



NORTH FORK SCHOOL OF INTEGRATED STUDIES

November 10th, 2020

Christi's Corner:

Calendar:

Upcoming important dates

This week:

- 11/11 - Community Council (virtual meeting)
- 11/12 - Lantern Walk, 5 PM - Paonia River Park

Later on:

- 11/23 - 11/27 - Thanksgiving Break
- 12/9 - 12/10 - 2nd grade play

Gratitudes:

Thanks to teachers and parents for successful parent nights.

Thanks to Ana and Sami and the Lantern Walk team for planning a lovely event.

Community Council

Community Council will meet virtually tomorrow (Wednesday) at 4:30. Invites have been sent out to our usual attendees. We welcome ALL attendees. Please email me at christi.gubser@deltaschools.com if you would like an invite. We will meet on the Google meet platform.

Lantern Walk

Lantern Walk 2020 will be hosted at the Paonia River Park. Please arrive at 5pm for warm cider, puppet show, fire and songs. Our event is designed to be attended as a family, please do not drop off your children unsupervised. The forecast looks cooler than recent weeks, so please come prepared for cold weather. We will have warm cider for you! In an effort to reduce waste, we are asking you to bring your favorite mugs for you and your family. If you would like additional light other than your lantern, please bring that as well.



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We will be singing traditional songs. Some of the titles include;

La Bimme La Bomme La Boom
Someone Came A-knocking
This Little Light
High and Blue the Sky

You can also check out the link here to listen and learn more songs.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2RbTRY0QK2>

<https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1Fs7vWQF1-gqIn1dtxLQXolq8Vsb8FFG4?usp=sharing>

Food Drive

We will start our Thanksgiving food drive this week to remember helping all those in need. The 1st graders are excited to be organizing this donation. Donations of non-perishable canned or dried packaged goods will go to North Fork food pantries. Thank you for participating in this wonderful tradition.

Basketball!

Peewee Basketball is here for 3 - 6th grade. Please see the form in your folders and return to school if your child wants to play. This is a community team, not a NFSIS only team.

Call it in!!

If your child is absent, please call it in every time! 970 527 3639. We need to know why children are absent during this uncertain time for the health of our school. We all want to stay open as long as possible and we need your help to make this happen. Thank you.

Directory

Thanks to those of you who have offered up corrections and addition to the directory. If anyone else notices anything incorrect in the directory, please contact Christi. A revised directory will be sent out shortly.



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Plywood Donations

The Winterfaire team, led by Carrie Soto, is looking for plywood that you may have on your property. They are planning to use it to make decorations for the event. Please drop off at her house: 314 Poplar in Paonia.

NFSIS gear

Many of you have noticed the bright yellow, light blue and grey T-shirts and sweatshirts that students and teachers are wearing. If you are interested in purchasing some NFSIS gear - T-shirts/Sweatshirt/Baseball style shirts - Christi will have a sign up sheet for your orders at drop off and pick up in these next few weeks or email Christi with the style, color and size that you would like.

Tshirts are \$12, Hoodies are \$25 and Baseball shirts are \$18 - money is due when the item is received.

Highlights

Kindergarten

This week we welcome Ziggy to our class! The children and I are so excited to have a new child join us. Welcome to Ziggy and his whole family; we are so glad you have come!

This past week, all of the children made their lanterns. They worked so hard covering their jars with tissue paper and choosing the perfect leaves to adorn their lanterns. I collected the leaves on a hike the weekend before I returned to school and pressed them in my fairy tale book. It was so exciting turning the pages to find the perfect leaf. The lanterns are all beautiful, and I cannot wait to see them lit in the darkness. I am planning to send lanterns home on Thursday after school. Let me know if your child will be absent, and I will send them home earlier.

This week I begin telling the story, Spindlewood. It is about a little girl in Autumn. She follows the fairies and gnomes as they are called by Mother Earth to join her "deep in the Earth below." First, though, she must journey through a series of tasks, including gathering a lantern from the Spindlewood tree to light her way, before she can enter Mother Earth's



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cavern. This is a beautiful story intended to deepen our experience of the Earth's forces turning inward as we move towards winter.

