

Foothill Flyer

Foothill Elementary 1001 Hawthorn Ave. Boulder, CO 80304 Tel. 303.443.1847 Fax 303.443.1848
Website: <http://www.bvsd.org/schools/foothill/foothill.shtml>

December 09, 2005

DATES TO REMEMBER

12/12	2:00pm, 5th. Gr. Band Concert Big Gym
12/13	9:am & 1:15pm, School Tours, (Call office for slots available) 6:00pm, Choir Program, Small Gym
12/14	8:30-9:30am Principals' Coffee Library 6:00-7:30pm, Bully Proof Parent Night Library
12/15	9:00am & 1:15pm School Tours, (Call office for slots available) 3:30-5:00pm Kindergarten Orientation, Kindergarten Classrooms
12/21-1/03/06	NO SCHOOL WINTER HOLIDAYS
1/9/06	9:00am & 1:15pm School Tours, (Call office for slots available) 5:00-6:30pm Kindergarten Orientation, Kindergarten Classrooms
1/10/06	8:00am, Student Government Meeting Library 6:00-7:30pm, PTO Meeting, Library
1/11/06	9:00am & 1:15pm, School Tours, (Call office for slots available)
1/12/06	8:30-11:00am and 1:00-7:30pm Kindergarten Registration, Front Office

A Note from the Principal...

Dear Foothill Families,

In an effort to communicate about the district budget the school district has put a link on their website to give more information. If you have an interest in knowing more about the district budget please visit to www.bvsd.org/index_budget.asp.

In the next few weeks, you will be receiving report cards that highlight Foothill Elementary. You will receive a customized report card entitled, *What you want to know about Foothill Elementary*. This report card highlights the achievements and strengths of our school for the 2004-05 school year. It includes CSAP results and achievement data, as well as parent satisfaction, program characteristics, teacher quality, demographics and safety. You will also be receiving a state accountability report card for the 2004-05 school year. This has our overall academic performance rating, academic growth of students and student performance on state CSAP exams. Please take time to look these over. If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact me.

Although December is a month filled with many wonderful activities, it is still important to realize that a great deal of the curriculum is covered this month and students need to remain focused in their studies. We appreciate your effort in keeping your children on task with their homework assignments, and in having them arrive to school on time.

Please have a safe and joyous holiday season and enjoy this time with your families. See you next year.

Warm Regards,

Melisa Zahn

Foothill Flyer Deadline

The deadline for articles for the next Foothill Flyer is Friday, December 16. Please email articles to lucia.catalano@bvsd.org.

CSAP Testing Scheduling

Please see the insert included in this flyer that lists important information regarding the schedule of the CSAP Tests.

School Tours Volunteers Needed

Foothill is currently seeking volunteers for school tours in January 2006. There are morning, 9:00am and afternoon, 1:15pm, sessions scheduled. Please call Mary Cahill Gerrard at 303-786-8631 if you are interested. Your assistance will be greatly appreciated.

Extra Eyes

Foothill is looking for parent volunteers to be "Extra Eyes" on the playground during lunch recess. Our student climate survey last spring revealed that we still have a concern about safety on the playground. One of our strategies to address this is to increase our supervision. Our goal is to add at least one more person during recess who is willing to help students and address inappropriate behavior. Once we have a list of volunteers, we will hold a training so that volunteers will have specific knowledge of playground rules and expected behaviors. In addition, there will be a "Bully-Proofing" Parent Night on December 14th at 6:00pm to familiarize all parents with the Bully

Proofing curriculum. If you can volunteer at least once a week, or every other week, for 45 – 50 minutes for outside recess duty, please call Regina Bock 303.442.8018.

"Bully Proofing" Parent Night

The staff at Foothill has been trained in the [Bully Proofing Your Schools](#) curriculum and continues to implement it each year. Parents are invited to attend a workshop on Bully Proofing on Wednesday, December 14th to become familiar with the curriculum and lessons that students are receiving. Please join us in the library from 6:00 – 7:30pm. Children who report being the target of bullying are more likely to experience loneliness, depression, poor academic performance, and difficulty making friends. Adults *must* intervene in bully/victim conflicts. Once children realize that reporting bullying to an adult will result in immediate intervention and action, they feel more secure in ending bullying themselves.

Does Character Matter? Yes!

