October 2026 newsletter

Literacy Family Night - Oct. 7
6 - 7 p.m.

Families are invited to join their students on Thursday, Oct. 15 for lunch. Menu is Mandarin Orange Chicken. Please call the office and place your order no later than Wednesday, Oct. 14.

*****PLEASE NOTE*****
Adult lunch is now $5.25

Upcoming Events:

- **Oct. 9 – 1st quarter ends**
- **Oct. 13 – 4th grade field trip to Denver Museum**
- **Oct. 14 – 4th & 5th grade CSU Mobile Science Experience @Pioneer**
- **Oct. 19 – Parent Teacher Conferences**
- **Oct. 28 – Picture retakes**
- **Oct. 30 – Halloween Parade outside @ 2:20 (in case of bad weather Parade will move to the gym)**
  Classroom parties @ 2:30 are for students only – parent volunteers will be requested by teachers.

Big Kahuna Fundraiser Kickoff – Oct. 14
Parent fundraiser kickoff – Oct. 14 from 6- 7 p.m.
Spanish & Somali translators will be present
Fundraiser forms & money due – Oct. 27
Thanks for supporting our students and school!!

Nickell's news

Dear Pioneer Families,

Welcome to October! Fall is officially here, and we have an exciting month ahead. Fundraiser, Parent-Teacher Conferences, and Halloween...oh my!

While we were disappointed that our National Guard helicopter visit had to be canceled, there is good news! The National Guard has assured us they will help plan a bigger and better event to make it up to our students later this school year.

Our annual fundraiser kicks off on Wednesday, October 14th! Want to learn more about how the fundraiser works and how it supports our school? Join us for a Parent Info Session on October 14th from 6:00 PM – 7:00 PM.

- Childcare: Available on-site
- Translation: Spanish and Somali interpreters will be present

Conferences will take place on Monday, October 19th from 9 am - 6 pm. Connecting with your child's teacher is a key part of their success. If you need assistance signing up for a conference time, please call the main office and we will gladly help you.

Classroom Halloween parties will be held on Friday, October 30th. Look for more specific details from your child's classroom teacher in the coming weeks. Please review the sidebar/box for our schoolwide Halloween and costume expectations!

Thank you for your continued support and partnership.

Warmly,
Mrs. Nickell

P.S. What do ghosts serve for dessert? I-scream!

Counselor's corner

As we settle into October, our character focus turns to **Responsibility**, defined as **"taking action and understanding the impact of our choices."** Responsibility is about owning our behaviors and recognizing that the choices we make each day directly shape our success at school and at home.

The Power Choice: Connecting Responsibility & Sleep

One of the most powerful responsible choices a student can make each day is prioritizing rest. Sleep directly feeds our brain's **executive function skills**—the mental tools we use for focus, memory, emotional control, and decision-making. When students choose healthy sleep habits, they set their brains up to listen better, solve problems easier, and navigate challenges calmly throughout the school day.

3 Tips for Healthy Sleep Hygiene

Help your student practice responsible sleep habits with these three simple strategies:

1. **Power Down Screens Early:** Turn off TVs, phones, and tablets at least 60 minutes before bedtime. The light from screens tricks the brain into thinking it's still daytime, making it harder to fall asleep.
2. **Stick to a Wind-Down Routine:** Create a consistent 15-to-20-minute bedtime sequence (like taking a warm bath, brushing teeth, and reading a story) to signal to the body that it's time to rest.
3. **Keep the Environment Cool & Dark:** A quiet, dim, and comfortably cool bedroom promotes deeper, uninterrupted sleep so students wake up refreshed.