



# Fabulous Falcon Flyer

Principal, Mrs. Grace Choi

Assistant Principal, Mrs. Mildred T. Grotts

Sixth Avenue Elementary

560 Vaughn Street

Aurora, CO 80011

Office: 303-366-6019

Open 7:30am-3:30pm, Mon-Fri

Attendance Line: 303-326-1640

**September 2015**

Dear Sixth Avenue Families,

What an amazing start we are having to this school year! Thank you for coming to our Back to School Night! It was great meeting new students, as well as seeing all of the returning Sixth Avenue families. I have been around visiting classrooms and the students are settling into their routines and getting right to learning. It is such an honor to serve as your principal for the fifth year.

We are fortunate to have a group of exemplary, talented professionals at Sixth Avenue. I am honored to extend a warm welcome to the newest members of the Sixth Avenue team:

- Kayla Demming – 1<sup>st</sup> Grade
- Kate Anderson – 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade
- Kari Addleman – 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade
- Regina Corby – 4<sup>th</sup> Grade
- Jennifer Devenish – 4<sup>th</sup> Grade
- Howard Shapiro – School Psychologist
- Amy Swing – Affective Needs Teacher
- Molly Carlisle – Affective Needs Para-Educator
- Kim Muller – Secretary
- Cecilia Salazar – Classroom Para-Educator
- Tonya Williams – Library Educational Assistant

We are looking forward to a productive partnership with you to ensure our children can achieve their highest potential. We recognize that in order to be successful in school, our children need support from both the home and school. We know a strong partnership with you will make a great difference in your child's education. As partners, we share the responsibility for our children's success and want you to know that we will do our very best to carry out our responsibilities. We ask that you guide and support your child's learning by ensuring that he/she:

- Attends school daily and arrives on time, ready for the day's learning experience
- Completes all homework assignments given by teachers
- Reads daily to develop a love for reading and to improve literacy skills
- Shares school experiences with you so that you are aware of his/her school life
- Informs you if he/she needs additional support in any area or subject
- Knows that you expect him/her to succeed in school

Please consider joining our school volunteer program as our students can greatly benefit from your involvement and contributions to the volunteer program.

We have many things planned for the upcoming year and we expect to accomplish a lot. The wonderful Sixth Avenue staff and I feel privileged to be a part of this school family. We thank you for your support and look forward to meeting you.

Sincerely,

Grace Choi, Principal

## Calendar of Events

<b>Oct. 1</b>	<b>Field Day</b>
<b>Oct. 8</b>	<b>Bring Someone Special to School Day 2:00 pm</b>
<b>Oct. 9</b>	<b>No School - Teacher Workday</b>
<b>Oct. 12-16</b>	<b>No School – Fall Break</b>
<b>Oct. 20</b>	<b>Picture Day</b>
<b>Oct. 20</b>	<b>Parent Coffee 9:00 am</b>
<b>Oct. 21 &amp; 29</b>	<b>Parent/Teacher Conferences 3:30-7:15 pm</b>

## Classroom News:

### Kindergarten:

Something new! Kindergarten report system has changed! We are now using an assessment system called TS GOLD that not only measures all of the common core standards but also socio-emotional learning and gross and fine motor skills. Because of the new system we will be reporting at the end of trimesters, rather than quarterly. The end of our trimesters are: October 30, February 4, and May 13.

### First Grade:

First grade has started reading groups with stations. The reading stations include computers, word work, reading to themselves, or reading with a partner. We are working on letter sounds and concepts of print to help us become better readers and writers. In writing, we are learning how to use a circle map and a tree map to write three complete sentences. For math, we are working on math facts and addition story problems.

Please check your child's folder for the reading log and return it by the end of the week. Make sure to write the title of the book your child has read and sign off for that given night. Please take out any papers your child is bringing home and completely empty their backpack. Practice sight words with your child each night, and have your child read and write them. It is very important that your child comes to school on time and gets plenty of rest at night.



