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Message from the PTO

December 02, 2018



eTales

Week of December 3, 2018

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- **SUBSCRIBE TO OUR PTO CALENDAR AND NEVER MISS A THING**

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HELPING HANDS: A HOLIDAY GIVING TRADITION

Embrace the season of giving by participating in a Cottonwood tradition: Helping Hands! For the past few years Cottonwood has partnered with a sister school in our district to help families in need by providing gifts for children. Join together as friends, neighbors, scout

troops, sports teams, etc. and buy holiday gifts for a family. It's a magical way to reach out and share this holiday season.

You can choose a family to help by finding a mitten in the front lobby "Helping Hands" display. Each mitten will be labeled with a letter (i.e. Family A) and will include ages, gender, sizes, needs and wants. Take a mitten and mark your choice on the signup sheet on the display. Shop for the chosen family and bring all gifts in one bag—with items labeled and unwrapped—to Cottonwood between Dec. 17th to the 19th. If you can include a roll of wrapping paper, that would be great! See attached flyer for details.

Don't hesitate to contact Mimi Skeeahan (vballcougar@aol.com) or Jennie Preece (jennieprece@gmail.com) with any questions. We appreciate your generosity and giving spirits! Thank you and happy holidays!



Junior Great Books **JUNIOR GREAT BOOKS BEGINS IN JANUARY!**

JGB is a low-key, relaxed time for students to get together during lunch and discuss short stories. Volunteers are needed to lead the student groups! **Deadline to sign up is December 21st.** See attached flyer for signup information. Questions? Contact Erin Tobkin at Etate11@aol.com



HOLIDAY COLLECTION FOR SPECIALS TEACHERS & STAFF

The holidays are right around the corner and in the spirit of giving, we would like to recognize our SPECIALS staff. Each day, they contribute to the joy of learning in our Cottonwood Community in so many ways. To thank them, we'd like to present each of them with a gift card on Friday, December 21st. These teachers include Ms. Jehn (PE), Mr. Pedregon (Music), Mr. Rogers (Technology), Ms. Thompson (Art) and Ms. Hammershaimb (Library).

We would also like to thank the numerous staff members who help our amazing school to run smoothly, including our front office staff, kitchen staff, school nurse, building engineer and teaching assistants. We are requesting a \$5 donation from each child, but any amount is welcome. We will pool the money received to get each of them a token of our appreciation.

Please contribute no later than **Thursday, December 13th**. Go to the following link to pay via check or credit card: <https://my.cheddarup.com/c/cottonwood-specials-and-support-staff-winter-gift>

We strongly encourage online donations, but cash or check are welcome too! As always, this is completely optional. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact Stephanie Gaswirth at sbg122@yahoo.com or Tina Nagamani at toffee108@gmail.com. Please see attached flyer for additional details.



RESTAURANT NIGHT - CHIPOTLE

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[About the ads](#)

December's Restaurant Night is Chipotle! Join us on Tuesday, December 11th from 4-8pm at the Chipotle on 12073 E. Arapahoe Rd. Unit 160, Centennial, CO 80112. Guac on, and thanks for your support!

* Online orders are NOT included.

* Please be sure to show attached flyer (on phone is OK) and let them know you support Cottonwood BEFORE paying.



AMAZON SMILE SUPPORTS COTTONWOOD!

Shopping for the holidays? When you log onto Amazon, make sure you use the [Amazon Smile](#) link. **Amazon supports Cottonwood every time you shop using this link!**



AVAILABLE THROUGH 1/6/2019

Need a fun activity over winter break? Gather friends and meet at X-TREME Challenge in Centennial! It's a 30,000 square foot athletic and stunt facility is offering the Cottonwood community an opportunity to purchase drop-in passes and camp passes.

X-treme Challenge supports Cottonwood with every purchase! By clicking on the link below, you will be directed to the X-Treme Challenge website where you can purchase different passes to the arena. Options include a pass for a 1-hour drop in class, a 2-hour drop in class, a half-day camp pass, and a full-day camp pass.

<https://xtremechallengearena.a.pcsparty.com/store/index.asp>

The passes can then be used for drop-in and camps throughout the year. X-Treme Challenge typically holds drop-ins and camps on days that school is not in session including Thanksgiving week, Winter Break, President's Day and Spring Break. You may purchase as many drop-in or camp passes as you would like and any combination of the four options as well! The passes do not expire and may be applied to any dates in which there is availability. Please note that each of the four options is for children ages 6-12 years.

For more information on X-Treme Challenge Arena as well as a link to their calendar, please visit their website at <http://www.xtremechallengearena.com/>. Once you have made your purchase, you must contact X-Treme Challenge Arena Centennial at (303-834-1081) to reserve a date and time for your child to attend. You will need to have your confirmation number provided at check-out to make the reservation. Reservations are subject to availability.



