



- 4/8-4/26 CMAS Testing Window Grades 3-8
- 4/10 BAAC Meeting 4:30 PM
- 4/10 Academy Board Meeting 6:15 PM
- 4/12 MS Honor Roll Breakfast 7:30 AM
- 4/12 Elementary Awards Assembly 2:30 PM
- 4/16 Panda Express Fundraiser 4:00-8:00 PM
- 4/24 End of Grading Period for Progress Reports
- 4/26 4th Grade Medieval Festival
- 4/26 End of CMAS Window Grades 3-8
- 4/29 Progress Reports Sent Home
- 5/1 Junior Achievement JA in a Day Grades K-5
- 5/2 PTA Meeting 6:00 PM
- 5/8 BAAC Meeting 4:30 PM
- 5/8 Academy Board Meeting 6:15 PM



## From the Director

### A Perspective on Testing

No doubt about it-- kids sure do get tested a lot this time of year. Now that the Colorado state test, CMAS, begins this week for grades 3 through 8, it's a good time to reflect on testing in general and specifically how Crown Pointe uses this information to guide instruction. As everyone knows, our main goal is to assist your child in becoming literate (and numerate), to be able to decode text, to make sense of what they are reading, and to communicate their understanding through writing and speaking. As we work with your child, there are many ways to determine their success at all of this. Tests are just one.

While the information we gather from CMAS tests is used to guide instruction, unfortunately nearly all the results don't arrive until later this summer at the earliest. By the time we find out how we did, one entire grade level has left the school. As a tool, CMAS is limited because the results take so very long to get to us. This delay really makes basing decisions on these tests alone impossible since we have to plan for next year much earlier than that. Long term trends in CMAS and other student assessments like DIBELs, Galileo, and classroom work are some of our most reliable measures. This is the best information used in helping plan out our next steps.

CPA is definitely judged on the results of these tests; however, they are not the only thing we focus on. Last month, we hosted Kindergarten roundup, which is our chance to get to know next year's new students and families. The questions we heard from new parents never once included CMAS scores. Instead, they were all around school safety, climate, curriculum, and most often about the quality of the Kindergarten staff. Staff and students work really hard to get results in all areas including test results, yet at the same time testing is something we must keep in perspective.

## “How Was Your Day?” Better Questions to Ask Kids

by Jasmine Evans for [education.com](http://education.com)

After school, your child hops into the car or walks in the house and you ask, "How was school today?" Maybe you get a full sentence, or instead the answer is "fine," "good" ... or just a grunt. Getting information out of a quiet child or sullen preteen may seem like it requires CIA-approved interrogation techniques, but you most likely just need to change up your questions.

**Class and Homework:** Instead of: “How is science class?” Ask: “What did you learn in science class today?” This more specific question is simple and unassuming, and the answer could be packed with information. Even if your child gives a nonchalant shrug and mutters, "I don't know," you can then try to figure out if he really doesn't know what's going on in science class (valuable information) or if he just doesn't feel like talking. Instead of: “Did you do your homework?” Ask: “What did your teacher assign for English class today?” The standard question about homework that parents ask every day is rarely effective since it's a yes-or-no question. Instead, hear what the assignment was, then you can ask if your kid actually did it.

**Classmates & Teachers:** Instead of: “How was your day?” Ask: “What was your favorite part of the day?” You could also ask if someone did something funny or if your child had any difficult tasks that day. Without being specific, your child may just say "fine" or "nothing," and bring the conversation to a halt.

**Tests:** Instead of: “Are you ready for your math test tomorrow?” Ask: “What did you do to prepare for your math test?” Studying isn't intuitive and most kids simply don't know how to do it. Sleeping on the textbook and learning by osmosis usually doesn't work. If your child mentions ineffective tactics, you might want to step in and help make some flashcards or do some practice questions. Instead of: “Why did you do so poorly on this test?” Ask: “What can we do differently next time so that you get a better grade?” Most kids want to do well in school and whether they admit it or not, getting a poor grade can make them feel pretty crummy. While they absolutely share a great amount of the responsibility for doing well, making their success seem like a team effort can motivate them to try harder and to communicate with you. Instead of: “How did you do on that test you had today?” Ask: “I used to get really nervous before a big math test. Numbers still kind of make me nervous. How did you feel during your test today?”

