



Fabulous Falcon Flyer

Principal, Mrs. Grace Choi

Assistant Principal, Mrs. Dana Tucker

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

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

September 2016

Dear Sixth Avenue Families,

We have had an amazing start to the 2016-2017 school year! Your children have come back to school eager to learn and our wonderful teachers are motivated to be back and continue teaching them. I have enjoyed getting to meet so many of you at Back to School Night and Math Night and have loved getting to know your children as I visit with them in the classrooms, in the cafeteria and on the playground. I can feel the excitement in the air and I am looking forward to partnering with you to make this a fabulous place for children, staff and community.

As parents, your help making sure students are dropped off and picked up on time, as well as having them at school every day, is greatly appreciated. Please remember that our school hours are from 8:45 a.m. to 3:15 p.m. Your help getting students to school on time every day is greatly appreciated and will have a positive impact on their education.

Please take time to read this entire newsletter so that you can learn about our expectations and the very important work we will do together this year. 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.

I am honored to serve as the principal of Sixth Avenue Elementary School. It is a true privilege to be a part of a community where parents, teachers and students care for each other and strive to build positive relationships that support academic and social growth. I invite you to be involved at school as much as you possibly can! As always, I thank you for allowing me to be a part of your child's education.

Sincerely,

Grace Choi, Principal

- Sept 29** Title I Fall Meeting, 9:00-10:00
- Oct 4** Picture Day
- Oct 5** Field Day
- Oct 7** Teacher Workday, No School
- Oct 10-14** Fall Break, No School
- Oct 17** Bring Someone Special to School, 2:00
- Oct 19&27** Parent/Teacher Conferences, 3:45-7:30
- Oct 27** Parent Coffee, 9:00-10:00
- Nov 14** EPR Day, No School Grades K-5, Preschool Will Attend
- Nov 23-25** Thanksgiving Break, No School

Hello 6th Avenue Families,

I am privileged to be working alongside Principal Grace Choi as the Assistant Principal at Sixth Avenue Elementary! It's been a great year so far. I am beyond dedicated to those I serve in our building and I lead with passion, dedication and heart. Prior to this role, I was an English teacher and instructional coach of teachers within this community for Aurora Public Schools, and at the college level training and supporting new teachers to enter our profession. I believe that in working with our parents we can ensure our children thrive. When I am not spending time with the children and staff in our building, I am with my husband, Caleb and 4 year old son, Avery. I love cooking for others and writing and spending time surrounded by those in my life. I am thrilled to be part of your child's future! I look forward to meeting you. You are an important part of our school community.



Dana Tucker, Assistant Principal

IMPORTANT SCHOOL YEAR INFORMATION:

Arrival

- School begins at 8:40 am with our tardy bell ringing at 8:45am.



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- All students who walk or are brought to school should enter through the gate on Zion St. Parents are asked to drop students at the gate and not enter the playground area.
- The gate closes at 8:40 am. When the first bell rings, students who arrive late should then enter through the main entrance.
- Traffic barriers and staff will be in place to limit traffic in the parking lot for both arrival and dismissal times.
- The bus loop is for busses only. Please do not park or drive through the bus loop at any time.

Afternoon Pick-up Procedure

- Please notify the office of any changes in your student's dismissal plan before 2:45pm.
- Students are dismissed at 3:15pm with instruction continuing until the bell. In order to maximize instructional time and maintain an orderly school environment and safe dismissal, no student may be checked out of the office between 2:45 p.m. and 3:15 p.m. unless it is an emergency or due to an appointment.
- The front entrance is for bus rider dismissal only at 3:15. Parents are not permitted to pick up their child from the main entrance, only from Zion St.
- Our bus drivers have limited visibility and cannot see when students or parents are crossing between the busses. Thus, it is strictly forbidden to cross between the busses due to safety concerns.
- Traffic barriers and staff will be in place to limit traffic in the parking lot for both arrival and dismissal times.

Parking Drop-off and Pick-up

We are expecting all parents and drivers to respect and abide by traffic laws. We will be enlisting the help of law enforcement throughout the year.

Birthdays

Parents are asked not to bring treats or favors for their child's birthday.

Sixth Avenue Elementary School Uniform Policy

Students are required to be in uniform at all times. The purpose of this policy is to help students focus on academics and create a more scholarly environment. All clothing must fit properly with no sagging. Items can be purchased from most stores, including second hand

stores provided clothing is in good condition. The uniform policy is listed below.

