

Maple Leaf

Volume 1, Issue 1

May 2011

Maple Grove Elementary
A Nationally Recognized
Blue Ribbon School

News from the Principal: Michael Maffoni

Important Dates:

May:

- * 16: 2:45-3:45 PIE meeting LIC
- * 18: 9:10-10:00 & 10:00-11:00 Grade 1 Wildlife Experience Visits
- * 18: Early Release Day Students releases at noon
- * 18: Band Concert @GHS Beginners @ 6:00pm Advanced @7:00pm
- * 19: Orchestra Concert@GHS Beginners @ 6:00pm Advanced @7:00pm
- * 20: 8:00-11:00 Kdg Luau- Gym and Classrooms
- * 24: 9:15-1:30- Grade 1 @ Denver Zoo
- * 25: 6:00-8:00 pm Kdg. Celebration- Gym and Cafeteria
- * 26: 7:00 pm Grade 6 Continuation Manning Auditorium
- * 27: Grade 6 Maple Grove Park Picnic
- * 30: NO SCHOOL Memorial Day
- * 31: Awards Ceremony (TBA)
- * 31: School Ends, K-6 Report Cards, No lunch served, students released at 12:20

Dear Maple Grove Families,

As we begin the last full month in this academic year, I want to take time to express my gratitude for your support throughout the year. Maple Grove Elementary has a strong tradition of outstanding parental involvement, both at school and at home. Our continued partnership is a vital component to the academic and social success of our students. The entire staff of Maple Grove is thankful for the time you have given to our school through volunteer hours, reading at home with your child, and the active and nurturing role you play in your child's interests, both in school and in our community.

Springtime always brings a flurry of activities, and the weeks ahead are full of exciting happenings around Maple Grove. Please take

time to read over this month's Maple Leaf as it contains many important upcoming dates for your family calendar. We look forward to seeing you around Maple Grove.

Finally, included in this Maple Leaf are several important reminders as we look ahead to next school year. All school information (staff roster, voice-mails, supply list, calendar, fees, etc.) will be posted on our school's website beginning July 1st, and you will receive a reminder at the end of this year of our registration date and how to use the new Jeffco Connect Student Information Form which will be completed online by parents and brought to registration.

Please watch for one additional correspondence home that will be issued close to the end of the year. This letter will contain impor-

tant information regarding staff updates and reminders about the upcoming school year.

I look forward to seeing you throughout the month ahead!

Sincerely,

Michael Maffoni

"At the end of the day,
the most overwhelming
key to a child's success is
the positive involvement
of parents."
Jane D. Hull

Last Day of School & Early Dismissal - May 31st

To make-up for the snow day earlier in the year, school is scheduled for May 31st. All students will be dismissed at **12:30 PM** and **no lunch will be served**.

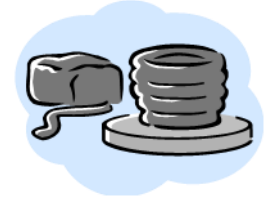
Jeffco Schools schedules an early dismissal for all elementary schools on the last day of school. This allows the district to use all available buses for middle and high school students in the afternoon. Please be sure to send a snack for your child on this day and arrange transportation and/or childcare in advance. Thank you.

Maple Grove
Elementary School

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You are invited to the
Maple Grove 3-D Art Show



Date: Friday, May 13th

10:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. In the Art Studio

Same day as Field Day Rain date: Monday, May 16th

Dinosaurs, birds, fish, doorways, theme pots, gargoyles, and figure sculptures!

Come see them all at our annual 3-D Art Show.

Drop by anytime, look at all the projects and take yours safely home with
you.

Student Information Forms to go Online

In the past, Jeffco parents were asked to fill out a paper form containing demographic and contact information for their student. The information from the form was manually entered into the district's computer system and each time there was a change, the parent had to go to the school to submit the new information. All this has changed. Jeffco Public Schools has moved the student information form online to the new Jeffco Connect. Jeffco Connect will be more convenient for parents, reduce costs and workload and be more environmentally friendly. Parents will be able to complete the student information from any computer with internet access. If emergency contact information for the student changes or parents need to temporarily designate a new contact person, all they have to do is log into their Jeffco Connect account online and change the information. Parents without computers can contact the school for assistance.

