



Letter from the Principal

Dear Oak Creek Families,

Happy Autumn,

In this month of Thanksgiving, our school has many reasons to be thankful.

WE ARE THANKFUL FOR:

1. **Bringing** the majority of our elearners back to in person learning.
2. **Keeping** our students and staff relatively healthy during this COVID time.
3. **Having** one to one devices to keep our students more engaged with learning, becoming more tech savvy, and to enjoying demonstrating their understanding of the content.
4. **Students** are learning, and our teachers are doing a great job teaching.
5. **Only** had one confirmed case of COVID at the very beginning of the school year.

Here are some ways that we continue to work on COVID safety protocols:

1. Students get hand sanitizer when they enter the building in the mornings and after recess.
2. All students and staff are required to wear mask all day. Students get to take them off during lunch time.
3. All students sit facing one direction in the café to avoid face to face contact. They are also spaced out at the tables.
4. Hand sanitizer stations are being utilized multiple times a day by all students and staff as they move throughout the building.
5. Students and staff have access to a new face mask daily. If a student's mask breaks or tears, they can get another one.
6. Students and staff are not giving high fives, but we are giving elbows or air fives instead.

Update on work completion and learning:

Our in-person students are doing a great job completing assignments on time and staying engaged throughout the school day. They are coming to school prepared to learn. They have the supplies they need to show that they are serious about their education.

Some of our eLearning students are demonstrating their ability to be a great student online. Many are getting online at the scheduled learning times and taking advantage of the before and after school office hours, as well as completing their daily work. Unfortunately, we have elearners not taking online learning seriously! Our team knows that it is a difficult way for some students to learn, however, we must work together to make this the best learning environment possible. Please make sure that your child has his/her materials daily, they are signed in on time, they participate, and they complete the work. All elearners are welcome back when you feel comfortable, just give the front office a call to let us know about your decision.



Thank you, Veterans!

Due to COVID, we will not have a Veterans day assembly this year, however, from Oak Creek to all of you, we appreciate your dedication and service!

Weather reminders:

Now that the weather has officially changed, please make sure that your son/daughter has a jacket daily. We try to go out for recess as much as possible, but we want students to be dressed appropriately.

Starting this year: Please note that, it is hard to predict Colorado's weather, so students may bring their devices home "just in case" the weather looks bad. If it turns out that we have school the next day, please remember to send the Chromebooks and chargers back that day. If we get a sneaky storm and students do not have their devices, it is okay.

As always, we thank you for your continued support!

Educationally yours,

Ms. Linda Donaldson



CLINIC NEWS

Coughs are one of the most common symptoms of childhood illness. Although a cough can sound awful it is not a sign of something serious. In fact, coughing is a healthy and important reflex that helps protect the airways in the throat and chest. There are a lot of different coughs, but I want to outline a few.

“Barky” cough — usually caused by swelling in the upper part of the airway. This kind of cough is a virus; you will hear people refer to it as a croupy cough.

Cough with wheezing — usually means the lower airways of the lungs are swollen. This happens with asthma and bronchitis.

Nighttime cough — coughs usually get worse during the night. When you have a cold, the mucus from the nose and sinus area can drain down your throat and can trigger the coughing reflex. This can keep you or your child up at night.

Cough with vomiting — coughing can trigger gag reflexes which can make you vomit. Another reason for vomiting is that the mucus draining can upset your stomach.

Persistent cough — coughs caused by colds due to a virus can last weeks, especially if you get one cold after another. If you or your child still has a cough after three weeks, I recommend going to see your physician.

If you have any questions, please feel free to call Megan Alferos in the clinic at 579-2178.



Dates to Remember

Nov. 1 – Daylight savings time end

Nov. 11 – Veterans Day

Nov. 23-27 - Thanksgiving Break
District Closed NO SCHOOL



Veterans Day

Honoring All Who Served



We would like to thank all active duty and retired military members of our Oak Creek Families and neighbors. However, due to COVID 19 we will not be celebrating with an assembly or breakfast this year.

Thank you for your continued service and sacrifices.



School Hours:

Monday 10:05 – 3:35

Tuesday – Friday

8:35 - 3:35



SEVERE WEATHER POLICY

Please make sure that your child is dressed for our changing Colorado weather. A warm morning does not necessarily mean a warm afternoon.

