



### A MESSAGE FROM OUR PRINCIPAL

Happy New Year! Hopefully, you and your Falcons had a wonderful winter break filled with lots of love and laughter! January is always the time of year known for goal setting and resolutions to do better or be better. To put a positive spin on this, one of the things I like to do in January is to try something new...for me it will be Pickleball! You can inspire your Falcon to try something new by sparking their curiosity. As an example, wondering how broccoli gets to the kitchen table, where it grows, how long it takes to grow, the types of nutrients broccoli give our bodies, this type of curiosity encourages one to eventually give it a taste. Try it.

### SIGNATURE SCHOOL HIGHLIGHTS

Third grade music students in Mr. White's classes have been writing music using Iconic Notation- a music instructional strategy where students use vectors, graphs, and shapes to represent rhythm and melody. With iconic notation, students are able to turn their own sounds into music, encouraging students' creativity. Falcon 3rd-grade composers using iconic notation make connections to standard music notation when arranging and creating future musical compositions.

### GRADE LEVEL HIGHLIGHTS

What would Fine Arts be without learning about "Careers in Theater," and what better way to learn those new skills, then to use them in a special production?

Each year 6<sup>th</sup> Grade has a tradition of analyzing scenes, characters and methods that an author uses when developing a script. This year the students studied a modified version of "A Christmas Carol." The students learned about the author, Charles Dickens, the social issues of the 1880's in the United Kingdom and how and why Mr. Dickens wrote his story. They then chose a career path, such as acting, lighting, scenery, costumes, music, sound effects and many more to bring the story to life right in the classroom.

For some, this was the 1<sup>st</sup> time they had heard Scrooge. Now that they've "lived" the story, we know it will be a life-lesson they will never forget.

### TECHNOLOGY INTEGRATION

Are you checking in with your students grades and progress through ParentVue? Checking your ParentVue often can help support your student by staying updated with your students' grades and progress. ParentVue is accessible through the district website ([www.littletonaz.org](http://www.littletonaz.org)) > Parents > ParentVue. If you need help with access please contact your student's teacher.

### STUDENT AGENCY

Fine Arts has switched it's focus for this holiday season. Reflecting on the past year and looking forward to the new year; we have taken time within classroom morning routines and during intervention times to pause, connect, and remind students the importance of being present during this time of year and not just focused inwardly on the greed or monetary presents. All things EQ character traits such as "*I make the most out of every experience*" combined with an increase in self awareness can help each and every one of us get through the holidays ready to start the new year happy and healthy!

### CHARACTER DEVELOPMENT

- I bring effort to everything I do.
- I work through confusion.
- I plan my day to make enough time for work, sleep and free time.
- I find purpose in everything I do.

### SAFETY

As temperatures are getting cooler. Please make sure your child brings a jacket or sweater to school with them each and every day!

### MYD

Inappropriate Behavior - Steps

Behavior that interferes with the learning or safety of others is dealt with through Steps. The systematic enforcement of Steps gives students the opportunity to review their behavior, think of positive, alternate behaviors, and decide on their next course of action. Please refer to the Littleton Elementary School District Handbook for student behavior expectations.

Step 1

If a student's behavior interferes with the learning or safety of others, s/he will be asked to take a seat that faces away from the academic environment. For a short period, no more than five minutes, the student is given the opportunity to quietly think about his/her behavior. Students may have to remain on Step longer than five minutes if the teacher is engaged in an activity that cannot be interrupted.

If the student is able to verbalize his/her inappropriate behavior and indicates a willingness to behave appropriately, s/he returns to his/her seat. Students who choose to go to Step 1 repeatedly may be placed on a verbal contract with the teacher and remain on Step all period.

### PBL HIGHLIGHT

Falcons in 7<sup>th</sup> grade social studies have been working on a project for the Industrial Revolution. Students have been learning about the 4 main industries during the Industrial Revolution; agriculture, textile, transportation, and natural resources. Within those 4 industries, students have been researching innovations that help make work in different industries more efficient. Falcons selected an industry that interests them such as the music industry. They will then research an innovation that makes work in that industry easier, for the music industry an example could be DJ headphones. With the use of DJ headphones, music producers can listen to their tracks/beats easier to mix better. Falcons will also be identifying what goods the industry produces for people to consume. They will then be presenting their industry of choice to their classmates to help students get a better understanding of industries and innovations.

### UPCOMING DATES

- 1/2—1/6 No School New Year's Holiday
- 1/10 Governing Board Meeting 6pm
- 1/12 Report Cards Distributed
- 1/13 No School—Staff In Service
- 1/16 No School—MLK Holiday
- 1/17 2nd Quarter Awards Assembly
- 1/18 PTSA Meeting 5:30pm
- 1/25 \$1 Dress Down
- 1/30 Winter Winds & Strings Concert



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