

# Foothill Flyer

Foothill Elementary 1001 Hawthorn Ave. Boulder, CO 80304 Tel. 720-561-2600 Fax 720-561-2601  
Website: <http://bvsvd.org/schools/foothill>

October 2, 2009

## OCTOBER 2009 DATES TO REMEMBER

|       |  |
|-------|--|
| 10/1  | October Count Day                                  |
| 10/2  | 5:30-7:30 pm<br>4th Grade BINGO<br>Night           |
| 10/5  | 3:00-6:30 pm<br>Fall Parent/Teacher<br>Conferences |
| 10/6  | 3:00-6:30 pm<br>Fall Parent/Teacher<br>Conferences |
| 10/7  | International Walk/Bike<br>to School Day           |
| 10/8  | October Count Ends                                 |
| 10/13 | 6:00-7:30 pm<br>SIT Meeting, Library               |
| 10/14 | 3:00-6:30 pm<br>Fall Parent/Teacher<br>Conferences |
| 10/15 | 3:00-6:30 pm<br>Fall Parent/Teacher<br>Conferences |
| 10/20 | Picture Retakes                                    |
| 10/20 | 6:00-7:30 pm<br>PTO Meeting, Library               |
| 10/21 | Foothill Flyer<br>Article Deadline                 |
| 10/25 | 12:00-3:00 pm<br>Garden to Table<br>Building Day   |
| 10/28 | Hearing & Vision<br>Screening                      |
| 10/28 | 6:00-8:00 pm<br>Foothill Family<br>Heritage Night  |
| 10/30 | Halloween Parade                                   |

## A Note from the Principal...

Dear Foothill Families,

Fall is in the air! We have enjoyed our Fall Fun Days in PE, our first Bingo, and lots of Meet & Greets. Our parent teacher conferences are starting next week. If you have not had a chance to sign up for a conference on the wall by the office, give your teacher a call to schedule an appointment. There is never a dull moment around Foothill.

Our staff spent the professional development day in September focusing on our Achievement Goal for the School Improvement Plan. For the next three years, our area of focus will be Math, and we have already begun to work in this area. We spent time with our new standards, math curriculum, and the report cards. Look for our completed school goals in the next newsletter.

The safety efforts around drop-off and pick-up have really paid off. Students, staff, and parents have commented on the improved traffic flow both in the mornings, as well as the afternoons. I would like to take this opportunity to thank our volunteers, parents, staff, and students for taking an active role in helping make this program a success. We appreciate everyone's efforts to pay attention to the new signs, watching for crossing guards' instructions, and following procedures to keep everyone safe. I would like to make a plea to all that we "Respect the Vest" and not engage anyone in an orange vest in conversation while they are on duty. I know this is hard when you see your teacher or a parent that you know, but they need to focus their full attention on keeping our families safe.

Last month I shared a change in our attendance procedures and appreciate the feedback and questions I have received. I would like to give some clarification to this subject. Our goal is that students are in school every day, on time, to receive consistent and quality instruction. We recognize that once in a lifetime opportunities arise for families, and students can gain an educational experience that is beyond what we can provide in our classrooms. Our goal is to curb the frequent absences during the school year that come with vacations, long weekends during ski season, and out of town guests. We are asking that you take full advantage of the 13 weeks during the summer and the scheduled long weekends during the school year to plan your excursions. Thank you for working together with us to provide your child/ren the best education that Foothill has to offer.

Warmest regards,

Melisa Potes

Principal

# SCHOOL INFO

## Flyer News

The deadline to submit articles for the October 30 Foothill Flyer is Wednesday, October 21st at 3:00 p.m. Please email your articles to [kathryn.martinez@bvsd.org](mailto:kathryn.martinez@bvsd.org) by this date and time to be included.

## Good Bye and Thank You from Ms. Christina in the Office

The last five years, surrounded by so many fabulous heads and tender hearts, have been magical. I was not looking to leave Foothill, but find myself pursuing a terrific new adventure. Ours is a special community, for which I am most grateful. Please stay in touch – my new email is [christina@pastajays.com](mailto:christina@pastajays.com) (hint hint)!

## Parent/Teacher Conferences

Parent teacher conferences are October 5 & 6 and 14 & 15 from 3:00 – 6:30 pm. If you were not able to come in a and sign up for a time please contact your child's teacher.

## Breakfast at Foothill

Foothill is pleased to announce a new breakfast program beginning on October 12<sup>th</sup>. Students will have the opportunity to eat breakfast at school which includes 1 entrée per day such as cereal and milk, burritos, bagels and more. Breakfast starts at 8:00 am in the cafeteria. The cost for breakfast is \$1.50. Free and reduced lunch fees apply.