Jeffco Connect can be accessed at: www.jeffcopublicschools.org/jeffco_connect/, or check the school website for a link.

Please note: These new forms will not be available until July 1st. More info will be sent home the last day of school with report cards.

Congratulations to Our April Golden PAWS Winners:



Each month Maple Grove hosts an assembly to honor students who consistently demonstrate attributes of our school's PAW program (Safe, Responsible, and Respectful). One student per classroom was chosen to receive a Golden PAW Award. These awardees are featured with a picture and write-up on a bulletin board in the school's foyer. They also receive a catered luncheon sponsored by California Pizza Kitchen and eat with the Principal. Mike Knapp, Manager of the California Pizza Kitchen at Colorado Mills, is a former Maple Grove student. He has generously committed to providing a Golden PAW's ca-

tered lunch once a month for these award winners. If you are a patron of this restaurant, make sure you thank Mike for his generosity to our school. Congratulations to April's Golden PAW recipients:

Kdg - Jack Hines, Cole Svuba

First - Drew Walters, Avarie Baudien

Second - Chase Blanchard, Tiana Grosskreuz, Brock Oldfather

Third - Cait Remington, Jenner Kehe, Sydney Hammer

Fourth - Eli Baumgarten, Lulu Brotherton and Marissa Ritter

Fifth - Brooke Michas, Emily Harrington

Sixth - Sarah Bevington, Hannah Gray

Field Day: May 13th

Get ready. Get set. GO! Maple Grove's Field Day is scheduled for May 13, 2011. Grades 1-3 starts at 8:15 A.M. and Grades 4-6 starts at 12:05 P.M. Students should wear appropriate shoes and dress for this day. Please make sure sunscreen is applied at home before coming to

school and send a water bottle with your student.

Please see additional information in this Maple Leaf that contains event schedules, reminders, lunch schedules, etc.

Thank you in advance to the many parent volunteers who help make this

day run smoothly. Last, but not least, kudos to our outstanding P.E. teacher, Shauna Wujek, for making Field Day such a memorable spring ritual for our students.

Year End Performances

Please check the calendar on the front page of this month's Maple Leaf. There are many upcoming culminating events for this school year. We look forward to the grade level field trips, PTA Young Writers' Celebration, musical performances, band/orchestra concerts/tours, and a fun community-wide event... the Gallop at the Grove. I look forward to seeing you at these events in the weeks to come. Please take time to add these important dates to your calendar.

Change 4 Change in Africa is a Huge Success!

Last December, LuLu, Marissa, Foxtan, Tim, and Annie, from Mrs. Russ's fourth grade class decided to join together and raise funds for children in Africa. Thankfully, parent volunteer, Gina Robie, stepped up and offered to help the students with this huge project. After much research they decided to raise funds to support three needs: Clean Water, Medicine, and Malaria Prevention Nets. They spent the next three months researching these topics, making posters, developing an informational power point, practicing their oral presentations, writing PA announcements, and decorating collection jugs.

Finally the big week arrived. LuLu, Annie, Foxtan, Tim, and Marissa spent two days visiting classrooms and presenting the power point. After each presentation they left a jug for the change. The following week they took turns making after school announcements and soliciting donations in the front circle drive before and after school. Friday arrived and they eagerly took off to collect the hopefully heavy jugs.

So much change and cash was collected that it took Mrs. Robie and Mrs. Russ three days to get it counted! Change 4 Change in Africa, with the help of the Maple Grove student body, raised \$1,191.89! A huge success. All the students were very proud of their accomplishment and were glad to know that the money they raised would benefit others in need. A special shout out to Mrs. Smith's first grade (raised \$200.10), Mrs. Cheer's 2nd grade (raised \$166.19), and Mrs. Russ's 4th grade (raised \$248.46). WOW!!!!!!!!!!!!!! LuLu, Marissa, Foxtan, Tim, and Annie would also like to extend a special thank you to Mrs. Robie who spent countless hours helping them organize and execute every stage of the project.