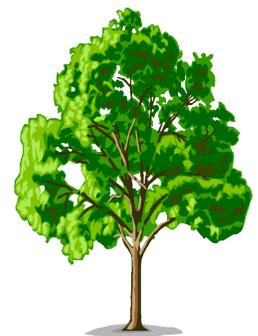
Sometimes kids forget that the adults in their lives were once kids too. Remind your child that you were once in his shoes. If you have a funny story about a test gone wrong, share it! Come on, we've all been there. It may help your child open up about his own struggles.

As your child gets older, you may feel like you're trying to crack open a vault, and the combination keeps changing. Keep up with what's going on in your child's life by asking more specific and open-ended questions and listen to the answers. If you know who your child plays with and who is mortal enemy #1 this week, you'll go a long way in gaining "parent cred" in the long run. Even if he doesn't talk much, your child still wants to know that you're listening.

## Arbor Day and Earth Day Activities at the City of Westminster!

Saturday, April 20th from 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at the City Park Recreation Center. Learn about endangered species with presentations from the Denver Zoo and Standley Lake Naturalists. Learn about electric vehicles and tree care and selection, watch equipment demonstrations, and participate in the kids tree climbing event.

For more information, visit [www.ci.westminster.co.us](http://www.ci.westminster.co.us).



## State Mandated Tests Start Today!

Students in grades 3-8 will be completing the Colorado Measures of Academic Success (CMAS) testing between April 8th-26th. Most grade levels have six tests in English Language Arts and Math that take between 65 and 110 minutes each to complete. Additionally, students in grades 5 and 8 will complete testing in science, which includes three tests that take approximately 80 minutes each.

**Your child's attendance on these testing dates is essential.** We encourage you not to schedule any activities that require your child to be absent during the testing days. We know that you are aware that your child's participation on these tests is very important, so please take time to review the following testing tips with him/her:

- Make sure your child is well rested for school, especially on the day of the test;
- Provide a hearty breakfast on the morning of the test;
- Be sure your child arrives on time to school each day and attends regularly;
- Encourage your child to do his/her best;
- Remember it's important not to judge your child on the basis of a single test score. It's more important to focus on progress over a marking period than on the results of one test.
- Contact your child's teacher whenever you have questions about his/her progress, including test results.

Please take time to remind your child of the following test taking strategies as the test approaches:

- Stay calm. Some students find it helpful to relax themselves with a couple of slow, deep breaths before they begin the test;
- Read and/or listen carefully to directions from the teacher before beginning the test;
- Begin as soon as you can and complete the test exactly as you are told to do;
- Read each question and all possible answers before selecting the correct one;
- Check over the test at the end of the test session to be sure that you have answered all the questions; and
- Keep working until time is up. If you finish early, go back and check your answers.

Thank you for your continued support and commitment to your child's success, and as always, please call your child's teacher, Mr. Ouweneel, or Mrs. Keyes if you have questions about the CMAS assessments.

## 2018-2019 CPA Yearbooks on Sale Now!

It's time to purchase your 2018-2019 CPA yearbooks put together by the Middle School Yearbook Club. Students have been working hard to make this year's book amazing!

To order your yearbook, go to [www.TreeRing.com/validate](http://www.TreeRing.com/validate). Crown Pointe's school code is: 101392221425678. Standard yearbooks are \$16.50, or you can customize your yearbook for an additional fee.

**The deadline to order your yearbook is Tuesday, April 23rd in order to have your yearbook by the end of the school year, so order now!**

Yearbook Club still needs your photos! Email your photos to [yearbook@crownpointeacademy.org](mailto:yearbook@crownpointeacademy.org) or send them to the office on a CD.

Contact Jesika Hardman, Yearbook Club's parent advisor, with any questions at [yearbook@crownpointeacademy.org](mailto:yearbook@crownpointeacademy.org).

