



# Columbine Connections

## Columbine Recognizes Students Committed to Learning

We're proud that all our students are committed to learning here at Columbine. We're also lucky to have a few shining stars in terms of spreading that commitment.

On April 27th we recognized our students who show extra commitment to learning. These students consistently:

- Pay attention in class
- Do their homework
- Produce quality work
- Participate in class discussions
- Motivate others to do the same

**First Grade:** Jose Luis-Valles, Bergen Capparo, Mitchell De Santiago, Adolfo Monreal-Quintana, Jorge

**Portillo, Alondra Avila, Eric Esparza, Wendy Fuentes, Eduardo Arellano-Martinez, Victor Silva, Marissa Hernandez, Alejandro Portillo**

**Second Grade:** Jesus Olguin, Katherine Gutierrez, Jose Pech, Claudia Ibarra, Alondra Arellano, Eric Bruner, Carolyn Cabral, Jose Andres Lopez-Zavala, Melea Diaz

**Third Grade:** Janice Contreras, Areli Gutierrez, Anthony Garcia, Isaac Fraley, Jazmin Navarro, Diego Zavala, Javier Herrera

**Fourth Grade:** Ashley Hernandez, Damara Hernandez-Pena, Juan Romero, Bryan Ontiveros, Manuel Longoria, Elsy Segovia

**Fifth Grade:** Rosa Karen Galindo, Bianca Munoz, Ashley Herrera, Junior Cerceda, Sandra Lopez, Victor Jimenez, Jose Carlos Castaneda, Roberto Gutierrez, Jesse Antolik

Congratulations to our students who are committed to learning and their families.



Second grade students smile big with their wildcats!

**Columbine Elementary**  
3130 Replier St.  
Boulder, CO 80304  
303-443-0792  
FRS: 303-441-4059

May 4, 2007

### May Calendar

Blackjack Pizza Night	7
Book Fair	8-10
Wizard of Oz (6:30 pm in cafeteria)	8
Spring Clean up (8:30-12)	12
PTA Meeting (6:30 pm-Art Room)	14
Preschool story hour (10 -11 am in library)	17
4th Grade African Music Concert (6:30 Cafeteria)	17
No School (Professional Day)	18
Kinder Africa Family Night (3:45—5:15 Cafeteria)	23
Mile Marathon	25
No School (Memorial Day)	28
Midsummer's Night Dream (7:30 in the courtyard)	30

## Register Now for Next Year

Many of our families have moved this year and our attendance area has also changed. This makes predicting



Register now for

enrollment levels for next fall particularly difficult. Please complete your registration for next fall if you haven't already done so. Also, please help us get the word out by reminding friends and neighbors to register their children if they will be starting kindergarten in the fall.

### Preschool Registration

Columbine has a preschool for 4-year-olds eligible through the Colorado Preschool Program. The school runs Tues-Fri 8:30—11:30. We have several spots available for the 2007/08 school year. All those interested are encouraged to apply. Applications are in the office.



# This and That...

## Rules and Such

Just a reminder that Heelies are not allowed at school. Children can wear the shoes but are not permitted to use the wheels.

## Wizard of Oz

The fifth graders have a great family event in store for you. Come see their musical rendition of the *Wizard of Oz* on Tuesday, May 8th @ 6:30 PM in the cafeteria.



## Shakespeare

Students from the secondary grades have been studying and performing *A Midsummer's Night Dream*, by William Shakespeare. They will be presenting their final product on Wednesday, May 30th @ 7:30 pm. The performance will take place on

our new deck in the courtyard (weather permitting). Refreshments will be sold to defray costume costs.

## Website

We've been working on updating our website and invite you to take a look and provide feedback. There's still many items we will be adding (including Spanish translation) but it's a great place to verify school events. [www.bvvsd.org/schools/Columbine/default.aspx](http://www.bvvsd.org/schools/Columbine/default.aspx)

## Get Your Act Together!

The talent show is coming up June 4th. Try outs are scheduled for May 14th -17th. Students interested in participating must complete an application and sign-up for a tryout time in the music room. Singers, actors, tumblers and instrumentalists are encouraged to apply. Routines should be 30-45 seconds in length and must contain

age-appropriate music and costuming to be considered. If you have any questions, see Michelle Dubois.

## Casey Middle School Orientation

Casey Middle School will be hosting a parent/student orientation for all students who will be entering 6th grade and attending Casey in the fall. It will take place on Tuesday, May 15th at 5:30 PM at Casey.

