

Cardinal Chatter

Cardinal Community Academy • 3101 WCR 65, Keenesburg, CO 80643 • <http://CCASchool.net> • 303-732-9312 • Fax 303-732-9314

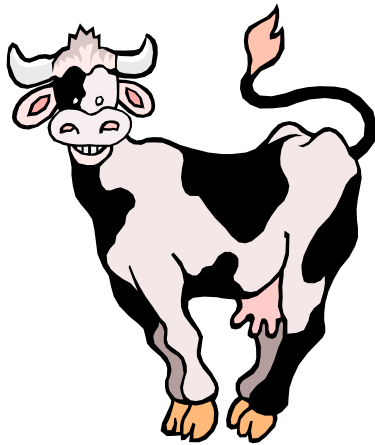
Director's Corner

Reading, Writing, Mathematics, Science, Social Studies, PE, Music, Art and Computers are all very important subjects taught at CCA. We also take time to teach Character Education. An important part of Character Education is Communication. The school tries to make every effort to communicate with your children and parents/guardians. As the year has progressed I feel that communication between the team/parents and parents/team has been receding. If you or your child has a problem in a class, it is very important for you to communicate with the

teacher. Should you feel uncomfortable visiting with the teacher, please come in and see me. I am more than willing to have you visit with the team member and myself to work out the problem. If neither one of these options will work for you, please call a board member and they will work their hardest to help the school and you solve the problem. I have found that the problems occurring this year have been blown out of proportion and a few minutes of communication solve all the problems.

Is it **Busy Work**? Often times your child will have more than an hour of homework. Home much of the work could they have completed in class? I have instructed the teachers to begin stamping homework or writing in your child's planner how much time your child had to work on this item in class. As a parent I understood that my child did not always utilize his class time effectively. Using the stamp will allow you to

Continued, see Director page 3



Cow Pie Bingo Tickets Update

Sales are going well! If you would like more tickets leave me a note in the black and white box by the front door.

The deadline for turning in your originally issued cow pie bingo tickets is Friday October 3rd 2008.

Remember this is our most important fundraiser of the year and funds field trips for every class!

If your class exceeds the number of tickets sold last year, your class will receive an ice cream party.

Keep up the great work!

Jo Colvin and the PTO

**8th Annual
CCA Harvest Festival**



Fun for the whole family!
Concessions available

- Food
- Free Cake Walk
- Games
- Costume Contest
- Cookoff
- Silent Auction
- Free Pumpkins
- Kids Raffle
- Haunted House

Admission is free

**Saturday
October 18th
2:00-6:00 pm**

Cardinal Community Academy
3101 WCR 65, Keenesburg, 303-732-9312



CCA PTO news

CCA PTO is sponsoring Kid's Korner at the **Keenesburg Oktoberfest**. PTO has asked the middle schoolers to run this event. In return, they will get a percentage of the profits for their class trips. At the Kid's Korner we will have fun activities such as a trike track, face painting, bounce house and popcorn/drink combo. Each item costs \$1, (face painting can cost more depending on how elaborate it is). Purchase a day pass for \$10 and get unlimited trike track, bounce house and one popcorn/drink combo. CCA can buy All Day Passes on sale at CCA for \$8 the week before Oktoberfest. Passes will cost \$10 at Oktoberfest.

Purchase your passes after school by the office starting September 30th. Please come support CCA's middle schoolers at the Kid's Korner at Oktoberfest in Keenesburg on Oct. 4 (Saturday) from 10:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m.!

• Thank you to Jo C., Joelle M., Missy R. For their hard work on Cow Pie Bingo.

We still need volunteers for the Harvest Festival!!!! Please sign up with your classroom PTO representative to help out at Harvest Festival. If you are not sure who your rep is, here is the list.

- K - Missy R.
- 1st - Kristi H.
- 2nd - Tammy C.
- 3rd - Edie W.
- 4th - Joye D.
- 5th - Monica W.
- 6th - 8th - Teachers

PTO's next meeting will be October 3rd at 7:40 - 8:40am in the lunchroom of CCA, please come and see what exciting things are happening here at CCA.

PTO Officers: April D, Laura H, Linda B, Tammy W, Tena F

Read to Score!

Reading Program Scorecard #1 ends Sept. 30th. Scorecards are due in the box no later than Oct. 10th.

Drama!

It is getting closer to the time for CCA's Drama program to begin. Currently, I am working on selecting a play and am hoping to have an interest meeting before the end of the quarter. Signs will be posted at the office informing you of the date, time and location. There will also be a sign up on the office counter. Please write down your name and contact information!

I am very excited about this program. It will be a lot of fun for the students and the entire CCA community. Theatre is an activity that can appeal to all ages and interests.

We will be needing actors, technicians, set builders, costume helpers, etc. Even if your child does not enjoy getting on stage, they can still be included and participate in other ways!

