



Colfax Elementary Tiger Tales

Twenty-eighth Edition
March 21, 2025

Important Dates

- **March 24 - 28**
SPRING BREAK - No School
- **March 31**
Holiday - No School
- **April 1**
Tuesday - Students & Staff
RETURN
- **April 5**
Saturday School 9 - 12pm
- **April 10**
Spring Pictures
- **April 12**
Saturday School 9 - 12pm
- **April 15, 16, 17**
3rd - 5th grade literacy & math
CMAS
- **April 18**
NO SCHOOL for Students
- **April 21 & 22**
5th grade Science CMAS

Tiger Huddle Talent Series

Ms. Denise is coordinating with students on Monday to let them know if they are performing on Friday at Tiger Huddle. Ms. Denise will also send home a letter with the students so parents know when students are showcasing their talent.

Letter From the Principal

Women's History Month



Colfax families,

Thank you to our 4th & 5th grade students for a GREAT Glow Party performance! We appreciate all the people who made the night a success! Our Specials teachers are amazing and our students are so fortunate to have such a visionary group of teachers who can coordinate music, art and dance in such a fun and creative way. We also appreciate all the behind the scenes work from staff to keep the run of the show flowing smoothly. Finally, thank you families for being flexible to shift the time to attend and support our Tigers.

For those who joined our staff at the Capitol Thursday, to participate in the protest of budget cuts, we also want to thank you for that support. It was not a typical day of learning for students, but an important lesson nonetheless about how to peacefully protest and make your voice heard.

One of our sayings at Colfax is 'Make Every Minute Count and Every Moment Matter'. When we return from Spring Break, we have 9 weeks of school left for this 24-25 school year! So this motto matters even more. It is crucial that students are here every day during these last weeks of school in this final push to get all the remaining learning in for this grade level.

As we head into Spring Break, here are a few reminders:

1. As a reminder, students can access STMath at home or the local library. They just need to login to clever.com, select Colfax Elementary in Denver, CO, and then they know their username and password.
2. We don't have school on Monday, March 31st. All students return on Tuesday, April 1st.
3. Please complete the end of year BESS parent survey. The window is officially open. Please see the next section for the access information.

Thank you for your trust and partnership,
~Michelle Koyama

Keep Learning During Spring Break

During Spring Break, there are ways you can support your child in continuing her/his/their learning. If you need ideas, please see the many ways listed below.

Reading:

- Enjoy reading with your child during spring break! Find books to read out loud that they will enjoy. If they are reading on their own, encourage them to read for 30 minutes every day on their own too! Students who aren't reading yet, can "read" by telling the story by pictures to you.
- Find fun reasons to write: Help your child write and illustrate a book, write a letter to a friend or family member, keep a journal, or help with practical writing like making grocery lists.
- If your child is still working on letter names or sounds, do letter scavenger hunts around the house, while at the grocery store, or while driving.
- Practice reading signs and/ or the grocery list while shopping
- Visit the library or bookmobile in your neighborhood and check out books/videos for free with your library card
- EPIC books (online)

Math:

Here are some great ways to keep your student engaged and learning in math over the break!

1. **ST Math.** ST Math is our preferred web program to help students grow their conceptual understanding of all the various math standards that they are expected to master by the end of the school year. Teachers assign differentiated work for students who need to work on learning they are catching up on for the previous year. A good goal for students is to complete 10-20 puzzles daily. Students can log in to their account from any web-connected computer or tablet by going to **clever.com** and logging in using their regular school login. The username is the students' lunch number, and the password is their birthday. For example, a student born December 17, 2021 would use 12172021 as the password.
2. **Math at Home Resources** is an amazing website with tons of games and activities you can play with your students to support their understanding of math concepts for grades K-5 in English and in Spanish! You can find it here: <https://mathathome.mathlearningcenter.org/>
3. **Practicing Math Facts for fluency** is a huge help to your student and your student's teacher. Math facts are great to quiz your student on when you are in the car, going shopping, or on commercial breaks from TV. Please see the list below so you know where your student should be (grade level skills) by the end of the school year:
 - a. **Kinder:** Count up to 100 things by 1s and 10s, and name the number of objects in a group up to 10 (for example, dots on a domino or raisins on a plate).
 - b. **1st Grade:** Count to 100+, add and subtract up to 20 in story problems.
 - c. **2nd Grade:** Add and subtract numbers up to 100 in story problems, skip count groups, and know which numbers are even and odd.
 - d. **3rd-5th Grade:** All students should have multiplication and division facts from 0-12 memorized (Ex: $12 \times 12 = 144$, 144 divided by 12 = 12 and all the problems below that).
 - 3rd grade is the year to memorize all multiplication facts. When students have this skill automatically, and know what multiplication represents, they are then able to engage with other levels of math more easily. Test this skill with your child and if you see they don't have this skill YET, please spend some daily practice time with them.

