

MUSTANG TALES



THIS WEEK AT MSES!

Monday, Mar. 16

- No school for students -- teacher workday

Tuesday, Mar. 17

- Remote learning for students at home

Wednesday, Mar. 18

- Remote learning for students at home

Thursday, Mar. 19

- Remote learning for students at home

Friday, Mar. 20

- Remote learning for students at home

Monday, Mar. 23

- No school for Spring Break!

Tuesday, Mar. 24

- No school for Spring Break!

Wednesday, Mar. 25

- No school for Spring Break!

Thursday, Mar. 26

- No school for Spring Break!

Friday, Mar. 27

- No school for Spring Break!

Monday, Mar. 30

- Remote learning for students at home -- Teacher workday to prepare for students' return

Tuesday, Mar. 31

- School resumes for all students
- Girls on the Run: 3:00 pm – 4:25 pm
- Connect14 Lantern Making: 3:00 pm – 4:00 pm (UPES)
- Connect14 Art & Creative Drama: 3:00 pm – 4:00 pm (UPES)
- Connect14 Dungeons & Dragons: 3:30 pm – 5:00 pm (SILC)
- Connect14 Merry Movement: 3:30 pm – 4:30 pm (SILC)
- Connect14 Little Fingers Piano Lab: 3:00 pm – 4:00 pm (UPES)
- Connect14 Nature, Geometry & Music: 3:00 pm – 4:30 pm
- Connect14 Panama Dance: 3:00 pm – 4:30 pm
- Connect14 Basketball: 3:00 pm – 4:30 pm
- Connect14 Mathstangs/Little Bits: 3:00 pm – 4:30 pm
- Connect14 Club: 4:00 pm – 5:15 pm
- Incredible Years: 4:00 pm – 6:30 pm

From the Principal's Desk

MR. VOGEL'S WEEKLY NEWS AND CELEBRATIONS!



> Updates About Our Remote Learning Program: As I've communicated in the past few days, MSES students will be offering an array of opportunities to keep some learning going at home next Tuesday through Friday and again on Monday, March 30. Our *Ask Your Expert!* feature this week is retitled *At Home with Your Expert!* and contains a brief overview of the Remote Learning plan each different program will offer your children next week. After teacher planning time on Monday, your child's teacher will email you with more specific information.

Teachers sent home packets and workbooks (and iPads for Fifth-Graders) last Friday, but if your child was not at school or missed the packet, the building will be open 7:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Monday and packets will be available at the front window. Teachers will be in the building until about noon, then working from home. Our Buildings and Grounds crew will conduct deep disinfecting the rest of the week, so the building will be closed to the public Tuesday through Friday. But our secretaries will be available by phone and I will be in the office from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. each day if you need direct contact.

Conferences Thursday and Friday will be cancelled, and we will continue Remote Learning those two days. Report cards will be sent home Thursday, April 2, and your child's teacher will contact you via phone or email to offer further information about his/her growth and achievement to supplement the report cards.

In the meantime, MSES families, please be safe and enjoy your time together as a family! We miss your children and our school community already and can't wait to welcome you all back in two weeks.

> D14 Website Offers Information on COVID-19 from CDC, Dept. of Health: Regularly update information from reliable sources is available at <https://mssd14.org/cms/One.aspx?portalId=57448&pageId=27128586>.

> Daycare Option for Working Parents/Guardians: Working parents/guardians who need daycare during the coming weeks of school closure can contact the YMCA at 719-329-7289. The Y is offering daycare only up at their Garden Ranch Branch on North Academy. Families who are already registered with the YMCA program can use the same fees for this daycare there during break. Families who do not normally use Y services will need to register and pay fees as they use the Garden Ranch facility.