## From The Library

The library will offer various technology workshops during parent teacher conferences. Make sure to check the classroom sign-up sheet for available times. Here is a list of some of the topics to be covered:

- EZ ACCESS- How students transfer documents from home to school and back.
- Accelerated Reader- A web based program geared for 2<sup>nd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> graders helping students find grade appropriate books as well as monitoring reading growth.
- Educational Websites- We currently subscribe to various educational websites which can be used from home.
- Type to Learn- A keyboarding software program geared for elementary students.
- Other- Anything else that you would like more info on or you know of that could help our students' learning.

## Classroom Visits to the Library

Classes have begun visiting the library lab. Check with your teacher when your child has library day. Each class will visit the library once a week. Please read the bulleted items below for more library info.

- Kindergarten may checkout one book per week.
- 1<sup>st</sup>-2<sup>nd</sup> grade may checkout two books per week.
- 3<sup>rd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> grade may checkout two books for two weeks.
- Parents may checkout out materials.
- Students and parents may not checkout any additional library materials if a book is overdue.
- If a book is lost or damaged, we will ask for the monetary value of that book.
- Please keep in mind, most books range in price from \$15 to \$20. **Keep those books safe!**
- Students, with their teacher's permission, may return and or exchange books at anytime during the school day.
- **The library can always use parent volunteers to help shelve and assist students with checking out materials.** If you're interested and did not sign up already, just come on by or call so we can put you to work.
- If you would like to present, contribute or share any ideas that will benefit our students, parents and staff, let us know. The library is a great gathering place for our Foothill community.

If you have any questions, come to the library or give us a call. — Jonathan Warshaw and Mary Heath

## News from the Computer Lab

Our computer lab is up and running. Please read the bulleted items below for more information.

- Each student, kindergarten-5<sup>th</sup>, has been assigned their own username and password.
- 2<sup>nd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> will be responsible for remembering their information, so they can log-on without assistance.
- Kindergarten and 1<sup>st</sup> grade will use a common log on.
- We have 32 computers in the lab and 2 to 3 computers in each classroom.
- Students have access to internet resources to support learning.
- Parents, if you would like to learn more about the software and our technology goals for the year, come to the library or give us a call.
- This year each classroom will visit the lab as a class twice a month. Teachers will have access for more time if requested.

If you have ideas, suggestions, or would like to help support technology at our school, give us a call or come on by.

## Chess Club is Back

Chess club is returning to Foothill. We will offering a chess club for students' 2<sup>nd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> grade. No experience is necessary, but space is limited. The club will meet Fridays after school from 3-4 pm. We will begin October 16<sup>th</sup> and will conclude December 11<sup>th</sup> with a tournament. For more information please stop by the Library to pick up a flyer.

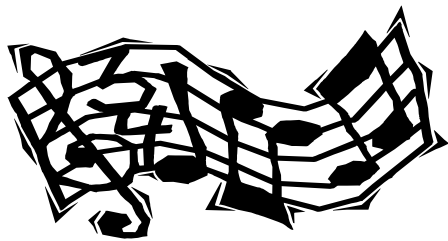


## Foothill Family Heritage Night

Please join us for a night of family fun at our third annual Foothill Heritage Night on Wednesday, October 28 from 6-8 PM. Teachers and families from our community and beyond will provide fun crafts, live music and dancing, and delicious foods from around the world for all to share.

This will be a celebration of the roots and branches of our diverse Foothill community. We'd love your participation in various ways! Most importantly, please COME! If you wish, come dressed in clothing from your cultural backgrounds, bring an ethnic dish to share, and/or bring some yarn, fabric, or charms to add to a community weaving.

We hope to see you there!



## Music Notes

Thank you! Thank you! Thank you! As you can hear from the music rooms, there are a lot of enthusiastic sounds being created. I'd like to take a moment to thank you for supporting our music program financially through the PTO these past few years. Our program would not be functioning right at the capacity that that it is now without your help. The students and I are accomplishing a great deal in music class because of the materials and instruments that your help as provided. I am truly grateful because it means we can do the type of lessons and experiences that are a great fit for the kids. Please know that I am deeply grateful for your generosity and for your commitment to our music program. Have a wonderful year! - Aaron Edrington and Krista Hwang, Music Teachers

