



“I Can, I Will, I Do!”

FREEMAN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

April, 2017

There are several exciting things occurring this month!

PTA FAMILY NIGHT

We have the **PTA Family Night at All Star Adventures on April 7th**. The East All Star location will be open to Freeman families from 6-9pm, for a \$15 wristband charge, you will have access to unlimited miniature golf and go carts, and all the other exciting All Star Adventure activities.

BOOK FAIR

The Book Fair runs from April 24 through April 28th. A separate flyer will come home with your child the week before outlining the dates and times the book fair is open for business.

FAMILY FEST AND PLAYGROUND DEDICATION

The **Family Festival and Playground Dedication on April 27th, from 6-8 pm**, will be sponsored by Freeman staff and our PTA. FES staff will be hosting the booths and special drawings, and our PTA will be hosting the Playground Dedication, hot dog meal, and Bounce House. Once again we will have raffle prizes and this year we will raffle off our 5th Grade Student artwork to the highest bidder. So please plan on attending this event!

STATE ASSESSMENTS THIS MONTH

We will start our state assessments the first week of April. Our students will be assessed in reading, math, and science. We do not have a written component this year!

Students who give their very best on each of their exams, will have the annual State Assessment Bowling Party. **The date for the party is May 4th!** Please help your child be successful by getting plenty of rest, food, and sleep. **GOOD LUCK TO OUR STUDENTS!**

Just one more important bit of news....

LAST DAY OF SCHOOL – DATE CHANGE

Please read this, because our last day of school has changed... **Our last day of school will be Thursday, May 18th!** Haysville School District continues to work on district improvements and vacated schools are needed to ensure safety for all as they work in the facilities. We do intend to host all activities as originally planned, but the dates for some of our activities in May have changed. **Please see the School Calendar for May.**



Capturing Kids' Hearts, one handshake at a time!

~Dr. Donna Ferguson, Principal



School Calendar!

Due to construction constraints, our last day of school has been moved up by one week. **Our new last day of school will be May 18th!** See below for the new May schedule of activities:

- April 3:** Get Movin' Monday
- April 7:** PTA Family Night @ All Star Adventures, 6-9 pm. \$15 per wristband
- April 11:** PTA Sonic Night
- April 13:** PTA General Meeting @ 6:30 pm
- April 14-17: NO School**
- April 21:** Earth Day Community Outreach
- April 24:** Board of Education meeting @ 6:30 pm
- April 25-28:** Book Fair
- April 25:** Site Council @ 4 pm
- April 25:** K-1 Music Concert @ 6:30 pm
- April 27:** Family Fest & Playground Dedication
- April 28:** Falcon Fun Day @ 2 pm. And PRIDE Assembly @ 3 pm

STATE TESTING SCHEDULE:

Students in Grades 3-5 are taking state assessments this month. Please help your child be prepared for testing by getting plenty of rest, food, and sleep. The schedule is:

April 4 and 5:	Grades 4-5	Reading
April 6:	Grade 5	Science
April 11 and 12	Grades 4-5	Math
April 18 and 19	Grade 3	Reading
April 25 and 26	Grade 3	Math

NEW MAY SCHEDULE

- May 1:** Get Movin' Monday
 - May 3:** Band/Orchestra Concert, n 8:45am
Kindergarten Roundup @ 10am
 - May 4:** HMS Visit – 5th grade students only
State Assessment Bowling Party
 - May 5:** Field Day at Colt Stadium – all day
 - May 9:** PTA Sonic Night
District Band Concert @ Nelson, 7pm
 - May 10:** Band/Orchestra Concert @ 8:45am
 - May 11:** District Orchestra Concert @ Nelson, 7pm
 - May 12:** Staff vs. 5th Grade Kickball Game (tentative – dependent on rain day for Field Day)
 - May 15:** Talent Show @ 2 pm
BOE meeting at 6:30 pm
 - May 17:** Building-Wide PBL Gallery Walk
 - May 18:** EOY Activities beginning at 8:30 am
5th Grade Graduation @ 10:15 am
Early Dismissal at 11:40 am
- LAST DAY OF SCHOOL**



March Library News By Mrs. Davis

The Library is really moving and defining what our Full STEAM Ahead! MakerSpace will look like for our Freeman Falcons. I attended a workshop a couple weeks ago that opened up some new possibilities and ideas for our MakerSpace. In order to create some of the experiences and explorations for our students I need your help. We will be a pilot school for virtual reality experiences for our students. We already have the devices needed for this experience, but need some used smartphones. If you have any WiFi/Internet compatible touch screen smartphones that you are no longer using that are 5 years old or less, could we please have them for our students? The phones will be wiped clean and taken back to factory settings (either you can do that or we will take care of that) and we will use an email address set up for this purpose only. All VR apps will be loaded on to the phone and screened for appropriate content for students prior to any students getting to use and experience the virtual reality.

