

OCTOBER 2021

St. Francis Elementary

A note from the Principal



The beginning of the school year has already come and gone! The first 5 weeks have been great! Our students have quickly adapted to the expected routines and procedures. We have so much in store for the school year and, no doubt, will have a good time! I am confident that we will see great gains this year both academically and socially.

~Ms. Raile

FALL FESTIVAL

Thank you to ALL the teachers, staff, students and parents who helped with the Fall Festival & Book Fair. You are all appreciated sooooo much!

Thanks also to all the kids and their families that came out to support the PTO and join in on the fun!

Special thanks to First National Bank for the yummy floats, Clay Zimbelman for the hayrack rides, Dustin Andrist & Brock McAtee for pulling the Fireman Barrel Train, Sainty Supers for the donation of gatorade, Kale and Lori Rieger for donating pumpkins, the Sophomore Class for the meal and a BIG thank you to Rick Krieh for setting up and tearing down the dunk tank. PTO is so grateful for you all who helped make the Fall Festival a huge success!

*****It's never too late to join PTO! Contact any PTO board member for more information.



Ms. Amy Rosier
K-5 Special Education

Ms. Rosier came to us from teaching special education in Colorado.



Mrs. Jen Witzel
4th Grade

Mrs. Witzel joined our staff after several years as a teacher and administrator in Colorado.



Mr. Tanner Helton
PE Student Teacher

Mr. Helton will be in St. Francis until October 8. He will then transition to Fort Riley to continue his student teaching. Good luck Mr. Helton!



Mrs. Becca Butler
K-12 Art

We are happy to have Mrs. Butler join our staff as a art new teacher!



Mrs. Megan Swihart
3rd Grade

Mrs. Swihart previously taught in Burlington, CO, before joining our staff.

We i c o M e
TO OUR NEW STAFF!



All of the classrooms had a special lesson focused on respect in September. The kids came up with many ways that they can respect themselves, others, and property. You may reinforce this at home by reminding your child to make respectful choices.

October is Bullying Prevention month. Lessons and activities this month will focus on teaching students what bullying is and how to respond to bullying as both a witness and a victim.

As a reminder, you are welcome to email me (lkweigers@usd297.org) if you would like me to meet with your child due to a specific concern.

~Mrs. Wiegiers



We are happy to welcome Mrs. Wiegiers to our staff. She was previously a teacher and counselor in Goodland.

Due to allergies, please do not bring nuts/peanuts (or any foods that contain them) into the USD 297 schools.



Picture Retake Day

Fall Picture Retake day will be held on Wednesday, November 3.

Parent Teacher Conferences

Monday, November 1

Watch for more information to come home with your child soon!

HALLOWEEN PARTY

We will celebrate Halloween at school on Friday, October 29. The teachers have requested *morning* parties this year. These will begin at 9:15 a.m. Please be in contact with your child's teacher about plans for the parties.

As you're picking your costumes, please be considerate of each other while choices are made. No gory, violent, etc. costumes will be allowed. Weapons (even fake) will also not be allowed at school.

SPOOK PARADE OCTOBER 29 @ 10:00

The annual Spook Parade down Main Street will be on Friday, October 29. Our little goblins and ghouls will leave the building at 10:00, to travel downtown and back to the building. We will NOT be parading in the gym, so find a spot along Main Street.

*Parents - your child will come to school dressed in his/her costume.

W.I.N. WHAT I NEED

W.I.N. (What I Need) has become a consistent part of our school day.

St. Francis schools are committed to the highest quality of education for every student. In order to determine if students are meeting grade-level expectations, every child will be screened using *Fastbridge* three times per year (fall, winter, spring) to measure their progress in reading and math. Our teachers provide a variety of approaches within the classrooms to ensure student success both behaviorally and academically. When screenings show that specific skills are missing, W.I.N groups are formed.

All students in the school will participate daily in a W.I.N. group for reading and math. This year we have reorganized the W.I.N. groups. Our students are in small groups working on targeted skills, not necessarily attached to a specific grade level. Some students will even be receiving enrichment during this time. All available staff members are being utilized during this time. Many students are mixed with other grade levels. An upper elementary teacher may be teaching lower level skills and vice versa. We are confident this will allow our students to make the best gains possible this year.



October is

National Bullying Prevention Month

Mrs. Wiegers is organizing a Bullying Prevention Spirit Week from October 25-29. Watch for more information to come home soon!



Did you know...

THE AVERAGE AMERICAN EATS ABOUT

267 EGGS EACH YEAR

that's at least 22 dozen-egg cartons per person.



remind

Remind is the easiest way for families to receive up-to-date information from the school and teachers. Join today, if you haven't already!



SCAN ME



The Dane G. Hansen foundation made it possible for our students to watch a performance of "El Guayabo" from the Creede Repertory, in Creede, Colorado! Each student also received his/her own copy of the book!

El Guayabo / The Guava Tree is a story of displacement and resilience, of thinking back on the bullies who hurt us and the friends who saved us. An original, bilingual musical, El Guayabo teaches students to be an "upstander" rather than a "bystander" in the face of bullying, while reinforcing the power of friendship.



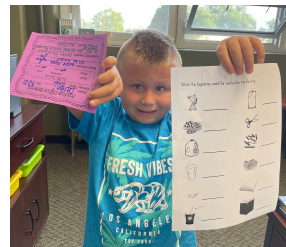
1st and 4th Grades celebrated Johnny Appleseed Day by making caramel apples!



Kindergarten & 5th Grade buddies have fun activities planned throughout the school year!

A new tradition started this school year is positive office referrals. When a student meets a goal, shows amazing character, etc. he/she is referred to the principal. This has become one of my favorite things this year! Recognizing students for doing outstanding things is the absolute best!

**POSITIVE
REFERRAL**



Thank you St. Francis Community Foundation for giving every student in Elementary School, ABC preschool, and Headstart a free book from the Scholastic Book Fair. Your support encouraging literacy is greatly appreciated!





Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
All times on this calendar at CENTRAL TIME	FIRE PREVENTION WEEK OCT. 4-8					
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
	No School Columbus Day 				End of 1 st 9 weeks	
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
		Wichita Children's Theater performance 9:00 a.m. (HS auditorium)	2-hour late start 	Music Programs 6:30 p.m. 		
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
	BULLYING PREVENTION WEEK OCT. 25-29				Halloween parties @ 9:15 a.m. Spook Parade @ 10:00 a.m.	
31						
						