



December 2017 - January 2018
PTA Newsletter

Principals Perspective

Dear Parents,

December is a fun month at Midas Creek. We look forward to the Midas Creek Choir program. This year our Choir Performances will be on December 7 with two daytime assemblies for the school and a night performance for parents. We will also have the Riverton Madrigals perform for us on December 12. School will dismiss for Winter Recess on December 21 (Thursday) with an early release schedule. After our Winter Recess, from December 22 (Friday) through January 1 (Monday), school will resume on Tuesday, January 2. In January, please remember that both January 15 (Martin Luther King Day) and January 16 (Grade Transmittal Day) are no school days. We will have school for 3 days that week, January 17-19 (Wednesday through Friday).

I want to take the time to highlight some of the great programs we have going here at Midas Creek. We try to provide many different programs that will assist students with their diverse needs. Below are some of the unique programs we have here.

Mountain Lion Award-We sent a list of menu items home in a booklet enclosed in your first of the year registration packet. Each grade has a list of items with the required number of items needed to earn this award. Please visit our website for more information (<http://midascreek.jordandistrict.org/curriculum/award/>). We will hold our awards assemblies in May.

Battle of the Books-Our third through sixth graders are participating in the Battle of the Books. Grades 3 and 4 share the same list of 20 books while 5th and 6th grade have a shared list. In March, student teams of 4-5 will be competing against each other to see who

remembers the most about this selection of books. We will crown one team in 3rd or 4th grade and one team in 5th or 6th grade as the winners. We love how much reading this program is inspiring.

Enrichment-We set aside 30 minutes a day for math intervention in grades 1-6. Teachers do not teach new concepts and focus on giving students more support in areas that students need. Some students have mastered these concepts and are invited to attend enrichment. During enrichment, students are exposed to many **engineering challenges**, math problem-solving activities and fun science activities as a way to enrich their school experience. This also leaves fewer students in the classroom so teachers can support students more effectively.

Gifted and Talented Pullout-We are one of 3 schools in district with a district Gifted and Talented teacher, Jackie Sudbury, who comes each Wednesday to do science and writing related projects with students identified by strong SAGE performance in grades 4-6.

Beverly Taylor Sorensen Art Grant-We have a music specialist for grades 1-6. Mrs. Watson is funded through the Beverly Taylor Sorensen Art Grant. We feel so fortunate to have Mrs. Watson and our music program. She sure did a wonderful job with our Veteran's Day assembly on November 9. The last number gave us goose bumps and a few tears.

Great Artist Program-At Midas Creek, one of our goals is to provide art instruction with our curriculum. We purchased the Great Artist Program. During the school year, students are taught about 8-9 famous artists and are given direction in creating their own masterpieces based on a famous work of art. In May, we hold our annual Evening of the Arts so we can display some of the artwork from the year.

Bully Blockers and Prevention Dimension-We strive to teach students how to stop bullying by teaching curriculum from the Bully Blockers program during the school year. We also teach lessons from our Prevention Dimension program to help teach healthy choices.

Khan Academy-Don't forget, students can come to our computer lab on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays to work on Khan Academy-a computer program that strengthens math performance. We always have a teacher in the lab to help.

Choir and Orchestra-We are excited to also support our before school orchestra and choir programs.

If you have questions about any of these programs, you can email me at carolyn.bona@jordandistrict.org.



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DECEMBER:

8 - 5th & 6th Grade STEM fair

15 - December Birthday Table

21 - Early release day

22 - Winter Recess

JANUARY:

8 - Junior Achievement volunteer meeting

9 - Zupas Spirit Night 5:30-9:00

15 - No School - Martin Luther King Day

16 - No School - Transmittal Day

25 - Literacy & Leadership Night

26 - January Birthday Table

