

**Purpose:** KIDS FIRST! Working with families to get the job done!

**Mission:** Growing Life-Long Learners, One Child at a Time

**Vision:** *ALL Mesa students will be reading and computing at or above grade level by the end of third grade and maintaining that level of proficiency throughout their school careers!*

Valentine's Day is approaching, and we need your help. Please do not bring in or send flowers, balloons, stuffed animals, candy, any type of gift, etc. for your child. It is a distraction to the learning process, upsets students who do not receive a gift from their family, and we have limited office staff to deliver items. If you would like to do something for the whole class, please check with your child's teacher. Make Valentine's Day a special day at home. Thank you for your understanding and help.



**Reminder ~** If your child signed up to participate in the dance performance for the School Board Meeting being held at Mesa on Tues., 2/19, at 7 p.m., you will need to bring your child and stay for the performance which will last approximately 10 minutes. Students can leave as soon as the performance is done. Students need to wear tennis shoes.

**Donuts with Dad and Movie Night**

We will be having a Donuts with Dad and Movie Night on Friday, February 22nd, from 6-8 p.m.  
Come and learn about our WATCH D.O.G.S. Program!  
All dads, grandpas, uncles, cousins, or brothers over 18 are welcome to attend.

Our Movement Education Program will be Monday, March 4th, at the high school gym beginning at 7:00 p.m. Students need to be there by 6:45 in order to be seated and ready to begin by 7:00. The doors will open at 6:30 p.m. You may want to arrive early in order to get a seat.

We will be having practice on the morning of March 4th. Students are asked to wear Mesa school shirts or school colors which are blue and yellow. Students need to wear movement education attire to the program (jeans, sweats, or shorts; t-shirt, socks and tennis shoes). Tennis shoes are required on the gym floor at the high school

All students need to wear tennis shoes EVERYDAY starting February 19th-March 4th for group practices.

**Mesa T-Shirts are available in the office for \$10.**

Mesa's CMAS Testing Schedule will be in the March issue of Cat Tales.

Please join us for the March PTO (PAWS) Meeting Tuesday, March 5th at 3:30 p.m. in the library.

**Dates to Remember**

- 2/18 ~ **No School** - President's Day
- 2/19 ~ School Board Meeting at Mesa - 7 p.m.
- 2/20 ~ Mesa's Spelling Bee - 10 a.m.
- 2/22 ~ Donuts with Dad & Movie Night - 6-8 p.m.
- 2/25 ~ **No School** - Staff Professional Development
- 2/28 ~ District Spelling Bee
- 3/4 ~ Movement Ed Program
- 3/5 ~ PTO (PAWS) Meeting - 3:30 p.m.
- 3/7-3/8 ~ **No School** - Parent/Teacher Conferences
- 3/18 - 4/26 ~ CMAS Testing Window
- 3/25-3/29 ~ **No School** - Spring Break

**Mark your calendars...**Parent/Teacher Conferences will be held March 7th and 8th. Classroom teachers will be sending home more information at a later date.

**Book Fair...**Please plan on attending our Scholastic Book Fair while attending conferences. The Book Fair hours will be 1:00-7:30 p.m. on Thurs., March 7th, and 8:00-11:30 a.m. on Fri., March 8th. Students will be able to purchase books on Wednesday, March 6th, during school hours.

Report cards will be sent home with students Friday, March 1st.

CMAS state testing will soon be upon us. Colorado Senate Bill 163 was created to have common assessments administered to third, fourth, and fifth graders. They take an ELA exam (reading and writing) and a Math exam. Fifth graders also take a Science exam. The State requires each school to have a 95% or higher rate of students taking the assessment. Our goal for Mesa is 100% participation! We are awarded points for meeting this goal which helps to determine our yearly Accreditation Rating. When a child is opted out, it goes against our Accreditation Rating. We are encouraging all Mesa 3rd, 4th, and 5th grade students to take CMAS this year. If you choose to opt your child out, you will need to write a letter and make an appointment to meet with the principal.

**Excellent attendance ~** Being in school every day means your child won't miss out on learning. Try to schedule appointments and family trips outside of school hours. If he asks to stay home "just because," remind him of what he'll miss, such as his reading group or PE class. Explain that he can be absent only if he's sick or if there's a family emergency.