Calling All Dads for a unique volunteer opportunity! Watch D.O.G.S Is Coming!



Calling all Maple Grove Dads! Beginning in the Fall of 2011, you will have a unique opportunity to participate in Watch D.O.G.S. Watch for more information which will be coming in May, as well as in August.

For more information access:

<http://www.father.com>

Letter From PTA Presidents

I hope everyone came back from break refreshed! The Spring has been very busy so far with events like the Science Fair -- This year we had 75 kids participate! The students had a great experience and the whole community had a great evening together on Friday night, April 15th. On the Thursday prior to the show, kids displayed their projects in the gym and met with a visiting scientist to discuss their project. Each child received a certificate with comments from the scientist and a science fair t-shirt. During the day, all classes came to the gym to look at the projects. In the evening, families were invited to view the projects and participate in a spaghetti dinner. Mr. Maffoni presented awards to those students participating in the science fair for 5, 6, or 7 years.

5 years: Carson Freeman, Hannah Strassburger

6 years : Mitchell Kelley, Shane McConnell, Remy Savi

7 years: Sarah Litz, Devyn Snyder, Taylor Snyder

Special thanks go to the Science Fair chairs Becky Hoskins and Stacy Chamberlin and many parents who helped with setup, student coordination, and the dinner.

Teacher Appreciation Week is May 2nd through May 6th. While we appreciate our teachers all year, this week gives us a chance to let them know! The PTA will provide meals for the staff that week, but whatever you would like to do to let your teacher know that you appreciate them, this week is your perfect chance!

Young Writers is in gear! This is your child's chance to show their creativity through writing and get a chance to share it with others! Kristin Greco and 1st Grade Teacher Lori Smith are heading up this effort and it's sure to be another successful year.

Waterworld Discount Tickets will be available soon! This is a service we are providing to our community so please watch your Friday folders for the sign-up forms. Tickets will be \$24 compared to \$35 at the gate. You can order as many as you want!!

The Morning Milers is currently in session on Wednesday mornings getting our students geared up for the 4th annual Gallop at the Grove 5K Run/Walk on Sunday May 22nd at 8:30am at Maple Grove. This community event raises funds for Maple Grove for physical education, technology, and academic support. Make sure to get it on your calendars and register now! You can register at www.gallopatthegrove.com.

Lastly we want to thank the departing board members who have given their hearts, time, and efforts to help our kids and school. A world of thanks go to Pep Armintrout, Deanna Harrington, and Donna Walker – we couldn't have done all that we have these past two years without them!

Have a Wonderful Summer!

Donna and Heather

PARENTS!

IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR FREE AND REDUCED PRICE MEALS:

Every school year a new application is required, for all students, for the Free and Reduced Price Meal Program. Please use a current 2011-2012 meal application and fill out in **black or blue** ink.

- a) If your child(ren) were on the Free and Reduced Meal Program on the last day of the 2010-2011 school year, that status (free or reduced) will be carried over until a new application is processed, or **October 3, 2011** (last day for carry over status). Please reapply early to insure your child will not be dropped from the program. **We are hoping to begin online applications beginning with the 2011-2012. If approved by the CDE online applications will be accepted beginning July 22, 2011. Go to applyfor-lunch.com to complete your application.** Applications will be available at the school and can be filled out after July 22, 2011.
- b) **School Based fees** may be waived if you complete and sign the INFORMATION RELEASE SECTION on the application.
- c) Students pre-approved through the Food Stamp **Direct Certification** process will receive a Direct Cert approval letter & Direct Certification Information Release form in the mail prior to the start of school. You may return the completed & signed Information Release Form for Students Approved through Direct Certification for school based fees to be waived. Direct Certification approval is done by student, not by family. PLEASE check to make sure you have received a letter of approval for **each child** in your family. If you have not, please call the food service office, 303-982-6916.

