After the new year, you will no longer see a monthly Falcon Flash. In our spring climate survey at the end of last year, 92% of respondents stated the best way to receive communication is via “Email Blasts”. Therefore our monthly Falcon Flash newsletter will cease. Instead, you will receive weekly blasts with pertinent information for the upcoming week. When important events need to be highlighted with more emphasis placed on them, you will receive additional singular blasts highlighting that information. If you have removed yourself from our email blasts and wish to start receiving them again, please email Ms. Curnow (ncurnow@aacademy.org).

Enjoy the two week winter break! We look forward to seeing everyone again in the new year!
Aurora Academy's mission is to provide a well-rounded curriculum with high academic standards for Kindergarten through 8th grade students.”
A NOTE FROM THE MAIN OFFICE

Sibling Priority Enrollment Information

It’s that time of year again to extend our sibling priority invitation to our AACS families. Do you have an incoming kindergarten student? Do you have a child at another school whom you would like to enroll at AACS? If these additional children meet the criteria below, please return a completed “Letter of Intent” by Friday, January 17th to your student’s homeroom teacher or the main office.

Note: All the following criteria must be met to qualify for sibling priority:

- Currently enrolled child(ren)’s family must have completed 50% of volunteer hours by mid-January to qualify for openings prior to the lottery.
- Child(ren) must live in the same home of the child attending Aurora Academy.
- To be considered a “sibling”, children must meet this definition:
  - “Siblings” means one of two or more children or wards related:
    - By blood, legal guardianship or adoption through a common legal parent.
    - Through the marriage of the children’s or wards’ legal or biological parents.

Note: Being a “relative”, “relation”, or “family member” does not meet the requirements of “sibling”. Different families living in the same home does not qualify children as “siblings”.

Should the above criteria not be met, then children wishing admittance must submit application through the lottery system conducted each year, in the spring.

Nov. 2019
A NOTE FROM THE MAIN OFFICE

LETTER OF INTENT
TO ENROLL STUDENT(S) IN THE AURORA ACADEMY
2020-2021 SCHOOL YEAR

Dear Parent(s):

We are beginning the enrollment process for the 2020-2021 school year.

Please complete this form ONLY if:

- You will have a child who will turn 5 years old before October 1st, 2020.

And/or

- Would like to enroll siblings of children currently enrolled.

(Student Name) .................................................. (Grade Level for 2020/2021)

(Student Name) .................................................. (Grade Level for 2020/2021)

(Student Name) .................................................. (Grade Level for 2020/2021)

This form must be returned to the main office by January 17th, 2020.

Current Student Name: .................................................................

Parent Signature: ................................................................. Date: ..............................

Note: All of the following criteria must be met to qualify for sibling priority:

- Currently enrolled child(ren)’s family must have completed 50% of volunteer hours by mid-January to qualify for openings prior to the lottery.
- Child(ren) must live in the same home of the child attending Aurora Academy and
- To be considered a “sibling”, children must meet this definition:

“Siblings” means one of two or more children or wards related:
(a) By blood, legal guardianship or adoption through a common legal parent; or
(b) Through the marriage of the children’s or wards’ legal or biological parents.

Note: Being a “relative”, “relation”, or “family member” does not meet the requirements of “sibling”. Different families living in the same home does not qualify children as “siblings”.

Should the above criteria not be met, then children wishing admittance must submit application through the lottery system conducted each year, in the spring.
If your student(s) is running behind in the morning because someone in the family had a Dentist, Doctor, Therapy, or any other type of appointment, please ask them to give you a school excuse note in order for the front office to excuse his/her tardy.

From the Health Office:

If you received an immunization letter, please provided Ms. Price (Health Para) with an updated immunization record. Please note students are not allowed to be in school if they are not compliant with state required immunizations.

Recess

Outdoor recess will be held every day unless there is precipitation, ice on the playground, or a wind chill of 20 degrees F or below.

Students must bring a hat, coat, gloves and boots for outdoor recess on cold days.
In the Social Emotional/Library class, we have been learning how to be caring and compassionate. The students have learned the following definition for both words: Caring is noticing when someone or something is hurting or needs help. Compassion includes the noticing piece and then follows through with us trying to help fix the problem.

In the month of December, we are focusing on giving back or paying compassion forward. Each class is going to focus on one area to give back.

