



# Cottonwood Newsletter

January 2019



## Schedule of Events and Field Trips

### 1/14 Ski Day @ Bridger

9:00-3:20 for grades 1-5  
Please see permission slips for drop off and pick up or meet us at Saddle Peak Lodge around 9:30 **No School for K**

### 1/21 – No School / PIR day

1/28 - **MOSS** Montana Outdoor Science School class “Rock cycle and Fossils” 2:00-3:00

### 1/30 - Cross Country Ski Day @ Crosscut

Meet at 9:00 and pick up at 3:00 at the parking lot of Lone Mountain Gym / Sack lunch **No School for K**

### 1/31 - Rural Schools’

**Spelling Bee** at 1:30 at Downtown Court House upstairs. **Pick up** will be **there at 2:45**. Parents are encouraged to attend.



## Bridger Ski P.E. Trips for Grades 1-5

Cottonwood School is providing the ski trips to students so it will be no cost to the families.

All students will participate in a ski lesson. Chaperones will pick up students or meet at the parking lot of the Lone Mountain Gymnastics (on Rouse Ave.) at 9:00. Please communicate with your child’s driver about pick up and drop off if needed (see permission slips going home). We will be in the cafeteria of the *Saddle Peak Lodge at 9:30 a.m.* for orientation. At 10:15 a.m. students will gather outside at the colored flag that matches their ability description. Lessons will be taught by Bridger Bowl Snow Sports instructors and start at 10:30 a.m. and end at 12:00. Lunch is from 12:00-12:30. Please **pack a sack lunch or send money to purchase lunch**. Students will be skiing with the chaperones from 12:30 - 2:40. We will be back to the parking lot of Lone Mountain Gymnastics at 3:20.

We recommend that students dress in **layers**, topped with **waterproof parka and pants**. A **hat, goggles, waterproof gloves and ski socks (wool)** are essential regardless of the weather. Please make sure your child’s gear is packed in one backpack including ski boots.

There will be no school for kindergarten those days.

## Cross County Ski P.E. Trip for Grades 1-5

We will **meet at 9:00** at the Lone Mountain Gym parking lot on Rouse Ave. and arrive at CrossCut by 9:30 AM. The morning lesson includes active and fun skill games on skis and a ski tour on the trail with the instructors. 1st -2<sup>nd</sup> grade will eat at the lodge around noon. Teachers and chaperones will supervise the afternoon skiing with the 1st -2<sup>nd</sup> grade students. 3<sup>rd</sup> -5<sup>th</sup> grade students will participate in the Adventures in Winter Ecology program: “Snowflakes to Snowpack”. The hands-on field exploration is integrated into the ski tour, and they will have lunch on the trail. We will be leaving around 2:30. Please **pick up** your child at the Lone Mountain Gym parking lot **at 3:00**. Please bring a **water bottle, a backpack with a separate snack, a sack lunch** and make sure your child is wearing layers and waterproof clothing. See more info going home in Friday Folders.

## Spelling Bee (competitive for 4th & 5th grade)

"Bee" ready on Thursday, January 31st! The Spelling Bee will take place at the Gallatin County Courthouse (downtown), on the third floor, starting at 1:30. All parents are invited to come and watch the Bee. We will have treats afterwards. **Please pick up your child at the Courthouse at 2:45.** All students will be participating.

We ask that **Kindergarten students** be **dropped off there at 1:30 and picked up at 2:45** so they can be part of the Bee. Thank you!

We are practicing at school and word lists varying by grades will be sent home to study. Please help your child memorize their words and remember it is supposed to be fun and exciting.

## Updates From Our Classrooms

It is nice to get back to work after the long break. The students are excited to start on new projects and lessons. We will be busy the next two months with ski trips and science classes. We will continue with the fourth Great Lesson and tell the story of writing and look at different alphabets from all over the world. We will also be talking about the legacy of M.L.K. and other important figures of civil rights.

In the lower elementary in math there is all different levels of individual work going on, some of us will be exploring fractions and money concepts with the materials and starting on static multiplication with the golden beads. Second grade will continue on recording dynamic multiplication with the checkerboard. Kindergarten will be adding larger numbers with the golden beads and also diving into subtraction facts and tables. We will be finishing up number sense and algebra work according to the state standards by more word problems work, number lines, and number patterns.

In language, Kindergarten is getting introduced to parts of speech with the noun and spelling tests and building silent e sound words with the moveable alphabet. We are continuing with the individual works in grammar boxes, prepared grammar sentences, synonym word study boxes, and we will be learning the direct object of a sentence. We will focus on explanatory writing.

In history we will continue on fundamental needs throughout the ages, transportation and tools.

In geography and science we will take a look at the water cycle, our solar system, and start on a new science unit: Observing an Aquarium, also the study the states of the United States and countries of South America.

In zoology and botany we are moving onto the parts and types of flowers, porifera, and animal tracks.

*Please practice addition, subtraction, and multiplication facts at home too! It helps to solve problems with large numbers faster.*

For upper elementary, January will include a study of personal narrative in writing, with a focus on "zooming in" on special moments from our lives. We will learn about how to use sensory details to show, not tell, the reader what is happening in the story.

We will focus on reading realistic and historical fiction to gain ideas from real authors.

We will continue our study of fractions in math, with 4th and 5th graders learning how to multiply and divide fractions and the 3rd graders reviewing comparing fractions. After that we will jump into measurement.

For science we will be studying Structures of Life, starting with exploring seeds and their properties. We will observe seeds as they go through changes in the presence of water and learn about how they store food.

*Thank you to all for helping with the Winter Program, and making it a great success!  
Could not do it with you!*