The New Emerson Kindness Crew on the Job!

A Special Thanks to Alpine Bank for donating the KINDNESS CREW T-Shirts to our campus group and to campus group leaders Sarah Weber and Holly Bavor.

Letter from the Principal

By Terry Schmalz

Dear New Emerson Families:
Our entire staff and student body are implementing learning zones in our instructional practices. The "panic zone" indicates the learning is too hard. The "comfort zone" is defined by simply being comfortable with what is being learned. Students may not be challenged. The "learning zone" is where the child is challenged but not too stressed (panic zone). Our students are learning how to self-reflect on the learning zone they may be in during a lesson. All year long, staff has been working with learners helping them identify what zone they are in and how they can move in and out of each zone. The goal is to help students self-assess and monitor their learning. Check out the learning zone anchor charts and graphics in your child's classroom and throughout the school.

Many parents ask me how they can engage with their child about what they are learning at school. Many times your child may respond with a one word response. Here are 10 questions (from Scholastic) to ask your child to get a better sense of your child's life at school. Asking these questions will elicit more than a one-word response.

1. Tell me about the best part of your day.
2. What was the hardest thing you had to do today?
3. Did any of your classmates do anything funny?
4. Tell me about what you read in class.
5. Who did you play with today? What did you play?
6. Do you think math [or any subject] is too easy or too hard?
7. What's the biggest difference between this year and last year?
8. What rules are different at school than our rules at home? Do you think they're fair?
9. Who did you sit with at lunch?
10. Can you show me something you learned (or did) today?

Thank you for taking time to engage with your child about school. The home school connection is an important one to helping your child grow their learning. Stop by or catch me during Early Bird Reading or after school if you have any questions. Thank you for your continued support.

Sincerely,
Terry Schmalz

SAVE THE DATES:

February 3-7 Registration Application Week
February 3-7 School Counselor Appreciation Week
February 8-Pancake Breakfast
February 15-Lions Club Parade
February 18-Girls on the Run
February 20-Eureka! Science Fair
February 21-Registration Tours
February 26-Safety Fair Mesa Mall
February 27-I Love to Read Night
February 28-29 District Honor Choir

Office News

By Cherie Perea
Attendance Matters—One of the most important things your child can do to achieve academic success is by going to school every day and on time. Research has shown that your child’s attendance may be the biggest factor influencing his/her academic success. Your commitment to school attendance will also send a message to your child that education is a priority. This includes end of the day early release. Please notify your child’s teacher if you will be picking a student up early otherwise this is marked as a unexcused reversed tardy on your students attendance record. Thank you for the consideration to our student learning environment.

Student/PTO fees were due in September and are PAST DUE. Please turn your fees in today as they are much needed for classroom supplies, field trips and other items. (example: PTO fees help fund the new couches that are being used in your child’s classroom) See the good that your money goes towards building our school community.

The office is in need of girls clothing; items such as underwear, socks and pants/sweats for accidents that occur. If you have any items that you would like to donate, please bring them to the front office.

AMAZONSMILE—Did you know that you can help out New Emerson just by doing your shopping on Amazon? It’s easy and doesn’t cost you a thing. Be sure to go to smile.amazon.com and choose New Emerson PTO when you check out.

If you have an incoming kindergarten student for the 2020-2021 school year, please let the front office know asap.

As always thank you for all that you do on behalf of the staff and students here at New Emerson. We appreciate you!

Counselor Corner

By; Leslie Atchison

Dear Parents,
My January lessons in Kindergarten and 1st grade were about managing emotions. The learners considered strategies for helping themselves feel better when they are sad and mad, and completed sentences and drew pictures about the strategies they will use when they feel sad or mad.
My classroom lesson in 2nd grade was about conflict resolution. The students learned about a strategy for resolving conflict called “A Bug and a Wish”, and they practiced using the strategy in role play situations. They were also reminded about using I Feel Messages, Naming the Problem, and Stop, Walk and Talk.
I am still meeting with 3rd graders in SEL (Social and Emotional Learning) small groups. The focus of the small groups in January were managing emotions and making good decisions. The small group format is providing an opportunity for students to share their thoughts and ideas about the SEL components.
The 4th grade learners participated in another Couragion session in January. They are continuing to learn more about STEM careers, and they seem to be enjoying using this career exploration program.
My classroom lesson in 5th grade was about positive problem solving. The students learned about the importance of controlling emotions when solving problems, and practiced using Moving On, Talking, and Making a Choice to solve problems in role play situations.
Please let me know if you have any questions about my classroom lessons, or any school related concerns about your child that I might be able to help with.
Thank you,
School Pancake Breakfast -- Saturday, Feb. 8 in the Cafeteria 8 to 11 am

It’s Back!
New Emerson’s All You Can Eat Pancake Breakfast

When: February 8th
What Time: 8:00a.m.-11:00a.m.
Where: New Emerson Elementary School
2660 Unawep Avenue
Why: To eat delicious pancakes and visit with our New Emerson Community
How Much: 12 and under- $3.00
13 and older-$5.00
The funds raised will help our students take field trips that will enhance their learning.

Next PTO Meeting Monday, Feb. 10, 2020
We are ready to kick off 2020 with creativity and inspiration, bringing arts education to communities throughout Colorado! See what is coming up for Think 360 Arts in the new year!

This Month’s Agenda:

- School Accountability Report
- PTO Budget Update
- Fundraising (Pancake Breakfast, Chipotle, Noodles, etc.)
- Lions Club Parade/Cakes — Feb. 15th
- I Love to Read Night — Feb. 27th
- Spring Field Day (Volunteers Needed)
- Caring Kids, Anything Else ...

Childcare Provided by the PTO with Ms. Joy in the Pre-K Building.
The Fourth Graders Worked in Teams to Create Mural Models

The 4th grade students at the New Emerson Elementary School at Columbus in Grand Junction have kicked off their new year with their CAP Grant project!

3D Models Were Used to Show Mural Ideas

The students will be working on a mural that will be in their courtyard space at their school.

Fourth Graders Then Explained their Art Models

As one of their first steps in their planning process, the students presented their unique designs for the space. They will then develop a collaborative and cohesive design from their ideas! (Photos by artist Pavia Justinian and New Emerson Elementary School at Columbus)

We can't wait for the amazing programs we have planned for 2020! Stay tuned for more stories of creativity to come!

Fifth Graders Present Problem-Based Learning Project Presentations to Community Panel in late January
GJ Lions Club Awards New Emerson $9454 for STEAM Initiatives
(Photo Above: GJ Lions Club member and former New Emerson parent Dan Sites with Libratory Teacher Miranda Bailey and kindergartners Eloise Downs and Natalie Bailey during the Press Conference at Eureka! last month.) This generous Lions Club grant will allow us to further our STEAM and Makerspace Initiatives on campus including Virtual Reality tech, iPads and a Swivl camera kit to document teaching and learning on campus.

SAVE THE DATE!
Lions Club Parade is Saturday, February 8, 2020
New Emerson School

We are a K-5 public, magnet school in Grand Junction, CO with an emphasis on teaching Science, Technology, Engineering, Art and Math.

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