On days when the temperature, or wind chill, falls below 20 degrees, or if it is raining or snowing heavily, the children will be held inside for recess.

Local radio and television stations will carry information on **delayed starts, school closing and early dismissal** when the school district's schedule needs to be altered due to weather concerns. Listen for an announcement about **Harrison School District #2**. Announcements **about Harrison or School District #2 include Oak Creek Elementary**. Please stay tuned to the local radio stations if the weather turns bad. Some of those stations are:

KVOR - 1300 AM

KRDO - 1240 AM or 95.1 FM

KSSS/KVUU - 740 AM or 99.9 FM

KILO - 94 FM

Download the HSD2 app and sign up for text alerts.

In the event the schools close during the day due to poor weather conditions you will need to come and pick up your child or make arrangements for someone to pick him/her up. Students will not be dismissed early and allowed to walk home during severe weather.



Daylight savings time ends Sunday November 1st. Don't forget to turn clocks back 1 hour!



Please call our attendance line 719-579-2175 before 8:45 am when your student will be absent. Our phone answers 24 hours a day.



Make sure to check out our Facebook page and website <http://oakcreek.hsd2.org> for your student's grade level blogs and webpages.

Oak Creek Elementary School

Inspiring and nurturing leadership one student, one classroom, one community at a time.

Oak Creek Elementary School Harrison School District Two | 3333 W. Oak Creek Dr., Colorado Springs, CO 80906

Phone: 719-579-2175 | Fax 719-579-2991 | Office Hours: Monday thru Friday, 7:30am - 4:00pm



District corner – November 2019

District Corner – November 2020

We strive to keep you adequately informed about the direction of D2 and offer opportunities to make your voice count. Please take advantage of the opportunities below:

- Join us for a Virtual Town Hall to learn more about the D2 Bond Construction Updates on Monday, November 9, 2020 from 12:00 p.m. – 1:00 p.m. or from 5:30 p.m. – 6:30 p.m. Spanish captions and ASL signing will be available. Q&A will be available via chat. Find the links to the virtual meeting on the HSD2 website!
- The **Choice Enrollment Window for the 2021-2022 school year** opens Monday, November 16th at 7:30 a.m. and you can request a specific campus by visiting the District Office during business hours. Visit our website for information ahead of Choice Enrollment.



We just wanted to remind parents and students that due to COVID 19, we **will not** be holding a holiday shop this year for students to purchase holiday gifts for family. We are hoping that our VIP volunteers can return with a holiday shop next year.

Hello Cougar Families and Friends!

Can you believe that we are already 1 quarter into the 2020-21 school year? I hope that you were able to take the opportunity to meet with your child's teacher so you could talk about all your child's strengths and areas for growth. Each of you play such a vital role in your child's success and we appreciate your assistance in creating strong home-school partnership.

During your conference you may have discussed something called a READ Plan. You may still have few questions or have some things that you are wondering. Here are few frequently asked questions and answers that the Colorado Department of Education (CDE) has shared on their website.

What is the READ Act?

The Colorado Reading to Ensure Academic Development Act (READ Act), passed by the Colorado legislature in 2012, focuses on early literacy development for all students and especially for students at risk to not read at grade level by the end of the third grade. The READ Act focuses on literacy development for kindergarteners through third-graders. Students are tested for reading skills, and those who are not reading at grade level are given individual READ plans.

What is a Significant Reading Deficiency?

Pursuant to the READ Act, teachers in grades kindergarten through three administer an interim assessment to all children in order to determine whether children are making sufficient progress to grade level reading proficiency. When students are identified as significantly below grade level (called a "significant reading deficiency" or SRD), teachers administer a diagnostic assessment to determine specific areas of need for reading improvement. Teachers use this information to develop an intervention plan (called a READ plan) that is shared with the child's parents. Students continue to receive intervention supports until the teacher determines that the child has met reading skill competencies of their current grade level.

How are students assessed?

The READ Act requires use of an interim assessment to determine whether a student has a significant reading deficiency in grades K through 3. Students who enter 4th and 5th grade with a READ Plan will keep their plan until the teacher determines that the child has met reading skill competencies of their current grade level.

For more information please visit,

<https://www.cde.state.co.us/communications/20180515readactoverview>

Your Friendly Literacy Coach,

Mrs. Richard