Message From the Principal

Dear Columbine Hills Community,

Fall is here! Students continue to learn and grow each day. We are looking forward to parent/teacher conferences to share the growth we have seen already in our students this year. Conferences are a great time to continue to build that partnership with your child’s teacher in order to support your child’s success at school each day. This is a great time for you to ask questions about your child’s progress and how we will work together to support your child in learning. Conferences will be held on Tuesday, October 18th and Wednesday, October 19th. Our goal is to always have 100% of parent attendance at conferences, so please make sure you have signed up for a conference with your child’s teacher.

We have begun to implement our new math resource, Illustrative Math. We were able to share an overview of this program at our September SAC meeting. We will be hosting a math night for parents on Wednesday, October 5th from 6:00-7:00pm. This night will provide an overview of the program, share a view of what students experience in the classroom. We are excited to use this resource this year and hope that you can join us to learn more.

Please join us for our School Accountability meeting on Tuesday, October 11th at 5:30pm followed by our PTA meeting at 6:30pm.

As your principal, I continue to strive for a successful experience for your child. I look forward to seeing you all at the many fun events we have planned this month. I always welcome any questions, concerns or comments you have. Please feel free to send me an email or contact me at (303)982-5540.

Sincerely,
Christa Wilson
Principal
“Aiming for Success, Believing…Together We Can”
Halloween Parade and Parties

We are looking forward to our Halloween parade and parties on Monday, October 31st. The parade will start at 8:30am and will be outside. Classroom parties will begin after the parade. Students should wear their costumes to school, but please be sure to send a change of clothes for your child after the party. Parties will end by 10:00am. Parents, if you are planning on attending this event, please make sure you sign in at the office.

Halloween costumes need to adhere the following expectations:

1. Costumes should follow the Student Dress Code Policy found in the CHE parent/student handbook.
2. Toy Weapons (Toy or facsimile guns, knives, swords, bats, etc.) are not allowed.
3. Costumes that are overly graphic, promote violence or otherwise might logically be assumed to be offensive to others are not acceptable.
4. Please no face paint.

Please remember that we must follow the healthy school guidelines for treats at our parties. Healthy Schools policy

If Halloween is not a holiday that your family celebrates, your student(s) will be allowed to stay in the Library during the parade and parties. Please make sure you notify your child’s teacher.

The parade will be outside. We ask parents to view the parade outside. After the parade we would love you to join us for classroom parties. All visitors who come inside the building MUST sign in at the office. Please remember to bring your ID.
7 Great Ways to Encourage Your Child's Writing

If your child struggles with writing, it’s important to find new and exciting ways to encourage them to write. Here are some creative strategies to try.

1. **Write a “Convince Me!” letter**

Writing isn’t just about telling stories or reporting on books. There are many ways your child can use words, including trying to convince others to agree with her. You can help then practice this type of writing by letting them argue with you—in writing!

Choose a topic you don’t agree on, such as allowance or bedtime. Have your child write you a letter trying to convince you to change your mind. The catch? They have to use facts, quotes and logic to back up her argument.

2. **Play a game with pictures**

Photos and images are great story sparkers. Do a web search and find a few interesting images. Or cut out pictures from magazines. The pictures can be realistic, such as a photo of students on a playground. Or they can be fantastical images, such as a superhero flying in space.

Glue a couple images into a notebook. Then ask your child to write about one of them. You can prompt them, asking them to include what they see, what the people are thinking, what will happen next—or just let their imagination run free.

3. **Play “Tell Me How”**

In this activity your child pretends they’re writing to a space alien who doesn’t know anything about our culture. This alien does everything exactly as it’s said or written.

Your child’s job is to choose an everyday task, like brushing her teeth or making a sandwich. Then, they need to write step-by-step directions about how to do the task for the alien. When they’re done, you get to be the alien and try to follow the steps exactly as they wrote them. They may be surprised at what they left out!

*continued...*
7 Great Ways to Encourage Your Child's Writing, continued...

4. Make an “I Can” book

As your child learns to write, they’ll also be learning other new skills. Making an “I Can” book will let them practice writing skills and keep track of their other accomplishments. Staple together a bunch of blank sheets of paper to make a book. As your child reaches a new milestone, such as learning to tie their shoes or hit a baseball, they can draw a picture on a new page of the book. Younger kids can then write, “I can tie my shoes.” Older kids can write a few sentences about what they’ve accomplished.

5. Play “Fortunately/Un fortunately”

This turn-taking writing game is based on a classic kids’ book by Remy Charlip called Fortunately. In it, something lucky happens and then something unlucky happens. Each event is introduced by either the word “fortunately” or the word “un fortunately.”

To play, take a piece of paper and write a sentence beginning with “Fortunately,” such as “Fortunately it was a sunny day. I wanted to play outside.” Pass the paper to the next player, who will add an “un fortunately” sentence, such as “Unfortunately, I had to clean my room.” Keep going until the story is too silly to continue.

6. Make a journal jar

A journal doesn’t have to be a diary. It can also be a book where your child writes about ideas or answers questions, like “If you could do anything next summer, what would you choose?” A journal jar is a place to keep all those ideas and questions.

Wash and decorate a wide-mouthed jar, like one that used to contain peanut butter. Then, write or print out journal prompts on slips of paper. Ask your child to pull out one prompt each day and write about it in their journal.

7. Create a family scrapbook

A family scrapbook is a great way to save memories and jump-start your child’s writing. Use an inexpensive photo album to keep souvenirs of things you do together. This can include photos, ticket stubs, and found objects, like pretty leaves.

