COYOTE WILLOW FAMILY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

SEPTEMBER 2024



CALENDAR REMINDERS

September 18: Picture Day September 19: 4th grade field trip September 20: Coffee & Curriculum 11am September 27: Used Books Sale 8am-1pm Fall Fair 4-7pm October 4: ABQ Aloft (7am); FTO Meeting October 9-10: NO SCHOOL, Conferences October 11: Fall Break October 12: Fall Break October 14: Indigenous Peoples Day October 18: Coffee & Curriculum 11am and HS Meet and Greet, 12:30-2pm October 21: Galloping Goal Family Event October 25: Freaky Friday (school-based event) November 1: FTO Meeting

November 5: Election Day, NO SCHOOL November 11: Veteran's Day NO SCHOOL

November 13: Open House 9-1 November 15: Coffee & Curriculum November 27-29: Thanksgiving Break



DEAR COYOTES: A MESSAGE FROM MS. ADRIANNE

Greetings, families and friends!

Here we find ourselves halfway through September, and already deep into the curricular goals of our fall semester. We are grateful that you are here, learning and growing with us!

Family School curriculum and homeschooling practices are made possible in collaboration with parents, and we were delighted to have so many parents attend our Fall Parent Academy Classes.

We had over one hundred parents/ family members attend our August Curriculum Night, and over 80 kids attended our free childcare, led by staff and EAs, to ensure that parent learning was possible. Our most popular class was about supporting homeschooling projects (science and social studies), so we are offering that class again in our September Coffee & Curriculum, which is this Friday from llam-12:30pm.

Fall Math Classes have concluded as well. Our most wellattended classes were Anti-Counting and Addition, but we only had 5-8 guests attend our older grade classes, including Fractions I and 2, decimals and percentages, and algebra. If you need additional support in any math content, or were unable to attend those classes, we hope that you will seek resources-ask your teacher to cover math content in parent meetings, schedule additional math support sessions, and use our Family School Math Curriculum Website to watch recordings of older videos (we do not have videos for percentages, geometry, or algebra). You can download this PDF and <u>click HERE</u> for the website, or find it on our FTO's website under Curricular Resources: coyotewillowfto.org.



SEPTEMBER 17TH IS IT PROFESSIONAL APPRECIATION DAY. THANK YOU TO OUR VERY OWN MR. FRANK FOR MAKING SURE WE ARE NEVER 404 NOT FOUND!

VOLUNTEERING AND VISITING CAMPUS

Coyote Willow is so lucky to have so many volunteers on campus who support curriculum and instruction.

With so many new volunteers helping in classes, we have seen a need to go over a Parent Volunteer Confidentiality Agreement. All parents will be asked to sign this agreement as they come in to volunteer. If a parent is found not in compliance with these standards, you may be asked not to return as a volunteer.

Please recall that volunteers must have a CURRENT APS Volunteer license stored in both the office and on their person. An observer may not need that license, but should provide a teacher 24 hour notice for that observation.



Parent Volunteer and Confidentiality Agreement

Required for all regular volunteers

As a volunteer, I agree to:

- Maintain necessary APS Mandated Volunteer Clearance.
- Abide by all APS safety regulations and requirements.
- Be bound by the same standard of confidentiality that teachers adhere to. What happens in the classroom, stays in the classroom. This is not only a legal issue but an ethical one.
- Work with students in the classroom respectfully, kindly, and equitably.
- Notify the teacher promptly when there is a need for discipline or conflict resolution.
- Bring concerns about the classroom directly to the classroom teacher, and not to other members of the CWFS Community.

PARENT MEETING POLICIES

Parent meetings are an integral part of our practices within Family School. Parent attendance at them is crucial for success with implementing curriculum.

Parent meetings are designed to have parents interacting, doing activities, and engaging in community. The rule is that "it shouldn't be an email," if you know what we mean!

Please recall that parent meeting attendance is part our Family School commitments. The Commitment Form reads:

Parent meetings are in-person and on campus. The instructing person(s) will attend a minimum of 10 hours of parent meetings per year per classroom. If a family has more than 2 teachers, they will make arrangements to attend a rotating two of those three meetings every month, and facilitate communication with the third teacher. The instructing person(s) will have a maximum absence of no more than 1 contact session per year in addition to 1 made-up contact session absence.

