Message From the Principal

Dear Columbine Hills Family,

“…No matter how skilled professionals are, nor how loving families are, each cannot achieve alone, what the parties, working hand-in-hand, can accomplish together.”
-adapted from Peterson & Cooper

It is hard to believe that February is already here. The year is going by so quickly. It is so exciting to see the growth that our students have made so far this year! Thank you for your continued partnership with us to make our students successful!

Join us for our next School Accountability meeting on Tuesday, February 8th beginning at 5:30pm in our professional learning room. We will be reviewing our school budget for next year and reviewing the Family School Partnership Survey feedback. PTA will follow at 6:30pm in the cafeteria.

We are starting to plan for parent-teacher conferences which also align with the end of second trimester. We will be sending home report cards in Monday folders on March 7th and then having conferences on March 9th & 10th. We hope this will better meet the needs of families. As always, if you have questions regarding your child’s academic progress or social/emotional needs, please contact your child’s teacher at any time. More information about conferences will be coming at the end of the month.

continued...
Message From the Principal, continued...

Please remember that we will have no school on Monday, February 21st in honor of President’s Day.

I want to thank all of you for your continued support and feedback to continue to make Columbine Hills a great place for our students and families. As your principal, I continue to strive for a successful experience for your child. Please know my door is always open for questions, concerns or comments. Feel free to send me an email or contact me at (303)982-5540.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Wilson

Principal

Aiming for Success, Believing...Together We Can!
**Attendance Reminders!**

Parents need to remember to call the Columbine Hills attendance number before 8:00 a.m. to report a student’s absence. This is a 24-hour voice mailbox so you can leave a message any time, day or night. It is a parent’s responsibility to notify the school regarding a student’s absence, the attendance secretary will make every effort to contact the parent and any emergency contacts to establish the student’s whereabouts. The absence will be marked as unexcused if a phone call from the parent/guardian is not received within 24 hours of the absence. To ensure safety, if a parent cannot be contacted, the Jefferson County Sheriff’s Department may be asked to help locate the child.

**COVID protocol update**

As the district communicated, we will no longer be sending classroom-based exposure letters, which were not providing families with accurate and reliable information. The most accurate and reliable exposure information can be found on our online district dashboard where cases are reported for every school in the district. Please use that information, in conjunction with COVID test results, to make decisions that are right for your family.

"**No Paws Please**"

Just a friendly reminder of our “No Paws” policy at school between 7:00am -6:00pm. Pets are not allowed on school grounds when students are on campus due to allergies and the unpredictability of animals. Signs are posted on the edges of our campus. We appreciate your help in keeping our students safe.
Safety!

We need your help in keeping our students safe.

- **Crosswalks-** Please use the crosswalks near the school. These are the designated areas to make sure that our students and families are able to cross the street safely. Drivers cannot see students or parents that are crossing at other locations or between cars. We are asking that families do not cross at the entrances of the parking lot or anywhere that there is not a crosswalk.

- **Parking Lot-** Please help keep our students safe by driving slowly through our parking lot and watching closely for students walking to cars. We are asking that families do not cross at the entrances of the parking lot. Do not park in the bus lane in the front of the school or in the no parking areas in the parking lot.

- **Kiss and Go-** Please remember to have your child exit from the right side of the vehicle when using the Kiss and Go Lane. This allows students to exit safely on the side of the vehicle where there is no traffic. We ask that parents drive slowly and remain off cell phones.

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The second round of the choice enrollment opens on February 2nd. If you know of families who are interested in attending Columbine Hills Elementary, please have them contact the office for more information. If you have already applied during round one, you do not need to reapply in round two.

[https://enrolljeffco.force.com/Apply/sitelogin](https://enrolljeffco.force.com/Apply/sitelogin)
We had another great month of Watch Dog Dads in January! We truly appreciate all your support and look forward to having you visit again! If you have any questions about the Watch Dog Dad program, call the school office!
In December we had our Spelling Bee! Congratulations to Gabe and Hayze, our finalists that moved on to the Columbine Area Spelling Bee in January.
Writer of the Month Awards

Congratulations to the following students who were selected as the Writer of the Month for the month of January 2022 by their teachers. Their writing will be displayed in the front entry for everyone to read.

