

# STAR Academy News

JANUARY 28, 2010

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## CAO's Message

Dear readers,

It seems like the months are just breezing by! Soon Spring will be upon us. As our 3rd grade prepares for their first CSAP tests, we have a lot going on at STAR.

We are asking that parents help us with maintaining the positive atmosphere at school by making sure that their students are appropriately meeting the uniform/dress code policy. This policy can be found on the school website [www.staracademycolorado.org](http://www.staracademycolorado.org)

Reenrollment forms will be going out soon and we would appreciate you to turn them in as soon as possible. This helps us with our staffing, planning, ordering supplies, etc.

Are you aware?... Can't find your newsletter? Go to [www.staracademycolorado.org](http://www.staracademycolorado.org) to find dates, events, current calendar and other information.

In Physical Education, Ms. Orona has her jump ropes ready as STAR kicks off the "Jump Rope for Heart" program. Proceeds go to the American Heart Association and STAR can purchase additional P.E. equipment if we raise enough money. Look for information fliers going home soon. Let's get Jump'n!

Our next two Paragon Celebration had a date change! **The February Paragon Celebration will be February 18, 2010 at @ 2:30** and the **March Paragon Celebration will be March 31, 2010 at 5:30 p.m.**

Please read on for information concerning PTO, school delays and closures, etc. As always, if you have any questions, please contact Ms. Blair, Mrs. Castro, or Mr. Torrez in the front office. We'd be happy to assist you!

Joe Torrez  
Chief Administrative Officer  
STAR Academy

# Boys Basketball: Inaugural Charter School Season



**Coach Alvarado**



**Coach Borchers**

## **February**

1<sup>st</sup> – Monday Practice

4<sup>th</sup> – Thursday Practice

8<sup>th</sup> – Monday Practice

9<sup>th</sup> – Tuesday Away games @ Pikes Peak Prep 4/5 Gr Team @ 445 , 6/7 Gr Team @ 530

11<sup>th</sup> – Thursday Home game v. Globe 4/5 Gr. Team ONLY @ 445

12<sup>th</sup> – Friday Open gym for Boy's B-ball Team members only 700-730 AM in the Gym

16<sup>th</sup> – Tuesday Away games @ Co Sprgs Charter Acad 4/5 Gr @ 445 , 6/7 Gr @ 530

18<sup>th</sup> – Thursday Practice

22<sup>nd</sup> - Monday Practice

23<sup>rd</sup> – Tuesday Away games @ Scholars 2 Ldrs Acad 4/5 Gr @ 445 , 6/7 Gr Team @ 530

24<sup>th</sup> – Wednesday Open gym for Boy's Team members only 700-730 AM in the Gym

25<sup>th</sup> – Thursday Home games v. Co Sprgs Charter Acad 4/5 Gr @ 445 , 6/7 Gr @ 530

## **March**

1<sup>st</sup> – Monday Practice

2<sup>nd</sup> – Tuesday Home games v. SLA 4/5 Gr @ 445 , 6/7 Gr @ 530

4<sup>th</sup> – Thursday Away game @ Globe 4/5 Gr. Team ONLY @ 445

8<sup>th</sup> – Monday Practice

9<sup>th</sup> – Tuesday Home games v. PPP 4/5 Gr @ 445 , 6/7 Gr @ 530

12<sup>th</sup> – Friday Practice

15<sup>th</sup> – Monday Possible Tournament Game for 4<sup>th</sup> / 5<sup>th</sup> Graders only

16<sup>th</sup> – Tuesday Possible Tournament Game for 6<sup>th</sup> / 7<sup>th</sup> Graders only

17<sup>th</sup> – Wednesday Possible Tournament Game for 4<sup>th</sup> / 5<sup>th</sup> Graders only

18<sup>th</sup> – Thursday Possible Championship Tourn. Game 4<sup>th</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> Grd and/ or 6<sup>th</sup>-7<sup>th</sup> Grd

**GOOD LUCK COMETS!**

# School Delays and Closures

At STAR Academy, we want to ensure the safety and welfare of our students, families, and staff. The determination on whether to delay or close school will be made after gathering as much data as possible.

Please remember that the YMCA program at STAR will close and/or delay as well.