Please note that students should not attend parent meetings (infants welcome as needed).





PICTURE DAY REMINDERS PICTURE DAY IS TOMORROW! SEPTEMBER 18TH!



Please note that sibling photos will not be offered this fall, but will be available in the Spring.



Do you have a student who loves sharks, STEM, and oceanography? Here is something amazing!

Gills Club is <u>Atlantic White Shark Conservancy's</u> STEM-based education initiative dedicated to connecting girls with female scientists from around the world, sharing knowledge, and inspiring shark and ocean conservation.

Anyone can be a Gills Club Member and begin learning about sharks and how they can be an ocean steward. Gills Club requires no registration, just a desire to learn and help improve the health of our oceans. Members have opportunities to learn through the website, app, social media, and events. All ages are welcome to join!

Check them out at https://www.gillsclub.org/



CONFERENCES AND REPORT CARDS PLEASE READ FOR IMPORTANT UPDATES

We want to make you aware of an important shift we are making to our fall conference and report card schedule. This change was made in order to provide teachers time to make meaningful goal projects and collect authentic data on student progress and needs.

Traditionally, our first report card and conference of the year has been the Goal Project Report Card and Conference. Last year, when APS shifted to quarterly grading, it became necessary that we shift our practices in order to build units within these new quarterly time periods.

In response to parent feedback, we have added an additional report card that will be sent home at all four quarters: **The Dashboard Report Card. This report card will be sent home in conjunction with our narrative report cards, and will provide data on student assessments, attitude, attention, and commitment.**

This fall, the staff has elected to the following schedule for conferences and report cards.

OCTOBER 9TH-10TH QUARTER 1 CONFERENCES:

This conference will not be a Goal Project conference, but a conference wherein teachers will discuss student data and progress, and review the student's goals for the *rest of the semester*. Parents will receive the Dashboard 1 report card. We will use this time to talk about intervention needs, SAT, behavior, attendance, and any other concerns.

DECEMBER QUARTER 2 REPORT CARDS:

By December 20th, all parents will receive, via email, a copy of the second Dashboard report card and the results of the fall Goal Projects. For students who are receiving Layer 2 Interventions or are in SAT, this report card may be accompanied by a conference to discuss student progress and next steps. For all other students, these report cards will be sent to parents and will not come with a conference.

MARCH 13TH-14TH SELF-ASSESSMENT QUARTER 3 CONFERENCES:

On March 13th and 14th, students will have two asynchronous learning days, with homeschooling provided to be done at home. During those two days, students/families will come in for a Self-Assessment Report Card conference and presentation, where students will present the results of their Spring self-assessment work and relevant data. Parents will receive the Self-Assessment Report Card and Dashboard 3 report card.

END OF YEAR "PPP" REPORT CARDS:

In May, parents and teachers will collaborate on the final report card, the Project Portfolio Performance Report Card (PPP). These will be emailed home to parents, with the final Dashboard Report Card.

COUNSELOR'S CORNER WITH MRS. V

September 2024 Counselor's Corner With Mrs. Villareal or Mrs. V

Hello families and welcome to September! I don't know about you all, but I am ready for some football weather! Each month I will be providing group guidance to those classrooms that request it. We will focus on the Mindset and Behavior Standards endorsed by APS and the American School Counselors Association (ASCA).

This month in group guidance we will be focusing on the following:

K-2 and 3-5: Using manners at school and at home. Mindset focus on developing our whole selves and a positive attitude toward work and learning. We are focusing on developing our social skills by promoting social maturity appropriate to the situation and environment.

Table talk for Families: Remind your student to practice using manners with kind words and to practice social distancing with their peers at school. Ask your student to share some examples of what good manners look like.

6-8: Introduction to career clusters and the world of work. Mindset focus on understanding that postsecondary education and/or training and lifelong learning are necessary for long-term success. The behavior of setting long and short-term goals will help us reach our career in the future.