Kindergarten: Ava Mays (Ms. Baltazar’s class)  
Lily Lavely (Mrs. Blackwell’s class)

Grade 1: Jadon Davis (Mrs. Hartley’s class)  
Bran Chaffin (Mrs. McGeeney’s class)

Grade 2: Juliana Ellison (Ms. Johanson’s class)  
(Mrs. Strayer’s class)

Grade 3: Andrew Sealy (Mrs. Bawden’s class)  
Dylan Langren (Mrs. Sarcletti’s class)

Grade 4: PJ Mullen (Mr. Capansky’s class)  
Kristina Tsuber (Ms. Kirkland’s class)

Grade 5: Caidynn James (Mrs. Bettmann’s class)  
Sophina Wells (Ms. Leebrick’s class)
PTA’s Winter Bingo was a success. Hope you enjoyed all the fun activities! Each grade level had one winner of a DQ gift card. Congratulations to...

Everett in Mrs Blackwell  
Lucas in Mrs Hartley  
Adriana in Ms Johanson  
Graylin in Mrs Bawden  
Abigail in Mr Capansky  
Caitlyn in Mrs Bettmann

Thank you for continuing to fill the staff snack cart. Send the staff some love by using the QR code below or drop some individually wrapped goodies to the office.

The PTA is gathering photos for our 2021-2022 Yearbook. If you have school event related photos that you would like to share please upload to the following link or send them to the PTA gmail. Also, the presale of this year’s Yearbook is now available, see below.

Community photos for Yearbook 2021-2022

Yearbook Pre-sale

We look forward to seeing you at our next PTA meeting on Tuesday, February 8th at 6:30.

A drawing for a $25 gift card will be awarded.

-CHE PTA

Questions and comments - columbinehillspta@gmail.com
Did you know that 1 in 20 children have head lice at any given time and only about ½ of those children will experience the hallmark, itchy head symptom? The itch is caused by an allergic reaction to the saliva of the head lice, but not every person will experience the reaction. What this means is that the other ½ of students with lice have no symptoms and go unidentified. That is where you come in. But first, you should know a few things about head lice:

- Head lice are a common problem
- Head lice do not discriminate
- Head lice are a nuisance but do NOT cause serious illness or carry any disease.
- Head Lice lay and attach their eggs to a hair strand close to the scalp using a sticky substance that holds them firmly in place.
- The eggs and their shell casings are called nits. After the eggs hatch, the empty nits stay on the hair shaft but are harmless.
- Head lice live about 28 days and develop in three phases:
  - Egg or nit ~ Eggs/nits hatch in 6 to 9 days. Eggs are usually found within 4 to 6 mm of the scalp and do not survive if they are farther away.
  - Nymph~The nymph looks like an adult head louse but is much smaller. Nymphs become adults about 7 days after hatching.
  - Adult louse ~ An adult louse multiplies fast and lays up to 10 eggs a day. It takes only about 12 to 14 days for newly hatched eggs to reach adulthood.
  - This cycle can repeat itself every 3 weeks if head lice are left untreated.
  - Head lice crawl; they DO NOT hop or fly.
- They are spread by close, prolonged head-to-head contact with the hair of an infested person.
- Spread by contact with clothing (such as hats, scarves, coats) or other personal items (such as combs, brushes, or towels) used by an infested person is uncommon.
- Head lice feed specifically on human blood (not animal blood) and don't stray far from their food source.
- When away from a person they're going to die within 24 hours.
Head Lice

Control of head lice depends on prompt diagnosis, effective treatment and teamwork! THIS IS WHERE WE NEED YOUR HELP! Your help in inspecting your child frequently throughout the school year for the presence of head lice would be greatly appreciated.

- Seat your child in a brightly lit room.
- Part the hair and look for crawling lice/nits the scalp a section at a time. Live lice are hard to find. They avoid light and move quickly.
- Nits will look like small white/yellow/brown specks and be firmly attached to the hair near the scalp. The easiest place to find them is at the hairline at the back of the neck or behind the ears. Nits can be confused with many other things such as dandruff, dirt particles, or hair spray droplets. The way to tell the difference is that nits are firmly attached to hair, while dandruff, dirt, or other particles are not.
- Use a fine-tooth comb to help you search the scalp section by section
- Notify your student’s school health room if lice are found or if you have any questions or concerns regarding lice and your student

The most effective way to treat head lice is with head lice medicine followed by the comb out method every 2-3 days for 2-3 weeks.