## Kindergarten Africa Family Event

This will be a fun afternoon cultural event filled with African drumming, dancing, food, artifacts created by our kindergarteners, and their Africa research projects. 3:45—5:15 Wednesday May 23rd in the cafeteria.

## Car Seats Available

We have two toddler car seats that have been donated. They are in good condition. If you need one, see Wanda.

# Columbine Soccer Team Builds Skills

After years of attempting, Columbine has fielded it's first soccer team! Through a special arrangement with NOVA soccer, we were able to offer this great opportunity to our fifth graders for only \$20. NOVA also provided soccer jerseys that will be a permanent addition to the school for future teams. The coed team, made up of 18 fifth graders, practices every Monday and Thursday after school. The Wildcats have played five games and their record is 1-4. They are having a great time building skills and do an excellent job of representing our school with good sportsmanship at the games.

FRS is also supporting this special program by offering soccer classes for our fourth graders. The idea is to formulate skills in this year's fourth graders so they are ready to join the team next year.

Special thanks to 5th grade teachers Jeanette Scotti and Courtney Ferguson for organizing and coaching the team. If you are interested in cheering them on they have two games left. One on Saturday May 5th @ 1:30 at the Pleasant View fields in Boulder and one on May 12th in Thornton.



# Spring Cleaning Benefits School

Springtime is here and that means its time to get our campus looking beautiful again. Thanks to the generous help of First Presbyterian Church, on Saturday, May 12th volunteers will descend upon the school to clean the grounds, paint, clean and organize classrooms and do other maintenance. We will also be finalizing our courtyard improvements we began from the Lowe's grant we received last year. Now that the sprinkler system is installed, we'll be getting the beds ready for planting. We'll be using compost provided by Eco-cycle to

Greenstar schools to improve the soil throughout the schoolyard. We hope your family can join in this effort and lend a hand. We'll get started at 8:30 and finish just after noon. A few



hours of your time will go a long way towards making our school better. Soon you'll also notice a new look in the lobby as you enter the school. Funds from a grant have been used to purchase new furniture for the lobby. We're also going to upgrade all the entrance floor-mats in the school and paint the cafeteria. Finally, Melissa, the librarian, used some funds to improve the organization and look of the library. The kids are having fun exploring all the new spaces. They also love the comfortable new furniture.

## PTA Elects New Officers

The PTA met April 9th to discuss school related news. The majority of the meeting was spent selecting new officers for the 2007/08 school year. We're delighted to report we filled all the positions! Below is the list of our new officers. Please join us in welcoming and congratulating them.

Co-Presidents:	Rebekah Hartman Rosa Reyes
Secretaries:	Rosario Pitones Trish Wood
Treasurer:	Joni Burr
Membership:	Guillermina Perez
Reflections:	Lora Hansen-Beard
Fundraising:	Linda Cohen Marta Nava
DPC Reps:	Sara King/Linda Cohen
DAC Rep:	David Sterling

A special thanks to our retiring President, Deb Anderson, for her hard work and dedication over the last 4 years.

Complete minutes of the meeting can be found on the PTA bulletin board just past the front office.

**Next meeting: May 14th—6:30 pm in the Art Room. Childcare and translation provided. We need extra hands to help assemble ribbons for the Mile Marathon.**

### Taste of the Nation—August 23rd

The PTA already has one event scheduled for next year. We've been selected to participate in *Taste of the Nation*, a fundraiser sponsored by Whole Foods Markets. Mark your calendars for the evening of Thursday, August 23rd. Whole Foods will be serving an international dinner with the proceeds from the sale of each plate of food going to our school.

### Volunteer Corner:

**Bookfair**—May 5-9th. Library needs to fill one slot on Wed, May 9th from 2-4 pm.

**Mile Marathon**—May 25th (7:30-10 am) Mark your calendars and look for the volunteer sign up in the lobby next week.

**Field Day**— Ms. O'Neill, our PE Teacher, is organizing a day of races and other fun PE games. She needs 16 volunteers on Tuesday, June 5th to run the stations.

**Shakespeare**— 8—10 volunteers needed to help with May 30th Midsummer Nights Dream Performance. 6:30-7:30 pm.

Contact the school if you can help with one of these positions.

