Message From the Principal

Dear Columbine Hills Families,

As we wrap up 2021, I want to extend my deepest gratitude to the Columbine Hills Community. It is an honor to continue to serve such a supportive and caring community. The first half of this school year has been great and we thank all of our parents for their support. It is amazing to see the growth our students have made so far this year. It is such a pleasure to see the learning and thinking that each student engages in each day. Thank you all for your continued support of our staff.

I want to take this opportunity to thank all of the CHE parents for partnering with us to support your child’s learning. Please remember the importance of letting your child see how much you value education and share your love of learning. It is ok if you do not have all the answers to your child’s questions, but it is important to show them how to find the answers. Learning builds confidence, and a child who is confident is more open to learning new things. We truly appreciate your partnership in your child’s education.

This month students will be taking their mid-year assessments. We are excited to see the growth each child has made. We look forward to sharing your child’s progress with you in January.

We wish you a wonderful Holiday Season and a fantastic New Year! Keep your children reading and writing over the break. We look forward to seeing everyone in 2022!

Sincerely,
Christa Wilson
Principal
“Aiming for Success, Believing...Together We Can!”
Winter Weather

As winter approaches, please make sure your child is wearing appropriate clothing. We know that the weather can change during the day, so please send coats, hats, boots, etc. We will be going outside for recess unless it is below 20 degrees or if there is precipitation. If your child is in need of a winter coat, boots or gloves, please contact the office. We have received several donations.

COLUMBINE HILLS ELEMENTARY 2022-2023
REGISTRATION/KINDERGARTEN INFORMATION NIGHT

Columbine Hills Elementary will begin Kindergarten and Choice enrollment on December 13, 2021 for the 2022-2023 school year. Our information night will be held on December 7th at 6:00 pm. If you know of any families that would be interested in attending, please have them call the school office. If you have any questions, please call our office at 303-982-5540.

Thank You Columbine Hills PTA!

Columbine Hills would like to thank our AMAZING PTA! We want to recognize our PTA for all of their continued support of our students, staff, community and school. Below are all of the ways PTA supported our school this first semester! Thank you!

- Back to School Night BBQ
- Conference Meals for Teachers
- Canvas and Kids
- Family Science Night & the CHE Science Fair
- Grants for Education for Teachers
- Annual Resource Funds for Preschool & Elementary Students
A huge thank you to the Watch Dog Dads that have helped out at CHE so far! The students are always so excited when there is a Watch Dog in the halls, classrooms and out at recess. We look forward to keeping this program going strong through the 21-22 school year!
Thank you from Columbine Hills!

Thank you PTA for once again filling the snack cart with Halloween treats in the staff lounge!

The Kiwanis club of Littleton was so very kind for donating a check to CHE for school use! Thank you so very much for your support, we are very thankful!

Genesis Presbyterian Church members had a coat drive and they were able to donate coats, boots, gloves and extra clothes for the Health Room. The cold months are coming, we are so thankful!
Hello Columbine Hills Community!

Many of you know that in addition to having the honor of teaching music at CHE, I serve as a Master Sergeant in the United States Air Force Reserve. As a part of that service, I have been given the opportunity to deploy in support of our country’s worldwide mission. This deployment will begin in mid-December of this year and last through the end of August of the 22-23 school year. While I am excited to serve in this expanded role, I will miss all of the students, staff and community at Columbine Hills! I look forward to returning to our community in September of 2022. Feel free to contact me if you have any further questions, and although I may not be able to answer all questions, I appreciate your support to both my family and our CHE family during this time. Have a great December, and if you celebrate, a happy holiday season.

Sincerely,

Aaron (Mr.) Hunt

Aaron J Hunt
Columbine Hills/ Dutch Creek
General Music Teacher
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.
Writer of the Month Awards

Congratulations to the following students who were selected as the Writer of the Month for the month of November 2021 by their teachers. Their writing will be displayed in the front entry for everyone to read.

