



Fabulous Falcon Flyer

Principal, Vanessa Valencia

Assistant Principal, 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

March 2018

Dear Sixth Avenue Families,

As we move into spring and the final quarter of the 17/18 school year, we also start to prepare our students for the Colorado Measures of Academic Success (CMAS) state assessment. These assessments help us understand whether students have mastered the grade level content. Below is our CMAS testing schedule. Please ensure your student is here on time each day and that they have adequate rest so they can best demonstrate what they have learned.

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
3/19	3/20	3/21	3/22	3/23
Practice Test	3/4/5 ELA 9:00-10:40	3/4/5 ELA 9:00-10:40	3/4/5 ELA 9:00-10:40	NO SCHOOL
SPRING BREAK				
4/2	4/3	4/4	4/5	4/6
NO SCHOOL	Practice Test	3/4/5 MATH 9:00-10:40	3/4/5 MATH 9:00-10:40	3/4/5 MATH 9:00-10:40
4/9	4/10	4/11	4/12	4/13
Make Ups	5 th Science 9:00-10:40	5 th Science 9:00-10:40	5 th Science 9:00-10:40	Make Ups
4/16	4/17	4/18	4/19	4/20
Make Ups	Make Ups	Make Ups	Make Ups	Make Ups

Here are a few test taking tips that you can share with your student to help set them up for success:

- Read all of the test directions
- Read the test questions, slowly and carefully to make sure the question and all of the parts of the question are understood
- Read all of the answer choices before responding
- If you don't know the answer to a question, skip it and come back to it later
- Eliminate any answers that you know are wrong, and then consider only those that might be right
- Go back and check your answers when you are done with the test
- Take some deeper breaths and shift your position or take small movements to keep yourself alert
- Take your time, do your best, and don't stress

Thank you for preparing our students to do their very best on these upcoming assessments. Let's always work as a village to raise our children. Together we RISE!

Sincerely,

Vanessa Valencia, Principal

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

3/19-3/22

3/20-4/12

3/21

3/23

3/26-3/30

4/2

4/11

4/12

5/3

5/4

5/18

5/23

5/24

5/24

5/24

Book Fair – Library

CMAS Testing – Grades 3, 4, 5

Parent/Teacher Conferences 3:45-7:00 pm

No School-Professional Release Day

No School-Spring Break

No School-Teacher Workday

Title I Spring Meeting, 9:00 am

Preschool Parent Day

Kindergarten Field Day

Half Day – Dismissal at 12:00

Talent Show, 2:00 pm

Last Day of Preschool

Family Picnic, 11:30 – 1:30

5th Grade Continuation, 1:30 – 3:00 pm

Last Day of School



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Classroom News:

Preschool:

It's hard to believe our school year is almost over! We will finish the year with a trip to the Zoo and units on the Garden and Bugs. Our work will be focused on writing our names, continuing to learn our letters and letter sounds and recognizing and labeling numbers one through ten. Our reading focus will be on book handling, predicting what will happen next in the story and answering story related questions at the end.

Registration and Enrollment are now open for returning preschoolers and children transitioning to Kindergarten. Please call the Early Childhood Education office with any questions you may have 303.364.9371.

Our last Parent Day will be Thursday April 12th. The morning class end of year celebration will be Monday May 21st and the afternoon class will have theirs on Tuesday May 22nd. The last day of school is Wednesday May 23rd. Look for more information to come home in April.

Kindergarten:

In Kindergarten we are a couple of weeks into our 3rd trimester already! Students are working hard to use letter sounds to read books and write their opinions about various topics. In math students continue to practice counting and writing numbers, while also learning the important concepts of addition and subtraction. To help your child at home, set aside a few minutes a day to read together, practice sight words and letter sounds, count and write numbers. These homework choices and more are listed at the bottom of the calendar in your child's blue folder.

First Grade:

As we near the end of the year, there will be some fun times up ahead in first grade! In math, we will turn our attention to number lines, place value, adding and subtracting two-digit numbers, and creating and solving word problems! Our upcoming science unit will be Plants and Insects. Students will have the opportunity to see the life cycles of real plants and insects in our own classrooms! Our writing focus will be Opinion Writing for Quarter Four.

We will integrate many of the science concepts into our Opinion Writing unit. Daily Five stations will remain the main component of our reading block. Please be sure to continue reading with your child, even as the end of the school year nears! Thanks for all of your continued support!

Mr. Conrardy, Mr. Milbert, & Ms. MacCarthy

Second Grade:

The second grade team would like to thank all of the families who came to conferences. If you weren't able to attend the first session, please join us for conferences on March 21st.

Reading for this quarter is focused on expanding our ability to compare and contrast fairytales and folktales from diverse cultures. We will also be determining the central message and moral of the stories.

