunity for Support



Once again Rim Rock

Elementary is offering an Angel Tree for our families who are in need of Christmas assistance. In years past, we have been able to help with clothing and toys. If your family is in need of assistance this holiday season, please stop by the office and fill out a form by Wednesday, December 6th. The tree is up and ready to add more Angels.

If you are in need of additional resources for the holiday season, please contact Kristen Walke in the office.

Last Call for Lost and Found

We have lots of forgotten jackets and sweatshirts in our cafeteria foyer on our lost and found rack. Please come visit before our December break because we will box them up and donate them on Friday, December 22.



WONDERful!!!

Thanks to all of our families who joined us on the 25th to watch our own private screening of Wonder. It was great to see all the additional family members as well!! Remember Mr. Brown’s precept - “When given the choice between being right or being kind, **choose kind.**” —Dr. Wayne Dyer ”