

Foothill Flyer

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

May 05, 2006

DATES TO REMEMBER

5/8	5:00pm-11:00pm Foothill Family Feast Cheesecake Factory
5/9	6:00pm-7:30pm, PTO Meeting, Michelle Gallops's House
5/10	Walking and Wheeling Wednesday Science Fair, Big Gym
5/11	7:00pm, 5th. Grade Strings Concert Centennial Middle School
5/12	7:30am-8:15am Donuts With Dad, Small Gym
5/17	6:00pm-7:30pm, SIT Meeting, Library
5/19	NO SCHOOL, District Professional Development Day
5/24	7:00pm, 5th Grade Band Concert Centennial Middle School
5/29	NO SCHOOL Memorial Day
5/31	11:30am-4:00pm, 5R Africa Fair, Big Gym
6/6	5:30pm-7:00pm Foothill Family Picnic, Front Lawn
6/7	9:30am, 5th Grade Graduation, Big Gym (Reception to Follow)
6/8	LAST DAY OF SCHOOL FOR STUDENTS

A Note from the Principal...

Dear Foothill Families,

The results of the Colorado State Assessment Program (CSAP) for third grade reading were released May 2, 2006. Third graders were assessed on how well they understood Colorado Reading Standard #1: Students read and understand a variety of reading materials. The purpose of the CSAP is to provide the state a picture of student performance on state academic content standards for educators, policymakers, and the public and also to provide a context for improving public education. This year, 94 % of Foothill Elementary School third graders scored at proficient or above as compared to the state's average of 70 % and the Boulder Valley School District's average of 85%. Both the state and district experienced a decrease while Foothill remains stable. Well done, third graders! As always, our goal is to continue to reach all of our students to help them become excellent readers.

Our staff and SIT group have been working hard to develop class arrangements for next year. Our allocation is a total of 20 classroom teachers for K-5 after receiving an additional .5 upon appeal. Our staff began the process by re-confirming our belief that we value early intervention. We feel that providing students with as much support, as early as possible, will benefit them the rest of their lives. This has been Foothill's philosophy for many, many years. Our decision for staffing for the 2006-07 school year follows this strongly held belief. We will have 4 rounds (classes) of K, 1st, 2nd, 3rd and 3 rounds at 4th and 5th grade. We recognize that next years 4th grade has had large class sizes for 2 years already. We have supported them by lowering their class sizes for literacy and providing additional math support. Those students have been tremendously successful on district literacy assessment and CSAP, as referenced above. With the financial assistance of our PTO, we will continue to support any grade level with large classes in the following ways:

1. Provide literacy support from the literacy team and academic literacy tutors to lower class sizes to 23-25 during literacy.
2. Provide math support from an academic tutor
3. Preferential scheduling (to be completed this spring) to accommodate the additional support.

While large class sizes are not optimal for any group, 4th and 5th graders are much more independent learners than are primary K-2 students. With three rounds of 4th and 5th grade we are under the district's maximum number of students in a class. The additional support available at Foothill, through our dedicated staff and committed parent community, will help to ensure our student's continued success.

Warm Regards,

Melisa Zahn

Foothill Parent Email List

Foothill is in the process of creating a Parent Email List for school use. This would include sending out important information and reminders as well as giving parents the option of having the Foothill Flyer sent to their email address instead of a paper copy. You are encouraged to add your email address (home, work or both) to the BVSD electronic mailing list at <http://content.bvdsd.org/list/listinfo.asp>. Click on "subscribe to mail list," enter your email address and name, click on "Foothill Elementary Parents," and click on subscribe.

Foothill Flyer Deadline

The deadline for articles for the next Foothill Flyer is Thursday, May 18. Please email all articles to lucia.catalano@bvdsd.org by that date.

Kindergarten Registration

We are continuing to register kindergartners for the 2006-2007 school year. Please encourage your neighbors with kindergarten age children to register as soon as possible. Thanks for your help!

BVSD Child Safety Policy

The BVSD requires that all visitors and volunteers, [enter the building through the main entrance, sign in at the front](#)

office and wear a badge on school grounds. Also, please be sure to remind your child that they should never let any visitors or volunteers in from the side doors, even if it is someone with whom they are familiar. Please help us keep our children safe.

Enrollment Forms

Parents, please complete and send in the 2006-2007 enrollment forms that were sent home in your child's Friday Folder as soon as possible. Your prompt cooperation in this matter will be greatly appreciated.

Extreme Makeover Success

The staff, families, and students of Foothill would like to thank our remarkable landscaping committee. Your amazing work has made our school grounds look incredible! They have accomplished a lot, but there is still some shrubs and perennials to plant in the courtyard and the last classroom garden to finish. So there will be another half-day of planting this Sunday, May 7th from 9:00 am to 1:00 pm.