## Music & PE Showcases!

We are so excited for another great year to showcase what your children are learning in music and PE. Students and parents will have the opportunity to observe and participate in actual lessons, activities, and performances that occur right here daily in our curriculum. Be ready to get active because parent participation is highly encouraged! Here are the showcase dates for the 2009-2010 school year:

| GRADE                 | DATE        | TIME        |
|-----------------------|-------------|-------------|
| 3 <sup>rd</sup> Grade | November 5  | 4:30-5:30pm |
| 4 <sup>th</sup> Grade | November 5  | 6:00-7:00pm |
|                       |             |             |
| Kindergarten          | December 15 | 4:30-5:30pm |
| 1 <sup>st</sup> Grade | December 15 | 6:00-7:00pm |
|                       |             |             |
| 2 <sup>nd</sup> Grade | February 18 | 4:30-5:30pm |
|                       |             |             |
| 5 <sup>th</sup> Grade | April 8     | 4:30-5:30pm |

## Community Liaison Corner

- We hope that many of you will be able to make it to our 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Foothill Family Heritage Night on Wednesday, October 28<sup>th</sup> from 6:00-8:00 p.m., when we celebrate the roots and branches of heritages of our families and our friends. See the flyer article to the left for suggestions on ways to participate, but most importantly, come if you can!
- If your children are without health insurance and you would like to know if they might qualify for either Medicaid or the Child Health Plan (CHP), contact me at the number below. I have the applications here and can now help you with the application process.
- We appreciate donations of outgrown (but still in good shape) winter clothes (coats, hats, boots, or gloves), and Halloween costumes. If you have any that you are ready to pass on to another child, you may leave them in Sally's office. Thank you!
- Please remember that the district, the school, and the community strive to ensure that each child has what they need for full participation in school related activities. That there are scholarships and community resources available. Please let Sally, your child's teacher, or the office know if you need help with a given expense, including the clothing needed for outside play and physical education, and we will find a way.

Questions? Contact Sally at 720-561-2600 or [sally.lasater@bvsd.org](mailto:sally.lasater@bvsd.org)

## Health Room Tips

- To prevent the flu...wash hands frequently, get lots of rest, exercise when possible, and eat healthy foods. If you or your child gets the flu – stay home and take care of yourself.
- With our chilly mornings and rapidly changing weather patterns in Colorado, please encourage your kids to dress appropriately for the weather when they leave the house in the mornings. Kids often take off sweatshirts and jackets at recess and leave them behind so check lost and found frequently for lost items.
- Be on the look out for head lice, which appear frequently in school age children. Watch for itchy scalp, especially around back of head and behind ears. If you detect lice, contact your physician or pharmacist for a treatment plan. To avoid head lice, encourage kids not to share hats, combs, brushes, or bicycle helmets.

## PTO INFO

### Meet & Greet update

The Foothill PTO would like to extend a big thank you to all parents, hosts, and teachers following Foothill's successful Meet & Greet grade-level fundraisers. Each event was well-attended by parents and teachers, and the funds raised will be useful in purchasing important classroom supplies to supplement the curriculum. Grade-level totals will be shared in the next PTO Newsletter, once all money has been collected. If you missed your event or would like to donate more in a grade-specific format, you can send a check in to your child/ren's classroom marked "Meet & Greet" and designate the grade level(s) you wish to target. Thanks, everyone, for your ongoing support!



*Feed the Fox*

**THANK YOU TO ALL THE FAMILIES THAT CONTRIBUTED TO OUR ANNUAL FUNDRAISING CAMPAIGN.** This year's program was our most successful ever. We raised over **\$54,000 dollars** which was a **54% participation rate** across our families.

The money raised will be used to support whole-school programs such as para-educators for increased playground safety, a music equipment upgrade, art room upgrades, a literacy tutor, assemblies, staff professional development and classroom mini grants.

As part of our Feed the Fox appeal, we conducted 2 competitions. First, our **Classroom Participation Competition** was a huge success. Our big winner was Ms. Bogner's K-PM class which logged a 78.3% participation rate. The students in that class will receive tee shirts to celebrate this achievement. We are also awarding **CU Basketball tickets as part of a Foothill Basketball Party Event** to the 12 classes that achieved at least 55% participation.

### **12 Classroom Winners**

Barbara Bogner K-PM  
Shelley Lawton K-AM  
Shelley Lawton K-PM  
Anna Dicorleto 1st  
Jenny Grace 1st  
Mimi Soell 1st  
Lindsay Freeman 2nd  
Elizabeth Martin 2nd  
Holli Hoskins 3rd  
Shannon Van Scotter 3rd  
Lisa Kennedy 4th  
Kimberly Kleinman 4th

If you have children in these classes, stay tuned for information as to dates and times of the chosen basketball games. We plan to award 2 tickets to each student in these classes (one for them and one for a parent/guardian).

Our second competition was a drawing for **CU Football Tickets** for families that had contributed by Sept 8. **Winners are:**

Julia Castillo  
Carson Bennett  
Eva Martinez  
Daniel Sussman

These students will be receiving 4 tickets to an upcoming CU Buffs football game.

