



DEER CREEK MIDDLE SCHOOL

JEFFCO PUBLIC SCHOOLS


9201 W Columbine Dr, Littleton, CO 80128
Phone 303-982-3820 | Fax 303-982-3821 | Attendance: 303-982-3809


the mountaineer

Helpful Links

[Deer Creek Website](#)

[Jeffco Public Schools](#)

 [Deer Creek PTO](#)

 [Deer Creek Facebook](#)

Advertising in this newsletter does not imply endorsement by the school or district.

A Word From the Principal

Thank you to Deer Creek friends and families!

The PTO annual fundraiser has ended, and thanks to the generosity of Deer Creek families and friends, **over \$20,000 was raised** to benefit students through technology upgrades, staff wishlists, and enrichment opportunities that would otherwise go unfunded. At the upcoming PTO meeting on Oct 7th, we will discuss where to allocate the funds to best support our students.

Fall Student-Parent-Teacher Conference sign ups are now open

Student-Parent-Teacher Conferences will be held on

Tuesday, Oct 15	4:30 - 8:30 pm
Wednesday, Oct 16	4:30 - 8:30 pm

Fall Conferences

- **Conference Sign Up opens Monday Sept 30 and closes Thursday Oct 10.**
- **Review your student's Trimester 1 schedule and grades before signing up for conferences.** You will only sign up for teachers that your student currently has in Trimester 1.
- **Plan to bring your student with you to conferences.**
- **Conferences are scheduled with individual teachers and are 5 min in length, per teacher.** You will move between teacher classrooms for each 5 min conference. Come prepared so you can make the most of your 5 minutes with each teacher.
- **Conferences are optional and teachers' 5 min time slots are limited.** Please prioritize scheduling with just the teachers you really need to meet with - **you do NOT need to schedule a conference with all teachers**
 - If you do not need an in-person appointment with your student's teacher, please connect with the teacher and schedule an alternate method of communication.
- **Due to a limited number of conference slots, you may not be able to schedule with all teachers you would like to meet with.** In this case, please reach out to the teacher directly via email to request an alternate time to have a brief phone conversation.
- **Please allow at least 5 minutes between teachers you sign up for,** so you have time to move between classrooms.

[Fall 2024 Conferences Sign Up](#)

continued...

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these great companies!

A Word From the Principal, continued...

Deer Creek Spirit Week is October 7th - 10th

Deer Creek will be joining Chatfield in their Homecoming week festivities with our own Spirit Week. Please watch for more information about the theme for each day.

We are also excited to have the band, athletes, cheerleaders and staff from Chatfield High School come to hold a Pep Rally on Monday Oct 7th for all of our students during Base Camp

Also on Monday Oct 7 is the Chatfield Fall Fest. The Chatfield Area Fall Fest is an event for the entire community. It will take place from 5:00-7:30 pm in the Parking Lot. Fun events include Face Paint, Games, Bounce Houses, Dunk Tanks, Food Trucks and so much more!

[More information is available here](#)

Emergency School Closures

When weather is harsh, Jeffco may close schools to keep students and staff safe. Jeffco families and staff are notified via SchoolMessenger through phone call, email, or text message. You determine how you get messages by setting up notifications in [Campus Portal](#). The district will place information on its hotline at 303-982-6600, on its website at www.jeffcopublicschools.org, on Facebook and Twitter. The local news channels are also alerted so they may broadcast school closures.

What are the possibilities during a weather situation?

2-hour delay schedule: A 2-hour delay at the start of school due to bad weather. A late start decision will be made as early as possible and direct notification will be by 6:00 AM. Buses are delayed two hours, and students are not expected to arrive at school until two hours after the regular start time. There will be limited staff at schools to supervise any early-arriving students.

Snow day: The determination to cancel school for an entire day will happen as early as possible. Families and staff will be directly notified by 6:00 AM.

Orange & Black Day is Tuesday, Oct. 31

Halloween is coming up and students can get into the spirit by participating in **Orange & Black Day on October 31**. Dig out your black and orange favorites from the closet and join in the fun. **Costumes at school are not permitted** - that includes Halloween masks, props, and make up - and all attire must meet dress code. If you have any questions about allowable attire, please contact the school.

Brandon Hall
Principal

***KIDS 10 & UNDER EAT FREE**
Labor Day - ALL DAY!
Sundays: 11am-4pm
Tuesdays: 4pm-7pm (Magician!)

*With purchase of any regular priced 4-course meal. One child per adult. Not combinable with other specials. Not valid on holidays.