Oral Language Practice:

- Encourage your child to practice using complete sentences when asking for something or explaining something to you.
- Have conversations during meal times about the day or things that they are interested in

Fine Motor Skills practice:

- **Tying Shoes:** We have a lot of untied shoes daily, where adults work with students to fix. Try using a video with visuals that shows how to tie shoes the most efficient way OR model tying your own shoes and practicing with your child.
- Zipping practice- jackets, sweatshirts
- Button/Snap- practice, practice, practice

KINDER & 5th Grade Spring Pictures

April 10th
Morning only

All Kinder AND 5th grade students will take Continuation pictures on April 10th. Students should wear something nice from the waist up.

All other grades can also take spring pictures as long as families prepay. Order forms will be available after spring break and payment must be received before 8am in the main office so we don't miss adding your child to the schedule.



Support our TIGERS

K-12 Chess Tourney - Saturday, March 22, 2025 Games 9:30 am, Awards 12:30 pm

DENVER-NORTH
HIGH SCHOOL

SAVE THE DATE - Spanish Spelling Bee

In collaboration with our ELA-PAC, we will be hosting **Proud to Be Bilingual Week May 12th-16th**. We will be hosting different events throughout the week to celebrate bilingualism. Mark your calendars for our **FOURTH ANNUAL Spanish Spelling Bee** at Colfax Elementary. Students in our Kindergarten through 5th grade Spanish classes, will take home a spelling list to practice over break. When we return, we will start to test students to narrow down the final contestants for our live Spelling Bee!

NEW!! This year there will be a parent round in the spelling bee. If you are interested in participating as a parent please reach out to your student's classroom teacher or the Assistant Principal Ms.Ventura. Hope to see you there!

What: Final Spelling Bee

When: May 15, 2025

Time: 4pm

Place: Colfax Cafeteria

More details to come. Stay tuned!



What's For Lunch this Week?

Week:	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
3/31 - 4/4	NO SCHOOL	Chicken Nuggets OR Grilled Cheese w/ Tomato Soup OR Bonzo Butter & Jelly Vegetable & Fruit	Baked Mac & Cheese OR Yogurt Basket Bonzo Butter & Jelly Vegetables & Fruit	Pancakes & Sausage or Eggs OR Yogurt Basket OR Vegetables & Fruit	Mojo Pork OR Southwester Vegetarian Burrito Or Turkey & Cheese Croissant Sandwich OR Bonzo Butter & Jelly Vegetable & Fruit

Behavior and Emotional Screening System

End of Year Screener Now Open

THANK YOU to everyone who completed the beginning of the year screener. This information helps us with our programming and services for students.

Please complete the End of Year BESS screening for your child as soon as possible! The screening takes only 5 minutes and you will need your child's Student ID and Date of Birth. Thank you for supporting your child's mental health and Colfax.

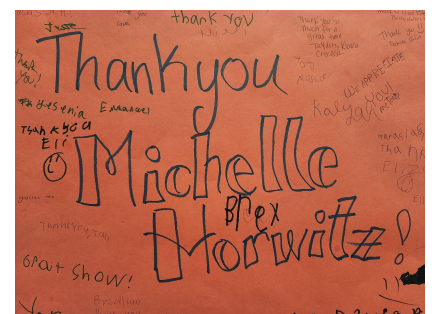
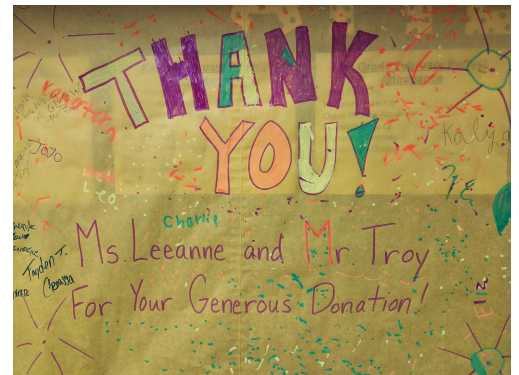
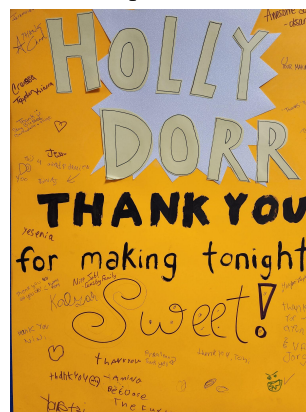
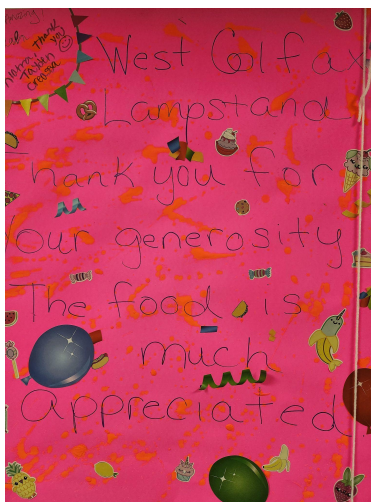


