



# Vassar News

303-752-3772 • Fax 303-326-1241 • Attendance Line 303-326-1641 • Office Hours: 7:30 AM - 4:00 PM

School Hours: 8:45 AM - 3:15 PM • Website: [Vassar.aurorak12.org](http://Vassar.aurorak12.org) • 18101 E. Vassar Pl. Aurora CO 80013

## DECEMBER 2018

**Principal: Stacey Stuart**  
**Vice-Principal: Janelle Treese**

### Dates to Remember

- 12-6 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Music Performance  
2-3:00 PM & 6:30-7:30 PM in the gym
- 12-5 Student Council 3:15 to 4:30 PM
- 12-12 Family Reading Night 6:00-7:30 PM
- 12-20 **1/2 Day** – School ends at 11:45 AM
- 12-21 **No School** - Teacher Work Day

**December 24 thru January 4 - No School**



Monday, January 7 - Students return to school

### ATTENDANCE COUNTS



**EVERY DAY, ALL DAY**

### From the Administrators

It is hard to believe that half of the school year is almost over! We are very grateful for our families and your contributions to our school that make Vassar a more productive and positive place of learning for all of our students. Thank you for providing a quiet place for homework, reading to and with your children, talking about math, finding opportunities to write, coming to conferences, and making sure that children arrive on time every day, ready to learn.

Encouraging words at home support teachers' efforts to help your children understand the importance of education, learning and how it impacts students today and in the future. These efforts strengthen us and show your children the importance of teamwork.

Thank you for visiting, talking to us, asking questions, and sharing ideas. Let's keep our efforts moving in a positive direction!

*Ms. Stuart and Mrs. Treese*





Classroom	Box Tops
Nowadzky	236
Wood	229
Saulys	173
Wells	163
Taphorn	148
Smith	146
Arey	142
Salmeron	107
Marquez	91
Landow	74
Orner	55
Hall	53
Broome	42
Szumny	34
McCleary	12

The winner of the pizza party was Ms. Nowadzky's Class!

**Box Tops raised a total of \$170 dollars for Vassar!**  
 (\$100 less than last year. Every Box Top counts! Keep collecting!)

*A BIG thank you to PTO President - Karen Arnold for counting all those Box Tops!*

Keep collecting Box Tops! The next contest will end February 15th.

# Winter Holiday Class Parties

On Thursday, December 20th all classrooms will have a Winter Holiday Party from 11-11:30 AM  
**This is a ½ day - School will end at 11:45 AM**



The PTO will provide some healthy snacks and craft items. Parents may bring store bought treats only, nothing homemade is allowed at school per school policy. Teachers will send home more information about what they may need for the party.

## ART Class



Students in art are busy working on several different projects. Kindergarten and 1st grade are making paintings of snowmen. 2nd graders are learning to draw self-portraits. 3rd grade is exploring weaving. 4th grade is making foil relief projects and 5th grade are finishing sculptures made of rolled paper.

Did you know general admission to the Denver Art Museum is FREE for all youth 18 and under? Adults also get in with free general admission on the first Saturday of every month. (Please note that general admission does not include ticketed exhibits.) The museum has many family-friendly activities, especially on weekends and during winter break. Contact the Denver Art Museum for more information.

*Ms. Small*

# **READ Plan Information**

The state's goal is for all children in Colorado to graduate from high school having attained skill levels that adequately prepare them for postsecondary studies or for the workforce. READ plans are being developed for any student in grades K-3 that are found to be below grade level in reading. READ Plans will include specific diagnosed reading skill deficiencies (challenges) with goals that are determined from Interim Assessments:

- **iReady** – Online comprehensive assessment system that measures student performance and growth
- **PALS** - Phonological Awareness Literacy Screening

These screening assessments are based on the components of reading. The root cause of the reading deficiency will guide the targeted intervention the students receive in order to increase reading skills. Research demonstrates that achieving reading competency by third grade is a critical milestone in achieving this goal.

## **What can parents do at home to help your child?**

Read every night; listen to tapes and stories; computer or ipad games to support learning; writing notes and letters to people they know; magnetic letters on the refrigerator or a cookie sheet to support learning letter names and sounds; white boards to practice spelling and/or letters.

If you have questions concerning your child and the READ plan, please contact your child's teacher.