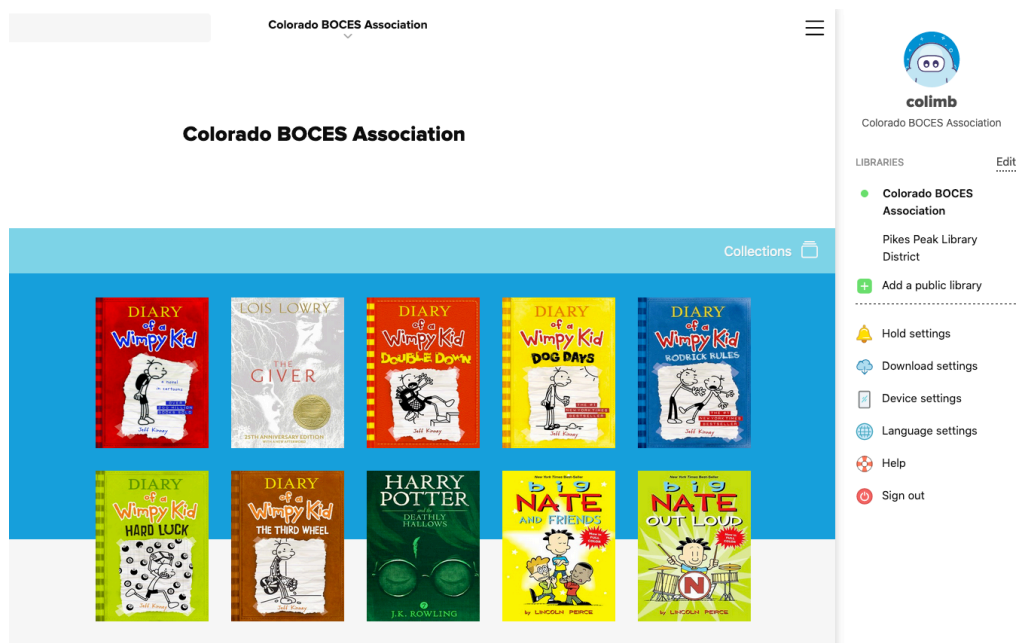
> Pro Tip: SORA Library Site Offers Access to Thousands of Children's Books! I encourage you and your child to participate in his/her Remote Learning lessons this week, but reading a good book (or two) is also as smart and useful a choice as any! Did you know that you can now get free ebooks and audiobooks from the library? It's easy! Just visit download the free Sora app or visit www.soraapp.com and borrow digital books with your school username and password. SORA links to all of D14's 5000 student e-book titles – as well as thousands more of e-books and even the children's collection in the Pikes Peak Library System if you have a library card. *Sora allows access only to age-appropriate books.*

Be sure that the Sora app is installed on your device (if not download it from your App Catalog on your iPad. You can also find the app on Google Play and the Apple App store if you are using a personal device). You

can also access SORA on a home computer at: <https://soraapp.com/welcome>. The app and website should work from both home and at your school.

Once you've downloaded Sora, click on:

- Find My School
- My School isn't Listed.
- Type in "**Colorado BOCES Association**" in the "Find Your School" section
- Click this is my school
- Then click "Select my school" and find Manitou Springs School District 14
- Use your school's credentials to finish the login process: Username: first name, middle initial, last initial (example: maryss). Password: First name and last four digits of school ID (example: mary2453).



You are logged in! Click on the binoculars icon to begin exploring the collection. You can also add your local library to the collection, if you have a library card. If these steps do not work or you still need help, please email our MSES media tech, Agnes Navaratne, at anavaratne@mssd14.org.

> Compost Club Explores Bokashi Compost:

From the "good news page" last week: Apparently Bokashi composting smells like...pickles in the morning, according to MSES Compost Club member Clayton Brown (pictured in necktie). The form of compost the new club is utilizing is called Bokashi. It converts food scraps and other organic material into a compost booster through anaerobic fermentation. Our Compost Club Advisor (and also Garden Club leader), MSES paraeducator Laura Maestas says when added to regular compost, Bokashi speeds up decomposition of the materials in the compost bin or pile.

Maestas is also the green-thumb expert I have asked to bring more plants into the indoors areas of our school – and she has responded with dozens and dozens of plants around the building. We have recently initiated an Adopt-a-Plant program here at MSES, in which individual classrooms adopt – and name -- plants to care for throughout the school. The program has been met with great enthusiasm from both the teachers and students! Each adoptive classroom has been able to choose a name for and are able to take over the care for the plant of their choosing. Be sure to check out some of the wonderful names that have been chosen!



HOME WITH YOUR EXPERT!