tinyurl.com/bessparent



GLOW PARTY WALL OF FAME!

Thank you to all those amazing people that made this year's Glow Party a SHINING success.
Here are just a few of our sponsors:



SAVE THE DATE

5th Grade Continuation = May 29th

5 - 6pm

Lake Middle School

ECE & Kinder Continuations = May 30th

Times will be communicated at a later date



- CMAS -

CMAS is a set of assessments that measure student progress toward mastery of Colorado's Academic Standards. These assessments give our school, teachers, students and parents information on whether students are on track with their learning. The results also give teachers information to help customize learning to meet the needs of your student(s). In addition, and whether you agree with it or not, Colfax Elementary School (like all public schools in Colorado) is judged in the court of public opinion based on how well our students perform on these assessments. Prospective parents and students are evaluating the quality of our schools by how we perform on these assessments. When students do not take the assessments (or do not take them seriously) the data is not an accurate reflection of our schools' actual performance. However, the result is that our scores become the "truth" and are published for public consumption and judgment. We work tirelessly to guard our academic reputation and standing in the community and it's important to us that Colfax is judged fairly - with accurate information that reflects the true story about our students' learning and achievements.

This year we have tried to spread the testing out, so that students still have core instructional time each day. The schedule for CMAS is just a fraction of the day on the following dates:

- **3rd, 4th, & 5th Grade** = April 15th, 16th, 17th
- **5th Grade Only** - April 21st & 22nd

*It is important that students are present and on time for testing at 8am. They should also arrive at 7:30 in order to eat breakfast. Please also avoid scheduling trips and appointments for your child during these days.



3rd, 4th, & 5th grade students who are present every day in April (on time to school and present every day April 1st - April 22nd) will be invited to celebrate at Skate City on Wednesday, April 23rd! More information to come but what is important is that students are at school and on time from 4/1 - 4/22.

With gratitude,
~Michelle Koyama



We are partnering with the Colorado Soccer Association for a spring soccer clinic for our students. They will be on campus for the next eight Thursdays after school. The program is open to **2nd - 3rd grade students**, and we will take the first 15 students who sign up. The forms are in the main office and will be taken on a first come first served basis.

Students who attend Discovery Link after school can also sign up to participate. The registration form must be completed. Participation in Discovery Link does not automatically enroll a student.

The goal is to launch this year with this partnership, and will return next school year based on interest.

Dates: April 4, 11, 18, 25
May 2, 9, 16, 23

Time: 3:00pm - 4:00pm

IF we have rain or snow, practice may be canceled. Phone numbers need to be current in the event practice is canceled, you will need to get your child from school.



Northwest Regional League Winter Basketball 2025

Week 3 Thursday 2/20	Week 4 Thursday 2/27	Week 5 Thursday 3/6
Game: Colfax v Barnum Court: Colfax Time: 4:30pm	Game: Colfax v Newlon Court: Colfax Time: 4:30pm	Game: Colfax v Edison Court: Colfax Time: 4:30pm
Week 6 Thursday 3/13	Week 7 Monday, 3/17	Week 8 Thursday 4/3
Game: Colfax v Cowell Court: Cowell Time: 4:30pm	Game: Colfax v Valdez Court: Colfax Time: 4:30pm	Game: Colfax v Columbian Court: Colfax Time: 4:30pm