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## Second Grade:

Hello second grade parents! We have had a great start to the new school year and it has been so fun getting to know your child and building a community. Please remember that attendance is super important for your child to excel. Reminder: homework is due the last day of each week and to please read with your child at least 20 minutes a night. Here is what we are learning! Please ask your students about their academic day or practice these things at home.

**Connection Circle:** We are building relationships among our community and showing RISE behaviors.

**Writing:** We are writing personal narratives about a small moment.

**Reading:** We are asking and answering questions while reading to understand key details. We are thinking about how characters respond to major events.

**Math:** We are adding and subtracting within 50 without counting all. We are learning all combinations of 10 ( $3+ \_ = 10$ ). We are learning all sums to 20 (addition facts).

**Science:** We are learning about balance and motion. We are observing and comparing how objects balance, spin and roll.

## Third Grade:

In third grade we have been learning so much already. We have been enjoying getting to know your kids through our Connection Circle. In science, we have been learning about Structures of Life. We are hoping to go on a field trip next quarter! We are working on addition and subtraction of 2 and 3 digit numbers and rounding in math. We have enjoyed working on responding to the books we've read through writing. Be sure kids are reading nightly 20-30 minutes and logging the title and minutes. Be sure to check your child's planners for homework and other important information. Thanks 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade Team

## Fourth Grade:

Dear Parents- Welcome to a new school year. As we get to know your children and are developing classroom communities, the special qualities of all of our students are shining through.

In reading and writing, we are working on responding to literature, both fiction and non-fiction. Students are using strategies of prediction, questioning, clarifying, and summarizing to increase their understanding of the texts they are reading. We are also learning about non-text features, such as titles, headings, table of contents, index and glossaries to become independent readers of non-fiction.

Currently in science, students are learning about magnetism and electricity. Hands-on experiments along with reading in the supplemental text books, makes science come alive. This is the favorite part of the day for many of our students.

Social studies will be all about Colorado. Students are learning about longitude, latitude, and map reading skills.

During our math block, we are focusing on computation. Students should be practicing their math facts at home every night. It is important for our students to memorize multiplication facts 1-12. We appreciate your support in this effort.

Please remember to check student planners every day, and to check red folders every Friday. Homework is due each Monday. Thank you for sharing your children with us, it is our privilege to be their teachers.

## Fifth Grade:

The fifth graders are learning so much! Our focus for science has been weather. We have studied the atmosphere, the water cycle, and severe weather (thunderstorms, tornados, and hurricanes). In reading, students have been working on the "Fab Four" strategies of reading: Predicting, Asking Questions, Clarifying, and Summarizing. In addition, all students are expected to write a response to what they read. In math, students have been evaluating fractions in order to determine how to add and subtract fractions with like and unlike denominators. This month has been an awesome learning month! Thank you for sharing your kids with us! Grade 5 Team

## Music News:

### **Mark your calendars! Mark your calendars!**

November 19	Grade 3 Musical "From the Inside Out"
December 17	Grade 4 Musical "A Celebration of Peace"
March 24	Grade 2 Musical "We're Making Music"
April 21	Grade 1 Musical "Big Beautiful Planet"

All of these musical performances will be at 5:30 pm in the Gym.

May 25	Kindergarten and 4 <sup>th</sup> Quarter Assembly 2:15 pm, Gym
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May 26	Grade 5 Continuation 1:30 pm, Gym
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This year in music class, your student will be introduced to a new, interactive music program called **Quaver's Marvelous World of Music**. This website ([quavermusic.com](http://quavermusic.com)) will introduce my classes to an interactive website that extends the student's ability to explore and create music beyond the classroom. You can visit [www.QuaverMusic.com](http://www.QuaverMusic.com) and click on the "Sign-Up" window in the upper right hand corner of the screen. Follow the onscreen instructions for creating an account. I hope that you and your student will enjoy their journey into **Quaver's Marvelous World**



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**of Music** both in the classroom and at home. I'm very excited to offer this resource to my classes this year! If you have additional questions, please don't hesitate to ask me, or visit the Quaver Team at the website above. Looking forward to a wonderful school year! Mrs. Tammy M. Peacock

## Technology Corner:

Hello. I am Shannon Wentworth, Sixth Avenue's Technology Teacher. I see your child once a week as part of the specials rotation. Here a few tips you need to know about your child's technology use at school.