"Character Matters" is a practical non-sectarian approach to character education in grades K-5. Our staff's goal is to cultivate character by teaching our students basic civic, moral and intellectual virtues through literature, role-play, writing, and art projects. Foothill students will learn about one character trait each month. A different grade level will be assigned each month to put ideas about the trait of the month on the main hall bulletin board, located on the north wall by the small gym. The traits we will

focus on are: respect, self-control, compassion, patience, honesty, citizenship, responsibility and friendship. The character trait for the month of December is patience and 5th grade is responsible for decorating the bulletin board. Now, more than ever, good character and kindness are important for our future. Our staff hopes to instill these traits in Foothill students so that they may one day pass them on. The current character trait of the month will be listed in the Foothill Flyer each month.

Meet The Foothill Conflict Mediators

The 2005/2006 Foothill Peer Mediators are: Abby Burrige, Alexander Cosman, Betty Estrada, Dylan Trinkner, Erin Stenhouse, Graham Buhse, Ilyssa Abbott, India Halliburton-Link, Maura Gillespie, and Zach Gould. Mediators act as neutral third persons who facilitate peaceful resolutions between two students in conflict. Students who wish to use a mediator simply fill out a mediation slip and place it in a designated location. Mediators check for slips daily and mediate conflicts as soon as possible. During a conflict mediation, our team follows a set procedure. Specifically: getting a commitment from both sides to mediate, having each side tell what happened, clarify needs and goals, and finally reaching an agreement. Although we may not solve every conflict, we are exposing students to a peaceful and effective problem solving process. Please encourage your child to use the mediation team as needed. The peer mediators are also responsible for the "Foothill Friendly Program." The purpose of this program is to recognize students who are caught doing random acts of kindness. Those

who are caught being kind receive a "Foothill Friendly" badge and then have their name posted on a bulletin board outside the art room located by the fourth grade classrooms. We would like to thank the Substance Abuse Prevention Program for awarding us a grant that allowed us time away from the building for training and to purchase supplies. We would also like to thank the Foothill PTO for helping to fund the Foothill Friendly Program. If you would like more information about the Conflict Mediation Team or the Foothill Friendly Program, please contact either Sophie Ramus or Jerry Brockway.

Community Board

Parents, please be sure to check out the community board located next to the front office for the excellent opportunities and activities that are available for students and their families.

Spaghetti Dinner

The PTO will be sponsoring a community spaghetti dinner at Foothill on February 22, 2006. There will be 5:30 and 6:30 seating times available. More information will follow in future flyers.

Open Enrollment

The open enrollment application deadline is end on January 20, 2006 at 4:00pm. Applications must be turned in to the Education Center only. If your family has moved out of the Foothill attendance area since September 2005, your student can continue to attend Foothill for the remainder of the school year. If your student wishes to attend Foothill

next fall, you will need to participate in the open enrollment lottery by filling out and returning an open enrollment form before 4:00pm on January 20, 2006. Fifth graders who have open enrolled to Foothill will be assigned to their neighborhood middle school next year, (based on their home address), or they will also need to participate in the open enrollment lottery. Open enrollment forms are currently available at any BVSD school. If you have any questions about open enrollment, please contact the Education Center at 303-245-5900.

Winter Weather Reminder

Winter has officially arrived and is here to stay! Please remember as a general rule that when the temperature is below 20 degrees including wind-chill, an indoor recess will be called. Whenever weather permits, students will be outside. Please be sure to send children to school with warm clothes and waterproof footwear.

Family PE Night

First Grade Parents, you are invited to come with your 1st grade student to experience "Jamestown" on Thursday, December 15th. Students will demonstrate how they maneuver their scooter through a variety of obstacles. Due to the number of students participating two sessions are available: Ms. Gamble's & Ms. Mackey's students from 5:30 to 6:00 pm and Ms. Smith's & Ms. Soell's students from 6:15 to 6:45 pm. Please come directly to the Big Gym and please make sure that your child/children wear tennis shoes and be accompanied by an adult. Hope to see you there. Please call Sue Brittenham at

303-443-1847 if you have any questions. Look for the "Tennis Shoe Calendar" for the months of January through June which will be sent home in the Friday folder on December 9th. The calendar is to help students remember to wear appropriate tennis shoes for all of their scheduled PE classes. Thank you to the PTO for donating money for recess equipment. The students really enjoy having equipment available at recess.



Enjoy your Winter Holidays!!

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.