

# COYOTE WILLOW FAMILY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

OCTOBER 2024



## CALENDAR REMINDERS

November 1: FTO Meeting; Fall Fuzzy Sales Begin

November 5: Election Day, NO SCHOOL

November 8th: MAKEUP PICTURE DAY

November 11: Veteran's Day NO SCHOOL

November 13: Open House 9-1

November 15: Coffee & Curriculum

November 18: Community Pack Event at Hefferen Planetarium

November 26: NORMAL SCHOOL DAY; Fall Fuzzies distributed

November 27-29: Thanksgiving Break NO SCHOOL

December 4: Open House 9-1

December 9/13/16: Intervention Conferences AS NEEDED

December 19: COLLAPSED DAY; Art and Poetry Night 5-7pm

December 20: Normal School day; Lottery Opens for NEW families

December 23- January 6: Winter Break

January 7: Students Return Spring Semester

## DEAR COYOTES: A MESSAGE FROM MS. ADRIANNE

Greetings, families and friends!

While the weather doesn't seem to agree with me, we are nearly in November, and slowly but surely winding down the Fall Semester curriculum.

The Fall Semester curriculum is built around our Goal Projects for students in ELA and Math. When we met with parents earlier this month, our objective was to share data with you about student baselines from August-September-- as in, what do we know based on early assessments, and where do we want to go by December. In December, you'll receive a report card via email which will include student data in Mobius, Math Groups, Sophie, Writing, and Reading. It will also have student scores from the middle-of-the-year iReady and/or iStation assessments. Additionally, this report card will contextualize student outcomes on their goal projects: what were their goals, what did they do to reach them, and to what extent did they reach those goals?

In some cases, we may schedule a conference with you to look at intervention data and student needs, and this may be under the umbrella of the Student Assistance Team (SAT). Those SAT/ intervention meetings will be scheduled as applicable in December. You are always invited to reach out to teachers for a conference, too.

As we head into Art and Poetry season, our classrooms will shift some attention to producing fine art and writing for the big Art and Poetry night on December 19th. This event will be from 5pm-7pm this year. We can't wait to see everyone there.

With warmth on this blustery day,



Ms. Adrienne



# PRINCIPAL ADVISORY COUNCIL

Our Coyote "PAC" had their first meeting on October 17th.

For this first meeting, our goal was to establish a baseline of what it means to be a member of the Coyote PAC, and to get some ideas about what our students love about our program, and what they'd like to see grow.

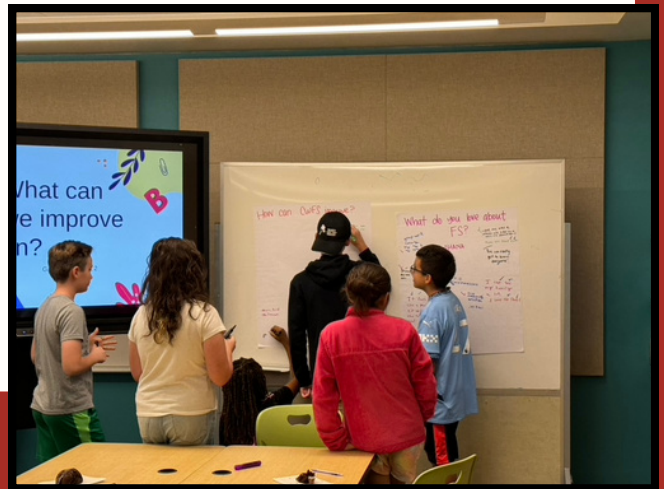
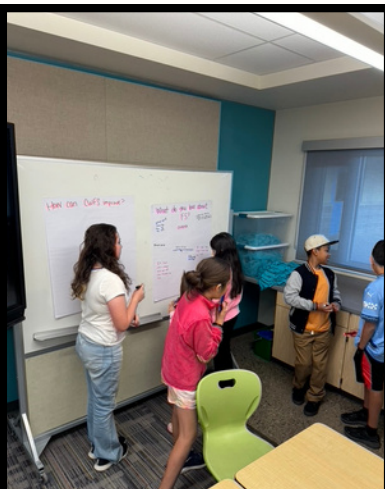
What do our PAC kids love about CWFS?

- Group work
- Community
- Getting to try again
- The way teachers will stay on topics until kids get it
- Having family help
- Getting to know people over many years
- The staff
- Projects
- Class activities
- The connection between teachers, parents, and students
- That making connections is a priority
- That everyone can fit in
- That we can learn by ourselves sometimes
- That they are challenged
- Multi-age classes

What do our PAC kids think we can work on?

