

The Bacon Beacon



The #1 News Source of the Bacon Bulldogs

December 2011

[Bacon Elementary School](#)
5844 S. Timberline Rd
Ft. Collins, CO 80528
970-488-5300

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Upcoming Events

Dec. 8th - 2nd Grade Musical
6:00pm - Mrs. Hartman & Mrs.
Murphy's classes
7:00pm - Mr. Keahey & Mrs.
Harter's classes

December 13th - Winter Choir
Concert - 7:00pm

Dec. 14th - Choir Community
Tour - 9:00-1:30

Principal Perspective

Greetings!

I hope all families had an enjoyable Thanksgiving Break. Time with family and friends is "priceless!" I would like to thank everyone who participated in the annual Turkey Round-Up held across the district. Bacon again was the leader of all PSD schools with a total of 253 turkeys totaling 4,356 pounds. Amazing! The kids sure enjoyed my haircutting incentive as they chanted "Shave His Head" the entire time Tia was cutting my hair. It was well worth it!!

Encouraging a love of books and getting your kids reading eagerly is one of the most important things you can do as a parent.

If your kindergartener or first-grader doesn't seem interested in reading by himself yet, don't worry - kids' reading skills develop at different speeds. Some children may be plowing through early-reader books in kindergarten or first grade while others may not catch the reading bug until second grade or later. I've read many articles about ways parents can assist their children in developing the love for reading. Below are six relatively simple ways:

1. Read to your child. Experts stress the importance of reading to your child, starting as early as when she's a baby. Not only is it a great way for you and your child to bond, it teaches her the love of books and stories.
2. Go pick out some books together. Go to the library with your child and help him select some books on topics he's interested in. Does he love Clone Wars? Batman? Mysteries? You'll find some good early-reader books centered on lots of kid-favorite characters.
3. Fill your house with books. Studies show that simply having lots of books in the home has a significant effect on the level of education a child attains.

Lunch Link

By Tonia Price

Bacon School Kitchen is selling extra healthy snacks to 3rd, 4th, and 5th grades.

Here are the specifics:

Students in grade three through five are allowed to purchase extras when going through the lunch line. These extras consist of baked chips and/or fruit snacks. Very seldom are cookies available as extras. Every attempt possible is made to provide healthy choices.

Parents are able to block their children from being able to purchase extras during lunch.

This is accomplished by contacting Mrs. Price. This "pops up" on the computer screen when kiddos are passing through the line.

If you have any questions or concerns, please call Tonia Price at 970-488-5357.

Playmaker News

By Marci Kincaid

Congratulations to 5th graders, *Brooke Bodnar*, *Megan Butters*, and *Rebecca Griffith* for winning the First National Bank Playmaker Award.

They were nominated and selected based on their friendship and support given to a student with special needs. Each of the girls won four tickets to the November 12th CSU football game, a parking pass, Rams

4. Ask questions. After you read a book, discuss it together. Go over things like the plot, characters, and what she liked best about the story.
5. Turn off the electronics. There is only so much time in the day for a child, especially if he is busy with after-school activities or lessons. If he is spending that time in front of the TV or playing video games, that leaves much less time for enjoying books.
6. Set an example. Telling your child to go read a book while you spend your free time watching TV or emailing friends sends the message that reading is not an activity you enjoy (and is something she is required to do, like a chore). But if you read together, or read separate books side by side, it shows your child that reading is a fun way to spend time together.

Educationally yours,

[Mr. Horky](#)

School News

Literacy Link

by Emily Vangermeersch

As we continue to work towards improving student achievement in writing at Bacon, I'd like to share some fun ideas that you can do at home to encourage authentic writing with your child.

1. Calendar Capers. Set up a weekly calendar with space for your children to write daily reminders about activities and special events.
 2. Dinner Menu. Give your children paper plates on which to write menus for their favorite dinners. Hang these up until you've made the special meals.
 3. Arrival Surprise. Have the kids make a welcome-home note for Dad, Mom, or any family member and tape it to the front door.
 4. Prose and poetry placemats. Give each child paper to create a place mat decorated with writing. The children can write a poem or story and illustrate it.
 5. Have-a-Nice-Day Diary. Before a child's bedtime, write together in a journal about the events of the day. It's a great way to keep in touch with your child's concerns, likes and dislikes.
- [Click Here](#) for more great activities to spark your child's interest in writing at home, click here visit the following

Playmaker T-shirt, and the opportunity to go on the field for the coin toss.