RESERVATIONS
(303)794-5666





'FUN' DUE WITH THE FAMILY

We're gifting complimentary hayrides down historic Main Street Littleton in October! Afterward, indulge in a creepy crawly (think edible gummy eyeballs) 4-course meal the kids will never forget. \$50 per person. Kids 10 and under eat free per additional person ordering a regular priced 4-course meal. 11am - 4pm. 6 dates only. Reservations required.



September Mountaineer of the Month



Each of these students has demonstrated **PEAK** (Prepared, Engaged, Accountable, and Kind and Respectful) behavior and in doing so, is being recognized as our top Mountaineers for September.

Helena Smith - 6th Grade

Helena is extremely hard-working in her classes, she is always asking questions to clarify her learning and looking for ways to improve her understanding. She is also kind to her classmates and is a great example of what it looks like to meet PEAK expectations all of the time!

Sal Giarratano - 7th grade

Sal is a model student on a daily basis. He participates in class, is a leader for his empire civilization, and he always comes in with a smile on his face.

Kiera Harder - 8th grade

Kiera's been a real leader in her group, always putting in the effort to learn, improve and do her best.



L-R: Sal Giarratano 7th Grade; Keira Harder 8th Grade; Helena Smith 6th Grade; Brandon Hall, Principal

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From the Dean

Fall is here and with it comes cool mornings and beautiful afternoons. This is the time that we can also have some unpredictable weather. Remind your student to check the weather report each day and come to school prepared to go outside during recess. Students have 25 minutes of continuous outside time opposite their lunch every day and we will be outdoors whenever possible. Students must come to school prepared with a warmer jacket or coat for cool and even cold temperatures!

Families may not realize that students are expected to have their school ID every day, especially at lunch. Students scan their ID when getting lunch or snacks. With limited time for lunch, and all students having access to a free lunch, it is important that students have their ID to make the process efficient. Students without an ID must wait until all students with an ID have gone through the line and it takes more time without the ability to scan the ID. The fastest way to get lunch is to bring their student ID every day.

For students who have lost their ID, they must purchase a new one in the office for \$5. Students who continually fail to bring their ID to lunch will contact a parent/guardian to problem solve and could receive school consequences. Please help your student practice preparedness.

At Deer Creek we are committed to supporting your student and we need some help from families. If your student tells you something has happened at school or has a concern or challenge, please reach out. It is possible your student has not reported this issue to someone at school, or assumes an adult already knows something is wrong or challenging. There can be a difference with what is shared at home with what is shared at school, so we appreciate when a parent/guardian asks for more information. Check in with a teacher, counselor or admin if you need clarification, want to verify a story, or would like someone to follow up or check in with your student. We appreciate the opportunity to partner with you to support your Deer Creek Mountaineer.

I hope you have opportunities this month to enjoy the Colorado fall season!

Julia Skillern

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 19 | 4-7 PM

HALLOWEEN EXTRAVAGANZA

CANDY CRAWL | HAYRIDE
GAMES | FACE PAINTERS
DJ SPINS | CURIOSITY CRUISER

DENVER Historic Market
MYSTIKAL MAKERS' MARKET
100+ VENDORS
2 pm-7 pm

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 5TH
BARBOX
HASPEN GROVE

PET PAWRADE
3:30

WOOF-O-WEEN

A DOG FRIENDLY EVENT

BARK BAZAAR MARKET

Disney
Cruella

SHOWING AT 7:30 PM
WOOF-O-WEEN
A DOG FRIENDLY EVENT

ASPEN GROVE
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Update from the Health Room

Attention 6th grade parents: Colorado Department of Health requires that all 6th graders receive a **Tdap booster vaccine** at the **beginning of their 6th grade year**.

If your student hasn't received this immunization yet, please schedule a Dr. appointment to do so and provide documentation to Janeth.Lara@jeffco.k12.co.us.

Breakfast at Deer Creek Middle School

The cafeteria at Deer Creek Middle School is open daily for breakfast, free for all students. Students are admitted from the cafeteria doors until 8:25 am and must remain in the cafeteria to eat until the 8:40 bell rings.

We are delighted to see more and more students joining us for breakfast, as all students benefit from a good breakfast to start their day.

From the School Resource Officer - Deputy Dave Joslin

Happy Fall!