Tops

- Polo style or button up blouse or dress shirt in solid colors: White, Light Blue, Dark Blue, Black, or Gray. (no t-shirts, printing, or logos of any kind may be visible)
- Sixth Avenue school t-shirts (available for purchase at school)
- Hoodies, sweaters, and sweatshirts in solid colors: White, Light Blue, Dark Blue, Black, or Gray (no printing or logos of any kind may be visible)

Bottoms

- Pants or Capris in solid colors: Khaki, Blue, or Black
- Plain jeans with no rips, tears, or embellishments
- Skirts, skorts, shorts, and jumpers – solid colors: Khaki, Blue, or Black, The length of skirts, skorts, and shorts should be 4 inches below fingertips when hands are at your side
- No sweatpants or leggings

Shoes

- Appropriate shoes for physical education
- No flip-flops or sandals without a back strap

Hats and Hoods

- Hats and hoods may be worn outside only
- Head coverings are not acceptable inside unless a form of religious expression or for medical concerns

Volunteering at Sixth Avenue

Please consider becoming a part of our Sixth Avenue family by volunteering at our school. If you would like to volunteer at Sixth Avenue, please obtain the Volunteer Approval Request form from our main office prior to going to the Security department. This form needs to be signed by the Principal. There are many ways to volunteer, so please email our family liaison, Antonia Lopez, aplopez@aps.k12.co.us for more information.

CLASSROOM NEWS:

Preschool:

Preschool is off to a great start! The children are learning to follow the daily routines and class rules. New friends are being made and everyone is getting settled in. Thanks to the parents who attended our first parent day. We invite all parents to join us for our October Parent day on October 20th. As the weather starts changing please dress children appropriately and send them with jackets/coats.



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It is important that children attend school every day unless they are ill. If your child is going to be absent please call the office.

Reminder of class times:

AM Class 8:45-11:30 Children should not be dropped off before 8:35. It is important that you pick your child up by 11:35.

PM Class 12:30-3:15 Children should not be dropped off before 12:20. It is important that you pick your child up by 3:20.

Please let me know if you have any questions, comments or concerns!

Ms. Dian

KINDERGARTEN:

Kindergarteners have already learned so much! We have been working on correct letter and number formation along with learning letter names and sounds. We are learning to read sight words and important concepts of print. We are learning to match numbers to amounts and keep track while counting. We are learning to write stories by drawing pictures with details. In community circle time we are learning how to be safe and kind.

We have an upcoming field trip to the Denver Zoo on October 25. Students will need to bring \$2. Look for more detailed information in your child's homework folder.

Kindergarten Team

FIRST GRADE:

Hello First Grade Families, We have had a wonderful start to the new school year! It has been great being able to have the opportunity to get to know your child and begin to build our communities. Please remember that your child will be learning every day, so attendance is a crucial factor of your child's success. We look forward to guiding your student through this first grade process and want to ensure that we (the teacher and the parents) work together to help your child excel. This partnership is necessary for your

student to succeed. Please see below for our curriculum work thus far:

Connection Circle:

- We are building relationships among our community and showing RISE behaviors

Writing:

- We are writing personal narratives about a small moment
- We are using tree maps and circle maps to help us plan our writing. We are using that planning for our observational-comment writing

Reading:

- We are asking and answering questions while reading to understand key details
- We are discussing, drawing, and writing about story elements including characters, setting, problem, solution, and main idea
- We are making text-to-text, text-to-self, and text-to-world connections to stories

Math:

- We are learning all combinations of 10 ($3 + __ = 10$)
- We are learning all sums to 20 addition facts
- Solving addition and subtraction word problems to 20
- Using multiple strategies to solve addition and subtraction families
- Understanding the meaning of the equal sign

Social Studies:

- We are learning about how people work together
- We are learning about people of the world and the jobs that they do

SECOND GRADE:

Hello 2nd 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 along with the math sheet. Please look at your child's daily behavior and then keep the behavior calendar in the folder each day and return it to school. On the last day of the month, students will receive a prize for returning their calendar with a parent signature and every day colored in that they attended school for the month.



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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
- Skip counting by 5s, 10s, 100s
- Identifying even and odd numbers

Social Studies:

- We are learning how to be a responsible citizen in the community
- We are identifying needs and wants, producers and consumers, making good choices.

THIRD GRADE:

Dear parents and guardians, We have gotten off to a wonderful start. We have already learned so much. In math we are working on two part addition and subtraction story problems. In reading we are working on describing character traits using evidence from the text. In writing we are writing Imaginative Narrative stories. Please be aware that the 3rd graders will be taking two Acuity tests in Math and Literacy on September 19th and 20th. Please make sure they are here and get plenty of rest.

3rd Grade Team

FOURTH GRADE:

Welcome to 4th grade! We are so excited to have your child in our classes. This year, we will be using student planners to communicate with parents about unfinished class work, homework, and behavior color. Thank you for signing your child's planner every day and encouraging excellent

behavior in class. **All unfinished class work is due the following day.**

Homework packets go home every Monday and are due on the following Monday. In addition to the homework packet, reading and practicing multiplication facts every day will help your child with all of the concepts we will be learning this year. In science, we have finished learning about magnetism and natural resources and will be shooting forward into the stars with our exciting solar systems unit.

