From the Principal:

Dear Silvia Families,

This week included parent-teacher conferences, two remote learning “snow days,” and continued successes for our students, families and staff.

Thank you to all the families that took advantage of parent-teacher conferences this past week. We always are looking to improve our two-way communication with families and conferences allow for individualized feedback relative to a student’s strengths and areas for growth. Please know that although we do set aside specific dates and times for conferences, our staff is always willing to speak with you at any time. We have an “open door” policy at Silvia and just ask that you reach out to your classroom teacher if at any time you want to discuss items related to your child(ren).

I want to compliment and praise students, families, and teachers for adjusting to our “snow day” schedule this past Thursday and Friday. I was able to “visit” many classrooms over the two days, as well as other members of the leadership team. What we found were hard working students, well organized and engaging lessons, and supportive families. Keep up the AMAZING work!

Next week brings us a short week with a half-day on Wednesday. Then we all can take a much deserved break until we return to school on January 4, 2020. I want to wish the entire Silvia community a very merry and happy holidays. I am sure you can all join me in waving 2020 good-bye and welcoming 2021 with confidence that times will get better. Thank you for all of your support and understanding over this past unpredictable year! I feel so fortunate to be a part of this community and look forward to spending 2021 with you all!

Please note, that based on the short week next week, we will not have an edition of The Silvia Spotlight.

Shout Out to Ms. Taylor’s Class!

Ms. Taylor’s fourth grade class has had 100% attendance for 8 straight days! As we know, student attendance is directly related to our children’s success in and out of school. We are so proud of Ms. Taylor’s class and all of our students and families who make attendance a priority.

Silvia Spirit Days:

From December 21st through December 23rd, we will be ending the 2020 calendar year with some Silvia Spirit. In addition, Ms. Homol, Ms. Michel and Mr. Arruda will hold lunch bunches with surprise guests from the Silvia staff. Please see the flyer (page 3) below for details.

SILVIA STARs

Stay safe * Treat others with kindness * Always do your best * Respect yourself, others, and the school
Effective Two-Way Home-School Communication:

At Silvia, we continuously try to improve in the area of effective two-way home-school communication. It is more imperative now than ever, that school and home are communicating at a high level. To support with this, please see some tips below:

- If there is a concern, question, feedback, or praise you want to share with your child’s teacher, please do NOT attempt to do this during remote learning. It is best to send a message to your teacher and then he/she can follow up with you.
- When calling the school, if you are sent to voicemail, please leave your full name, child’s name, and a reference to what the call is concerning. If we do not have this information it is a challenge, and in some cases impossible, to know who to direct our return call to.
- When emailing a staff member, please leave your name and child’s name within the content of the email.

Grab and Go Breakfast and Lunch:

We have Grab and Go breakfast and lunch every Tuesday and Friday from 10am to 12 and 4pm to 6. Families receive a week’s worth of breakfast and lunches. The location at Silvia is at the cafeteria doors. When facing Silvia, the location of the cafeteria doors is on the right side of the building. All are welcome. Please see the flyer below (pg 4) for details and additional locations.

Silvia Synonymizes:

*STEM:

A curriculum based on the idea of educating students in four specific disciplines — science, technology, engineering and mathematics — in an interdisciplinary and applied approach. Rather than teach the four disciplines as separate and discrete subjects, STEM integrates them into a cohesive learning paradigm based on real-world applications.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>2014</th>
<th>2018</th>
<th>2028 Projection</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Computer and Mathematical</td>
<td>3,619,000</td>
<td>4,000,890</td>
<td>4,552,390</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Architecture and Engineering</td>
<td>2,216,560</td>
<td>2,216,240</td>
<td>2,420,840</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Life, Physical and Social Science</td>
<td>968,670</td>
<td>990,800</td>
<td>1,075,200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>All STEM</strong></td>
<td><strong>6,793,230</strong></td>
<td><strong>7,297,930</strong></td>
<td><strong>8,048,430</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

In 2016, the Massachusetts Department of Education, as part of STEM integration, adopted Digital Literacy and Computer Science Standards (found **HERE**). This set of standards work with the state’s math standards (found **HERE**) and science and technology/engineering standards (found **HERE**) to set the expectations for STEM.

Upcoming Dates/Events:

- Wednesday, December 23, 2020 is a half-day.
- Thursday, December 24, 2020 - Sunday, January 3, 2021 is School Vacation.
- January 4, 2021 all students and staff return to school.
- Please find our school calendar **HERE**.

SILVIA STARs

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Silvia December Happenings

Spirit Days
Show off your Silvia Spirit before break!

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Monday - 12/21</th>
<th>Festive Clothing Day - Get decked out in your favorite winter/holiday shirt, dress or clothing.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday - 12/22</td>
<td>Winter Hat or Festive Headband Day - Wear your favorite winter hat or holiday headband.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday - 12/23</td>
<td>Winter Pajama Day - ‘Twas the Wednesday before break. Login wearing your favorite winter pajamas to celebrate.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Virtual Lunch Bunches
Students Learning From Home:
Join us for an extra opportunity to show off your Silvia Spirit and socialize with friends and other Silvia students!!

Join the fun by logging on at the time of your grade level. Use the Google Meet code listed below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Monday, December 21st</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Google Meet Login Code</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Grade Level</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grades 2 and 3</td>
<td>10:30 - 11</td>
<td>Google Meet Code: siliaspirit1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Preschool, Kindergarten and Grade 1</td>
<td>11:30 - 12</td>
<td>Google Meet Code: siliaspirit2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grades 4 and 5</td>
<td>12:30 - 1</td>
<td>Google Meet Code: siliaspirit3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

★Criteria: Students must attend their classroom Google Meetings and work hard during the day to participate in this fun event. Please make sure your child(ren) arrives at the Google Meet muted and follow Silvia Star virtual expectations.

Hosted by Mrs. Michel, Mr. Arruda and Mrs. Homol with guest appearances by other Silvia staff!
We hope to see you there!
If you have any questions regarding logging in with the meeting code please email or call us at Silvia before 9am on Monday.

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