- Be mindful of the traffic signs along the school zone on Columbine Dr. They are for the safety of all of our Deer Creek students and need to be respected by all drivers.
- With the sun going down earlier and earlier, please be aware of your surroundings. If you have late sports, or plan on walking home in the later hours, please make sure you have something reflective (backpacks, clothing) for drivers to see.
- With Halloween quickly approaching, please remember to talk to your children about safety. Especially for the older kids who may be venturing out on their own.

As always, if you see something, say something:

Local dispatch number: 303-980-7300

EMERGENCY 9-1-1

Mental Health Corner

October 10th is World Mental Health Day!

Created by the World Federation for Mental Health in 1992, the overall objective of World Mental Health Day is to raise awareness of mental health issues around the world and to mobilize efforts in support of mental health. Each year, thousands of individuals and groups gather to celebrate and promote the only global day for mental health awareness.

October 6-12 is Mental Illness Awareness Week in the U.S. Everyone is impacted by mental health conditions – including the friends, family, and coworkers who don't live with a mental health condition themselves. One in five adults in the U.S. experiences a mental health condition each year, which impacts those who know and love them. For more information and resources, visit the [National Alliance on Mental Illness](#).

Denise Bettcher
School Social Worker

Deer Creek Middle School PTO News

We had a busy September with our fall fundraiser kickoff, 8th Grade Social Luau, and Chipotle Spirit Night! Thank you to all of the families who supported your students with their fundraising efforts; our parent volunteers who prepared fundraiser prize bags for students; assisted with the social; and supported our Spirit Night! We're now excited to kick off October with the Best Day Ever on October 4 and celebrate our students' efforts toward raising funds for the school.

Please email us at deercreekpto1@gmail.com with questions or ideas, or check us out at our [website!](#)



Dates to Remember!

October 4: Day of Awesomeness/Best Day Ever (fundraiser participation reward)

October 7: PTO meeting

October 15: Pizza Hut spirit night

October 15-16: Conference meals

October 24: 7th grade Halloween social

November 4: PTO meeting

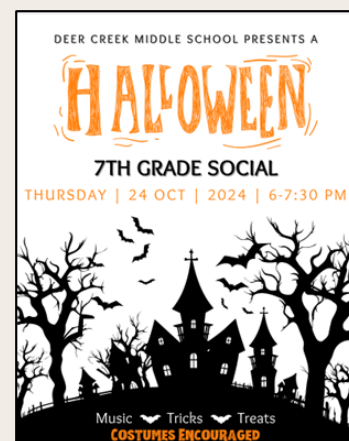
November 12: Freddy's spirit night

7th Grade Social

Enter if you dare! Don't miss the 7th grade Social on **Thursday, October 24, at 6:00-7:30pm at DCMS**. Costumes are encouraged, and \$1 from every ticket sale is donated to a charity.

Permission slips are required to attend and will be distributed to students during Base Camp the week of the event. Have your student bring their signed permission slip and \$6 entry fee to the school office BEFORE the social to receive a VIP bracelet and skip the line the night of the dance!

Please [Sign Up Here](#) to volunteer to decorate, donate food, or chaperone. We appreciate your support!



Fall Fundraiser's "Best Day Ever"!

Our POP! Fall fundraiser concluded on September 17th, and students who participated are pumped for the Best Day Ever on Friday, October 4! That day, we'll need several parent volunteers to help run activities for each grade. Please [Sign Up Here!](#)

Teacher Conference Dinners

The PTO will be providing dinners for our teachers and staff who are staying late for Fall conferences on the evenings of October 15th -16th. We would love your help in decorating for the dinners, donating food, and cleaning up after the meals. Please [Sign Up Here](#) if you would be interested in helping!



Stock the Snack Shack

Let's continue to show teachers and school staff our appreciation by keeping their Snack Shack stocked! Sixth grade families are supporting the Snack Shack for Trimester 1. Sixth grade families, please consider signing up to donate here: [Snack Shack Sign Up](#)



Deer Creek Middle School PTO News, continued...

Milk Caps for Mooola

Milk Caps for Mooola is a program sponsored by Longmont Dairy that helps students earn money for their schools. Longmont Dairy milk caps are worth 5¢ each and are redeemable for cash!

How does the program work?