This is only one thing that will be added to our MakerSpace. We will also be adding some green screen filming, stop motion filming, design process thinking, and evolving our MakerSpace into a more student driven creative center than our current format. I am so excited about exploring the possibilities and innovations our Freeman Falcons will uncover as they explore, create, and design in the Full STEAM Ahead! MakerSpace.

We also have need for some “recycled” or unused items that you might have around your house. Here’s what we could use:

- Discarded WiFi/Internet capable smartphones, touch screen, 5 years old or less
- PlayDoh
- Copper foil tape
- Duct tape – any color
- Hoop and loop tape – Velcro
- Plastic drinking straws
- Cotton balls• Film canisters
- Altoid tins
- Containers of all sizes and shapes with lids
- Cardboard egg cartons
- Toilet paper and paper towel cardboard tubes
- Bamboo skewers

- Binder clips
- Magnets
- Pompom balls
- Googly eyes
- Balsa wood scraps
- Leftover bottles of acrylic paint
- Leftover scrapbook paper
- Modge Podge
- LEGOs
- Buttons
- Any leftover craft supplies you have!!!!

Thanks so much for being so supportive and help build our MakerSpace program. And just remember, before you throw it out, remember the Library and Full STEAM Ahead! MakerSpace!



SPECIAL LIBRARY ANNOUNCEMENT...

We have been doing some Spring cleaning in the Library and have collected over 2,000 old library books. We plan to sell these books for \$1 a book from May 1-12th. The money earned from this sale will be put back into the library.



MUSIC NOTES

By Mr. Rust



4TH AND 5TH GRADE

I want to start out by thanking the 4th and 5th grade students and their parents for a great concert on March 7. As usual, attendance was excellent overall and the students did a fantastic job of showing everyone all that they've been working on these past several months. They are some of the hardest working students I have had in my 10 years here and it makes them a real joy to teach!

The talent show for showcasing 4th and 5th grade students is scheduled to take place on Monday, May 15. A note should be going home sometime during April to parents outlining the expectations and guidelines so be looking for that in their Tuesday folders. The show will be from 2:00-3:15 in the gymnasium and is always a fun way to wrap up the Freeman music schedule for the year.

KINDERGARTEN AND 1ST GRADE

It won't be long until our spring concert for our Kindergarten and 1st grade students! The concert is scheduled to take place on Tuesday, April 25. The concert will begin at 6:30pm (students should arrive in their classrooms by 6:10pm) and the book fair will be returning during that time as well as an extra bonus. They students are working hard to prepare for this and I'm sure you won't be disappointed!

TECH NEWS

By Mrs. Johnson

Kindergarten: <https://www.abcmouse.com/>. Did you know that ABC Mouse can be used at home for no cost? I will keep the Kindergarteners accounts activated through the end of July. Parents if you

are interested in receiving the login instructions please email me at njohnson@usd261.com.

Kindergarteners love ABC Mouse and usually get to spend 10 minutes of every technology class using it. First & Second Graders: Students are continuing their use of Microsoft Office 2016. Students have learned how to open Word as well as PowerPoint. The second graders are enjoying all the "bells and whistles" that go along with PowerPoint, including adding sound effects and animated transitions.

Third & Fifth Graders: Students are continuing their computer coding at <https://code.org/>. Students have their own accounts that can be accessed from Mrs. Davis's Library page at <http://fremanelementarylibrary.weebly.com/>. We plan on keeping these accounts available to our students through the end of July. Computer coding addresses the ISTE Standard of Computational Thinker. Mrs. Davis our Librarian has been great about working with the students with "Unplugged" coding activities. Our collaboration has positively benefited our students.