## *Music Notes*

The 5<sup>th</sup> grade music performance is Thursday, December 6, at 6:30 p.m. in the Vassar gymnasium. "The U.S. Constitution" is the title of the program.

The Vassar Elementary Choir will start on Monday, January 28, for all interested students in 2<sup>nd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> grades. Rehearsals are Monday and Thursday mornings from 8:00-8:40. Students are allowed to leave early for breakfast if they need to. Scheduled performances are at Rangeview High School on Wednesday, March 6, and a final performance on Monday, May 6, in the Vassar gymnasium. There will be optional performances singing the National Anthem at a Rockies game and a district honor choir for 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grade students. Students can register for choir now through the Vassar Music website page or in January when paper letters are distributed during music classes.

2<sup>nd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> grade students are learning to play the ukulele in music classes this year. Because Vassar is registered as a Little Kids Rock school, students receive free access to digital copies of InTune magazine. Click on the link: [InTuneMagazine](#). Students can access additional charts, songs, etc. on the Vassar Music website as well.

**Mrs. Gonzalez,** Music Teacher





## STUDENT COUNCIL

Student council will have a "Coat Drive" from **December 3rd - 14th**. These coats will be donated to families in need across the Denver Metro Area during the holiday season. Student council will also create posters for our monthly spirit day at the end of the month. As always student council will also continue to come up with ideas to improve the community and school. Mr. Chapla & Mr. Fischer

## **CHILDREN BREATHING!**

**Please turn OFF your engines while waiting to pick up students**



Many parents/family members drop off and pick up children at school using the parent drop off/ pick up loop. Sometimes parents arrive more than 25 minutes early, leaving their car idle the entire time. We are asking that while waiting for your child to please turn your engine off.

# Sanford Harmony

We are excited to provide an update on the Sanford Harmony program that we started at the beginning of this school year.

Our first unit was focused on helping students appreciate similarities and differences in themselves and classmates by creating an inclusive school environment. We are now shifting to the next unit which focuses on developing empathy and critical thinking skills. In this unit, students will learn how to recognize a range of emotions in themselves and others. Additionally, this unit will help students reflect on ideas and messages they receive from others and ways to see different perspectives in order to be a more flexible thinker.

You can support and reinforce your students learning in these areas by using a wide range of emotion labels at home to help your child describe his/her feelings and by explaining your own feelings to your child to help them understand how others feel and why. Also, practice empathy skills by discussing how your child's behaviors (both positive and negative) impact others around them and discussing what stereotypes are and why it's a problem.

If you have any questions or would like more information about the Sanford Harmony program please reach out to Dr. Sara Smith, School Psychologist at 303-752-3772.

# VASSAR BREAKFAST

December 2018

Vassar  
Breakfast

**MONDAY**

**TUESDAY**

**WEDNESDAY**

**THURSDAY**

**FRIDAY**

<p><b>3</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ham &amp; Cheese Croissant</li> <li>• Fruit Mix</li> <li>• Bananas</li> </ul>	<p><b>4</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cini Minis</li> <li>• Applesauce</li> <li>• Kiwi Fresh</li> </ul>	<p><b>5</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Turkey Sausage on WG Bun</li> <li>• Blueberries, Frozen</li> <li>• Cantaloupe</li> </ul>	<p><b>6</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pumpkin Muffin 18 - APS Bakery</li> <li>• Peaches, Diced</li> <li>• Bananas</li> </ul>	<p><b>7</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Breakfast Pocket</li> <li>• Pineapple Tidbits</li> <li>• Apples, Gala</li> </ul>
<p><b>10</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Egg &amp; Cheese English Muffin Sandwich</li> <li>• Peaches, Diced</li> <li>• Bananas</li> </ul>	<p><b>11</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mini French Toast</li> <li>• Fruit Mix</li> <li>• Strawberry, Frozen</li> </ul>	<p><b>12</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Beef Sausage Sandwich on Hawaiian bun, IW</li> <li>• Applesauce, cup</li> <li>• Craisins</li> </ul>	<p><b>13</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pancakes</li> <li>• Oranges, Fresh</li> <li>• Pineapple Tidbits</li> </ul>	<p><b>14</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Yogurt</li> <li>• Elf Graham, Cinnamon</li> <li>• Pears, Diced</li> <li>• Blueberries, Frozen</li> </ul>
<p><b>17</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dunkin Stick</li> <li>• Peaches, Diced</li> <li>• Craisins</li> </ul>	<p><b>18</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Waffles</li> <li>• Pear, Fresh</li> <li>• Pineapple Tidbits</li> </ul>	<p><b>19</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Breakfast on a Stick</li> <li>• Applesauce</li> <li>• Oranges, Fresh</li> </ul>	<p><b>20</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ultimate Breakfast Round</li> <li>• Grape, Red</li> <li>• Pears, Diced</li> </ul> <p>½ Day – school out at 11:45</p>	<p><b>21</b></p> <p>Teacher Workday NO SCHOOL</p>

