

MONTEREY ELEMENTARY

SEPTEMBER 2023 Newsletter



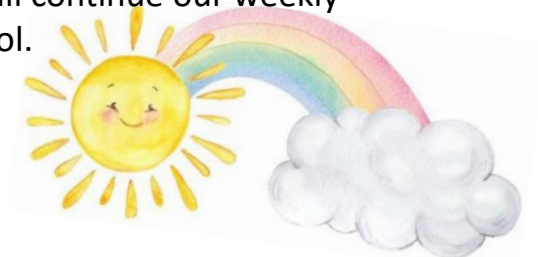
Message from the Principal

Welcome to the 2023-24 school year! This year our theme is *Get in the Game! #GameOn!* We chose this theme because we want students to go all in with learning this year! Students need to be present, participate and be active learners in the classroom. Our teachers are fully in the game with a new reading program, CKLA and a new version of our math program, Eureka 2. Our new programs are engaging and provide many opportunities for students to problem solve, work in groups with other students and use their critical thinking skills. This is also why it is so important that students are at school daily! What they are doing in class cannot be “made up” with worksheets!

Another reason why Ms. Dahl, our assistant principal and I chose this theme was because Monterey is really showing academic growth! Now we are challenging ourselves, our staff and our teachers to keep the momentum going, #GameOn! Every spring our 3rd, 4th and 5th graders in the state of Colorado take the CMAS tests in reading/writing, math and 5th grade takes science. The state measures how well students did on their testing, but it also measures how 4th graders grew from 3rd to 4th grade and how 4th graders grew from 4th to 5th grade. Growth for Monterey was excellent! Our growth in reading/writing met the state standard and our growth in math exceeded the state standard! Our growth in math was the highest growth in the district! We want to continue our academic achievement and growth! So, we want all of our Mustangs to *Get in the Game! #GameOn*

Make sure to get signed up with your student(s) teacher(s) in Class Dojo! Most of our classroom and school communication is done through Class Dojo and Facebook so make sure you are signed up on Class Dojo and follow us on Facebook! Ms. Dahl, our assistant principal and I will continue our weekly administrator’s message on Class Dojo every Friday to keep you up to date on events and information happening at the school. We are excited for all the great things this year will bring!

It is going to be an outstanding year!
Ms. Tunson, Principal



Kindergarten News

What a wonderful start to our Kindergarten year! The boys and girls are quickly adjusting to school routines and procedures; they are already showing ROCKS and are being responsible, organized, cooperative, kind, and safe. We are very proud of them!

In order to lay a strong foundation for learning, we start slowly in Kindergarten with academics. We are learning skills and strategies, like hearing and counting sounds around us, words in sentences, and then sounds in words. These things help us learn to read and write. We are exploring nursery rhymes and fables so we can feel the rhythm and rhyme as well as enjoy language. We are practicing holding crayons and markers with a 3-finger grip, while we draw different kinds of lines. We are sorting and counting objects in different ways and in different patterns as well as working on thinking and solving problems. During some of these activities, we are working with partners and becoming better listeners and speakers.

Kindergarten is an amazing time of growth in all areas for students! It is exciting and it is hard work. Thank you for your support and help on this journey.

Mrs. Salles and Ms. Tomanini



Our 1st Grade Classroom News



Important Dates

September 4th-Labor Day (no school)
September 5th (no school) teacher workday

Reminders

Homework is to practice all week! Please make sure your child is reading each night!

Supporting Your Student at Home

Please practice tying shoes and manners!

What We're Learning This Week

Reading-We are working on blending three letter words example (cat, nut, bet), words to practice are (a, to, and, the, so, no, of to, is). Also, ask questions about the story that was read (Who are the characters? Setting? Beginning, middle, and end of story)?

Writing-Work on complete sentences-ending marks, how sentences start, finger spacing, do they sound right and make sense, printing neatly.

Math-We are working on counting on instead of counting all-example instead of 1,2,3,4,5,6,7,etc. counting on 5,6,7, using tally marks, graphing, number bonds, and equations using whole and parts.



2nd Grade News

SECOND GRADE IS OFF TO A GREAT START!

In Reading...

Students are reviewing first grade skills while they complete the beginning of the year testing. Students are quickly learning second grade classroom reading routines. After beginning of the year testing, students will be working in small reading groups and getting the individualized help they need to improve reading skills.

In Math...

