



# 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

**November 2015**

Dear Sixth Avenue Families,

I hope that you all had a wonderful Fall Break and enjoyed special time with your children. We have finished the first quarter of the school year, and I want to express my appreciation to each and every one of you for all the things you've done to have such a great start to this school year!

Our staff and students have been working hard since the first day of school. Lots of great learning is happening in every part of the school, every day! I encourage you to read your child's grade level news in this newsletter to get a quick update on what your child is learning and ways you can support his/her learning.

November is considered to be a time for giving thanks. I would like to express my gratitude to all of our Sixth Avenue families. I am thankful for:

- Our families for supporting our school and students;
- Our volunteers(WATCH DOGS Dads, Grandmas, parent volunteers, retired teachers) for giving their time, talents and dedicated hearts to our students and staff;
- Our staff members for working extremely hard to build relationships and to inspire every student to think, to learn, and to be their best;
- Our students for being thoughtful, caring, creative, and courageous every day!

This November, I hope that you can find the time to stop during your busy days and reflect upon all that you are thankful for.

Thank you for all you do for your kids and our school each day. We are so lucky to be partnering with you in your child's education. From the staff at Sixth Avenue, we wish your family a Happy Thanksgiving.

Sincerely,

Grace Choi, Principal

## Calendar of Events

<b>Nov. 25-27</b>	<b>Thanksgiving Break/No School</b>
<b>Dec. 1</b>	<b>Picture Retakes</b>
<b>Dec. 1</b>	<b>Parent Coffee 9:00-10:00</b>
<b>Dec. 15</b>	<b>Parent Math Workshop 5:00-6:00</b>
<b>Dec. 17</b>	<b>Bring Someone Special to School 2:00</b>
<b>Dec. 17</b>	<b>Grade 4 Musical 5:30-6:30</b>
<b>Dec. 18-Jan. 1</b>	<b>Winter Recess/No School</b>
<b>Jan. 4</b>	<b>No School/Elementary Only</b>
<b>Jan. 13</b>	<b>Parent Coffee 9:00-10:00</b>
<b>Jan. 14</b>	<b>Skate City 4:00-6:00</b>
<b>Jan. 18</b>	<b>Martin Luther King Day/No School</b>

## Classroom News:

### Kindergarten:

Report cards went home November 9-16. Please check your child's backpack and clean it out every day. Many backpacks are getting quite heavy. We recently sent home two math games for your child to play and practice at home. Please look for these games and ask your child to teach the game to you. Reading with your child is important, not only to develop reading skills but to elicit enthusiasm for books and the process of reading. Please try to share a love of reading with your child.

### First Grade:

In first grade, we are working on subtraction strategies in math. Please continue to practice addition and subtraction at home. In reading, we are learning about characters, setting, and the main idea of stories. Please ask your child to tell you the characters, setting, and main idea of the books you are reading nightly. Finally, we have an upcoming science unit on solids and liquids. While around the house or out running errands, help your child identify the solids and liquids around you. Thanks for your continued support.

The First Grade Team



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## Second Grade:

Hello 2<sup>nd</sup> grade parents! Thank you to all for attending the 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter Parent Teacher Conferences and Math Night. It is great to meet and discuss how we can work together in helping your child excel. Please remember that attendance is super important! We have wonderful incentives each month for students who arrive and stay throughout the school day. 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:

In writing, we are writing imaginative narratives. Imaginative stories have multiple attempts to solve a major problem. In reading, we are asking questions to understand key details, thinking about how characters respond to major events, and comparing and contrasting two or more versions of the same story.

In math, we are revisiting addition and story problems. We learned how to solve two related problems and problems with an unknown change. We are looking at patterns and skip counting by 2s, 5s, and 10s. In social studies, we are learning how to be responsible citizens by respecting others and how we can make contributions to our school, community and country. We are learning that the role of the government is to make and enforce laws and provide services for the common good, and learning about our country's symbols, documents, historical values, principles and beliefs.

## Third Grade:

Dear Third Grade Parents: Thank you so much for joining us for conferences and math night. We appreciate your commitment to your student's learning. We look forward to meeting with you again soon. This quarter, we are working on reading non-fiction texts with a focus on main idea, supporting details, asking and answering questions and comparing and contrasting two texts on the same topic. Students are being asked to support their thinking with details from the text. In writing, we are writing to explain why, which will then guide us into persuasive writing. Finally, in math, we are working on fractions, addition and subtraction within 1000, multiplication and

division facts. We have homework every week. Please have your student read 20-30 minutes daily and complete the math work sent home. Homework is due on Fridays. Thank you again for your continued support. Please contact us for any questions you might have.  
Third Grade Team

## Fourth Grade:

Dear Parents: It is hard to believe that the Winter Holidays are just around the corner. We enjoyed meeting with many of you during conferences and discussing your child's progress.