Second graders are writing personal narrative pieces in which they recount an event that includes details to describe actions, thoughts, and feelings. They will continue to use grade level conventions in their writing.

We are going to be solving three-digit addition and subtraction with and without regrouping within 1,000. Also, we will be using math manipulatives to explore shapes and area.

In science, we are learning about life cycles of plants and animals, as well as how plants grow.

Just a reminder, please remember that students bring homework home every Friday, and it needs to be returned the following Friday.

Third Grade:

Dear Third Grade Parents,

Thank you so much for joining us for conferences. We appreciate your commitment to your student's learning. In fourth quarter, we are working on reading fiction texts with a focus on recounting stories, determining the central message, character analysis, comparing and contrasting characters, and distinguishing own point of view of the



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characters. Students are being asked to support their thinking with details from the text. In writing, we are writing narratives and poetry, focusing on developing the writer through dialogue and descriptions of actions, thoughts, and feelings. Finally, in math, we are working on multiplication and division, area, geometry, fractions, and multi-step word problems. Within all subjects there is an integrated focus on history, life structures, and what influences change over time. On March 20, third grade will start testing CMAS (Colorado Measures of Academic Success), a state standardized test. Please ensure your child gets a good night's sleep. Thank you again for your continued support. Please contact us for any questions you might have.

Third grade team

Fourth Grade:

Happy Spring! Can you believe it's already 4th quarter? As we are nearing the end of the school year, please keep in mind that there is still a lot of learning left to do. In math we will be moving into geometry and measurement. We will shift from science back to social studies and learn about economics and our government. Our reading and writing will focus on narrative text.

Our students will be taking CMAS tests in English Language Arts on March 20, 21, and 22, and Math on April 4, 5, and 6. It is extremely important that students get a good night's sleep and are here every day so that they can do their very best to demonstrate their learning on these state assessments.

As the weather warms up and spring fever hits, we need to keep our school rules in mind for the safety and learning of all students. Cell phones must be turned off and remain in backpacks at all times while in the building during the school day. Please help your kiddos remember to leave all toys and other electronic devices at home as well, as they can distract from the learning of all students in the class.

Be looking for information about our end of the year picnic on the last day of school. We hope you join us to celebrate a great year of learning!

Fifth Grade:

We had a great quarter here in Fifth Grade! Students did a number of hands-on projects, including building their own landforms and learning how to separate mixtures and solutions in science. In math, we tackled multiplying and dividing fractions. We wrote research papers that went along with our landform projects. We were busy!

During Quarter 4, we have a number of things we are looking forward to. We will be writing poetry, continuing to work with decimals and fractions, and studying the human body. Please be on the lookout for a permission slip coming home in the next two weeks for your child to participate in our Personal Wellness Unit.

We are so sad this year is rapidly coming to a close! We have had such a great time with this group of students. We are busy planning their continuation ceremony. Can't wait to see you all there!

Technology:

We are in our final stretch of the 2017-2018 school year, and it has been such a wonderful, fun, learning time in Technology. In this last Quarter students in Kindergarten and 1st grade will master their mouse and word processing skills through Microsoft Word. Students in grades 2-5 will engage in the world of coding and inventions of 2017 that have impacted our world.

Scholastic Book Fair:

The Book Fair will be held in the Library on 3/19-3/22 from 9:00-4:00. Students will come during their regular specials time to make their wish list and browse the books.

We will have a family event, including shopping, door prizes and "Reading to the Paws" on Wednesday 3/21 during conferences from 3:30 to 5:30. There will be two

therapy dogs at this event so that the students can read to them...they love it! If you are interested in volunteering at the book fair please contact Mrs. Browning in the library. It is going to be a wonderful week!



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Keeping Kids Healthy and Ready to Learn

We know that students need to be healthy in order to learn. APS has partnered with Aurora Mental Health, Children's Hospital Colorado and Rocky Mountain Youth Clinics to provide Kids Clinic locations at Crawford and Laredo elementary schools. The clinics offer comprehensive, caring and affordable health care for all APS students and their brothers and sisters. Both Kids Clinic locations provide physical, dental and mental health services to patients with and without health insurance. They can also help uninsured families enroll in insurance plans, including Medicaid and Child Health Plan Plus. The clinics are staffed by bilingual nurse practitioners, physician assistants and certified medical assistants.

Contact each clinic to make an appointment. After school appointments and walk-ins are available. Hours vary by location. Feel free to call one of the clinics listed below for more information or visit our website at aurorak12.org/kids-clinic.



1600 Florence Street • Aurora, CO 80010
303-326-2090



1420 Laredo Street • Aurora, CO 80011
303-326-1953



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