Milk Variety: Milk, 1%, Chocolate Skim Milk, Milk, Skim

Sandwich Options: rotating schedule: Ham Sub, Turkey Sub, Sunbutter Sandwich, Grape Uncrustable, Strawberry Uncrustable

# VASSAR LUNCH

## December 2018

Vassar  
Lunch

### MONDAY

### TUESDAY

### WEDNESDAY

### THURSDAY

### FRIDAY

**3**

- Pizza, Cheese
- Pizza, Pepperoni
- Turkey Sub
- Anytimer Turkey Ham
- Roasted Zucchini Blend
- Baby Carrots
- Grape, Red
- Pears, Diced
- Parmesan Cheese

**4**

- Bean and Cheese Pupusa
- Turkey Sub
- Anytimer Turkey Ham
- Black Bean Salad
- Side Salad
- Apples, Gala
- Pineapple Tidbits
- Jalapeno, Fresh

**5**

- Chicken Sandwich
- Spicy Chicken Sandwich
- Turkey Sub
- Anytimer Turkey Ham
- Peas, Green
- Mixed Vegetable Cup
- Applesauce
- Strawberry, Frozen

**6**

- Penne Pasta w/Meatballs
- Turkey Sub
- Anytimer Turkey Ham
- Broccoli, Steamed
- Side Salad
- Fruit Mix
- Bananas
- Parmesan Cheese

**7**

- Bean & Cheese Burrito
- Turkey Sub
- Anytimer Turkey Ham
- Corn
- Mixed Vegetable Cup
- Oranges, Mandarin Canned
- Kiwi Fresh
- Green Chile
- Jalapeno, Fresh
- Tomato, Diced
- Lettuce, Shredded

**10**

- Tacos, Crunchy
- Ham Sub
- Anytimer Turkey & Cheese
- Cinnamon Roll
- Oranges, Fresh
- Applesauce
- Black Bean Salad
- Baby Carrots

**11**

- Meatball Sub W/ Marinara Sauce
- Ham Sub
- Anytimer Turkey & Cheese
- Grape, Red
- Pears, Diced
- Broccoli, Steamed
- Side Salad

**12**

- Crispy Chicken
- Ham Sub
- Anytimer Turkey & Cheese
- Hot Roll
- Strawberry, Frozen
- Mashed Potatoes
- Mixed Vegetable Cup

**13**

- Cheeseburger
- Ham Sub
- Anytimer Turkey & Cheese
- Honeydew
- Peaches, Diced
- Sweet Potato Fries
- Side Salad

**14**

- Stuffed Cheese Sticks w/ Marinara Sauce
- Ham Sub
- Anytimer Turkey & Cheese
- Plum, Fresh
- Fruit Mix
- Cauliflower, Roasted, fresh
- Mixed Vegetable Cup

**17**

- Chicken, Tenders
- Sunbutter Sandwich
- Anytimer Turkey Ham
- Hot Roll
- Peach cup
- Fruit Mix
- Black Eyed Pea salad.
- Baby Carrots

**18**

- Chili Pie
- Sunbutter Sandwich
- Anytimer Turkey Ham
- Cowboy Bread
- Honeydew
- Applesauce
- Carrot, Roasted Glazed
- Side Salad

**19**

- Orange Chicken
- Sunbutter Sandwich
- Anytimer Turkey Ham
- Rice, Brown with carrots and peas
- Grape, Red
- Pears, Diced
- Asian steamed veggies
- Mixed Vegetable Cup

**20**

- Stuffed Cheeseburger
- Sunbutter Sandwich
- Anytimer Turkey Ham
- Strawberry, Frozen
- French Fries
- Side Salad

**21**

Teacher Workday  
NO SCHOOL

1/2 Day - No lunch  
served - out at 11:45



Students return to school on January 7th