KC – Writing cards to all our wonderful paras
KH – Writing cards to all the cafeteria workers
1G – Writing cards to all the office workers
1M – Writing cards to the Intervention team
1N – Writing cards to the ELD team
2E – Writing cards to several groups
2F – Writing cards to the custodial/maintenance team
3K – Planning and creating a snack for all the first-grade classes
3Z – Reading with the Kindergarten classes
4C – Planning and creating snacks for the staff
4W – Planning and creating snacks for the staff
5A – Read with the Kindergarten classes
5B – Writing cards to firefighters/paramedics
5R – Writing cards to police officers
6.1 – Writing cards to police officers
6.2 - Writing cards to firefighters/paramedics
6.3 - Writing cards to firefighters/paramedics
7.1 – Make bookmarks for the second-grade classes
7.2 - Writing cards to firefighters/paramedics
7.3 – Make bookmarks for the fourth-grade classes
8.1 – Clean the grounds around Aurora Academy Charter School
8.2 – Planning and Creating snacks for the third-grade classes
Holiday/Winter Sweater Day
Tuesday, December 17th

Allowed:
- Sweaters/vests
- Sweatshirts
- Shirts

Must have a winter or holiday theme
Must have uniform pants/skirts

Examples of appropriate sweaters:

Not Allowed:
- Hoodies
- Any logo or print that is not winter/holiday related
December 14th & January 18th 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM

Everyone is invited to help our students and staff stay healthy this winter! We will scrub and disinfect all the surfaces that little hands touch. Please e-mail Gina Twombly at gtwombly@aacademy.org to help clean.

December 14th & January 18th 9:00 am – 12:00 pm
5 Ways to Get the Internet When You Can't Afford It

Tips to connect to the Internet without stretching your budget.
By Maria O Alvarez

For many families, access to broadband Internet can be a challenge. The Federal Communications Commission has added broadband Internet service to the 30-year-old Lifeline program which subsidizes voice service for low-income households. But until the service is widely available, there are some alternatives. Many do not know, for example, that there are plans accessible to families with low incomes. Look for providers in your area using everyoneon.org and Connect2Compete. They also offer discounted equipment.

Here are five ideas that you can explore and use to connect to broadband Internet:

1. Public libraries: You can access broadband Internet in many public libraries, usually for a limited time, depending on where you live.

2. Places with Wi-Fi: Most food chains and stores offer free access for those who use or consume their services. In some places there are time constraints.

3. Friends, family and neighbors: Find people who are close to you and have broadband Internet in their home.

4. Share the cost: Try coordinating with one or two families who live near you and explore the possibility of splitting the cost for access between all. Look at the amount of gigabytes offered by the provider to be a service that can be used without difficulty.

5. Computer labs in schools: Most schools have computer centers. Ask what times are available after school for your child.

Want more information? Visit www.commonsensemedia.org
**Ms. Coxall—4th Grade**

Hi! I am Ms. Coxall, and this will be my fourth year teaching 4th grade at Aurora Academy. I have a Masters Degree in Teaching from the University of Northern Colorado and a Bachelors degree in Psychology and Human Services from Metro State University.

Aurora Academy is where I started as a student teacher and I am so lucky to work for such an amazing school. I love the support and sense of community among the staff and parents here and I am so excited to be a part of it!

I am a Colorado native and I love the outdoors. I spend a lot of time camping, hiking, snowboarding, and just being in the mountains. I am so excited to share my experiences with my students and encourage them to explore our beautiful state. This year will be such a great adventure for me and I'm excited to have such a great class to start it off with!

**Mrs. Wenger—4th Grade**

I am a Denver native- I grew up about 5 miles away from Aurora Academy, and attended DPS for my public education. I still enjoy outdoor Colorado activities, and hike with my dog whenever I can.

I graduated from the University of Northern Colorado with a bachelor’s in elementary education in 2012. I started taking classes for my master's this year.

I have taught 4th grade in combined classes over the past seven years. My first two years out of college, I taught in a village elementary school in Alaska. I taught a combined 4th and 5th grade class that was almost entirely Inupiaq children. In 2014, I returned to Colorado. I taught 4th -6th grade (along with a couple specials) in a small town in the southeastern corner of the state.

This is now my 4th year teaching at Aurora Academy, and I couldn't be happier with where I am!