

## Important dates

Sunday March 13- Daylight saving time 2022 in Colorado will begin (Spring clocks ahead!)

March 14-18- No School- Spring Break

## Reminders

- Students should not be dropped off any earlier than 8:30. If dropped off at 8:30, they need to go to the cafeteria for breakfast.
- All volunteers must be registered through PSD. Here is the link to the volunteer site: <https://www.psdschools.org/community/volunteers>
- Don't forget to follow us on social media: Instagram, Facebook and Twitter!! It is a great place for information and pictures of all the fun we have!

## Principal Note

Hello Bennett Families!

I hope you are doing well and looking forward to Spring Break. It is hard to believe that it is already here. It looks like the weather forecast will be great, so I hope you are able to enjoy it and recharge yourselves. We are looking forward to seeing everyone again for a strong finish to the year! Take care.

### [Class placement for 2022-2023](#)

We use a software program that sorts students for us based on certain parameters. The program helps us create balanced classes across the grade level. Teachers do not have names of teachers for the following school year when inputting the information for the next year class assignment. So, while you can't request a specific teacher for your child, you can give input on anything you want us to keep in mind about your child when inputting information such as; the environment that you feel your child best learns in, any students you hope can be placed with your child, any students you hope your child can be separated from, etc. The way to communicate this information is through our "parent input form" which you can find on the Bennett website. The form is available now and is due by April 1st. You can email the completed form to Amy Smythe at [asmythe@psdschools.org](mailto:asmythe@psdschools.org). The forms do not carry over from year to year, so, if you filled one out previously you will need to do a new one for this year. Thank you!

## BCO

Good afternoon, Bennett Broncos,

A huge thank you to those of you who made it to our meeting Monday. Here is a link to the slide show for anyone who is interested in seeing what we covered in detail:

[https://drive.google.com/file/d/15-K\\_wuEwgXExibgEm0FhMNQcEY5N89gP/view?usp=sharing](https://drive.google.com/file/d/15-K_wuEwgXExibgEm0FhMNQcEY5N89gP/view?usp=sharing)

Highlights included:

- Book Fair update... It's off to a great start. If you haven't made it in yet, there is still time tomorrow!
- Budget update - come to next month's BCO meeting to give input and vote on our budget for next year.
- A discussion on upcoming events, including the MoA Family Night (April 14), Spring Service Day (April 23) and International Day (April 29). More info on these events to come.
- Nonprofit Status update - We are big steps closer to becoming our own entity.

A few people have inquired on how to purchase Bennett Spirit Gear. In this last month we've had 8 new purchases! If you are looking for clothes for Bennett Spirit days, or you want a comfy sweatshirt for yourself that supports our school with it's purchase, check out the merchandise on the link below!

<https://app.printyourcause.com/campaigns/BennettElementary>

Finally, a parting quote for today that just may have choked me up while sharing it during the meeting -

*"Life is amazing. And then it's awful. And then it's amazing again.*

*And in between the amazing and awful, it's ordinary and mundane and routine.*

*Breathe in the amazing, hold on through the awful, and relax and exhale during*

*the ordinary. That's just living heartbreaking, soul-healing, amazing, awful,*

*ordinary life. And it's breathtakingly beautiful."*

- L.R. Knost

Hope it's been a good week for you and your families. Be well, everybody!

With gratitude, Lisa Verbsky

[bennettcommorg+pres@gmail.com](mailto:bennettcommorg+pres@gmail.com) (BCO related email, Bennett questions)

[lisa.verbsky@gmail.com](mailto:lisa.verbsky@gmail.com) (favorite inspirational quotes)

## Counselor Corner

Attached is a flyer for some mobile food banks hosted by the Larimer County Food Bank.

[March mobile pantries.pdf](#)

Attached is a flyer for this year's Project Homeless Connect. This large community event happens once a year. It's a time where many, many agencies come together for one event to provide services for anyone experiencing homelessness or at risk of becoming homeless.

[Homeless Connect.pdf](#)

## PSD's new School Resource Officer feedback form

As part of Poudre School District's commitment to ongoing evaluation of its School Resource Officer (SRO) Program, the district created a new online form that students, staff, families and community members can use to share feedback about their interactions with School Resource Officers.

The form is [available here](#). Completing it is voluntary. The form is [available here](#). Completing it is voluntary. For those completing a form, the more information you share, the more helpful it will be for our teams. [More information >>](#)

## LEGO Club

Minecraft Master Engineering!

Tuesday's 3:30 - 5:00 PM

March 22 - May 10

Grades 3-5 Bring your favorite Minecraft adventures to life with our enthusiastic Play-Well instructors. In a Minecraft world powered by LEGO® resources, we will build shelters to keep out Creepers, craft mystical items that only true masters can wield, and perfect our crossbow skills to stop the Wither from taking over! If you can imagine it, we can build it.

[Lego March flyer.pdf](#)

## STEM Workshop

[Stem Workshops-Spring 2022.pdf](#)

## ICYMI

### CMAS testing this spring

Hi Bennett Families!

Spring is coming, and along with anticipating nicer weather and Spring Break, we are also starting to gear up for CMAS testing in grades 3 - 5.

For 2022, Bennett's main testing sessions will be **April 5<sup>th</sup> – April 7<sup>th</sup>** (Math) and **April 12<sup>th</sup> – 14<sup>th</sup>** (English Language Arts). 5<sup>th</sup> grade (only) will also test in Science from **April 19<sup>th</sup> – 21<sup>st</sup>**. Makeups sessions for absent students will be scheduled as needed, and may continue through **April 29<sup>th</sup>**.

Here are the times we have set aside to complete the testing, although please know the tests aren't as long as the times we have blocked off.

3<sup>rd</sup> grade block: 12:45-3:00

4<sup>th</sup> grade block: 10:00-12:15

5<sup>th</sup> grade block: 9:00-11:00

Please don't feel that testing will be the only thing happening in your child's classroom those days! The majority of your child's day will be spent as normal, including specials, recess, lunch, most academic subjects, and 5<sup>th</sup> grade Exhibition.

We appreciate you planning appointments and absences around testing times whenever possible. It is better for students to be able to test with their classes, but we obviously understand if there is an unavoidable scheduling conflict or illness. When we begin testing on a given day, students cannot stop their test and then go back to finish it another time.

Also, if they are late, they won't be able to begin the test with their class. They will have to take that particular session on a makeup day.

We have been introducing the processes and tools the students will be using on the computer-based tests this year, so they are comfortable physically, mentally, and emotionally before starting. We at Bennett feel that this time should be as low stress as possible, so we try not to overemphasize these tests. We know our students are extraordinary, and we treat this as just another opportunity to prove it!

If there are any changes to the CMAS schedule due to Covid, we will let you know as soon as possible. Otherwise, if you have any questions, please contact us. Thanks for helping your child demonstrate the remarkable learning that happens every day at Bennett Elementary, an IB World School!