## Mile Marathon Needs Volunteers

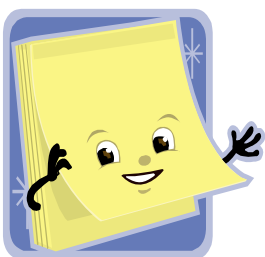
Hello Wildcat Runners and Fans! Planning is underway for the **30<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL COLUMBINE MILE MARATHON**, which will be held on Friday, May 25, 2007! As many of you know, this amazing one-mile fun run for Columbine students started in 1977, and is even one year older than the Bolder Boulder. According to Rich Castro, one of the founders of the

Mile Marathon, it is the longest running children's foot race west of the Mississippi. It is a *tremendous* community effort that happens only with the



teamwork of volunteers within Columbine and throughout the Boulder community. Please be a part of this event and experience the satisfaction of contributing your energy and time to make it happen. In total we need 70 volunteers to do prep work and race day tasks. Look for the volunteer sign-up posters that will be on the front windows at Columbine soon .

## From the Office



*Help make end of the year activities enjoyable for everyone by reminding your child to behave appropriately in school*

Now is the time of year when the energy and excitement is steadily increasing in the building. Students are excited about class projects, assemblies, special presentations and field trips that fill the

end of the year. The weather is warmer, the days are longer and the opportunities to misbehave are greater. The office has been busy with kids having "attacks of the sillies." Please remind your child to keep their energy in check. Loud, rude or otherwise disruptive behavior affects our whole community and interferes with the enjoyment of some of the great activities we have planned. We don't want to resort to revoking the privilege of participating in these events but will if necessary. Thank you for your help.

### Columbine Welcomes New Students:

Please join us in welcoming:

Michel Dominguez –3rd, Ms. Ramp  
Makiko Ogino –Kinder, Kristen  
Victor Jimenez—5th, Ms. Lawson

A special wish for Ms. Anne and her family after the birth of her daughter, Natalia and Ms. Katie after the birth of her son, Anderson.

## From the Principal



The end of the school year is here. This is a busy and exciting month. In addition to continuing our regular academic instruction,

we have some wonderful special events scheduled. For example the fifth grade will be participating in the CU Water Festival and first graders will be eating sushi at Sushi Zamai as part of their integrated unit on Japan.

The 2007-08 school calendar has some significant changes from past years. Mid-

dle and high school students will begin school a week earlier. Elementary school teachers will also begin a week earlier. Part of that week will be "Welcome Back Week" for elementary students. On either August 15, 16 or 17, 1/3 of our first through fifth grade students will be coming to school for a morning. The morning will be spent meeting their new teachers, greeting new and old friends, getting settled in their classrooms and participating in informal math and literacy assessments. This will hopefully provide a smooth and welcoming transition back to school as well as time for teachers to begin the year with a good understanding of students' math and literacy needs and strengths.

Kindergarteners will be welcomed to school on the afternoon of August 17.

They and their parents will have an opportunity to meet our kindergarten teachers and explore their classrooms.

We will **not** have an all school Open House/Ice Cream Social as in past years. But we will be scheduling our Expectations and Standards Conferences in early September. That will give parents and teachers quality time to meet and talk about the coming school year.

Watch for more information in the weeks to come. And please do not hesitate to call with any questions.



## Time to Return Library Materials

Do you think you have some library books hiding at your house? Now is the time to start looking. Peer under the beds and in those stacks of "school papers" for Columbine books. Melissa, our librarian, has set Friday May 11th as the due date for all library materials. When students have all the books that are checked out to them returned, they will receive a special treat. In addition, the first class to return all of their books will win a popcorn and movie party. Students who return books will also have the chance to make a guesstimation for the correct number of candies in the jar in the library.



**Library Books  
are Due Friday,  
May 11th.  
Don't be late!**

## Book Fair to Offer Buy One, Get One Free

### Come to the Two-For-One Book Fair – May 7<sup>th</sup> to 10<sup>th</sup>

This event gives children a wonderful selection of books to purchase for summer reading. By buying one book, you will get a second one free. The second book must be of equal or lesser value than the one you buy.

Books will be sold Tuesday, May 8, through Thursday, May 10<sup>th</sup> in the Columbine Library. The hours will be

from 8 a.m. to 7:30 p.m. on Tuesday, from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Wednesday, and from 8 a.m. to 12 noon on Thursday. Parents and family are welcome to drop by. We are again going to have a 10 cent book table for all children to choose from. So, if you have gently used children's books that you no longer wish to keep, please bring them to the Columbine library.

**See you there!**

### Raffle News

Thanks to all the students, staff, volunteers and families who helped make our raffle a success. We sold over 2,500 tickets and raised over \$5K for our school to make it our most profitable raffle yet! The winners were announced today and we'll share their names and prizes in the next newsletter.