- Choose a product that contains Permethrin. Over-the-counter treatments contain 1% permethrin. Anything higher than 1% must be obtained from your healthcare provider.
- After each treatment, use the comb-out method to remove nits and eggs.
- Follow the directions on the package exactly as written.
- Never let children apply the medicine. Medicine should be applied by an adult.
- Do not use medicine on a child 2 years or younger without first checking with your child's health care provider
- Never place a plastic bag on a child's head.
- Do not leave a child alone with medicine in his or her hair.
- Repeat the treatment in 7 - 9 days after the first treatment (according to manufacturer’s recommendations)
- Contact your student’s healthcare provider if lice remain following 2 treatments of recommended shampoo.

In order to avoid a recurrence the environment must also be treated

- Wash your student's clothes/ towels/ bed linens/hats in hot water and dry on high heat if they were used within 2 days before head lice were found and treated.
- You do not need to throw these items away. Items that cannot be washed may be dry-cleaned or sealed in a plastic bag for 2 weeks.
- Vacuum all furniture/mattresses
- Do not spray pesticides in your home.
- All household members and close contacts should also be checked and treated if necessary.
February is a month in which relationships are in the spotlight everywhere you turn. In the TechForEd program, we’re looking at relationships that occur online. During the month of February, learners of all ages will engage in digital citizenship learning related to Relationships and Communication. Through this unit, they will explore how to build positive relationships, avoid risky online talk, and understand why some topics and conversations are not suited for digital platforms.

At home, you can support your students in understanding digital Relationships and Communication in a variety of ways. Many kids are using social media and gaming platforms to enhance real-world friendships during the current in-person restrictions. Common Sense Media makes these suggestions to share with your household with links for additional resources/support:

**Communicate appropriately.** Use the right language for your audience. You might write or speak to a teacher differently from a friend. Tip: never use all caps!

**Keep private things private.** Don't share personal information, including passwords, your home address, inappropriate images, and gossip. Privacy and Internet Safety

**Respect others.** Be courteous. Disagree politely. Character Strengths

**Don't lie, steal, or cheat.** Don’t try to deceive others. Remember to give credit where credit is due. Also, although it’s easy to copy others’ work, download things without permission, or use game cheat codes... don't do it. Teaching Kids about Copyrights

**Be an "upstander."** If someone you know is being targeted by a bully, stand up for that person. You would want them to do the same for you. 10 Ways to be an Upstander

**Report misbehavior.** The Internet is a giant community, and you can help it be a nice place. safe2tell.org/ 1-877-542-7233 Make a Call, Make a Difference

**Follow your family's rules.** If your family tells you to avoid certain websites or to stop texting after a certain time, listen. The more you act responsibly, the more privileges you'll get. Elementary Middle School High School

**Think before you post, text, or share.** Consider how you and others might feel after you've posted something. It's not always easy to take back what you've said online, and your online behavior can create a lasting footprint. Elementary Middle & High School
FEBRUARY DIGITAL CITIZENSHIP RESOURCE

Monthly Motto: We know the power of words and actions.

Discussion Question for School and Home:
How can I digitally communicate effectively and positively to build relationships?

Relationships and Communication Family Activities:

Parents Need to Know, by topic
Family conversation guide

Additional Family Engagement Resources
Jeffco’s Tech for Ed Website

“Active mentorship is crucial for kids in the digital age. We want to teach kids to do the right thing, not "catch" them doing the wrong thing.” ~ Devorah Heitner, PhD

Sponsorship space in this newsletter is extremely affordable! Reach parents in your local community & a significant portion of your investment goes back to the school! Want to sponsor this school? Please contact Rob Mangelson at Rob@tscacolorado.com or (720) 878-4107.
A Fresh Look at Your Home Library

Having interesting things to read at home is a great way to keep kids motivated. Below are a few questions to ask yourself about your home library. Some simple changes on your part can help you create an amazing home library, and help your child develop an early love of reading!