Students have been reviewing measurement and graphing. They continue to learn the routines for the new math program.

In Writing...

Students have already made great strides in writing. We have reviewed all the steps in the writing process, and they are ready to target specific writing skills. Students are grouped so they get targeted instruction to help them grow in their writing skills.

3rd Grade News

This Month In 3rd Grade

Miss Mayorga and Mrs. Disney

A note from your teachers:

We are so excited for this new school year! Can you believe we have been in school for almost one month already?

Students are getting the hang of routines and procedures by now and we are learning a lot already! We can't wait to see how much our students will grow!

Important Reminders:

- ✓ Clubs begin the week of September 6th with the exception of cursive club and cheerleading club
- ✓ Remember that students must be in uniform every day. If students are going to wear sweaters and light jackets inside, they must be solid uniform colors. Information about uniforms can be found on our website or class dojo.

What we're Learning:

English Language Arts:

In ELA we are finishing our Classic Tales Unit and will be moving on to our Animal Classification unit.

Math:

In Math we are continuing to work on multiplication and division with units of 2, 3, 4, 5 and 10. Students have learned how to show their work by grouping, drawing an array or a tape diagram. We will continue working with multiplication and division throughout the school year.

4th Grade News

Month Overview:

In reading and writing, we focused on personal narratives. As we read different narratives we looked at the features that make personal narratives interesting or good. Some of the features include: character traits, dialogue, cause and effect, and sensory details. After reading different texts, students tried to include some of above features in their own writing.

In math, we started with looking at place value up to the millions to understand a value of a digit in different place values. We then learned how to express a number in different forms and ended the month with comparing seven digit numbers.

Upcoming:

Next month students will finish up reading personal narratives and will start to read about The Middle Ages. While reading students will practice being able to pull text evidence that supports their answers and comes from the text. In math students will work on being to round to different place values, and do seven digit addition and subtraction.

Reminders:

Students do have homework every week. Homework is only five days a week and is due on Mondays. Homework consists of 20 minutes of reading, a short response about their reading, and some math problems.

Please make sure your student comes to school on time.



5th Grade News

What a great first month of school this has been! We have some exciting things coming up in Math and Science! In **Math**, students will be continuing to work on multiplying whole numbers using three different methods. Soon, we will work on dividing whole number, as well. Before September is over, 5th graders will begin working on adding and subtracting fractions. For **Science**, we have lots of exciting Science Days coming up to help us explore matter. We will be making root beer/coke floats to show the three states of matter. We will also be making our own ice cream in class before the October break to show how matter can change states! Keep reviewing R.O.C.K.S. behavior so that all students can earn these days and participate. Make sure you are checking planners and take-home folders daily, please!

August has gone in a blink of an eye, now onto September. In **Reading** for August, we have been focused on Personal Narratives. We read a personal narrative on celebrating Thanksgiving for the first time, a narrative about names, and a Rosa Park's narrative. Students had many options to write their own personal narratives. In September we will continue to work on personal narratives but will than change direction into learning about Early American Civilizations (The Mayas, Aztecs, and Inca Civilizations) I am very excited about this unit as history is one of my favorite subjects.

SEPTEMBER

2023

District 2

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					1	2
3	4 Labor Day! No School	5 No School	6 Sports Club Battle of the Books 3:30-4:30	7 Homework Club English Club Designing with Canva 3:30-4:30	8	9
10	11	12 Cursive Club 3:30-4:30	13 Sports Club Battle of the Books 3:30-4:30	14 Homework Club English Club Designing with Canva 3:30-4:30	15	16
17	18	19 Cursive Club Cheerleading Club 3:30-4:30	20 Sports Club Battle of the Books 3:30-4:30	21 Homework Club English Club Designing with Canva 3:30-4:30	22	23
24	25	26 Cursive Club Cheerleading Club 3:30-4:30	27 Sports Club Battle of the Books 3:30-4:30	28 Homework Club English Club Designing with Canva 3:30-4:30	29	30

Welcome to the 2023-2024 school year in Harrison School District 2. We offer many opportunities for you to be informed about the direction of our school district and hope you will take advantage of each one. Be in the know!!

- Provide your child's school with your current email and cell phone number – allowing you to receive emergency and inclement weather updates
- Follow us on social media – Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, and Vimeo
- Download our District app **for free** from the App Store or Google Play
- Check our website regularly at www.hsd2.org
- Watch Board of Education meetings monthly via the District's Facebook page and website