1. Drink Longmont Dairy products
(Eligible cap products include: Milk, Chocolate Milk, Strawberry Milk, Half & Half, Whipping Cream, Orange Juice, Lemonade, Raspberry Lemonade, and Classic and Cinnamon Eggnog.)
2. Save the bottle caps. Save as many as you can—from your bottles, or collect them from your family and neighbors.
3. Bring your milk caps to school and put them into the collection box in the school office.



American Furniture Warehouse

Any purchase from American Furniture Warehouse benefits Deer Creek Middle School - in the store, on the phone, or online!

Use PROMO code: *School* and school ID: **DCMS60**, and AFW will donate 2-4% of the sale to Deer Creek Middle School!



October 15, 2024 - 9:30AM - 11PM

Pizza Hut - 9012 W Ken Caryl Ave

Mention Deer Creek PTO when ordering and show the flyer (coming soon) to the cashier prior to paying, or use Group Raise Code when you order online.


Because no one out pizzas the hut!

DEER CREEK MIDDLE SCHOOL PRESENTS A

HALLOWEEN

7TH GRADE SOCIAL

THURSDAY | 24 OCT | 2024 | 6-7:30 PM



Music 🦇 Tricks 🦇 Treats

COSTUMES ENCOURAGED

Deer Creek Spirit Wear

It's time to order Deer Creek Spirit Wear for your students!



We will be taking orders for Deer Creek Spirit Wear through October 25th. All payments must be received by 4pm on Tuesday October 29th, or your order will not be processed.

Spirit wear will be distributed to your student sometime during the week of November 11th (as long as payment has been received by 4pm on October 29th).

If you have requested that your order will be picked up, I will contact you to let you know when it is ready. If the order is not picked up by 4pm on Thursday November 21st, the order will be delivered to the student on Friday, November 22nd.

Go to this form to place your order - [Deer Creek Spirit Wear Order Form](#)

Instrumental Music Fundraiser

Butter Braid Sale!

Our fabulous Deer Creek Band and Orchestra Members are selling Butter Braids to raise money for new music, instruments and equipment. Please see a Band or Orchestra member to order some delicious braids! Having trouble finding a student to order from? Please email Mr. Sudano at james.sudano@jeffco.k12.co.us. Thank you for your support!

Butter Braid Sale ends October 9th!

Jim Sudano
Instrumental Music
Deer Creek Middle School
<http://www.deercreekmusic.com>

Yearbook News

Did you buy a yearbook when you paid your student's fees? If you didn't, the deadline to reserve a yearbook for \$30 will come sooner than you expect. Pay online where you paid your fees. **Students who do not reserve a book by January 5 are not guaranteed one in May.** We have sold out for the past three years.

We'd love to see your pictures of school activities like sports, socials, performances, clubs and field trips. If you have any photos to share with the Yearbook staff, please use this [Link](#) to share photos. The School Code is dcms24.

While we cannot guarantee that all shared photos will be published, if you don't share, your great pictures can't even be considered. Start sharing today! Thank you



Help support our Deer Creek SSN and FCCLA programs at King Soopers

If you sign up for King Soopers Community Rewards, then a portion of what you spend will be donated to Deer Creek to benefit our SSN and FCCLA programs. It only takes a couple of minutes! Please use the instructions below to sign up.

1. Sign in to your digital account.
2. Search for your organization [here](#).
3. Search for Deer Creek FCCLA or Deer Creek Middle School SSN Program
4. Select from the list and click "Save".

Ali Goecks
Family and Consumer Sciences Teacher
Deer Creek Middle School

Sponsorship space in this newsletter is extremely affordable!

Reach parents in your local community and a significant portion of your investment goes back to the school! Want to sponsor this school? Please contact Rob Mangelson at Rob@tscacolorado.com or (720) 878-4107.

Sponsor This School!



YOUR NAME HERE

Rob Mangelson

(720) 878-4107

Rob@tscacolorado.com

The School Communications Agency

Supporting Schools & Local Businesses



The School
Communications
Agency

Library and Technology at Deer Creek

The Anxious Generation Book Study

Please join us October 21, 2024 from 6:00 - 7:30 pm for The Anxious Generation by Jonathan Haidt Book Study. We will be discussing Part 2 - The Backstory: The Decline of Play Based Childhood. Feel free to make a copy of this [Digital Notebook](#) to use during your reading and to prepare for discussion.

If you would like to attend, but cannot secure a copy of the book, please reach out to Karrie Zanetti at karrie.zanetti@jeffco.k12.co.us or 303-982-9711.

