You Belong at Kyffin
Message from the Principal

Dear Kyffin Families,

As we approach the end of 2023, I want to take a moment to express my immense pride in our school and my gratitude for the hard work I see from our staff and students in our classrooms each day.

Thank you for a successful Flex Testing day earlier this month. We were able to complete our district math and literacy testing in a calm and organized fashion. Your flexibility and communication were essential to our success.

I also want to highlight the Choir, and Beginning Band and Orchestra concerts earlier this month. The Arts teach students discipline, collaboration, concentration, risk-taking and many other skills that last a lifetime. I loved seeing their excitement during the performances and pride on their faces afterward. Thank you for supporting the Arts at Kyffin!

The turn of the year brings us to planning for the 24/25 school year. Your voice is important to us. Please take a moment to complete this brief 2024/25 Budget Priority and Communication Survey. Also, please consider attending our joint PTA/SAC (School Accountability Committee) meeting on January 23rd from 5:30-7:00. We will be further discussing the 24/25 budget and working on improving school communication.

I want to extend my deepest gratitude to our dedicated teachers, staff, and parents for their ongoing support and collaboration. Your partnership is instrumental in fostering a nurturing learning environment that allows our students to flourish.

Wishing each and every one of you a joyful and restful winter break. The holiday season provides a wonderful opportunity to reflect on the year’s accomplishments, create lasting memories, and embrace the joy that comes with spending time together. May the coming days be filled with laughter, warmth, and precious moments with family and friends.

Looking forward to our return on January 8th 2024!

Warm regards,

Pamela Virden
IMPORTANT DATES:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>December</th>
<th>January</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>19 Winter Parties PK-4th @ 8:55 AM</td>
<td>3-5 Winter Break – NO SCHOOL</td>
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<tr>
<td>19 5th Grade Yule Ball *Afternoon</td>
<td>8 Students Return to School</td>
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<tr>
<td>20-Jan. 5 Winter Break – NO SCHOOL</td>
<td>12 1st Round Choice Enrollment Closes</td>
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<tr>
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<td>15 Martin Luther King Jr. Day – NO SCHOOL</td>
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<td></td>
<td>17 Coffee &amp; Connections @ 8:45 am</td>
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<td>19 Top Cougar</td>
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<td></td>
<td>23 PTA/SAC Meeting 5:30-7:00 pm</td>
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<td>23*-27 PTA Restaurant Night @ Coriander</td>
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<td>TBD Middle of Year Data comes home</td>
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<td></td>
<td>30 LAMP 4th Grade Program</td>
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Click here to view the Kyffin calendar or the district calendar!

NO SCHOOL

Happy Holiday & Happy New Year! Just a reminder, winter break is December 20th - January 5th. Students return to school on January 8, 2024. Have a fun and safe winter break.
School Spirit Week

In January, we will be reinforcing our school-wide behavior expectations- PRRS (Positive Respectful Responsible Safe)- with whole school activities and a spirit week.

Friday January 12th: PRRS week Belonging Assembly kick-off

Spirit Week: The week of January 16th: Kids come dressed to match each day’s theme:
- Tuesday 1/16- Sports Day
- Wednesday 1/17- Vacation Day
- Thursday 1/18- Pajama Day
- Friday 1/19- Wear your Black You Belong at Kyffin shirt

PTA Kyffin Giving Tree

Thank you for your generous donations for the PTA Kyffin Giving Tree this holiday season. We were able to help many Kyffin students and their families this holiday season. We could have done it without you all.

Office

Classroom Visits
We absolutely welcome family members in our school. Please note: if you are planning on visiting a classroom, please coordinate with the teacher ahead of time and sign a confidentiality agreement. Confidentiality agreements are available in the main office. Please contact Ms. Virden if you have any questions.
Office Hours
Just a friendly reminder, the main office hours are Monday - Friday from 8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. Please be sure students are picked up promptly after school and or they are signed up for SAE. The main office closes at 4:00 p.m.

Absences
A reminder to please call our 24 hour attendance line (303) 982-5759 to report absences. **How Sick is too sick?** When to keep your child home from school.

Absences of two or more days require the **pre-arranged absence form** be completed and turned into the main office. This form can be found on our website under “family resources”, drop down “forms”.

Healthroom
Kyffin Families,

If you have received notices about immunizations, we ask that you please take steps to either update your immunizations or complete a medical exemption form. We are happy to support with information about low cost immunizations or the exemption form.

