



October/November 2017 Newsletter



Dear Village Families,

Happy fall! This is such a fun time of year, with lots of opportunities to enjoy Colorado's beauty. I hope you have the chance to get outside to explore and talk to your student about the weather changes, describe the trees and leaves, predict what will happen over the next month or two, and just enjoy some fresh air.

October is Safe Schools Month. We want to hear from you! The School Climate Survey will open October 16. Please take the time to fill out The Village survey so that we can continue to improve and respond to our community's needs. This information is very important to our school and district to ensure that we provide the optimal learning environment for every child and family.

Every Wednesday morning The Village educators meet for an hour before school to work as a Professional Learning Community. During this time our teams of dedicated educators collaborate to plan instruction that will help all of our students to improve their Kindergarten Readiness Skills. This month we are focused on strengthening language and how we can help children express their thoughts and needs. Practice this at home by talking to your child about something you have done together recently. For example, "remember when we played in the backyard? What do you remember seeing?" Repeat what your child says back to you and add a little more. For example, if your child says, "birds!" respond with "We did see *birds*, those *big, black, noisy birds are crows*."

Next month, November 8 and 9 we have Family Teacher Conferences. We look forward to meeting with you to talk about how your student is doing and to check in on the Village Learning Plan goals you set in August with your child's teacher. This is an important opportunity for us to partner together to continue to support your child on his/her educational journey this school year.

Next week, Thursday, October 26, 8:30-9:30am and 12:30-1:30pm, I am hosting a Coffee and Conversation opportunity in the Family Partnerships Office downstairs. This is an informal opportunity to talk in a small group with me. I will also have information about our school improvement plan, as well as the Dinosaur School results from last year. I look forward to seeing you there.

Warm Regards,

Marnie Yanacheak, Principal

Estimadas Familias de Village,

¡Feliz otoño! Este es un tiempo muy divertido del año, con muchas oportunidades para disfrutar de la belleza de Colorado, Espero que tengan la oportunidad de salir a la calle para explorar y hablar con su hijo acerca de los cambios de tiempo, describir los árboles y las hojas, predecir lo que sucederá en el próximo mes o dos, y simplemente disfrutar de un poco de aire fresco.

Octubre es el mes de escuelas seguras. ¡Queremos escuchar de ti! La Encuesta de Clima escolar se abrirá el 16 de octubre. Por favor tome el tiempo para llenar la encuesta Village para que podamos seguir mejorando y responder a las necesidades de nuestra comunidad. Esta información es muy importante para que nuestra escuela y distrito para asegurar que proporcionamos el ambiente de aprendizaje óptimo para cada niño y familia.

Cada miércoles por la mañana los educadores de The Village se reúnen durante una hora antes de la escuela para trabajar como una comunidad de aprendizaje profesional. Durante este tiempo, nuestros equipos de educadores dedicados colaboran para planear la instrucción que ayudará a todos los estudiantes a mejorar sus habilidades de preparación de kínder. Este mes estamos enfocados en fortalecer el lenguaje y cómo podemos ayudar a los niños a expresar sus pensamientos y necesidades. Practique esto en casa hablando con su hijo(a) sobre algo que han hecho juntos recientemente. Por ejemplo, “¿recuerdas cuando jugábamos en el patio? ¿Qué recuerdas haber visto?” Repita lo que su niño(a) le dice a usted y añadir un poco más. Por ejemplo, si el niño(a) dice, “¡pájaros!” responda “Vimos pájaros, esos grandes, negros, pájaros ruidosos son cuervos.”

El próximo mes, 8 y 9 de noviembre tenemos juntas de padres y maestros. Esperamos reunirnos con usted para hablar sobre cómo está haciendo su niño(a) y verificar los objetivos del Plan de Aprendizaje The Village que estableció en agosto con la maestra de su niño(a). Esta es una oportunidad importante para nosotros asociarnos para continuar apoyando a su niño(a) en su viaje educativo este año escolar.

La próxima semana, el jueves, 26 de octubre de 8:30-9:30 am y 12:30-1:30 pm, estoy organizando una oportunidad de conversación y café en la Oficina de Asociaciones Familiares en la planta baja. Esta es una oportunidad informal para hablar conmigo en un grupo pequeño. También tendré información sobre nuestro plan de mejoramiento escolar, así como los resultados de la Escuela de Dinosaurios del año pasado. Espero verlos allí.

Saludos cordiales,
Marnie Yanacheak, directora

Marnie Yanacheak
Principal
Directora
Familiares

Susan Calhoun
Education Manager
Gerente de Educación

Debi Reid
Family Partnerships Manager
Gerente de Asociaciones

Curriculum Corner

Creative Curriculum: We are studying balls! *Do all balls bounce? Do all balls roll? What makes balls move? Who uses balls? What are balls made of?* As children investigate balls, they learn important concepts in math, literacy, language and science. Children learn new words, practice letter and letter sounds, conduct science experiments and explore books. Please check your child's classroom newsletter for more details on books, vocabulary words, art experiences, and small group activities.

How you can help your child at home:



- Spend time with your child playing with balls of all shapes, types and sizes. Talk about what the balls are made of whether they are heavy or light and whether they are big or little.
- Wonder aloud with your child to encourage his or her thinking about balls. For example, you might ask, "I wonder what's inside a tennis ball?"
- Help your child use all of his or her senses when playing with balls. You might ask, what does it look like? Feel like? Sound like? Smell like?