In addition, Bacon won \$500.00 from First National Bank!

We applaud the girls for their commitment, leadership, and overall good citizenship!

Nice work, Ladies!

Get involved with the Bacon PTA!!!

Why not get involved with the Parent Teacher Association, and make a difference in your child's education and future.

Go to BaconPTA.org and sign up today!

*** Thank you to the staff for joining forces with the PTA and becoming members.

link:

Emily Vangermeersch
Literacy Specialist/Gifted and Talented Coordinator

MUSIC NOTES

by Holly Pippin

A big congratulations goes to our Bacon 4th graders for a very successful and very fun Family Folk Dance Night! They really shined and everyone had a great time! This has been a very fun program to prepare and present to families and I thank the students, staff, and families for all their support and encouragement.

Upcoming events in music: 2nd grade Holiday Program "Twas the Night Before Christmas", to be presented on Thursday, Dec. 8th at 6:00 p.m. (Mrs. Hartman's and Mrs. Murphy's classes) and 7:00 p.m. (Mr. Keahey's and Mrs. Harter's classes). Information letters were sent home in Friday folders with performance night details. Please let me know if you need another one! Students should be practicing their songs and speaking parts at home.

Choir is preparing for their winter concert and choir tour on Tuesday, Dec. 13th at 7:00 p.m., and Wednesday, Dec. 14th from 9:00 - 1:30, respectively. ALL SINGERS need to attend Tuesday and Wednesday combined rehearsals from Nov. 29th through Dec. 14th, at 8:00 a.m.

Finally, I would personally like to say "thank you", "congratulations", and "we'll miss you" to Ms. Worley, our music student teacher! It has been fun watching her grow and learn with our Bacon students, and I wish her good luck as she begins her teaching career! Ms. Worley will be finishing up at Bacon and graduating from CSU in mid-December.

Please stop by and see all the great things happening in music at Bacon, and remember to have a musical moment every day! Happy holidays and blessings to all!

Musically Yours,
Mrs. Pippin & Ms. Worley

Check out the new music website, created by Mrs. Pippin, with current info, news, and links! Go to the Bacon website home page, select "Classrooms>music>Mrs. Pippin's Website". Have fun!

Lego Robotics
by Julie Trone

Congratulations to the Bacon Bulldogs Lego Robotics

teams 'A' and 'B'. They competed on Saturday, November 12 at Poudre High School. They competed in a field of 49 teams to achieve their best scores in the robot competition, research project, and a team building exercise. Both Bacon Bulldogs teams worked very hard to be both competitive and creative. Coaches John Jones and Bryan Landwehr taught the students how to program a robot, problem solve, and come up with creative ideas to complete required challenges. Julie Trone worked with the teams to come up with an innovative solution for the First Lego League 2011 theme, 'Food Factor'. **Team A** chose a solution to keep cut watermelon fresher longer; **Team B** chose a solution to keep milk fresher longer. At the competition the judges were very impressed by the ingenuity and complexity of each teams' solution.

The teams are:

TEAM 'A': Blake Berlin, Nyambura Kimani, Gavin Trone, Tim Valstaad, Cole Perez, and Keller Gonzales

TEAM 'B': Ben Connant, Trevor Merrifield, Jackson Trone, Mason Gomorra, and Liam Flake

NEWS FROM THE OFFICE

By Jana Parker

If your student is going to miss school due to illness, an out of town trip or late due to an appointment, please call the attendance line, 488-5310. In addition, please continue to communicate with your student's teacher if you know ahead of time that they will be gone.