Your child can begin by writing the date and a line about where you were and what you did. Then, you can work together to write a more detailed summary. Don’t forget to include funny or even annoying moments!
Thank you to the following for their support of CHE!

Kiwanis Club of Columbine for a monetary donation!

PTA & families for snack donations!

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.
ASBEN GROVE
Halloween Extravaganza
October 28th | 4 to 7 PM
Trick or Treat
At participating Aspen Grove Shops

While at the Barbox Garden
Boo Bingo | Sideshow Acts | Games
Tarot Cards | Carriage Rides | Food Trucks
Music with Local DJ

AspenGroveCenter.com

WOOF-O-WEEN

Dog Costume Contest
Saturday, October 8th
Howling Hour 4-7 PM

Dog Friendly Events and Activities

Sponsor This School!
YOUR NAME HERE
Click HERE Contact Us Today!

Rob Mangelson
(720) 878-4107
Rob@tscacolorado.com

The School Communications Agency
Supporting Schools & Local Businesses
Thank you for the successful Fundraising efforts! With your help, the PTA is set up for another thriving year. Products being delivered to the school, along with the prizes will be distributed on Thursday, October 27th from 2:30 - 5:30. More information to come.

Calling all Young Scientists! It's time to start planning for the CHE Science Fair. Watch for more information at the Science Fair kick-off in October.

Save the Date! Family Science Night will be November 17, 5:00 to 7:00.

Pumpkin carving is right around the corner. Make sure to take pumpkin pictures and send them to columbinehillspta@gmail.com. Be on the lookout for a flier about the contest.

Link your King Soopers and Amazon accounts to Columbine Hills Elementary. Also check out the Box Tops app. Follow Passive Fundraising Info for easy step by step instructions.

Our next meeting will be held on Tuesday, October 11th @ 6:30 in the cafeteria. Dinner will be provided. We always encourage you to reach out with any ideas or questions at columbinehillspta@gmail.com.

You can now shop CHE Spirit Wear all year round and have your items shipped to you directly. Check out the store at https://columbinehillsspiritwear.com/.

Thank you for helping us fill the snack cart in the staff lounge! Use the QR code to shop from the Amazon wish list or just drop off snacks.

To become a PTA member 2022 - 2023 PTA Membership Form.

We are already collecting pictures for the Yearbook. You can upload your school photos to Yearbook Folder or send them directly to columbinehillspta@gmail.com.
Writer of the Month Awards

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

Kindergarten: Wyatt Lennon-Fisher (Ms. Baltazar’s class)  
Evelyn Mullen (Mrs. Blackwell’s class)

Grade 1: CJ Joblonski (Mrs. McGeeney’s class)  
Levi Thompson (Mrs. McLaughlin’s class)

Grade 2: (Ms. Johanson’s class)  
Corbin Michalek (Mrs. Welty’s class)

Grade 3: Jacob Redleaf (Mrs. Bawden’s class)  
James Walker (Mrs. Sarcletti’s class)

Grade 4: Kylah McDowell (Mr. Capansky’s class)  
Quinn Kartchner (Ms. Kirkland’s class)

Grade 5: Jasmine Kahara (Mrs. Bettmann’s class)  
Kate Williams (Ms. Caouette’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 September 2022. 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: Griffin Young (M. Baltazar’s class)
   Jace Grant (Mrs. Blackwell’s class)

Grade 1:      Ahmi Shisler (Mrs. McGeeney’s class)
   Gigi Cotinola (Ms. McLaughlin’s class)

Grade 2:      Edie Hogan (Ms. Johanson’s class)
   Olivia Mize (Mrs. Welty’s class)

Grade 3:      Elodie Reindl (Mrs. Bawden’s class)
   Chloe Monte (Mrs. Sarcletti’s class)

Grade 4:      Chloe Grant (Ms. Kirkland’s class)
   Sadie Anderson (Mrs. Capansky’s class)

Grade 5:      Hannah Davis (Mrs. Bettmann’s class)
   Kristina Tsuber (Ms. Caouette’s class)
Thank you to the Watch Dog Dads that kicked off the year in September! 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!
Watch Dog Dads, continued...
Calling all Young Scientists! It's time to start planning for the CHE Science Fair. Watch for more information at the Science Fair kick-off on October.

Save the Date! Family Science Night will be November 17, 5:00 to 7:00.

Support school funding by making sure all students are in attendance on October 3.
COMPLETE YOUR FREE & REDUCED MEAL APPLICATION TODAY!

In the 2022-23 school year, meals are no longer provided at no cost to all students.

Meals will be charged based on Free & Reduced Meal eligibility. Online applications can be completed at [www.SchoolCafe.com/JeffcoSD](http://www.SchoolCafe.com/JeffcoSD), or paper applications can be obtained through your school.

Account balances will accrue and prior account balances will carry forward year over year. It is important for you to complete your application ASAP!

Questions about the Free & Reduced Meals Application?

Food & Nutrition Services
Free & Reduced Lunch Specialist
303-982-6916
FreeandReduced@Jeffco.k12.co.us

JEFFCO PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Scan here to go right to the application!
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 _________________________,
____________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________
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 the office know.

If you have any other questions, please contact the office.

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

Parent Name: ______________________________________________________________

Student: ____________________________ Classroom Teacher: ______________________

Student: ____________________________ Classroom Teacher: ______________________

Student: ____________________________ Classroom Teacher: ______________________