Students are working on non-fiction report writing in science this quarter. Science content this quarter is Environments. We continue to work on responding to literature orally and in written form, as well as non-fiction text features. In math, we are spending the next three weeks working on four digit by four digit subtraction with regrouping. We will move to fractions in week four. Please make sure planners are signed every evening and the red Friday folders are returned every Monday.  
The Fourth Grade Team

## Fifth Grade:

5th Graders are currently working on finding the main ideas of nonfiction passages in reading. In writing, we are composing reports of information from multiple sources. Our new science unit has us taking on roles as chemists as we analyze mixtures and solutions – ask your student the difference! If you have any questions or need any resources to support your student at home, please don't hesitate to ask! Thank you!  
The Fifth Grade Team

## Technology Corner:

Our entire school is joining the largest learning event in history during Computer Science Education Week. From December 7-11, students in all grade levels will participate in The Hour of Code. This year we are hoping to have 100 million students from around the world join this special event! Our Hour of Code event is a promise that Sixth Avenue Elementary is ready to teach foundational 21<sup>st</sup> Century skills to all students. We will be completing lessons and programming activities at <http://www.code.org>. We want to make our Hour of Code event huge. I encourage you to reach out to local media, share the news on your



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social media channels and volunteer to help. See <http://hourofcode.org> for details, and please help us spread the word. Thank you for supporting our students and our community!

Shannon Wentworth, Instructional Technology Teacher

## Internet Safety

Protecting your children when they are using the Internet is very important to Sixth Avenue Elementary. This quarter we will address the Children’s Online Privacy Protection Act (COPPA). This law was written to give parents control over what information is collected about their children online. This law also applies to video game platforms, and mobile apps. Any website that is designed for children under age 13 is required to receive direct parental consent before collecting any personal information about the children.

Because of the COPPA law, many social media sites like Facebook, Google, YouTube, Twitter and Snapchat require that users be 13 years or older before they can have their own accounts. As a parent, it is your right to check which websites, gaming systems and apps your child is using. Below are some popular sites and some better alternatives:

Not Compliant: COPPA Compliant:

YouTube <https://www.kidzvuz.com>

Facebook: <http://www.clubpenguin.com>

Twitter <https://support.playkidsapp.com/hc/en-us>

Instagram <http://www.zuzee.com>

## Music News:

Thank you to our 3<sup>rd</sup> grade students and families for your attendance at the concert on November 19. We had a wonderful time singing and performing for our families. Please mark the dates and times down for upcoming performances here at Sixth Avenue:

Grade 4	December 17	5:30 pm
	“Make a Difference”	
Grade 2	March 24	5:30 pm
	“We’re Making Music”	
Grade 1	April 21	5:30 pm
	“Big Beautiful Planet”	
Kindergarten	May 25	2:15 pm
	Continuation/Awards	
Grade 5	May 26	1:30 pm
	Continuation/Awards	

Students are continuing to explore the standards of singing, performing, creating, reading, writing, listening to and describing music. It has been so good to see the growth of their musical knowledge. Thanks for the continued support from home.

### **Attendance Matters at Sixth Avenue Elementary!**

#### **How is Attendance Focused on School Success?**

- Chronic absence in Kindergarten is associated with lower academic performance in 1<sup>st</sup> grade among children and, for poor children, predicts the lowest levels of educational achievement at the end of fifth grade.
- By 6<sup>th</sup> grade, missing 20% (or two months of school) is a critical warning sign of school drop-out.
- By 9<sup>th</sup> grade, missing 20% of school can be a better predictor of drop-out than 8<sup>th</sup> grade test scores.

#### **What Parents Can Do**

**Help** your child get into the habit and learn the value of regular routines.

**Teach** your child that attending school is non-negotiable unless they are truly sick.

**Build** relationships with other families and discuss how you can help each other out (e.g., drop off or pick up children, babysit, translation assistance) in times of need or emergencies.

**Identify** non-academic activities (drama, art, music, etc.) that can help motivate your child’s interest in school and learning, and seek out schools that offer those experiences.

## Morning Drop-Off Procedures

Please continue to keep our students safe by pulling to the curb at our drop off lanes, and reminding your student to cross only at the cross-walks. In order to keep traffic congestion down, please do not double park. When you arrive, if the playground is empty please walk your student inside to get a tardy slip, even if the gates are still open. We appreciate your cooperation in keeping our students safe!

## Before and After School Care:

Need before and after school care? Kids’ Adventures provides a safe environment for play and homework right here at Sixth Avenue. Visit [www.kidsadventures.org](http://www.kidsadventures.org) for more information, or call Melody at 720-936-6357.



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