



Stallion News

Carbon Valley Academy's Online Newsletter

February 2008

Checkmate! The Chess Club Gets Competitive all in the Name of Fun

When Mr. O'Connor started the Chess Club in September, he wasn't sure how many students to expect. To his surprise, more than 90 students from grades 1 through 6 showed interest in the club. The Chess Club meets every Friday afternoon from 3:00 – 4:00 and has now settled into a routine with about 80 students consistently showing up. All levels of players from beginner to advanced are welcome.

For the first month, Mr. O'Connor, with the help of parent volunteers, gave students lessons on how to set up the chess board and how each piece moves. After learning the basics, students now play against kids at their own ability or grade level every Friday. Mr. O'Connor reports that the games have become very competitive!

For the past three months, students have participated in a single elimination tournament. Mr. O'Connor verifies that checkmate has indeed been reached before declaring a match winner.

Congratulations to the CVA tournament winners: **Elena Porcaro**, **Michael Silbernagel**, and **Andrew Biggs**. The winners of the tournament each received a wooden chess set.



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From Elementary Principal Auer's Desk

CVA Community,

Excellent news from our literacy lab program! Mrs. Kim Milbrath, our literacy coordinator, has been working with students needing extra support in reading. Over the course of our first 8 week intervention cycle, we have seen great gains in student reading skills. For example: 24 students boosted their reading level by a half grade level, 13 students went up a full grade level, and 3 more boosted themselves by more than a grade level. As a school, our attention to literacy is paying large dividends to students. Being a proficient reader unlocks enormous potential for a lifetime.

As I spend time in classrooms, I am seeing some incredible things. I have seen 1st graders comparing and contrasting storybook characters. Kindergarten students are approaching the '100th' day of school and, therefore, learning about groups of 10 etc. I have written short paragraphs with 2nd graders as they are learning about proper paragraph structure. I have learned the songs in 3rd grade Spanish class and geometry in 5th grade. The 4th grade is beginning a unit on China. Our teachers and students are doing a great job. Ask your students what they are learning in class . . . and don't let them say 'nothing'!! There is a lot going on here.

This month we are focusing on the character trait of friendship. Take a moment to discuss with your children how important it is to be a good friend, to share, to say kind words, and to treat others with respect. Taking the time to visit about friendship at home will help us a great deal here at school.

Have a great February,
Chad

Joke of the month:

How do you make a tissue dance?
Put a little boogie in it.

Where in the World . . .

. . . will we find you wearing CVA gear? Send us a photo of you (student, parent, staff, anyone) wearing CVA gear and we'll post it to our website. Tell us where the photo was taken and the name(s) of the person(s) featured in the photo. Email everything to brandi.cva@gmail.com and then look for

your photo on our website:
www.carbonvalleyacademy.org/whereinworld.html.

You can stock up on CVA gear at www.cafepress.com/cva_store. Let's see **YOUR** school spirit!



Cleo Burton at Santa Monica Harbor

News from the Counseling Office

SAFE TOUCH PROGRAM

The Safe Touch Program is an interactive program that has been presented to children in Weld County since 1987 by the staff of Child Advocacy Resource & Education (CARE). The program uses age appropriate activities and information to teach children the skills necessary to keep themselves safe from unwanted touches and to find help if they are a victim of abuse. Safe Touch is coming to CVA the week of February 4th-7th. They will spend time in individual classrooms teaching the students about the three "R's" of keeping themselves safe; Recognizing, Resisting and Reporting on abusive touches. Using puppets, songs, and discussion, they will teach the children to say "NO," get away, and tell an adult.

As parents, it's important to reinforce these concepts with your child. Please feel free to contact me with questions or concerns. As a parent myself, I realize that having these types of conversations with kids is difficult. We all share the common goal of keeping our kids safe and helping them grow up to be successful, healthy adults. Thank you for trusting us with your kids.

BANANA SPLITS

We have started our second round of Banana Splits groups and have found it to be a safe and fun place for kids to deal with issues surrounding divorce and separation. It has been inspiring to watch the kids helping each other to cope and come up with positive ideas on ways to share their feelings with family. The following concepts are some that are discussed in the group.

1. The meaning of separation and divorce.
2. Acknowledgment of various different family structures.
3. The expression of feelings about divorce and separation.
4. Divorce is not the result of something the child has done.
5. Children do not have to choose between parents.
6. Ways to adjust to living in two homes.
7. Your child is not alone. Many children have divorced parents.