Outdoor Lab Foundation

John O'Donnell

April 13, 2011

jdodonnell@qwestoffice.net

sodavis@qwestoffice.net

The Outdoor Lab Foundation is taking the lead on coordinating community activities and fund-raising for the Jeffco Outdoor Educational Lab Schools (OELS). OELS is a program that gives every 6th grade student in the district an opportunity for hands-on learning in an outdoor setting at either Mt. Evans or Windy Peak Outdoor Lab School. These two long serving and popular schools are facing imminent closure in the face of a shrinking school budgets.

The foundation wants the community to know that there is a plan in place to raise the approximately \$900,000 required to keep the Outdoor Lab Schools open for next year.

May 14th thru May 21st has been designated "Pledge Week" for the Outdoor Lab Schools. We are encouraging the community to give to the Outdoor Lab Foundation and to take the next several weeks to plan and execute fund raising events for the Schools. We will plan to help draw attention to certain events during "Pledge Week".

The plan is as follows:

1.) If you want to make a contribution, for you, your family, school or business:

Go online to the OELS Foundation www.outdoorlabfoundation.org site and click the "DONATE" icon & follow the instructions.

2.) If you want to make a pledge, short term or long term:

Go online to www.outdoorlabfoundation.org and click the "PLEDGE" icon & follow the instructions.

3.) If your organization, school, club, PTA or firm wants to do a fundraiser, please email John O'Donnell at jdodonnell@qwestoffice.net and let us know the who, what, when and where information. If you need ideas, we can help! We want to give our supporters the time to plan successful fundraising events.

4.) We are coordinating marketing activities with the many people and organizations who are sponsoring fundraising events for the district. Our goal is to give them the greatest opportunity to reach out to our Jefferson County Family.

Military Recruiters, Postsecondary Institutions and Prospective Employers Recruiting

Provisions of the federal No Child Left Behind Act of 2001 (NCLB) requires educational institutions to provide military recruiters, institutions of higher education and prospective employers, access to secondary school students' names, addresses, and telephone listings. Colorado law states that school district's have 90 days to comply with any military recruiter's request for this information.

NCLB also states that a secondary school student or the parent of the student may request that the student's name, address and telephone listing not be released without prior written consent, and the educational institution will notify parents of this option.

District policy KLMA was created to provide high school students with an appropriate way to obtain accurate information regarding potential careers, employers (including the military), and postsecondary educational opportunities, and to provide students convenient access to recruiters representing organizations which provide these kinds of opportunities.

Recruiting and opt-out information and forms are included in registration packets provided to Jeffco Public School students who register for grades 9 -12 during high school registration. In addition, Jeffco Public Schools provides a form on the district's Web site for students or parents who want to opt-out of providing information to recruiters.

Parents or students who have questions about the recruitment opt-out policy should contact their high school for further information.



Connecting Schools and Parents Online

Parent and guardians can use any computer with an internet connection to log on to Jeffco Connect and provide schools with important emergency contact information and other student data used for school registration.

Starting May 15, 2011, if you are a parent or a guardian of student(s) attending a Jeffco school and:

you have used Campus Parent Portal before, you can login to Jeffco Connect at http://www.jeffcopublicschools.org/jeffco_connect/ using your Campus Parent Portal username and password.

you have provided Jeffco Schools with your email address, you should have received an email with a link to create your Jeffco Connect user account. The new username and password will also work for Campus Parent Portal.

you do not have an email address or have not provide Jeffco Schools with your email address or you did not receive an email with a link to create your Jeffco Connect user account, contact your school for assistance.

Simply fill out the information in Jeffco Connect and click the submit button.

Don't have a computer? Contact your school for assistance.

Summer Math Links

Don't let your children lose their math skills! Replace those flashcards and workbooks with game-based math practice and enrichment!



For children who have completed grades K-5

Did you know?

On average, students lose approximately 2.6 months of grade level equivalency in mathematical computation skills during the summer months.

Ron Fairchild

Executive Director of the Johns Hopkins University Center for Summer Learning

Wednesdays, June 8 - July 12

Maple Grove Elementary

Information and registration available online at www.mathlinks.webs.com

Questions? Email Luann Swim/Alisa Phenna:

mathlinks4u@gmail.com

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