I wish to ask for your help once more. We are in desperate need of underwear sizes 4 and 6 for both boys and girls. Unfortunately, we are not allowed to accept clean, washed pairs and require newly purchased undies. If possible, when out shopping for the holidays, could you look out for any underwear sales and keep us in mind? Theme and color do not matter in the slightest. Thank you for everything you grown ups do for our students!
2024-2025 Enrollment

Choice Enrollment Important Dates for 2024-2025 school year

You will use EnrollJeffco whether your student is re-enrolling at the same school, changing schools or new to Jeffco. www.Enrolljeffco.org This applies for Kindergarten registration too.

- Kindergarten & Preschool Enrollment December 5 – January 12, 2024
- Round 2 for the Jan. 19, 2024 - August 2024
- Round Choice offers will go out on January 23, 2024

Preschool Enrollment 2024-2025

Families will enroll their 3 and 4 year old children for preschool through Enroll Jeffco (EJ) at the same time as k-12 students. Returning families must accept their placement at their current school to hold their spot. Families who want to change school placement or are new to preschool can select up to 5 preschool choices in EJ. Need help enrolling? Visit jps.click/preschool or call 303-982-1737.

Families will apply for funding through UPK when the UPK system opens in the Spring.
Mental Health

With winter break almost upon us, I wanted to provide the Kyffin community with some resources to help make the break more enjoyable. Long breaks away from school (and the holidays, if you celebrate them) can often create strong emotions, which may trigger atypical behaviors. Below are some links with both proactive and reactive strategies to help prevent and minimize strong emotions/behaviors. Additionally, there are activities that are fun and enjoyable for the whole family that do not include the use of video games or other tech devices. It is important to note these strategies may be applied any time of the year, not just during long breaks from school.

If you have any specific questions, or if I can help in any way, please contact Ari.Klein@jeffco.k12.co.us. I hope you all have a wonderful break, Kyffin Community!

7 Ways to Keep Your Kids Entertained During Winter Break

How to Support Student Learning at Home: 10 Tips for Parents

General Tips for Parents for Children of All Ages, Including Tips for Children with Disabilities, Such as ASD

Emotional Regulation Curriculum Used at Kyffin that All, or Almost All, Students Know - Zones of Regulation
Meet Our Staff

Please Welcome our New Staff:

Mary Trujillo – 1st Grade Teacher

Hi! My name is Mary Trujillo. This is my 10th year teaching and first year at Kyffin. I have taught first through fourth grade, and I am so excited to be teaching first grade this year! I have heard amazing things about the community at Kyffin, and I am so happy to be a part of this community of teachers, students and parents!

I am originally from the Southern suburbs of Chicago and moved to Golden, CO when I was going into second grade. Although I did not go to Kyffin, I did go to school just down the street at Shelton! I also graduated from Golden High School. Even though I am not a Colorado native, I enjoy skiing, snowboarding, hiking and the Broncos! I have two sons. Ben turned 3 in October. He is so silly, sweet, mischievous, and loving! Oliver (Ollie) will be 1 in January. He is the sweetest cuddle bug. I also have two cute dogs. Winston is a 8 year old poodle mix and Peyton is a 4 year old Goldendoodle.
Nicholas Zaragoza – Evening Custodian

Hello! My name is Nicholas Zaragoza. I just finished my first year being a custodian and I couldn’t be more grateful! I'm DPS born and raised, and enjoy things like Dungeons & Dragons, Gundam, and reading.

Diana Balogh – Evening Custodian

Hello, I have been with Jeffco Public Schools, as a 4 hour custodian, (started at Irwin PK, Green Mtn. Elementary and now Kyffin. I am also a part time caregiver for an elderly lady who is originally from Italy. I love dogs, (especially my little chubby chiweenie), and I really enjoy working here at Kyffin.
Mrs. Graffam – 2nd Grade Teacher

Hi Kyffin! My name is Sarah Graffam and I am so excited to be returning to this amazing Kyffin community as a second grade teacher this year. This is my tenth year teaching; I have previously taught preschool, Kindergarten, and second grade, and I spent five years teaching Kindergarten here at Kyffin before spending the last two years at home with my girls. I've loved coming back and seeing former students and families, and feel so lucky to get to work with all of my new students and families. My family is the most important thing in the world to me- my oldest daughter Molly is almost five and my youngest daughter Claire is two. I love to spend time with family and friends, going on adventures with our girls, baking, traveling, and cheering on the CSU Rams. I love the wonderful world of teaching and I'm so happy to be here! 😊
Dulce Duran – Business Manager

I am Dulce Duran, the Business Manager here at Kyffin. This is my 10th year in Jeffco and my 2nd year at Kyffin. I started as a Jeffco preschool teacher. I became a family liaison at Vivian Elementary. I supported parent involvement and student success. While at Vivian, I grew professionally and took on the enrollment and principal’s secretary position. I enjoy working with students, families and staff. I feel fortunate to be a part of such a great school community.