Kindergarten: Nyah Kahn (Ms. Baltazar’s class)  
Tommy Mordarski (Mrs. Blackwell’s class)

Grade 1: Adelena Williams (Mrs. Hartley’s class)  
Caroline Mullen (Mrs. McGeeney’s class)

Grade 2: Ann Wegener (Ms. Johanson’s class)  
Simon Shisler (Mrs. Strayer’s class)

Grade 3: Austin Acton (Mrs. Bawden’s class)  
Mary Hendrick (Mrs. Sarcletti’s class)

Grade 4: Aryanna Stunkel (Mr. Capansky’s class)  
Eva Jackson (Ms. Kirkland’s class)

Grade 5: Emily Dillon (Mrs. Bettmann’s class)  
Olivia Long (Ms. Leebrick’s class)
BEE Awards

Congratulations to the following students who were chosen by their homeroom teachers to receive the BEE (Being Excellent Everyday) Award for the month of November 2021. The BEE awards are sponsored by the Littleton Optimist Club. Selection is based upon students showing their best effort in citizenship, attendance, and perseverance. Each selected student receives a “BEE” t-shirt, a “BEE” pencil and a certificate.

Kindergarten: Patricia Miller (Ms. Baltazar’s class)

Knox Harr Troudt (Mrs. Blackwell’s class)

Grade 1: Cora Cutsforth (Mrs. Hartley’s class)

Aiko Burnett (Ms. McGeeney’s class)

Grade 2: Elodie Reindl (Ms. Johanson’s class)

Jakob Redleaf (Mrs. Strayer’s class)

Grade 3: Charlotte Harris (Mrs. Bawden’s class)

Corbin Linden (Mrs. Sarcletti’s class)

Grade 4: Landon Mize (Ms. Kirkland’s class)

Natalie Wilcox (Mrs. Capansky’s class)

Grade 5: Caitlyn Davis (Mrs. Bettmann’s class)

Allison Silva Valdez (Ms. Leebrick’s class)
BEE Awards, continued...
The PTA was so impressed by the work of our students and families on their Science Fair projects. Congratulations to all the participants! A big Thank You to Jennifer Blackwell, the amazing office staff, preschool and all the parent volunteers who made this event possible.

We are looking forward to seeing many of our students at the Canvas and Kids event on the evening of December 3rd.

Please help fuel the CHE staff and teachers for the rest of 2021. Use the QR code above or drop some individually wrapped goodies to the office. Let’s fill up the snack cart in the lounge!

The PTA wishes the CHE community a healthy and safe Winter Break!

Our next PTA meeting will be Tuesday, December 14 at 6:30. All attendees will be entered into a door prize drawing, for a gift card worth $25. We look forward to seeing you.

-CHE PTA

Questions and comments - columbinehillspta@gmail.com
Dear Families,

During the month of December, learners of all ages will engage in digital citizenship learning related to Privacy & Security. These lessons provide the framework for students to explore the concept of online privacy and the potential implications of sharing private information with friends, the public, app providers, and more.

At home, you can assist your student with understanding Privacy & Security in a variety of ways; especially when creating online profiles on gaming websites, social networking apps, and other sites. When supporting your child with setting up an online account, consider the following:

- **Use a family email address** for your child’s first accounts. This will ensure that the account can be monitored and managed by an adult in the family.

- **Username** - Do not use full or first names for usernames and do not use someone else’s name. Usernames should not include personal information.

- **Create a secure password** - Passwords need to be easy enough for kids to remember, but not easy for others to guess. Use at least 10 characters, use both uppercase and lowercase letters, and use a number, too.

- **Choosing a profile picture** - If a site offers avatars, it is best to use them. When using an actual photo, make sure the image does not reveal personal information like a school shirt, street address, or other identifying elements in the background.

**Monthly Motto:** We care about everyone’s privacy.

**Discussion Question for School and Home:** How can I keep my personal data safe and secure?

**Privacy & Security Family Activities**

- Kindergarten  [English]
- Grade 1  [English]
- Grade 2  [English]
- Grades 3-5  [English Spanish]
- Grades 6-8  [English Spanish]

**Family Tips Sheet**

Help Boost Kids’ Safety, Privacy, and Security

K-5  [English Spanish]

6-12  [English Spanish]

**Additional Family Engagement Resources**

Common Sense Media  [Resources]

Jeffco’s Tech for Ed Website
SPARTAN INTEREST NIGHT

DECEMBER 9, 2021
6:00PM - 7:30PM
KEN CARYL MIDDLE SCHOOL

COME SEE IF THE SPARTAN FAMILY IS RIGHT FOR YOU!

JOIN US FOR AN INFORMATIONAL SESSION WITH PRINCIPAL GAGNON, MEET OUR TEACHERS, TOUR OUR BUILDING, AND FIND OUT MORE ABOUT OUR PROGRAMS.

MASKS ARE REQUIRED.
Head Lice

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.

continued...
Head Lice, *continued...*

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.
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 _________________________,

____________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________

_________________________________________________________________________________________