If you have any questions, do not hesitate to contact me!

Sarahjohnson@re3j.com



Cartridges for Kids

Thanks to all who have been bringing in their spent printer cartridges for the recycling fund raiser Cartridges for Kids. In addition to empty injet and laser cartridges, the program accepts used cell phones, digital cameras, laptops, palm pilots, iPods, video games and consoles, and dvd movies. Help us earn cash for CCA by bringing in these items and depositing them in the Cartridges for Kids box just inside the main building entrance.

Homework

Homework can be a valuable learning tool and help bridge the gap between home and school.



The Office of Educational Research and Improvement has found that students who spend time on homework do better in school and reap the benefits as they move through the upper grades. However, for many families, homework may be a very stressful time if extracurricular activities are trying to be juggled, the child is less than cooperative, or if the homework is cumbersome or confusing.

First, why do teachers assign homework? Homework can be a good review or practice of what has been taught in class. Our teachers at CCA have learned through their Quantum Learning training that in order to move information from short-term to long-term memory, they need to follow the **10-24-7 rule**. This means that new information needs to be reviewed with the first 10 minutes, again within 24 hours and again within 7 days. It is estimated that the average student needs up to 14 repetitions of a new piece of information before it is moved out of short-term memory. Additionally, the best time to review a new piece of information is right before going to sleep. So, the next time your child has trouble remembering something, try reviewing the concept for just a few minutes before going to bed. Homework can also be assigned to help the child prepare for the next day's class or simply explore subjects more thoroughly.

In addition to learning important information, homework can help develop good work habits in a child. Children need to eventually work more independently as they grow older, and homework encourages self-discipline and responsibility. Although it may seem silly to be think-

Continued, see Homework page 3

Homework *Continued from page 2*

ing of a seven year old in the work place, many would agree that the habits we develop as youngsters have a profound impact on us as adults.

For some families, simply setting a homework schedule may solve some of the homework headaches. But first, know when your child works the best. Many children need a break when they arrive home from school. After all, they did just spend eight hours working hard at school. They may need a snack or just need to relax for a while. However, if you have a difficult time getting your child back on task after that after school break, you may want to consider starting in on homework right away. If your child is involved in extracurricular activities, the schedule may be set for you. Once a schedule has been established, right it out and post it in a visible location. Again, when it comes to schedules, you know your child best. If your child tends to rush through homework and your family has 45 minutes set aside for homework, honor that schedule. Therefore, if your child finishes his/her homework in 30 minutes, the remaining 15 minutes can be spent as an opportunity to read and not just turn on the TV. Or use that remaining 15 minutes to talk with your child about his or her day.

Establish a location where homework will be completed in your home. The location should be quiet and have lots of light. Also, all necessary supplies should be at your child's fingertips so that he/she isn't always getting up to find something that is needed for the assignment. This can really be a time waster and can make your child unfocused. I've heard the argument that some children actually need noise or loud music in order to complete their homework. Although I will argue that noise or loud music is not what you will find in the classroom that your child just came from earlier in the day, try using music without words and at a very low level if your child does need some noise. Research

has shown that Baroque music is the best, and many of our teachers use music when the students are working quietly.

If your child, rather than rushing through homework, has the opposite problem and dawdles during homework time, try using a timer. Break up the homework into small chunks and set the timer for five to ten minutes at a time for each chunk of homework. (This can be more or less time depending on the age of your child.) The timer can also help if you are trying to encourage your child to work independently. Not many parents want to sit with their child during homework for their entire educational career. However, remember that using a timer takes practice. You don't want to set your child up for failure by setting unreasonable times. Also, reward your child with something tangible or simply praise when he/she finishes in a timely manner.

For older students, one of the best things that parents can do is simply show an interest. If your child knows you care and will be checking on homework, he/she is more likely to complete assignments. Also, communicate with your child's teacher and check your child's planner daily. Have your child check off assignments as they are completed and then place them in the backpack immediately. Lost or missing assignments are solved! But most importantly, please don't do your child's homework for him. Trust me, the teachers are not fooled. Doing your child's homework does not help your child at all and it lessens the confidence in his/her own abilities. This doesn't mean that your child won't need help, but if you feel that your child is truly unable to complete the homework or it is confusing in some way, schedule a conference with the teacher to discuss the issue. Everyone at CCA wants your child to succeed, and your child's teacher may have some specific advice based on how your child learns best and the type of homework that is being assigned.

April Dowdy, Curriculum director

Director *Continued from page 1*

understand that your child had 30 minutes to work on math and only completed 2 problems. When they tell you that "they didn't understand or didn't get any help" please call the teacher to review whether the stories are correct or an excuse. If you feel the work coming home is **Busy Work**, again please visit with the teacher. If your child continually has two hours of homework, please visit with the teacher.