- More opportunities to work with students who are older or to get tutoring from older students
- More real life lessons
- Flexibility in changing curriculum when needed
- More reading book options
- More activities during workshop
- More hands-on activities
- More equipment for playing on the field
- More inter-class activities
- Better lunches
- More clubs

We will take PAC feedback into our staff meetings to find ways to grow from their ideas. There are some things we cannot entirely control (lunches, for one, and a lack of funding for clubs), but these students offered us *many* ways we can build a brighter CWFS, and we are looking forward to learning from them. **Next month's PAC meeting is November 21st, and we'll be looking at school disciplinary policies and safety.**



# HIGH SCHOOL MEET AND GREET SUCCESS

Thank you to everyone who attended our High School Meet and Greet. We had 11 High Schools in attendance, and a significant turn out from our Middle School cohort.

One thing that stuck out to me as I talked to our High School guests was how fondly these High School administrators speak of Coyote Willow students who have entered their programs. They note that our kids know HOW to learn, how to interact, and how to engage in lessons.

One of the High School administrators said that despite the fact that their program offers 6th-8th grade, they tell parents that they should consider CWFS for Middle School, rather than their program for Middle School. This administrator said "you all prepare them for High School better than most anyone could... even us."

We know CWFS families have many options for Middle School-- many great ones! But we are extremely proud of our Middle School cohort and our work in readying kids for High School and Beyond!



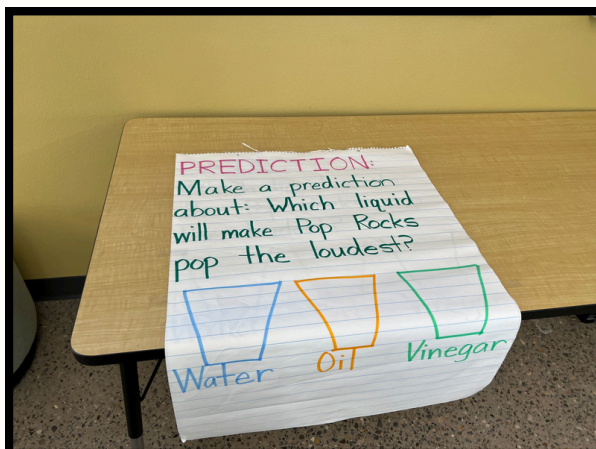
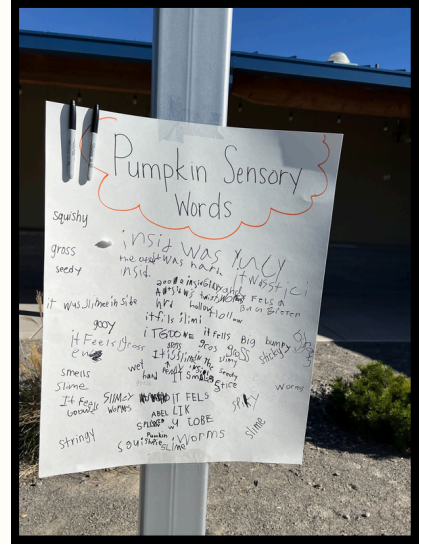
## MAKE UP FALL PHOTOS

FRIDAY NOVEMBER 8TH

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

## CLASS SHOUTOUTS: GO, K-2 TEAM!

**The K-2 Team put together an incredible rotation of centers for the K-2 classes on Freaky Friday.**



# COUNSELOR'S CORNER WITH MRS. V



October 2024  
Counselor's Corner  
With Mrs. V.

## Bullying -Prevention and Upstander Strategies K-8

Mindset focus is on respect, support and inclusion of self and others. We are working on the social skill of making ethical decisions and feeling a sense of social responsibility. In 2014, the Centers for Disease Control and Department of Education released the first federal definition of bullying. The definition includes three core elements: Unwanted aggressive behavior, observed or perceived power imbalance, and repetition or high likelihood of repetition of bullying behaviors.

October is National Bullying Awareness Month.

There are a multitude of resources available to families and schools. [www.stopbullying.gov](http://www.stopbullying.gov) is the gold standard when searching for information and tools to start the conversation about bullying.

<http://www.pacer.org/bullying/> also has a variety of resources for families and online activities for kids of all ages.

### Table Talk Tips for Families:

Start early. Parent/child talks are essential. Teach kids to respect others before they start school. Teach your children how to be assertive. Encourage your children to express their feelings clearly. Stop bullying when you see it.

Listen and support children who speak up. Telling an adult about bullying is not easy for children. Tell your children to take action when they see bullying behavior. Encourage them to speak up. Be an UPSTANDER, not a bystander.

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 Cormac (6th), Quinn (3rd), and Elliot (Kinder)

### What do you like about being at Family School?

C: "I like the unique curriculum at Family School, and I also like Art and Poetry night. Preparation for Art and Poetry is my favorite time of the school year. Homeschooling part time is also cool."