**Staff Extensions (303) 428-1882**

219	Austin, Tammie	Kindergarten Assistant
127	Bandel, Denise	In House Substitute
223	Bonadonna, Janet	2nd Grade Assistant
512	Davis, Typhany	Middle School Math Teacher
410	Felten, Adina	4th Grade Teacher
103	Fiorini, Leslie	Front Office
408	George, Andrea	3rd Grade Teacher
102	Gerber, Trisha	Front Office
406	Gonzalez, William	4th-8th Grade Spanish Teacher
228	Granado, Alicia	Kindergarten Assistant
412	Hardy, Liz	5th Grade Teacher
123	Hernandez, Diane	Evening Custodian
210	Hersh, Kala	1st Grade Teacher
211	Holmes, Liann	1st Grade Teacher
212	Hubin, Ashley	2nd Grade Teacher
514	Hughes, Bonnie	Middle School Social Studies Teacher
104	Jaime, Felicia	Health Aide
521	Johnson, Kim	Middle School Assistant
418	Johnson, Velvet	3rd Grade Assistant
107	Keyes, Erin	Assistant Director
115	Knutson, Kari	School Counselor
409	Kokoszka, Jessie	4th Grade Teacher
222	Lacert, Abbi	2nd Grade Assistant
221	Lamb, Michaela	1st Grade Assistant
513	Laxton, Meghan	Middle School Language Arts Teacher
510	MacGregor, Matt	Middle School Math Teacher
105	MacGregor, Sandi	Executive Secretary
113	Munier, Morgan	Day Custodian
422	O'Connor, Katie	5th Grade Assistant
307	O'Neal, Pam	K-8 Music Teacher
106	Ouweneel, Keith	Director
118	Pilbeam, Jen	RTI/ELL Coordinator
407	Qualkinbush, Morgan	3rd Grade Teacher
419	Ring, Anna	4th Grade Assistant
504	Roe, Marcia	Middle School Science Teacher
421	Ross, Brenda	5th Grade Assistant
209	Rullo, Rosemarie	Kindergarten Teacher
220	Melo, Thalia	1st Grade Assistant
313	Satterfield, Ann Marie	K-3 Spanish Teacher, K-8 Art Teacher
511	Scott, Jay	Middle School Language Arts Teacher
599	Sherlock, Evan	Expo Teacher
425	Sinclair, Jennie	4th Grade Assistant
405	Smeltzer, Danielle	Special Education Teacher
417	Sonday, LuCinda	3rd Grade Teacher
523	Southern, Julie	Middle School Electives Teacher, 6th Grade ELA Teacher
117	Strass, Monica	Innovation Programs Director
208	Sullivan, Jackie	Kindergarten Teacher
318	Varner, AJ	Physical Education Teacher
411	Wetmore, Melanie	5th Grade Teacher
213	Winham, Wilhelmina	2nd Grade Teacher
502	Worley, Paula	MS RTI, Gifted and Talented Coordinator

**Staff e-mail Formula:**

firstname.lastname@crownpointeacademy.org

Check your student's grades and attendance  
anytime from the

*Infinite Campus Parent Portal*

Pick up your login info at the school office.

**Crown Pointe Academy Board of Directors****President**

Michelle Kline (303) 229-0078

**Vice President**

Dawn Baird (303) 596-8281

**Secretary**

Cindy McNeal (720) 327-3691

**Treasurer**

Gabe Sandoval (720) 220-5354

**Member at Large**

Eddie Rey

**Parent Teacher Association (PTA) Board**

President: Lilian Pacheco (720) 936-4192

Vice President: Jesika Hardman

Vice President: Carla Howes (720) 595-0230

Board Member: Austin Shelton (720) 837-3078

Board Member: Anthony Dietz

Treasurers: Adria Hurd and  
Kendall Neuhalfen

Secretary: Angelica Fehlmann

Auditor: Liann Holmes (303) 428-1882 x211

Visit us on the web at  
[www.crownpointeacademy.org](http://www.crownpointeacademy.org)

**Non-Discrimination Policy**

Crown Pointe Academy shall comply with all applicable federal, state, and local laws, rules and regulations including without limitation, the constitutional provisions prohibiting discrimination on the basis of disability, age, race, creed, color, gender, national and ethnic origin in administration of its educational policies, admissions policies, athletic and other school-administered programs.