Thank you for (virtually) attending our parent night. It felt so good to me to connect with you, even if it was through the inter-webs. The more I get to know you all and your wonderful children, the more honored I feel to be walking this path with you.

Parent-Teacher Conferences:

On Wednesday, November 18, I will offer conferences during the school day. We will have a substitute teacher in class. We will meet outdoors in person if the weather permits, otherwise we will meet virtually. I will send out a sign up this week.

Reminders:

- Please continue to send winter coats, warm hats, gloves/mittens, and even snow pants this week. We will play outside in all weather.
- Please continue to sign your child out with me at the end of the day. There are many distractions at pick up time, so please help me by signing out before taking your child home.

First Grade

First grade is working through the vowels, finishing them up this week.

We will be taking a trip to Peace and Plenty Farm on Friday to help ready the farm for the animals to be comfortable and cozy through the winter as well as making some herb bundles for the children to share with family in the preparation of holiday meals. Please be sure that your child has appropriate clothing and cold weather gear to be outside for at least an hour while we are there on Friday.

The children made beautiful lanterns for the lantern walk that will be happening on Thursday evening. We will be looking at the story of St. Martin in preparation for Martinmas and we will be visiting the classrooms to talk about a food drive for the whole school to collect non-perishable goods to be donated to the local food pantry. If you have any canned or dried food that you would like to donate, please send it with your child in the next week.



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We are looking forward to a short block on Nature Studies before we break for Thanksgiving. We will be working on our pop-up books for the fall page, making beeswax candles to have for the holidays, talking about and making snowflakes as well as painting more in the coming weeks.

Second Grade

It was wonderful to see so many of you at our parent night. We had a lovely presentation for child development. We talked about all ages but focused on 7-14. If you missed the parent night and would like the recording please let me know.

In the classroom the children are finishing their Golden Legends block, practicing songs for the Lantern Walk and learning the lines for their play.

This Friday we will have our Forest Friday at Pat's Peace and Plenty Farm. We will leave at 11:30 and return by 3:15. I would love one parent volunteer. Please dress your children for the weather and send them with a lunch.

Next week we will dive into the play block during Main Lesson time. Mrs. Haines sent an email to everyone talking about costumes and making this Chinese Dragon. Please read the email and reply to her.

Thank you for everything you do.

Third/Fourth Grade

Third and Fourth grade has a busy week in the classroom. We have begun a new block, knotted form drawing! Today, Tuesday, fourth grade cooked with Alicia at the Trading Post. Students enjoyed Indian food.

We have constructed lanterns and are all ready for the lantern walk, we hope to see you there Thursday night.

If the weather holds, we will head to the Eagle Rock Shelter this Friday for a forest day. Thanks to Bjorn and Naomi for chaperoning. Remember, to pack WARM clothes and healthy lunches for the children. They may not know it, but they need warmth this time of year. Many thanks as we enter into the darker nights. No candy please!



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Fifth/Sixth Grade

The 5th and 6th graders just finished up the first part of our North American Geography and History block with the conclusion (sort of) of the United States Election. We learned about the voting process as well as the history of voting and elections. We also learned about candidates and issues that affected us in Colorado. We made predictions based on historical data and also tracked the presidential election Electoral College votes to determine the winner. We also participated in election day voting and held a mock election in the class on Election Day. It was fun to see how engaged and passionate the students were throughout the process!

This week we closed out the election and are now moving to the Geography section of the block. This week we will learn all about the geography of North America starting with the different regions and then move back to the United States regions. We will learn why certain regions attracted settlers and how geography affected how people migrated to the areas. We have been learning all about the 50 United States and learning songs and poems to help us learn the states.

Starting this Tuesday, I will start Homework Club again. Each Tuesday and Thursday, students will have the opportunity to join me at Homework Club after school from 3:30 to 4 pm. This is for students who struggle to complete their homework or if a student needs extra help in completing assignments or needs help with certain subjects. If your child isn't turning in their homework, please have them come to the "club" to help complete these weekly assignments. I will let you know each Monday if your child didn't turn in their homework and that I would like them to attend that day. Please let me know if you have any questions. Have a great week!