An Overview of Our Remote Learning Plan for Your Children

Preschool: For remote learning this week in preschool: We will be sending out ideas and links to keep in touch with you throughout next week as well as opportunities to conference remotely. In the meantime, spend time together, enjoy preparing meals, setting the table (math skills), snuggling and reading, and moving your bodies in the fresh air outside. Be extra gentle with each other in this time. – **Julie Lavigne and Julie Womochil, Preschool Teachers**

Art: What a great time to pull out those sketchbooks and art supplies and practice drawing, recording thoughts/feelings, and exploring new ideas. Enjoy creating art alone or as a family. I will miss seeing all of you and will try to extend more artistic ideas through the week. Please email me any fun art projects or links you think your peers may also enjoy and I will work on passing them along. – **Carrie Dunlap, Art Teacher** (cdunlap@mssd14.org)



Kindergarten: For our remote learning this week, kindergarten will be sending short and easy to follow instructions on how to guide your little ones in language arts skills, math, and writing practice. Each teacher will send an email in the morning with the lesson plan, as well as a message for our kiddos. We are going to attempt to use some type of technology, so we have a chance to see the littles face to face. We will check in with our families at the end of the day to see if they have any questions or concerns about that day's lessons. We will also be available to our families remotely during school hours M-F. We always tell the little ones that each day presents new challenges and chances for us to learn...this is a chance for the students, the parents, and the teachers! Go Mustangs. – **Missi Thomson, Jeana Farrell, and Lindsay Hammel, Kindergarten Teachers**

Music: This week, let music soothe, engage, energize, and excite you as you navigate at-home learning! While some families have access to piano, guitar, and an assortment of instruments, others will find singing, dancing, and using "found sounds" a more practical, engaging and authentic way to enjoy music together. I will miss seeing all of you, but believe weaving music into your daily routine has the potential to help establish a rewarding rhythm and flow that will create a positive, balanced approach to your at-home learning. On Monday, I will be sending out the week's suggestions for musical exploration, practice, and expression, along with your classroom teachers' assignments. Take care, and feel free to contact me with any questions or concerns. – **Elizabeth Lawson, Music Teacher** (elawson@mssd14.org)

First Grade: Last week we sent home CKLA Skills workbooks and readers along with math workbooks, handwriting workbooks, and our hairy caterpillars! If your student was absent on Friday and you were unable to come by and pick up their materials, they are at the office available for pick up on Monday! Beginning on Tuesday the 17th, you will receive an email from your child's teacher every morning by 9:00 containing a personal message and instructions for the day! You will be directed to our first grade website (msexfirstgrade.com) where you will find a Skills video from Mrs. Carter, a math video from Mr. Pletsch, and a Listening and Learning video from Miss Carley! No matter whose class you are in, watch all three videos and do your best to complete the suggested assignments or activities! We will be standing by all day to answer any questions that arise for you! We also understand that parents and families are going through just as much of an adjustment as we are next week. Do your best, but don't stress! We are here for you and your students now and when we return! Reading and talking with your child each day bring valuable learning opportunities too! It won't feel the same, but we are excited at the chance to interact with your students and each of you in our week of distance learning. Keep it light and have fun! – **Sarah Carter, Paige Carley, Jon Pletsch, First-Grade Teachers**

Physical Education:

Hey all....a little something for all the kids to work on this week: Since we did our annual Presidents Fitness Challenge last fall, this would be a good time to revisit to see if we all can improve on those scores. All you need to do is record your scores on paper and bring them in when we return to school. Here are the individual tests to record: 1.) SIT-UPS -- how many you can do in 1 minute. 2.) V-SIT REACH: Legs flat on the ground (can't bend your legs), feet 18 inches apart...get a ruler and place it by your feet, reach out with your hands without bending your legs, record how many inches you reach out to. 3.) PUSH-UPS: How many you can do without pausing? 4.) This is a variation on part of the fitness test: Record on paper the amount of physical activity you do each day -- bike riding, hiking, walking, basketball, skiing, etc. If you have a question about the physical activity, write it down and we will go over in when you return. Also, I sent home a paper from the American Heart Association offering some good activities on the website. If you are participating for the donations and awards, we will be finishing up that part April 3rd. If you have any questions, please email me at niebuhr@mssd14.org. Stay healthy! – **Randy Niebuhr, PE Teacher**

Second Grade:

Our thoughts about the **Remote Work** this week:

- Enjoy spending time with your children as much as we do. There is such joy in teaching someone...especially someone you love!
- This should be a review, practice, and extension!
- Learn things of interest daily!
- Enjoy self-driven learning (choices)!
- Foster responsibility of completing 'Remote Learning'!