Q: "I like the events at CWFS, like Art and Poetry, Literacy Fair, and Genius Fair! I also like how I get to homeschool on Monday and Friday afternoons. I appreciate that I can advance at my own speed at CWFS."

E: "I like that I have easy homework."



### What do you like to do in your free time?

C: "I like to create art, play soccer, and ski with my family and friends when I have free time."

Q: "When I have free time, I am usually playing soccer, roller blading, making bracelets, reading, or going on outdoor adventures with my family."

E: "I like to go rafting and camping with my family, and playing with my friends."

### What is something you are really proud of?

C: "I feel proud of my good grades, my art, and climbing Handes Peak this past summer (a 14,048 foot summit in Colorado)."

Q: "I feel proud of being on a competitive soccer team, and I am proud of my math skills."

E: "I feel proud of my math at school, and I'm proud of trying hard at my soccer games."

### Parents say....

#### What brought your family to Family School?

Our family homeschooled for several years. When we moved to Albuquerque in 2021, we started looking for a school that would allow our kids a chance to make friends and community connections, while also supporting and challenging our children at their individual academic levels. We heard about Coyote Willow Family School through the grapevine, then promptly educated ourselves on the many things that make CWFS such a special place to learn. We currently have 3 students at CWFS, but all 4 of our children attended Coyote Willow for part of their academic career, and they all share happy memories made here.

### What do you value in our community?

For our family, Coyote Willow Family School provides a special place where our kids can learn from dedicated teachers, staff, and fellow students, while also allowing us to be involved in their education through homeschool. We really feel like each of our children have been supported and challenged in their specific areas of strength and growth. We also appreciate the unique Family School model. At CWFS, our kids have opportunities to learn public speaking at a young age, participate in art and poetry, be involved with children's theater, and do inquiry projects that allow them to pursue their own interests.



# FALL FUZZIES

1 FOR \$3  
2 FOR \$5

Purchase at Drop  
Off or Pick up

Nov 1

Nov 8

Nov 15

Nov 22

MAKE YOUR  
STUDENT FEEL  
FUZZY BY SENDING A  
SPECIAL NOTE &  
INVISIBLE INK PEN!



FALL FUZZIES WILL BE DISTRIBUTED  
END OF DAY NOV 26TH



# FTO *Meeting*

Nov 1 11am

*Join us virtually or  
meet us in the  
commons!*



## Agenda

- Monthly Updates
- A&P
- Fall Fuzzies available for purchase



## Art & Poetry Reps Should Attend

*Little's Welcome*

*Refreshments Provided*



30 MINUTE  
SHOW AT 11AM  
OPEN TO ALL  
AGES

1 HOUR SHOW  
AT 11:45AM  
OPEN TO 3RD  
GRADE AND UP



CWFS

# Coyote Pack Community Event

JOIN US FOR A FREE PRESENTATION AT THE  
APS HEFFEREN PLANETARIUM ON NOVEMBER  
18TH!

**SIBLINGS/FAMILIES WELCOME**

**SEATING IS LIMITED**

**SIGN UP HERE:**

**[HTTPS://TINYURL.COM/NWAPVZF5](https://tinyurl.com/nwapvzf5)**



# COYOTE WILLOW COIN CHALLENGE

NOVEMBER 1<sup>ST</sup>—30<sup>TH</sup>

THE CLASS WITH THE MOST CHANGE  
**WINS A PARTY!**



**ALL PROCEEDS BENEFIT THE STAFF & STUDENTS OF CWFS**



california  
pizza kitchen

# PIZZA WITH A PURPOSE

Show this flyer or mention the organization listed below  
on your visit, and California Pizza Kitchen will  
**DONATE 20% OF ALL FOOD & BEVERAGE SALES**  
on your check to the organization listed below. Purchases include  
dine-in, take-out, catering, and online orders at CPK.com  
when you enter **BACK20%** at checkout.

Fundraiser in support of:

**Coyote Willow Family School FTO**

**11/04/2024**

**11:00am-10:00pm**

Valid at the following location

**CALIFORNIA PIZZA KITCHEN**

**ABQ Uptown**

**2241 Q St NE Abq, NM 87110**

**[cpk.com](http://cpk.com)**

Fundraiser valid only on the date(s) and at the CPK location(s) identified on this flyer. Only 501c organizations and non-profit schools are eligible to participate in CPK's fundraiser program. CPK will donate 20% (twenty percent) of all food and beverage sales to the organization. Tax, gratuity, gift card and retail sales are excluded from the donation. Valid for dine-in, takeout, online, catering, curbside or delivery orders placed directly with CPK. Not valid for orders placed or fulfilled through third-party delivery. Void if flyer is distributed in or near restaurant. For more information about the 501c organization participating in the fundraiser, please contact the organization directly. Not valid at franchise locations in Guam, stadium, university, international, airport locations, or the Grand Sierra Resort and Casino.

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