Dinosaur School: We are learning about feelings in Dinosaur School. Helping preschoolers express their feelings and recognize feelings in other people is important for school success. We are learning feeling words: happy, sad, proud, frustrated, excited, scared, loved, and many more. We are learning how to look for clues to let us know how other people are feeling by looking at faces, listening to voices, or by looking at body language. And we are talking about things that make people feel different ways. For example, Dina feels excited when she gets to come to Dinosaur School and Wally is sometimes scared of the dark.

How you can help your child at home:

- Do the Dinosaur School home activities with your child and return to school!
- Name your child's feelings: happy, proud, excited, sad, frustrated or scared. For example, "I see you are feeling mad right now."
- When naming an uncomfortable feeling, combine it with a positive coping behavior. For example, "You are angry with your brother, why don't you try walking away."
- Remind your child that uncomfortable feelings will get better.



Walking in Dina's Footsteps!

Our new Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports (PBIS) System!

"Walking in Dina's Footsteps" is our new school-wide positive reward system! The kids are super excited about it! **Here's how it works:** When we see kids following our school rules--they earn a dinosaur stamp, a "Dina Print," and lots of positive praise. Classrooms can also earn a party--such as a snack time outside, crazy hat day, popsicles for snack--when enough Dina prints have been collected. A big classroom "Dina Print" will also be added by the Dina Posters in the hallways!

Our School Rules:

- **Be Safe**
- **Be Kind**
- **Be a Listener**

Please remember to praise your child when he or she is following these rules. For example, "Great job being safe and holding my hand in the parking lot!" *Remember that the behavior that gets noticed is the behavior that gets repeated!*

Family Partnerships



Strong Parents, Stable Children: Building Protective Factors to Strengthen Families is about promoting healthy child development and protecting and nurturing young children.

Families come in many shapes and sizes with different beliefs, values, and customs. One thing all families have in common is that they need protective factors to be strong and resilient. Following are five protective factors that, when present, increase the overall well-being of children and families:

1. **Concrete Support in Times of Need:** Families need support and services that address their needs and help minimize stress caused by challenges.
2. **Parental Resilience:** Ability of parents to be strong and flexible when encountering difficulties, adversity, and trauma.
3. **Knowledge of Parenting and Child Development:** Parents need information and strategies to support physical, cognitive, language, social, and emotional development.
4. **Social and Emotional Competence of Children:** Sometimes children need help expressing their feelings and emotions. Parents can help children learn to communicate clearly, recognize and regulate emotions, and build and maintain relationships.
5. **Social Connections:** Families need to build and maintain positive relationships that can provide emotional, instrumental, informational, spiritual, and other helpful support.

Every family has strengths, and many times families face struggles. Even positive challenges, such as having a baby, starting a new job, or moving to a new home can cause a lot of stress for families. Trying to balance the many demands of work, keeping the home running, and keeping children happy, healthy, and safe can make us feel like there isn't enough time in a day. If we as parents try to do everything on our own without seeking support, we only add to the stress we are already experiencing and also have less time to spend with our children. If you or your children are struggling, do not be afraid to ask questions and seek help.

Content is based on the Strengthening Families framework, developed by the Center for the Study of Social Policy (CSSP). The framework is intended to help increase family strengths, enhance child development, and reduce child abuse and neglect. Developed by Missouri Department of Mental Health Project LAUNCH & Children's Trust Fund/ CBCAP.

If you have questions or need further information please contact:

Debi Reid, dreid@lps.k12.co.us , 303.347.6984
Arlene Carlson, acarlson@lps.k12.co.us, 303.347.6938

Delays and Closures

In case of an emergency or severe weather conditions, please check the LPS website <http://www.littletonpublicschools.net/> for a prominent announcement in a *red or yellow banner* across the top regarding changes in school schedules. If there is no red or yellow banner, all schools are on *Normal* schedule. Most Denver news stations announce these changes, as well. The district may also send an email to all LPS families when school schedule changes occur. Please keep your contact information and contact preferences in your Infinite Campus [Parent Portal](#) account updated.



**Parking at
The Village**



Parking is limited here at The Village. We ask that parents use the larger, back parking lot when dropping off and pick up children. **Be sure to drive slowly and with caution!** Always hold your child's hand when walking through the parking lot and crossing streets. Our students are small and cars backing up can't always see them.

**The upstairs parking lot is for staff and handicap parking only.
Littleton Police Department monitors the safety of our parking
lots and may issue tickets. Stay safe!**



Dates to Remember

Every Wednesday Late Starts 9:00am (Full Day Only)

October 19th & 20th – Non Student Days

Thursday, October 26th – Coffee and Conversation with the Principal
8:30am – 9:30am and 12:30pm – 1:30pm

Thursday, October 26th – Family Matters 5:00pm – 7:00pm

Tuesday, October 31st – School wide Pajama Day (No costumes please!)

Thursday, November 2nd – Make-up Picture Day

Tuesday, November 7th – Policy Committee 9:00am – 12:00pm

Wednesday, November 8th – Family Teacher Conferences 4:00pm – 8:00pm

Thursday, November 9th - Family Teacher Conferences 8:00am – 4:00pm

Friday, November 10th – Village Closed

Thursday, November 16th – Family Matters 5:00pm – 7:00pm

Thanksgiving Break November 20th – 24th

Village Closed



Please Like us on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/VillageLPS/>
The Village Website: <http://littletonpublicschools.net/schools/village/parent-information-n>