Here are some reminders of when to keep your child home:

General Guidelines:

- If your child is contagious to other children
- If your child is too uncomfortable to learn or participate in learning

Fever:

- Temperature of 100 degrees or higher
- Must be fever free for 24 hours without fever reducing medicines, such as Tylenol or ibuprofen, (i.e. Advil, Motrin)

Diarrhea:

- Frequent watery stools

Appearance/Behavior:

- Unusually tired, pale or irritable, fever

Ear:

- Ear pain and/or drainage from ear, fever

Eyes:

- Eye drainage, redness and/or itching

Rash:

- Body or local rash especially with itching, red bumps, discharge

Sore Throat:

- Especially with fever, swollen neck glands and/or white areas on throat

Vomiting:

- Especially if your child vomits before leaving for school in the morning

Upper Respiratory Infections/Colds:

- If your child has a fever, large amounts of nasal drainage, a productive or dry cough that would be disruptive to your child and/or the class, and/or significantly uncomfortable and unable to participate in class

Burns: Consult with your health care provider if your child has a serious burn.

- Burn is on your child's eye or eyelid
- The center of the burn is white or charred
- Burn starts to look infected with pus, red streaks and/or increased tenderness
- Blisters that are greater than ½ inch in size
- If burn was caused by acid, alkali or electrical burn

Remember, medications cannot be given at school without the proper authorization from you and your child's physician. This includes cough and throat drops. Students are not allowed to carry any type of medication in their pockets or in their backpacks. We have medical release forms in the office if your child needs to take medication at school.

DRESS FOR THE WEATHER

Colorado's weather can change quickly. Please be sure your student comes to school with appropriate attire for being outside for recess. Students will be outside unless it is raining, especially wet or below ten degrees.

LOST & FOUND

Please have your student(s) check the bin if they are missing items. You are also welcome to come and "dig" through the mound. Items left in lost and found will be

donated during winter break.

PTA Notes

Bacon Raffle Results

Friday, September 16, 11

Prize	Winner
4th Grade Folk Dance Night (11/10/11 @ 6:30pm) - 6 seats	Chris Lake
4th Grade Folk Dance Night (11/10/11 @ 6:30pm) - 6 seats	Denise Johnson
2nd Grade Holiday Program (12/8/11 @ 6:00 or 7:00) - 6 seats	Amy Cordova
2nd Grade Holiday Program (12/8/11 @ 6:00 or 7:00) - 6 seats	Autumn Hartman
2nd Grade Holiday Program (12/8/11 @ 6:00 or 7:00) - 6 seats	Katie Zapp
2nd Grade Holiday Program (12/8/11 @ 6:00 or 7:00) - 6 seats	Katie Zapp
Winter Choir Concert (11/13/11 @ 7:00) - 6 seats	Jackie Wiggins
Winter Choir Concert (11/13/11 @ 7:00) - 6 seats	Gayle Schmidt
5th Grade Musical (2/9/12 @ 7:00) - 6 seats	Jodi Greer
5th Grade Musical (2/9/12 @ 7:00) - 6 seats	Julie Bauerle
3rd Grade Musical (4/19/12 @ 6:00 or 7:00) - 6 seats	Lindsay Radcliff- Coombes
3rd Grade Musical (4/19/12 @ 6:00 or 7:00) - 6 seats	Daphnie Caravella
3rd Grade Musical (4/19/12 @ 6:00 or 7:00) - 6 seats	Paul Matthews
3rd Grade Musical (4/19/12 @ 6:00 or 7:00) - 6 seats	Ericka Lake
Kindergarten Music Showcase (5/15/12 @ 1:30) - 6 seats	Misty Mallonee

Kindergarten Music Showcase (5/15/12 @ 1:30) - 6 seats	Karmen Maurer
Nutcracker Ballet w/Mrs. Pippin (12/8-11/11)	Lisa Detamore
Pops Concert w/Mrs. Pippin (4/14/12 @ 7:30)	Karen Jones
Lunch - Kindergarten	Janet Girard (child's name unknown)
Lunch - 1st Grade	Parents of Colin Hayes
Lunch - 2nd Grade	Parents of Zach Van Thuyne
Lunch - 3rd Grade	Parents of Hudson Radcliff
Lunch - 4th Grade	Parents of Mason Gamorah
Lunch - 5th Grade	Parents of Erik Sokolowski



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