CCA was established to offer the best possible education to your child. We continue to hear from previous students how far ahead they were when they went to high school. Your children are at CCA because you want them to reach the highest level of education possible and that is the mission for CCA.

Harry Ewing

Book Fair in November

CCA's librarian TerriLynn Carlson, or Mrs. T as the kids call her, has just announced that the Scholastic Book Fair will be the week of Nov. 18th through Nov. 21st 2008. Just in time for Christmas shopping! Please let her know if you would be interested in volunteering to help during the fair.



Cardinal Chatter the CCA school monthly newsletter, needs you!

If you would like to contribute to the CCA monthly newsletter please email your announcements, stories, photos, requests or kudos to info@ccaschool.net by the last Friday of the month. This is a great way to communicate with the whole CCA family including parents with children on the waiting lists. The newsletter will normally be sent home the first Tuesday of the month. We look forward to your responses.

Kathleen and Doyle Harrison



Night at the Museum!

Colorado History is part of the fourth grade curriculum. Last year we had planned a special field trip to the Colorado History Museum, but were not able to attend because we did not have the minimum number of people required in our group. So this year the Fourth and Fifth graders together will have an awesome opportunity to visit the Colorado History Museum in a very unique way. On October 3rd, we will be spending the night at the museum! This trip will be an exciting experience. We can't wait!

Recently we had won-dough-ful fun creating our Colorado Regions map using salt dough. Ask any 4th grader what the three main regions of Colorado are and they should be able to tell you! Thank you to all of the parents who helped make our map dough!

Scholastic Book Orders

Our first Book Orders came in recently. Thank you to those who ordered books. When you order books, our class earns points, and we can then order special items for our classroom as well as more books. Please continue ordering. The book clubs offer great prices, kids love to receive and read the books, and it helps our classroom!

Tammy Kester, 4th grade

CCA September Board Meeting Highlights

* The board would like to welcome Missy Rosling who was appointed to fill one of the CCA Board of Directors positions.

* The board election deadline was extended to fill the second board position. We will be communicating information on the applicants and the timing for you to cast your votes!

Carla Leet



Bags And Boxes Staying Green In Autumn

Please remember to save your plastic bags and your box tops for education. The collection containers are in the lobby. Also, please save your receipts from Keenesmart and your Campbell's soup labels.

You can also put these in the lobby "Box Tops for Education" collection container in the lobby. Thanks as always for your support of our school--and our hardworking staff!!

Paula Nikolai

Calendar Dates

The **week of September 30** we will have a schedule change. There will be computers on Tuesday and Music/Band will be on Thursday.

Please remember the Oktoberfest in Keenesburg is on **October 4th**.

Kindergarten, 1st, and 3rd trip to the Zoo on **October 10th**.

School pictures are scheduled at CCA on **October 15th**.

The end of the 1st quarter is **October 17th**.

Our Harvest Festival will be on **October 18th** from 2 pm until 6 pm.

Report cards will go home on Wednesday, **October 22nd**.

The Honor Roll Assembly will be held on Friday, **October 24th** at 3 pm.

Pizza days are **October 3rd** and **October 24th**. This change is due to the field trip on the 10th.

R • E • S • P • E • C • T

Find out what it means to me!

Mrs. Thompson's Kindergarten class has been learning about the character trait "respect" for the past six weeks. They have learned about respecting their parents, grandparents, siblings, friends, pets, and teachers. They have learned about respecting their classroom and school as well. Below, you will find what the children wrote about when asked, "Who do you respect?"

I respect my sister and mom because my mom is having a baby. And my sister is nice! ~Destyne Kalcevic

I respect Jacob because we share and play together. ~Harley Thompson

I respect my mom and dad. I listen and not get into trouble. ~Hailey Jones

I respect my friends because I am nice. ~Creed Meikle

I respect my friend Ty. I like him. ~Gavin Muckey

I respect my sister. She is in a big bed. ~Brooke Ann Dowdy

I respect my friend Gavin. I bless him. ~Ty Wiese

I respect my Dad. He teaches me to ice skate. ~Logan Hines

I respect my mom and dad by cleaning my room. ~Breanna Nelson

I respect my mom when she asks for help with the chores. ~Hayes Edens

I respect my J.D. by not fighting and being nice. ~Gracey Huwa

I respect my mom by feeding my three dogs. ~Jayson Lesnansky

I respect my mom by feeding my rabbits when she asks me to. ~Elizabeth Spayd

I respect my freind Dylan and treat him how I want to be treated. ~Sky Nulsen

I respect Destyne because I play with her. ~Kaitlyn Rosling

I respect Kaitlyn. I play with her. ~Natasha Zimbelman

I respect my brother. I like to play with him and take showers. ~Ben Swieter

Stacy Thompson