I am from North Denver, and I grew up in Lakewood. I am a Lakewood High School graduate. I like going to watch Denver sports teams games! I enjoy cooking and baking with my family. Also, I love going to the park and library with my two sons. My eight-year-old son Elijah loves to try new foods and restaurants. John is three and is adventurous. He likes to climb and learn about reptiles. We have five axolotls and two crested geckos as pets.
Art

Hello families of Kyffin artists,

Original Works was such a success! Products will arrive and be distributed before Winter Break. Contact me if you have any questions via email kahlers@jeffcoschools.us

Music Notes

Greetings from the Music Room where we’ve been at work creating, listening, and moving to music. All grades have been working theory and ensemble skills but we’ve also been working towards empathetic music making, listening, and responding. We’re excited for the winter music months ahead!

Important Reminders

Choir Opportunities
Thank you for the amazing Choir season! Although I am not hosting a Spring Choir in 2024, there are still other choir opportunities in the area! Colorado Children’s Chorale is an amazing program that I highly recommend for any students 2nd-45th grade that is looking to continue in choir. To be placed in one of their choirs, there is a short audition that you can sign up for and find out more information for here. If any Kyffin student would like to audition and needs help preparing for the audition, please reach out and I am happy to help!
http://tinyurl.com/4avm8m5t

4th Grade
What - The What IFS will showcase what fourth grade students have learned about how thoughts manifest and impact us. They will share with you how what they have learned connects to library, art, music, and P.E. (L.A.M.P.). This is a sit-down performance where you will get to enjoy students’ hard work, but be ready for audience participation. Each student will have a role within the performance, and will be a valuable part of the ensemble. If you foresee scheduling conflicts, please reach out to the L.A.M.P. team as soon as you are able.
When - January 30th 2024, 4:30 - 5:30 P.M. Doors open for guests at 4:15 P.M
Where - Kyffin Elementary School

3rd Grade
We are excited to announce that 3rd Grade students have been invited to go on a Symphony Field Trip this year!
**Date:** February 28, 2024  
**Time:** 10:15 AM - 1:30 PM  
**Fee:** $14.00
This will be an amazing chance for our students to enjoy the magic of live symphonic music. We can’t wait to share this day of learning and musical inspiration with students!

To see grade-level updates, [head to the music website.](https://tinyurl.com/2p92b358)
P.E.
Running Club- For those Kinder-2nd graders interested in running club, we will be having a spring session starting after spring break, so look for more information on that in the coming months!

-A quick reminder about footwear in PE as we enter the winter months, or as I like to call it, THE SEASON OF BOOTS!!

- Please, have your students pack an extra pair of shoes in their bag whenever they wear their boots to school, so they will be able to learn their best in PE, and keep our new gym floor in great condition!!

Stay Fit!!

Mr. Kinner
Practice with the team AND cheer at a basketball game!
Grades: Kindergarten - 5th Grade  When: January 17-19, 2024
Scan the QR Code for ALL the details!

AND a special Thank You to our Sponsor!

CHRISTOPHER'S
DODGE/ Ram
PTA Meeting:
In lieu of a January PTA meeting, we encourage everyone to attend the SAC meeting on January 23rd at 5:30 in the library.

Updates

- 1/17 Coffee and Connections - 8:45 am in the cafeteria
- 1/23 - 1/25 - PTA Restaurant Night at Coriander
- February 7 - Family Heritage Night - 5:30 pm

- The PTA is now on VENMO! Find us @KyffinPTA
- Join the Kyffin Elementary School PTA Community Support Group Facebook Group to interact with Kyffin families on Facebook
- For more updates go to www.kyffinpta.org

Milk Caps for Moola!

The yellow mailbox in front of the school is in service again! This time for Milk Caps for Moola! Drop Longmont Dairy caps in the yellow mailbox outside the main office. No need to bag them, just rinse the caps and drop them into the mailbox. Kyffin PTA gets .5 cents per cap to give back to the school.