1. The Computer Lab can be cold. Our air conditioning is on every day of the year. Technology day is a good day for children to wear uniform appropriate long sleeves or a sweater.
2. Please supply your child with a pair of headphones or earbuds to use in the classrooms and Computer Lab. Sharing these items can spread germs that lead to ear infections or lice. In the Computer Lab, approximately 550 children are sharing headphones.
3. Please leave large earrings at home on Technology days. Headphones can hurt students' ears if they are wearing large earrings.
4. You can find a lot of information on our school website. Student work gets published to one very special page – <http://sixthave.aurorak12.org/studentblog/>. Please check the page regularly to see what our students have created.
5. Students in grades 3-5 are currently learning about Digital Citizenship. They are learning how to identify cyberbullies, how to do good keyword searches on the internet, how to cite sources they use in projects, how to put down technology when they need to pay attention to other things, and what is and isn't okay to share on the internet.
6. I use every student's legal first name in Technology class. The school district is required to use students' legal names when setting up accounts for testing. Please help your child learn their full legal name so they will recognize it when they have to use it to log onto computers and online tests.

I am always happy to answer any questions you have about your child's technology use at school. Please feel free to send me an email at [scwentworth@aurorak12.org](mailto:scwentworth@aurorak12.org) or you can call my voicemail at 303-326-4860.

## Before and After School Care:

Do you need childcare for before or after school? The Kids' Adventures before and after school program is more than just a safe place for kids to go while parents are at work. We offer a structured environment that enhances classroom learning through education and activities in the areas of movement,

nutrition and mindfulness. Our programs focus on social and emotional learning, how to make good nutritional choices, how to manage stress and conflict, and the importance of incorporating physical movement into everyday life.

In short, the Kids' Adventures Program gives kids the structure, knowledge and tools to create healthy, happy and productive lives. Register online at [www.kidsadventures.org](http://www.kidsadventures.org), email [sixthave.elementary@kidsadventures.org](mailto:sixthave.elementary@kidsadventures.org) with questions, or call Melody at 720-936-6357,

## Sixth Avenue Running Club for Girls:

The Sixth Avenue Girls (SAG) Running Club started up for its second season this month! Girls in grades 3-5 are invited to participate! We will be meeting for 10 weeks this fall, and will resume again in the spring as well. Like last year, SAG Running Club will be participating in a 5K in November called The Great Candy Run. This event takes place at Washington Park in Denver and benefits The Fetal Health Foundation, an organization that works to save the lives of babies who are ill. Please feel free to contact Ms. Collier or Ms. Justine for additional information or questions.

## Mad Science:

Students will participate in crazy fun hands on science experiments after school on Wednesdays. Session one for 4<sup>th</sup> graders will be ending October 7. Session two for 5<sup>th</sup> graders will be November 6 – December 16. Don't miss out on the fun!

## Field Day:

Field Day will be held on October 1 for all 1<sup>st</sup> – 5<sup>th</sup> graders! Below is the field day schedule:

Morning Session: 9:00 – 11:30 am, 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Grades

Afternoon Session: 12:30 – 3:00 pm, 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> Grades

Students will arrive at their regular time and be taken out of class when it is their time for field day. If you are planning on attending, please check in at the main office upon arrival for a visitor's pass. Please join us for this exciting day!

## A Special Thanks:

Thanks so much for the kind, generous donations from these area vendors to help with our family events!

Chik Fil A

Sam's Club

Parkview Congregational Church

United Church of Christ in Aurora

Little Cesar's Pizza

Papa John's Pizza



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## SIXTH AVENUE STUDENTS AND STAFF NEED YOU!

### PLEASE VOLUNTEER

Parental involvement is vital to a child's success! Please contact our family liaison, Antonia Lopez, at 303 366 6019 or [aplopez@aps.k12.co.us](mailto:aplopez@aps.k12.co.us) if you are interested in volunteering at Sixth Avenue.