P.I.N. PRESENTATION

CCSD's Parent Information Network (P.I.N.) is holding its next presentation on **December 4th at 9:15am** by Lana Gollyhorn, M.A., Child and Adolescent Therapist: "Parenting the Plugged-In Child". See attached flyer for more details. Presentations are free and held at a **NEW LOCATION: 14603 E. Fremont Avenue, Centennial, CO 80112** (just south of

Arapahoe Rd., off of Jordan Rd.) Click for the full schedule of [2018-2019 PIN Presentations](#).



SAVE THE DATE: SPRING ONLINE AND LIVE AUCTION

The Online Auction will run April 3-10 and the Live Auction/Parent's Night Out Event will be held on Friday, April 12th at Chinook Tavern. Auction week is our school's largest fundraiser. The monies raised during auction week help cover things such as Teacher Assistant salaries, school enrichment programs, subscriptions, teacher grants, buses for field trips, and much more!



KEEP CLIPPING THOSE BOX TOPS!

Deciding between products when shopping? Pick the one with Box Tops! Cottonwood's first Box Top collection earned our school over \$600. To achieve our goal of \$1800 we ask for you to keep up the fantastic work by continuing to choose Box Top participating products and clip those coupons! We will have another collection contest in the spring... start collecting now and we'll let you know when it's time to send them in!

Ms. Gelwick's 4th grade class were the winners of the fall collection contest!! They enjoyed the most amazing chocolate fountain party, courtesy of the Box Top committee!

Please visit www.boxtopsforeducation.com for a complete list of Box Top products, some really good coupons and information about how to score tons of free Box Tops. Signing up is simple, quick and free. Please contact Annette at zipspike2003@msn.com with any questions.



COUGAR CARE SCHOLARSHIP FUND

Cottonwood Creek Elementary is excited to announce the creation of the *Cougar Care Scholarship Fund*. The purpose of the scholarship fund is to help some of our own Cougar families who may lack the resources to participate in various opportunities offered to our students throughout the year. The scholarship fund would provide financial assistance for school and/or PTO sponsored events such as field trips, community events, and fundraisers to those who would like to attend, but might not have the financial resources to do so. Parents, staff and other members of our community are welcome to contribute to the scholarship fund.

All donations must be made by check, made payable to Cottonwood Creek Elementary, and dropped off to Joan in the front office. Please note *scholarship fund* on the memo line. The *Cougar Care Scholarship Fund* will be managed by the principal's office manager, and the school administration and mental health team will distribute funds as needed. Contributions will be accepted throughout the year and the fund will roll over from year to year with any unused funds. Any amount is appreciated. If most families contributed \$5, we will be able to make a significant impact on those who may need assistance within our community. Thank you in advance for your kindness and generosity.

It is genuinely appreciated as Cottonwood expands our efforts to give back to our Cougar community.



COUGAR REWARDS

In addition to Amazon Smile, help support Cottonwood every time you shop at the following online retailers:



Click Here: [Mabels Labels](#)

As well as our neighborhood **CRAVE IT!** and **DELECTABLE EGG** Restaurants, AND **KING SOOPERS!**

Did you know that every time you make a purchase at King Soopers using your reloadable card, Cottonwood receives a portion of what you load on to your card back? It's that simple and easy. The only difficult thing is to remember to use it! If you don't yet have a card, please contact our treasurer, Kimber Foster at treasurer@cottonwoodpto.com.



COTTONWOOD IS ABOUT COMMUNITY!

Cottonwood is a special place due in large part to our parent community. There are multiple ways to share your time and talents at school if you so choose. To select which committees or projects you are interested in helping with this year, please visit:

[Click Here to Volunteer!](#)



THANK YOU, VOLUNTEERS!

Part of what makes the Cottonwood Community so special is its many dedicated volunteers. From the classrooms to the library, and to those who work behind the scenes for our teachers and community, we have such a phenomenal group of volunteers!

On behalf of the PTO, we THANK AND APPRECIATE ALL OF YOU for donating your time and energy to our amazing students and our incredible school!



IMPORTANT UPCOMING DATES AT COTTONWOOD

12/11: Chipotle Restaurant Night (Arapahoe/Peoria)

12/13: 4th & 5th Grade Choir Performance

12/24 - 1/7 NO SCHOOL/WINTER BREAK!



COTTONWOOD PTO WEBSITE

For a full list of upcoming events and other helpful information, please check out our website at www.cottonwoodcreekpto.com. Plus on the website, you can **learn how to subscribe to the PTO events calendars and never miss a thing!** Also go to our Facebook page to get all the latest news and events right in your Facebook feed! Like and follow us at Cottonwood Creek Elementary PTO.

Paula Hruska and Jenn Bub

PTO Co-Presidents

presidents@cottonwoodpto.com

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