FIFTH GRADE:

Good afternoon, families! Fifth grade has had a busy start this year! We are focusing on our learning through the lens of a growth mindset, which means that even when the going gets tough, we keep going! In reading, we have been exploring the multiple perspectives of R. J. Palacio's book *Wonder*. Writing finds us composing imaginative narratives with creativity. Exploring the many pieces of matter, mixtures, and solutions has kept us busy during science, and in math, we have been using decimals in real world problems, like grocery shopping!

As you can see, fifth grade is a rigorous year. Please make sure that your student does his/her homework every night and comes to school rested and ready to learn! Thank you for all you do!

Best, Team Fifth Grade

MUSIC NEWS:

We are off to a great start this year in music. We have been discussing our four goals that we will be learning in music this year. The first goal in music is how we develop good performance skills and good audience behaviors. Students begin every class with a warm-up song that promotes singing and performing as a whole group. Our goal by the end of first semester is to have some students feeling comfortable to sing by themselves. Our second goal in music this year is to have students create music. Students are currently working on a rhythm unit and beginning to create 2 beat, 3 beat and 4 beat rhythms. Our next step will be to perform those rhythms your child has created using drums. The third goal in music is to begin to



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understand the essential elements of music: tempo, dynamics, melody, rhythm and how we use our voice.

Our last goal in music this year is to have your child listen and describe the music they are listening to. This is done by group conversations and journal writing in the upper grades. I'm looking forward to working with and teaching your child to be a great musician.

Take care, Ms. Tammy Peacock

ART NEWS:

Thank you all for such a great welcome to Sixth Avenue Elementary! It has been an amazing start to the school year and I am so grateful to a part of such a wonderful community. I am in my fifth year of teaching art and come to Sixth Avenue by way of Adams 14 School District. This year you will see art students really focusing on the process of making art highlighting the unique style of each individual student. As an art teacher, it is my goal that students will take the time to build, explore and create work with intent and meaning. The year began with all grade levels constructing classroom portfolios and completing drawings started by the artist Mica Angela Hendricks.

Kindergartners and first graders are learning the anatomy of trees and various ways of depicting them. All their hard work will lead to a final painting made with actual tree parts.

Second graders are using their imaginations to create drawings inspired by a little bunny in the book "Not A Box" who imagines a box as something else. Students are sketching out different ideas followed by the completion of a final draft of how imagination can change an ordinary box into something amazing.

Third grade is demonstrating their understanding of hybrids by combining various animal parts creating unique and outrageous creatures.

Fourth graders are just beginning to develop drawings of friends and family members, not as actual people, but as

symbols. Students will be putting in hours of brainstorming, sketching and compositional exploration to yield interesting and thoughtful representations of important people within their lives.

Fifth grade is also beginning a new project analyzing the artwork of Hollis Sigler and how her work communicates eventful moments throughout her challenging life. The fifth grade students will then create work that also illustrates important life altering moments highlighting student's lived experiences.

Again, I can't express how grateful I am to be here at Sixth Avenue. I look forward to a wonderful year of art!

FIELD DAY:

Sixth Avenue Field Day will be held for all 1st-5th graders on Wednesday, October 5th! We would like to invite all of you to join us on this exciting day. Your students will be engaging in a variety of activities that will challenge them to work together, problem solve, and move their bodies! Below is the Field Day schedule as well as reminders of what the students will need when they come to school on Field Day. Students will report to school at regular time and will be taken out of class when it is their time for Field Day.

Morning Session: 9:00am-11:30am

All 1st and 2nd. 3rd Grade Ms. Stretz and Ms. Spena

Afternoon Session: 12:30pm-3:00pm

All 4th and 5th. 3rd Grade Ms. Pritchard

Students will eat lunch in the cafeteria between the morning and afternoon sessions on a modified schedule.

Reminders: Please send your student/s to school on field day with athletic shoes that they can comfortably run in, a water bottle, and sun screen and/or hat. If your student would like to wear appropriate athletic shorts and shirt, they may do so. If you are planning on attending, please check in at the main office upon arrival for a visitor pass. We will have event maps and schedules available on



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Wednesday. Thank you for your support in making our 2016 Field Day a success for our students!

Sincerely, Mr. Carhart, Physical Education

UPDATE YOUR ADDRESS ONLINE

Thanks to Aurora Public Schools' new Online Address Change Tool, you can update your address without having to visit Centralized Admissions. Simply bring a photo ID and proof of residence to your child's school and make the change in minutes! Doing so will ensure that you continue receiving important school communications. For more information, visit

<http://admissions.aurorak12.org/requirements/required-documents>.

THANK YOU TO OUR FABULOUS VOLUNTEERS!

We want to thank and acknowledge our wonderful volunteers, for their dedicated support in the cafeteria, the library, and clerical jobs. From us to YOU our fabulous volunteers, thank you; with wholehearted sincerity, we wouldn't be able to do our jobs if we didn't have you. Thank you for making a difference!



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