Table Talk for Families: Talk about your career and the steps that were necessary to reach your goal, regarding education/training needed. Talking about careers that "run in your family" is a good conversation starter with students.

If your child has a social emotional or specific family need, please do not hesitate to reach out to your child's teacher so I can visit with them, or contact me directly. I am here to help your child reach their full potential including a healthy balance of mental, social/emotional and physical well-being.



Coyote Family/ Student Profile Meet Kylee and Brayden! Grades: 8th and 5th

What do you like about being at Family School?

"I like that my parents are engaged so they know what is happening in my education. I also like going to Family School because the teachers focus on my needs and meet me where I am while also working on grade level standards." - Kylee

"I like being at Family School because I like that my parents can support me at home with my schoolwork." - Brayden



What do you like to do in your free time?

"In my free time, I like to read and listen to music." - Kylee "In my free time, I like to play games, watch T.V. and play at the park." - Brayden

What is something you are really proud of?

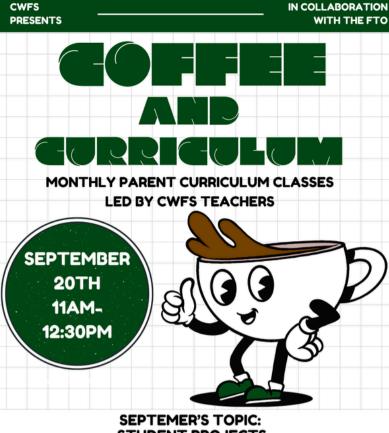
"I am very proud of my performance and growth in reading and writing." - Kylee "I am really proud when I perform in my class play because it makes me feel good to accomplish something nice." - Brayden

Parents say.... What brought your family to Family School?

There were many aspects of family school that were desirable to us when considering a school for our children. The part of family school that outweighed all other options was the ability to have an active role in our children's education. Having the ability to walk alongside our children in the educational process has been invaluable to our family.

What do you value in our community?

We value that Coyote Willow has high educational standards and expectations for our children, but more than anything, they create and facilitate a wonderful sense of community. A community that encourages creativity, thinking outside of the box, and that challenges our children to take their knowledge to the next level. They also provide multiple opportunities for our family to be involved in the school through student projects and schoolwide functions.



SEPTEMER'S TOPIC: STUDENT PROJECTS LED BY MS. JEN & MS. CAITLIN

W IN THIS LASS, YOU'LL DELVE INTO STRATEGIES FOR EMPOWERING YOUR CHILD THROUGH THEIR SCIENCE AND SOCIAL STUDIES PROJECTS, FROM KINDERGARTEN TO MIDDLE SCHOOL. WE'LL EXPLORE TECHNIQUES TO FOSTER INDEPENDENCE AND ENTHUSIASM, HELPING YOU BECOME THE SUPPORTIVE GUIDE YOUR CHILD NEEDS. JOIN US TO DISCOVER HOW TO INSPIRE AND ASSIST EFFECTIVELY, MAKING THEIR LEARNING JOURNEY BOTH PRODUCTIVE AND ENJOYABLE!



Join us at Coyote Willow on Friday October 4th at 7:00 am for a Balloon Lift-Off!

Head to the dirt section of Rainbow, just west of Campus, to kick off Balloon Fiesta at this great event. COYOTE WILLOW FAMILY SCHOOL

USED BOOK

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

SEPTEMBER 27TH

8AM-IPM

OW FAN

Events

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Campus!

GUESTS MAY ENTER THROUGH GARAGE DOORS ON WEST END OF CAMPUS ALL PROCEEDS BENEFIT STUDENTS AT CWFS

7125 IRVING BLVD. NW 87114



NEEDED SIGN UP TO VOLUNTEER AT THE FALL FAIR!



CWFS NEEDS SUBS! We are in desperate needs of parents to join our fleet of Super Subs!

Our families make the BEST subs for our program because you are already familiar with our practices and school schedule. Our kids perform better when they are with experienced Family School substitutes!

We provide guidance and support for subs, and, if you are curious about becoming a teacher, it is a great way to start training!

Apply with Kelly Education today!