[Please RSVP here for childcare.](#)

Charge Chromebooks

As part of our PEAK expectations at DCMS, students are expected to bring a charged Chromebook to school every day. We understand that nobody is perfect and allow students to check out a loaner if they forgot their Chromebook or forgot to charge their Chromebook.

We have had over 200 daily loaner requests during the first month of school. Please help your student be successful by coming up with a charging plan to ensure that they are at 100% for the next school day. Here are some helpful hints for your student:
Charge the Chromebook in the same spot each night.

- Charge the Chromebook in a family “common area” - not the student’s room.
- Set an alarm for 8:00 pm Sunday - Thursday to charge the Chromebook.
- Make sure the charging light comes on, before you walk away. If it doesn’t come on, check the charger at the outlet and at the charging block. Sometimes they get loose.
- Have an “assigned” outlet for each of your students. Keep the charger at the outlet. It doesn’t need to be plugged in a day, but don’t move it from it’s spot.

Each student gets 3 “free” loaner Chromebooks. On their third time, students will have a problem-solving chat with Mrs. Zanetti to find a way to be successful. On the 4th time, Mrs. Zanetti will call home to discuss successful strategies. On the 5th time, students will have detention during recess. They will create a poster for the school to remind students to charge their Chromebook. Beyond their 5th time, students will do other acts of community service in the library, like reset Chromebooks.

Library Books:

The library is open and available for book check out. Books are checked out for 3 weeks at a time. There are no overdue book fines in Jeffco. However, a fine will be placed on your student’s account for any books that are lost or damaged beyond repair.

We have been increasing our library collection to reflect the diverse population at our school. Please take a moment to read [this letter](#) regarding our library collection.

Library Donations

The Library is open for Lunch! The library is open most days during lunch for students. We have a cap of 30 students each days to maintain a quiet, relaxing environment. Students enjoy playing board games (Battleship!), building Lego creations, and talking with their friends. Thank you to the families who have donated items to make this a fun space for our students! If you’re interested in donating, check out our Amazon Wish List [here](#).

Upcoming Events

October

1	October Count Day (Student Attendance VERY Important!)
4	PTO Fundraiser Day of Awesomeness
7-11	Spirit Week - watch for more information coming soon!
7	Chatfield Pep Rally (students only) 2:45 pm
7	Chatfield Fall Fest 5:00-7:30 pm (Chatfield Parking Lot)
7	PTO Meeting 6:00-7:00 pm
15	PTO Spirit Night - Pizza Hut
15	Fall Student-Parent-Teacher Conferences 4:30 - 8:30 pm
16	Fall Student-Parent-Teacher Conferences 4:30 - 8:30 pm
17	No School for Students -Jeffco Staff Development Day
18	Fall Break – School Closed
22	Hearing/Vision Screening
24	7th Grade Halloween Social - 6:00 – 7:30 pm
25	SSN/Peer Mentors Adapted Spots Outing Field Trip 9:30am-1:00pm
29	7th Grade Field Trip - International Towne
30	7th Grade Field Trip - International Towne
31	Wear Orange and Black for Halloween

October 2024

Sun	Mo	Tue	We	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

November

1	No School for Students - Jeffco Staff Development Day
4	PTO Meeting 6:00 - 7:00 pm
6	Choir Fall Concert 6:30 pm
7	Instrumental Music Fall Concert 6:30 pm
8	End of Trimester 1
11	Start of Trimester 2
12	PTO Spirit Night - Freddy's (8234 S. Kipling Pkwy) 4:00-8:00 pm
21	School Accountability Committee Meeting 6:00 - 7:00 pm
25-29	Thanksgiving Break - School Closed

November 2024

Sun	Mo	Tue	We	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30



EXPLORE

Breakfast at Jeffco

WHY STUDENTS SHOULD EAT BREAKFAST AT SCHOOL?



No Cost to Students

Jeffco students can have a breakfast at no cost! A free breakfast could look like:

- Breakfast Sandwich
- Apple
- Orange Juice
- Milk



Better Academics

Research suggests that eating breakfast every day has a significant effect on the cognitive development of students. Consuming breakfast at school, provides a greater variety of food groups and adequate energy, which is positively related to school performance.



Support Jeffco

Students eating breakfast at school provides economical growth to Jeffco communities and local farmers/industries.



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AND NUTRITION
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This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

www.jeffcoschoolfood.org