It is not too late to contribute to Feed the Fox. Online donations can be made via the Just Give, "Donate Now" link @ <http://www.bvsd.org/schools/foothill/Pages/default.aspx>, or via check made to Foothill PTO and mailed to or left in the school office.

Thanks again for your support! - Kris Pederson, Feed the Fox Co-Chair

### **Costume Drive hosted by Foothill Brownie Troop #3544!**

Please donate your gently used Halloween costumes to help less fortunate children in Boulder County. Look for the drop box in the hall next to the front office. Thank you for your help!

## International Walk to School Day Wednesday October 7

Join in on the worldwide celebration by walking **or** biking to school next Wednesday. Last year more than half of all Foothill students walked or biked to school on the special day, so let's see if we can hit 75% this year! Students taking the bus will also be included, yet encouraged to walk to their stop, at least carpool if walking is unsafe or too far. "Ride & Stride" sites for students who live too far to walk or bike will be located at:

1. 4<sup>th</sup> & Linden (at the bridge), and
2. 16<sup>th</sup> & Iris (at the Little League field)



Parent coordinators, clad in safety vests, will be present at the two Ride & Stride sites by 7:50 a.m. and will depart for school with the students by 8:05 a.m. All participants will receive a Clif Kid snack and stickers.

In addition, BVSD and Eco-Cycle are teaming up for the Used Sneakers Collection. Recycle your **athletic shoes only** in the blue collection bins at school the week of October 6 – 10.

Volunteers are still needed for this global, fun, healthy, environmental and community-minded event. Please contact Mary Closser at [maclosser@gmail.com](mailto:maclosser@gmail.com) or 303-442-3129.

### Fox Tracks

Keep those car-free commutes going! The Fox Tracks committee handed out 154 green wristbands for our first 10 car-free commutes. However, we can't reward your child if he/she isn't registered - or doesn't ring in - so please go to [Freiker.org](http://Freiker.org) and register your child's tag, and remind your child to ring in at the meter!

We will hand out another round of wristbands October 9th, 2009. Bus riders need to email their bus rides from September 21 - October 5th to: [foxtracks.bus@gmail.com](mailto:foxtracks.bus@gmail.com) by Monday, October 5th. If your child rides the bus and also bikes, can you break that down for us by days for each, please?

We also want to bring you a "snapshot" of the parents behind the kids who commute to Foothill car-free every month in this newsletter. We want to bring you the parents behind the kids who commute to Foothill car-free every month in this newsletter.

Our first parent is Randi Curtis. She has a kindergartener at Foothill and a preschooler. Randi gave her car up for the summer. She said it was hard at first, especially in the rain, but her Chariot was equipped with almost everything they needed. Since she couldn't bike while using her cell phone, she conversed with her children about the sites, they sang songs and talked. Sometimes her 5 year old would ride along on his bike. When he got tired, she

would strap the bike on top of the Chariot. Besides lowering the carbon footprint for her family, she got into great shape hauling over 100 pounds of bike, gear and kids around and it had a positive impact on the entire family!

If you know of someone that we could interview next month, please contact Elizabeth Stiles at [estiles4@msn.com](mailto:estiles4@msn.com). Need a tag? contact Mariella at [colvin@ecentral.com](mailto:colvin@ecentral.com). If you have any questions about Fox Tracks, please don't hesitate to contact Blair Norman at [blairnorman@mac.com](mailto:blairnorman@mac.com).

## Foothill Garden Building October 25!

Please join us for the Foothill Garden to Table Garden Build Extravaganza on Sunday, October 25! Come any time between 12:00-3:00 pm. We'll be putting in several plots for spring planting using a layering method known as lasagna gardening (see more below). Please bring kids, extended family members, neighbors, and friends for a fun-filled day!

We will need lots of the following materials for the lasagna gardening: cardboard, newspapers, and dry leaves. Please start collecting now for the October 25<sup>th</sup> build! Thanks for your support! Kathy Tucker - [tuckerk7@gmail.com](mailto:tuckerk7@gmail.com)

### K-Kids!

The K-Kids community service group meets on Tuesdays. Students can participate in meetings in anytime during their lunch or mid-day recess each Tuesday between 11am and noon. Meetings are held in the conference room of the school library - it is ok to bring your lunch into that room. Please inform your primary classroom teacher about your attendance and remember that participation in K-Kids cannot conflict with your normal classroom time - make sure you plan for time to get to and from your regular classroom. Depending what plans the group decides to act upon, there may be project meetings or work outside of school hours.

The club website <http://sites.google.com/site/foothillkids/> will be used to post information about projects.

### Foothill Mission and Vision

To promote, support and reinforce healthy development, quality education, social competence and responsible world citizenship in lifelong learners through a true partnership among students, parents, staff and community.