If you think your child would benefit from joining one of our current groups, please contact me.

Kelly Kurz
CVA School Counselor

Important Dates

February 5th – CVA Informational Meeting at 6:00 pm in the Harvard Room. Pass along the word to others who might be interested in enrolling students at CVA in 2008/2009.

February 13th – 2nd Round Table Discussions regarding Carbon Valley Secondary Academy. Join either the 3:15 – 5:00 pm or the 6:00 – 8:00 pm meeting to provide input into CVSA's future! Meetings will be held in the Harvard Room.

February 15th – Free Dress Day

February 18th – No School – President's Day

February 29th – No School – Parent/Teacher Conferences will be scheduled on this day

Happy
Valentine's
Day



From Secondary Principal Trautwein's Desk

I am thrilled to announce that the Carbon Valley Secondary Academy is now a reality!!! Next year will be the first year for 9th grade and we will continue to add a grade a year until our first graduation in the spring of 2012!

The Secondary Academy will be grades 6 through 12. Our focus will be on Entrepreneurship and Leadership that will be integrated in a rich liberal arts curriculum. The high academic standards and strong supportive community that are synonymous with Carbon Valley Academy will continue in the Secondary Academy. We will begin the high school program next year with our first 9th grade class. Enrollment has begun, reserve your space now.

Students in grades 6 through 8 will continue with the Core Knowledge curriculum and character education. Our focus in grades 6–8 is to support our students to make a successful transition from the elementary grades and prepare them to be successful, from day one on, with our rigorous high school curriculum. Middle school students will have the opportunity to begin the Entrepreneurship and Leadership focus with classes that will focus on leadership, organization, and technology.

Students in grades 9 through 12 will work toward graduation and then be able to continue their education in any Colorado University. During their high school years, students will have the ability to participate in many high level academic courses, including Advanced Placement and college level courses. Students will be able to participate in co-curricular activities in music, visual arts, business and other opportunities as requested by our student population. Athletics and after school activities will be an important part of our school too.

There will be a round table meeting talking about the Secondary School on February 13th. One session will be at 3:15 pm and a repeat session will be at 6:00 pm. Both meetings will be in the Harvard room at CVA.

Middle School News

During February we are concentrating on "CVA Respect." Our program is challenging students to show respect to themselves, each other, their teachers, and the school through their every day actions. The challenge requires students to follow our everyday rules to the "T" and when they do, we want to say "Thank You" for the efforts they have made. Students are encouraged to support each other and self-check themselves in order to follow all rules. If dis-respect is noted, a special referral is posted to remind students of the need for support. So far I am pleased with the lack of "CVA dis-Respect" referrals, however, we are not perfect yet. The students are more than capable of being successful in this difficult challenge and I look forward to rewarding students with our first Free Dress for Respect Day!

Parent-Teacher conferences are coming up on February 29th. I encourage all parents to attend. Don't forget to visit each room and see the awesome projects and artwork everyone has been doing.

Paul W. Trautwein
Secondary Principal

Carbon Valley Academy Honor Roll – Second Quarter 2007/2008

GOLD CLUB Honor Roll (all A's):

Rafael Ventura	8 th Grade	James Martindale	4 th Grade
Sierra Burke	7 th Grade	Dakota Kos	4 th Grade
Dominique Connolly	6 th Grade	Damon Patrick	3 rd Grade
Acacia Stephen	6 th Grade	Connor Zsidisin	3 rd Grade
Samantha Garcia	5 th Grade	Dallin Lyon	1 st Grade
Jessica Johnson	5 th Grade		

Carbon Valley Academy Honor Roll – Second Quarter 2007/2008

Honor Roll:

Joey Renner 8th Grade
 Sophia Frohardt 6th Grade
 McKina Jewell 6th Grade
 Mercedes Schultz 6th Grade
 Dustyn Yerges 6th Grade
 Andrew Biggs 5th Grade
 Noah Bolitho 5th Grade
 Krystal Burke 5th Grade
 Isaiah Jackson 5th Grade
 Kirsten Kochhieser 5th Grade
 Jonna Lende 5th Grade
 Ciara Schultz 5th Grade
 Antonia Villani 5th Grade
 Thomas Wallace 5th Grade
 Braydon Wilson 5th Grade
 Colton Benson 4th Grade
 Rebecca Berdiales-Laynes 4th Grade
 Nicholas Carey 4th Grade
 Christian Carmendy 4th Grade
 Alexandria Hernandez 4th Grade
 Jesse Hill 4th Grade
 David Judson 4th Grade
 Jordyn Kulanko 4th Grade
 Makayla McDaniel 4th Grade
 Sydney Montoya 4th Grade
 Arjun Nair 4th Grade
 Zoe Quaintance 4th Grade
 Shiloh Riley 4th Grade
 Madelyn Roberson 4th Grade
 Clinton Stengel 4th Grade
 Alea Stephen 4th Grade
 Heaven Vidal 4th Grade
 Ross Wamsley 4th Grade
 Thomas Wilts 4th Grade
 Breanna Womack 4th Grade
 Tanner Zurfluh 4th Grade
 Derrick Allen 3rd Grade
 Conrad Burgesser 3rd Grade
 Michael Castro 3rd Grade
 Aaron Garcia 3rd Grade
 Goldie Goter 3rd Grade
 Grady Harper 3rd Grade
 Brihely Hoffart 3rd Grade
 Katelyn Huff 3rd Grade
 Tayler Kitzman 3rd Grade
 Aubrey McCaleb 3rd Grade
 Alexis Paddock 3rd Grade
 Benjamin Parker 3rd Grade
 Anthony Porcaro 3rd Grade
 Audrey Ryan 3rd Grade
 McKenzie Stephenson 3rd Grade
 Christian Taylor 3rd Grade
 Lauren Wagner 3rd Grade
 Gabriele Wright 3rd Grade
 Shelby Zinchini 3rd Grade
 Noah Bailey 2nd Grade
 Hannah Bolitho 2nd Grade
 Spenser Breen 2nd Grade
 Cleo Burton 2nd Grade
 Keanu Cooley 2nd Grade
 Isaac Dukes 2nd Grade
 Kayla Hand 2nd Grade

David Kalina 2nd Grade
 Ryan LaVanchy 2nd Grade
 Curtis Lewis 2nd Grade
 Chloe McClellan 2nd Grade
 Gakenia Njenga 2nd Grade
 Kennalyn Peterson 2nd Grade
 Michael Silbernagel 2nd Grade
 Bethany Steen 2nd Grade
 Aurora Storey 2nd Grade
 Kennedy Ulmer 2nd Grade
 Janelle Allen 1st Grade
 Bailey Baumgardner 1st Grade
 Jacinto Calles 1st Grade
 Matthew Clark 1st Grade
 Ezra Friss 1st Grade
 Cambrei Hoffart 1st Grade
 Kaitlyn Howell 1st Grade
 Misha Kline 1st Grade
 Logan Knutson 1st Grade
 Megan Langridge 1st Grade
 William Martindale 1st Grade
 Conor McDaniel 1st Grade
 Macey Murfitt 1st Grade
 Taylor Paddock 1st Grade
 Elena Porcaro 1st Grade
 Emma Robertson 1st Grade
 Sidney Ryan 1st Grade
 Caleb Schneider 1st Grade
 Macen Schoenherr 1st Grade
 Johnathon Solliday 1st Grade
 Madie Steadman 1st Grade
 Tyleigh Stephen 1st Grade
 Logan Sutton 1st Grade
 Grant Barnes Kindergarten
 Peyton Bozeman Kindergarten
 Caden Campbell Kindergarten
 Emma Cannon Kindergarten
 Banks Dakin Kindergarten
 Luisamaria Kalina Kindergarten
 Blake LaVanchy Kindergarten
 Abby Nichols Kindergarten
 Kylie Schmotzer Kindergarten
 Nicholas Scohy Kindergarten
 Matthew Silbernagel Kindergarten
 Peyton Tajchman Kindergarten
 Riley Van Meter Kindergarten
 Wyatt Zsidisin Kindergarten

Citizenship Awards:

Kylie Anderson (2nd Grade)
 Morgaine Atkinson
 Elizabeth (Hannah) Davis
 Brianna Fleeman
 Sony Garnier
 Jesse Hill
 Jessica Johnson
 Taylor Paddock
 Jennifer Rivera
 Alle Silva
 Xander Skaggs
 Ellie Snow
 Jonah Wasden
 Tanner Zurfluh