We will be **emailing a daily message** for you and your child to read. Then, try your best to complete the assignments given. If you have *any problems*, let us know! We will all be monitoring email several times a day Tuesday through Friday! We are going to miss your kids! Take care! – **Lori Pearson/Madison Young, Chris Whipkey, Maria Woytko, Second-Grade Teachers**

TEAMS:

Remote learning in TEAMS will consist of practicing our typing skills using the Typing Pal program. Students can also continue their individualized coding assignments through code.org. Please be on the lookout for another email that will consist of all the log-in information for your child. You can access all of these programs as well as other activities on msesteams.weebly.com – **Amy Bradbury, TEAMS Teacher**

Third Grade:

We sent home "soft" math workbooks last week, as well as our CKLA readers about Viking Myths and some CKLA curriculum for our online learning next week. If your student was absent, there is a packet at the office for him/her that you can pick up on Monday. The office will be open from 7:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Monday. The third-grade team meets Monday morning to finalize our Remote Learning plans and we will be emailing our parents with details Monday afternoon. Please contact your child's teacher if you have any questions!! Mrs. Elms, Mrs. Leonardo, and Mr. Wood will be contacting each classroom with some activities and assignments for kids to complete. We've got lots of ideas so we will be in touch each day. Hope you are well! Please remember that we are only an email away! -- **Becky Elms, Brandon Wood, Natascha Leonardo, Third-Grade Teachers**

Spanish:

Hola, En Español, all the students can have fun illustrating the 4 seasons/ Las Cuatro Estaciones: Primavera/ Spring, Verano/ Summer, Otoño/ Fall, Invierno/ Winter. 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th, and 5th, grade, please practice the words: me gusta/ I like, no me gusta/ I do not like ¿Te gusta la lasana?.... Si me gusta or No me gusta . ¿Te gusta el brócoli?.....Si me gusta or No me gusta please answer this question: ¿Te gusta la sopa de banana con chocolate? ¿Te gusta el milkshake(batido) de brócoli? -- **Alejandra Lillemon, Spanish Teacher**

Reading Intervention: Hello, families of primary students receiving reading support from Mrs. Hendrickson, Mrs. Johnston, and Ms. Sokol! Packets for reading practice were sent home in backpacks on Thursday and Friday. For our students who receive support in math, continue to identify numbers and practice addition and subtraction. Our goal is to be in touch with families by email and phone to communicate with other support ideas we have with websites and games. **Hello, families of third- to fifth-graders** receiving support from Ms. Koriath and Mr. Smith! In your student's backpacks there are some brand new workbooks from the Really Great Reading program that our school has adopted this year. These resources, along with some video instruction on canvas, will be the method for continuing progress towards reading skill growth during this "learn at home" season. Please check your email/voicemail on Monday for further information and connection with Ms. Koriath. – **Amanda Hendrickson, Primary Interventionist, Heidi Koriath, Intermediate Interventionist**

Speech/Language Specialist: Hello to students who receive speech/language services in Preschool-First grades with Ms. Johnson (Ms. Leah to the Preschoolers). I will be sending an email tomorrow to families of students who receive speech/language services through an IEP with some activities to do next week. For all the students who receive speech/language services, just keep practicing the sounds and language concepts we have been working on when you are reading, writing, or doing your math. Read or listen to stories, play board games or cards with your family, take a break from the screens and get outside for some fresh air and play, and enjoy having conversations with those around you. I will be in touch! -- **Leah Johnson, Speech/Language Pathologist**

Fourth Grade: We sent home CLKA readers and CKLA activity books, as well as Math workbooks, in your child's backpack last week. If your child was absent Friday or didn't bring anything home, we have emailed you with specifics for our room. You can pick up a work packet at the MSES office Monday to track reading and math practice as well as some multiplication and division practice sheets. Freckle is a great way to keep up with your math practice! SORA is a great way to keep reading if you are needing reading material. Every morning, we will send parents an email about the day. Ms. Goldman and Mrs. Larsen will also include videos and Mrs. Marquardt will hold Google Meets from 9-9:30 Tues-Friday. Look for more details in an email Monday afternoon! – **Christi Marquardt, Madeline Goldman, Jessi Larsen, Fourth-Grade Teachers**