Fourth Graders: Fourth grade students have been busy with completing a PowerPoint about a favorite animal. Some students have even embedded videos into their PowerPoint presentations.

WEBSITE OF THE MONTH:

<https://www.brainpop.com/>
and <https://jr.brainpop.com/>

Although this site does have a subscription option there are many free interesting educational things for your kids to explore.



COUNSELOR MESSAGE

By Mr. McGee



In the month of March Kindergarten and first graders learned about impulses. They learned that impulses are thoughts that people have to say or do things even if it's not the best choice. We learned through four steps how to stop and think about our actions before we make them, and then to choose only the options that would make things better and not worse.

Second grade students learned about gossip through the story *Mr. Peabody's Apples* by Madonna. Through the story, students learned that gossip is talking about a person's personal life behind their back. They also learned that gossip while it may not be ill intentioned at first can spread quickly and cannot be taken back. In the end students learned it is better not to talk about others no matter if it be good or bad so as to not hurt others' feelings.

In third grade this month, they learned about goal setting. Third graders were able to differentiate between short and long-term goals. Additionally they created their own short and long-term goals for the rest of this school year.

Fourth and fifth grade wrapped up their relational aggression unit this month by talking about different solutions the Kid-In-the-Middle and Target can make if they see aggression in their school or neighborhood. Students also talked in a group setting about their experiences with aggression and what they have done to handle it in the past. At the end of the unit students created their own projects promoting a safe school and the do's and don't's of aggression. These projects will be presented on Falcons On-Air in the coming weeks.

Ronald McDonald House Charities

Throughout the school year, Freeman Elementary has been partnered with the Ronald McDonald House Charity by collecting aluminum pull tabs. Pull tabs are to be recycled by the organization in order to receive funds that go to help foster families at a number of locations throughout the state while their children are receiving treatment in nearby hospitals. We will continue to collect pull tab donations until April 21st. Thank you for your continued support!



BIONIC

The BIONIC students have been busily scripting and practicing for PRIDE Stations during the month of March. PRIDE Stations consist of teaching students about the school PRIDE expectations at a number of different locations inside and outside of the school. On March 27th, BIONIC 4th and 5th graders will be presenting to the Freeman Elementary student body teaching students Pre-K through 5 about PRIDE behavior before the final quarter of the school year begins.





HEALTH & WELLNESS By Coach Kelley

Physical Activity Tip

Build Endurance While Having Fun

Incorporate cardiorespiratory endurance activities into your child's daily physical activities to help raise your child's heart rate. To



encourage children's participation, think about creative ways to get kids' hearts pumping: such as, tag games, relay races, walking, running, jumping activities or fitness workouts. Each activity provides the same cardiorespiratory benefits as running laps, but with an added dose of fun.

Thanks for all of your support for "The Jump Rope and Hoops for Heart Programs!!!" We're proud of all of our **"HEART HEROS AT FREEMAN!!!!"**

LITERACY FIRST NEWS By Toni Haight

Kansas College and Career Ready Standards (CCRS) are high-quality academic expectations that were created by experts and teachers. These research and evidence based standards were developed to ensure students are prepared to enter a world (after high school) in which colleges and businesses are demanding more and students can be successful. The CCRS helps develop and build your child's critical-thinking, problem-solving and analytical skills in English Language Arts (ELA) and Mathematics.

Students in third, fourth and fifth grades have recently started taking the state assessments here at Freeman. The students have to do more than find the answers and complete basic tasks. They will be using reasoning skills, working through more complex problems and even doing research on a variety of fiction and nonfiction texts.

Sample of the old state assessment reading question:

What is this passage mainly about? (gives A,B,C,D choices)

Sample of the new reading question:

The narrator of the story helps the reader understand the grandfather by (gives A,B,C,D choices)

Pre-school through second grade teachers are hard at work creating rigorous lessons that will help their students develop skills in reading, writing, speaking & listening and math. Students are also applying these skills to other areas such as science and social studies. The earlier the core concepts are taught in these grades, the more time it gives teachers to implement them and students to master them.

If you have any questions about College and Career Ready Standards, please contact your child's teacher, myself or check out these websites: <http://bit.ly/1docknr> and www.ksde.org



"The only difference between where you are right now, and where you'll be next year at this same time, are the people you meet and the books you read."

*~ Charlie "Tremendous" Jones,
Author of Life is Tremendous*