In the Event that STAR Academy will be closed or delayed due to bad weather, it will be posted as STAR Academy on the following channels and their websites:

**STAR Academy** [staracademycolorado.org](http://staracademycolorado.org)

**Channel 11-** [News@kktv.com](mailto:News@kktv.com)

**Fox 21-** [morningnews@KXRM.com](mailto:morningnews@KXRM.com)

[www.FlashAlert.net](http://www.FlashAlert.net)

**Channel 5/30 -** [www.newsfirst5.com](http://www.newsfirst5.com)

We will also e-mail “blast” parents that have provided us with an e-mail address.

 A yellow flag will be displayed outside of school when there is a 2 hr. delay

 A red flag will be displayed when school is closed.

## From the Board of Directors...

All Parents and community are welcome and encouraged to attend the monthly Board of Director’s meeting. The meetings are held the fourth Tuesday of the month.

The next Board of Director’s meeting is:

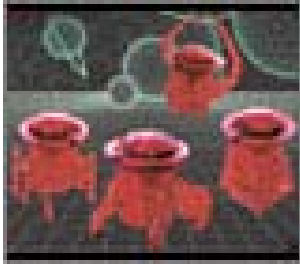
February 23, 2010 at 6:00 p.m. in the STAR Library

# TECHNOLOGY

STAR Academy is pleased to offer “hands-on” technology for our students. Our students will be building, programming, and analyzing the capabilities of robots. Discovery and problem solving will rule the class when students become masters of robots.



Weasel is a tenacious little robot warrior that embodies two sensors that allow it to “see” a line or “feel” its way along walls and around corners. The two motors and contact sensor activate the wall sensing micro switch to control the motors’ on/off operation that determines the path of a wall. It is the classic robot design using the “Left Hand Rule” to escape mazes.



4 in 1 Robot Kit features 4 different methods of movement: Traversing – hand over hand (Orangutan mode), 2 legged walking (Gorilla mode), 4 legged walking (Centaur mode) and 6 legged walking (Spider mode). Discover the dynamics of animal locomotion. What are the benefits or disadvantages of two or four or six-legged propulsion? Make a connection and differentiate the physical characteristics of stability verses mobility. Simple engineering and basic industrial design are accomplished in its self-stabilizing computations.

## PARENTS:

“Student dismissal is at 3:30 pm. *Please do not ask our office staff to make arrangements for you child to be in the office or to deliver messages at the end of the school day. At this time of the day, those requests place an unnecessary burden on the office staff and disrupt the normal dismissal procedures in the classroom. Thank You*”





# 2nd grade Study of Japan Kingdoms and Colonies 1600-1750

## Mochitsuki-

Although eaten year round, **mochi**, is an important traditional food for the Japanese New Year celebration. It is made by rhythmically pounding polished glutinous rice (that was soaked overnight and cooked) into a smooth, sticky paste. Japanese American families and communities continue old traditions and rituals by gathering to pound **mochi** by using a heavy wooden mallet (“kine”) and mortar (“usu”). Two people alternate the work, one pounding and the other wetting the **mochi**. Between each swing, the second person turns the rice; timing is critical (Ouch!). The sticky rice paste is shaped into small round flattened cakes to resemble a mirror, one of the three ancient imperial treasures, and thus represents wealth.





# FEBRUARY 2010

S MON TUE WED THU FRI SAT

1 2 Cog AT 3 Cog AT 4 Cog AT 5 6

7 8 9 10 11 12 13

11 Spirit Assembly 2:45  
 PTO Meeting 5:30  
 12 Half Day of School 12:00 release  
 5th, 6th, 7th Grade Field Trip  
 Fine Arts Center Valentine's parties TBA



1 15 4 President's Day NO SCHOOL  
 16 3rd Grade CSAP  
 17 SAC meeting 5:15  
 18 Paragon Celeb. 2:30  
 19 20



2 22 1 23 Board Meeting 6:00 pm  
 24 25 First grade field trip City Aud  
 26 27

2  
8



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**Colorado Springs School District 11**  
**Food Service Questions?**  
**E-mail [hugherh@d11.org](mailto:hugherh@d11.org)**  
**Call 719-520-2924**  
**On-line <http://www.d11.org/fns/rantandraves.htm>**