Fifth Grade: Last week, we sent students home with math workbooks, CKLA Renaissance workbooks, novel/worksheets, and Social Studies packets (we also sent home CKLA Native American workbooks, but don't anticipate using them at this time). If students were absent on Friday, they should have their books/iPads from Thursday, but can stop in the office Monday to get their novel/worksheets and Social Studies packets. Students should also be continuing to work on their individual Science Fair projects (they have the ongoing due dates listed in their packet). Students should look for an email from their homeroom teacher by 9am each day with specific directions/assignments on each of their subjects, a time to join the google hangout. (We set this up and practiced with students on Friday iPads do need to be updated to 13.0 or 13.3 for this to work.) We are expecting to check in with all students every day to see how they are doing on their assignments. These assignments represent work we would have done in class, and everyone needs to keep up so we can all start at the same place together when we get back to school. Remote Learning is new for us all, and it will be smoother (and less stressful) if we communicate well together. Remember, look for the daily emails -- and know that you can ask any of us for help if needed. – **Amy DeLarm, Rachel Embery, Lisa Mussi, Fifth-Grade Teachers**

-- **Leatha Hay, MSES Counselor**



Hi, Kids - next week I'll send you an email to remind you how to manage your strong emotions. For now, hug your grownups tight and remember to share your feelings with them. If you have counseling questions or other counseling needs, please feel free to call me, Leatha Hay, Counselor, 685-2160.

From Nutrition Services, Partners for Healthy Choices

This information was shared earlier, but we want to make sure everyone has access to these resources:

During the period of school closure, Manitou Springs School District will provide *free* breakfast and lunch to students from March 16 through March 20 and March 30. MSSD's Nutrition Services Department will be packing sack breakfasts and lunches and will distribute in the parking lots of Ute Pass Elementary School and Manitou Springs High School. These meals can be picked up daily from 11:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. Manitou Springs School District will not be providing meals for students during Spring Break.

In addition to the meals available at MSHS and UPES, there will be multiple locations across the Pikes Peak region. Locations in Colorado Springs District 11 and Harrison District 2 are listed below. We will post the additional locations and pick-up times to our website (www.mssd14.org). These meals are provided for all children under the age of 18, and it does not matter the district that the student attends.

Manitou Spring School District -- Free Breakfast & Lunch Available from 11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m., March 16-20, March 30

- Manitou Springs High School – 405 El Monte Place
- Ute Pass Elementary – 9230 Chipita Park

Partners for Healthy Choices (MSSD 14 families only)

- Food Assistance: Email contact: agieck@mssd14.org or jsquires@mssd14.org, #: 719-685-2004

St. Andrew's Episcopal Church: 808 Manitou Ave, Manitou Springs

- Every Wednesday: Food Pantry 1:00 – 2:00 p.m.
- Every Sunday: Community meal @ 11:20 a.m.
- Handwashing is required before entries to these services

Church of the Wildwood: 10585 Ute Pass Ave, Green Mountain Falls, CO

- Food Pantry: The 2nd, 4th, and 5th Tuesday/month, 6-8 pm

Care and Share Food bank: 2605 Preamble Ct, Colorado Springs, CO

- Open 8-5 pm, call 528-1247 for information

United Way food emergency #'s:

- Cell phone dial 211
- Home phone 719-955-0742

Colorado Springs District 11

- Doherty High School - 4515 Barnes Road
- Mitchell High School - 1205 Potter Drive
- Roy J. Wasson Academic Campus - 2115 Afton Way
- North Middle School - 612 E. Yampa Street
- Coronado High School - 590 W. Fillmore Street
- Mann Middle School - 1001 E. Van Buren Street
- West Elementary School - 25 N. 20th Street

- Swigert Aerospace Academy - 4220 E. Pikes Peak Avenue
- Russell Middle School - 3825 E. Montebello Drive W.

Harrison School District 2

- Sierra High School - 2250 Jet Wing Drive
- Centennial Elementary - 1860 South Chelton Road
- Fox Meadow Middle School - 1450 Cheyenne Meadows Road

Map to Food Resources: (Your child may pick up at any location, regardless of enrollment.)

https://www.google.com/maps/d/u/0/viewer?fbclid=IwAR1ZTIHOAP3afh-VBqaxtA456rEcsBsfoQlZjoaRZRtEsQQISjUllv6Snpk&mid=1ReAeP6awZgoaW0CDunz6M5CLmEmw_Lij&ll=38.85613456221065%2C-104.84498344999997&z=11

We will continually update our district website with all of the locations.