Does your home library offer...?

- A variety of books? Kids love to read all sorts of materials, including books, magazines, newspapers, and poems. Consider including travel brochures, street maps, and programs from school plays.

- Books written at a variety of reading levels? It's important to have some books that are easy for your child to read, but it's also good to have some that can be read most successfully with an adult. This balance enables your child to feel confident with some books, and grow as a reader with others.

- Some method of organization? Sometimes grouping books by topic or series helps your child find other books they might like to read. Grouping books using book baskets also help kids find a book more easily than a crowded shelf.

- Lots of nonfiction material? Even the youngest readers love to read about real places and things. These materials often include photographs, maps and charts full of interesting information.

- Lots of choice? Find creative ways to add books to your library. Playgroup book swaps, yard sales, and used book stores all offer affordable ways to add to your collection.

Take some time to consider your home library. Your reader will be glad you did!

Advertising in this newsletter does not imply endorsement by the school or district.
# CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

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To Apply Go To: [www.jeffcopublicschools.org](http://www.jeffcopublicschools.org)

Click on employment then “Jobs” at Jeffco
**Longmont Dairy Donated $500,000 to Schools in the Milk Caps for Mooola Program**

Longmont Dairy Farm has just announced that their donations to local schools have exceeded $500,000 through the Longmont Dairy “Milk Caps for Mooola” School Program. Soaring Heights PK-8 School, in Erie, Colorado, was the lucky school to turn in the 10 millionth cap and earn a bonus of $1,000 above their regular donation for redeemed bottle caps.

Through Milk Caps for Mooola, a school fundraiser program, the dairy donates five cents for each milk bottle cap collected by students at participating schools. Grandparents and neighbors help in the collection process. Schools are free to use the funds to benefit their students in anyway they wish. Most schools use their “Mooola” for field trips, sports or playground equipment, art supplies, and iPads. One school bought a parachute for P.E. classes.

Longmont Dairy started the Milk Caps for Mooola program in November of 2012. The program is now used by over 440 schools for much-needed funding of kids’ programs. “We are a family-owned business that has a passion for helping kids in our community,” said Katie Herrmann, co-owner and mom of a middle school son and elementary school daughter. “We understand that schools have additional needs and this is a way we can help.”

For over 50 years, three generations of the family-owned business have processed milk from their cows and delivered it to customers up and down the Front Range. They continue to use recyclable glass bottles, for the products they produce, that are picked-up from the customers when empty.
Food For Thought BakPak Program

Each Thursday, the Food For Thought BakPak Program will distribute sacks filled with food to students who need food during the weekends. The Food For Thought BakPak Program is a partnership of businesses, faith-based ministries, and the communities of SW Jefferson County who care about hunger needs of students in our schools. This program is designed for families who are struggling financially and may need support to provide adequate food for their children on weekends. The weekend bags consist of food for meals for each participating student. The food will be packed in a plastic grocery bag. It will fit in the child’s own backpack or will be easy to carry.

If you wish for your student(s) to participate in this program, please complete the information below and return to the school office as soon as possible. If participating in this program, your student’s name will be shared with the BakPak program coordinator for the purpose of labeling the bags.

If you do not need assistance, but may be interested in making a monetary or food item donation toward this program, please let Denise Woodin, Columbine Hills Elementary Enrollment Secretary know.

If you have any other questions, please contact Denise Woodin at 303-982-5540 or email at denise.woodin@jeffco.k12.co.us

______ Yes, I would like my child (children) to participate in this program.

Parent Name: ____________________________________________

Student: __________________________  Classroom Teacher: __________________________

Student: __________________________  Classroom Teacher: __________________________

Student: __________________________  Classroom Teacher: __________________________
Columbine Hills Elementary School “Home School Connection”

Please return to Christa Wilson, Principal

I have a question, a concern or something positive to share:

____________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________

This information is optional:
Name:________________________________
Daytime Phone:_________________________

__________________________________________________________________________________

We would like to give you an opportunity to share your appreciation of our staff by using this form below. Simply return the form to the office.

Staff Appreciation

Dear _________________________,

____________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________

____________________________________________________________________________