Teacher and Staff Appreciation Week

Please join us during the week of Monday, May 8th until Friday, May 12th in expressing our appreciation to the entire staff that makes Foothill such a great school. In addition to the wonderful classroom teacher your child has, there are many great specialist teachers that instruct your

child in music, art, PE, library, reading, and writing. To show appreciation, please consider contributing to a group gift for the specialist teachers. If you are interested in making a monetary donation for the specialist teachers, there will be collection envelopes in the school office. All donations will be picked up Tuesday, May 9th, and presented to these teachers on Friday, May 12th. Please feel free to contact your homeroom parent regarding donations for a gift for your child's classroom teacher. Thank you in advance for your thoughtful consideration.

Foothill Family Feast

The PTO is sponsoring a Foothill Family Feast on Monday, May 8th, from 5:00pm-11:00pm at the Cheesecake Factory. Please join us for this fun event!

Science Fair News

The Science Fair will be held on Wednesday, May 10th in the big gym. The students will present their findings from their experiments to interviewers from the school and school community in the morning. All projects will be viewed by the students in the afternoon and all families will be able to view the projects from 6:00-7:00pm. We still need lots of volunteers to make the fair run smoothly. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact Ms. Kristi Winseck at: kristi.winseck@bvdsd.org or please leave a note in the front office. Thank you!

PTO "Donuts With Dad" Fund Raiser

Students, please bring your Dad, (or Granddads, Uncles, or other significant male figure in your life), for breakfast on Friday, May 12th, from 7:30-8:15am in the small gym. We will be serving donuts, milk, coffee, and juice. After you enjoy your donuts together, you will have the opportunity to visit the child's classroom and teacher! We are asking for a \$5.00 donation per person that will be paid at the door the morning of the breakfast. Thank you!

Walking and Wheeling Wednesdays

Join us on Wednesday, May 10th and May 19th for the last two Walking and Wheeling Wednesdays challenges for this school year!! We will provide snack and a punch card for students who walk, bike, scooter or bus to school on Wednesday, May 10th and May 19th. All students with four punches on their card on May 19th will receive a free one-day pass to the city pools and recreation centers and have their name entered into a drawing for cool raffle prizes! The classroom with the most participation will get the Walking Wednesday trophy for the week! We will also recognize students each week for the most creative ways to get to school!

African Culture Fair

On May 31st from 11:30am-4:00pm in the big gym, Mrs. Ramus' fifth grade class will be presenting the research and information they have gathered on various aspects of African enter

Culture. Each class will have the opportunity to walk through and observe the student's wonderful work. All parents are welcome to visit at any time. Research topics include: food, art, clothing, dance, music, geographical landmarks, and much more. Students will have prepared interactive displays to enjoy, and through their hard work will be hoping to raise money for The Island Children's Fund. This fund is a Kenyan foundation that supports non-governmentally funded education for middle school students and also supports the repair of run-down schools. We hope to see you there!

Foothill Family Picnic

Please join us on June 6, from 5:30pm-7:00pm, for another Foothill Family Picnic. We'll provide the lawn, you provide everything else. We look forward to seeing you there.

Heartfelt Thanks!

Ms. Whitman would like to thank all those who helped make the art show successful and wonderful! Our Principal, Melisa Zahn, and all of the following people who helped put our art show together, a BIG "THANKS": Almir Omerovic, Davidson Yazzie, Andy Schafer, Ana Melara, Jill, Hannah, and Maddie Hart, Kristin, Evan, and Zach Westman, Alex Beres, India Halliburton-Link, Rob, Susan, and Wyatt Linde, David and Dustin Low, and Denise Perreault. Thanks to all the Foothill Students for giving it your "best shot in art!" Your hard work and unique personalities make the Art Show shine! XOX Ms. Whitman.

Lost and Found

Starting in August of 2006, all lost items will be displayed on tables in the hall for the last two days of the month only. After that time, all items will be bagged and donated to a charity. Your assistance in this matter will be greatly appreciated.

Prepackaged School Supplies

Foothill PTO is once again offering Prepackaged School supplies for the upcoming 2006-2007 school year! Forms went out in last week's Friday folders, but you can also pick one up at the front desk. They are grade-specific FOR THE GRADE ENTERING NEXT YEAR, and either boy/girl or last-name specific. It's an inexpensive and convenient way to make sure your child is ready for next year. Forms must be completed and turned into the front office by MAY 12th. Please contact Timolyn Esson with any questions at (720-564-9948 or timolyn.esson@colorado.edu).

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.