

November Newsletter

Many Thanks to our Families!

Well, October has come and gone, just like that! It is incredible to think that we are already entering our 4th month of the school year. We have an **Early Release Day on November 2nd**, so please make sure that you have signed up if you need care.

This month, the **Professional Development Fee** will be added to your monthly statement. This fee covers training opportunities for the staff that care for your children daily. Did you know that each member of the Red Rocks team are required to have 15 hours of training each year? The Professional Development Fee helps provide training in areas such as guidance, health, safety, nutrition, program planning, program development, and family/community partnership. Thank you for assisting us in being a better program and service to our community.

Fall Break is at Maple Grove Elementary on November 19, 20, and 21. This means there will be no care held at Mitchell, but our staff will be at Maple Grove during break. You can sign up by the 5th at the regular rate online at our website: www.rrcc.edu/sacc.

Voting?

As a resource for families we have placed the Jeffco ballot initiative book highlighting 5A, 5B & Amendment 73 at the parent table.

Parent and Child Surveys

In October, we asked parents and children to take surveys based on how they feel about various elements of our program. We were happy to see a majorly positive response, but we know there is always room for improvement somewhere. As we take your and your children's comments into consideration, please feel free to use the "Comments, Compliments, and Complaints" notebook that will be found at the parent table. We will read it often and try to find ways to make improvements based on your thoughts. These items are all part of our organization's goal to have excellent customer service. Thank you for your help in making our program a great environment for the kids and families we serve!

Important and Upcoming Dates:

November 1: Tuition Due

November 2: Early Release Day

November 5: Last day to sign up for Fall Break

November 19-21: Fall Break at Mitchell

November 22-23: CLOSED

Happy Thanksgiving!



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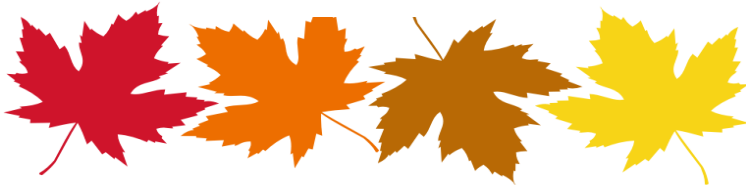




Program Accreditation

As many of you probably remember, our program went through a Qualistar evaluation last October.

Qualistar rates various after school programs in Colorado based on quality. Our program received 4 out of 5 stars. Our Qualistar evaluation was a good experience that has helped us prepare for our next goal: Accreditation through the Council of Accreditation. The process of Accreditation will take most of this year. We will submit our application for observation in August 2019. As we prepare, we will have more opportunities for parents to give insight and assist with ways to build our program further.



Healthy Snack in After School

Programs:

Red Rocks provides a structured snack time each day. Our snack time is consistent, which means that we are assisting children in building healthy eating habits.

According to creativebioscience.com, children that have a structured eating time and location are more likely to not graze or overeat during the day or at meal time. This is because they develop a routine that allows them to stave off hunger and focus only on eating during only snacks or meals. Snacks that combine food groups are the best for children as it allows them to get the most nutrients out of snack time.

As adults, we can lead by example! If children see us enjoying the same healthy snacks that we serve to them, they will be more encouraged to eat them. Red Rocks staff always make a point to sit down with children at snack to eat to not only show that they like the snack, but to show proper table manners and conversation.

According to understood.org, high quality after-school programs provide several benefits for our students, such as:

1. Create a sense of belonging
2. Improve social skills
3. Provide academic support
4. Make learning more fun!
5. Build confidence
6. Provide safety and supervision

Learning is made fun at Red Rocks through STEAM projects. Each day, children can participate in a project that boosts learning in an open setting that is self-paced, includes group input, and influences new ideas!

