



July Newsletter 2022



Upcoming events:

Have a great Summer Break, we are CLOSED July 4th-8th

Saturday July 30th 11:00am-3pm at the Sayre Park Lower Shelter Ms. Megan's Going away party, come bid a fond farewell. Our school thanks you for 15 years of service to our kiddos, families, and community.



Our School is pleased to welcome Ms. Kelsey Clapper to the Our School family, we are so thrilled to have you!

Kelsey Clapper is a Roaring Fork Valley native, born and raised. She has been in Early Childhood since 2012 and is a mother of two beautiful children, Jj and Brianna who are beginning Middle School and 3rd grade this year in Carbondale.

She fell in love with following the child, getting down to their level, and playing alongside them and based her Early Childhood Education following the Montessori Method. In 2015, she received her credential in Montessori Infant and Toddler in Boulder, and her Director's Certificate through CMC, from the State of Colorado, she has reapplied this last year and is awaiting the State.

Kelsey has a passion for mental health, psychology, and has recently gone back to school to receive her Bachelor's in Psychology. She hopes to hop right on in and learn from you all! With her EC Education and Psychology knowledge, Kelsey aspires to aid and lead the teachers, staff, parents, and community of "Our School."

Outside school, you will often find her getting outside, riding her mountain bike, skiing downhill, and paddle boarding throughout the year! She also loves sitting down with a cup of coffee and a good book, finding a project at home, or letting her wild side go with a bit of salsa dancing.

The biggest reason that she has enjoyed working in EC Education all this years is as she quotes, "We all have challenging lives at times, and yet when I step through these doors, life is a bit more mellow, seeing the children's smiles as they manipulate and work through the environment provides me with a feeling larger than myself or the issues that are troubling me; we are there for them and providing consistency and love to all the students brings me true joy. While being in the office and all over may be different, I am coming in ready to learn from those before and bring new insights and a fresh light. I hope to bring what I have and more to my classroom and Mt. Sopris Montessori community to the entire community of Our School. My door will be open as is my mindset. I look forward to meeting you and our new journey together."



A Huge thank you and shout out to the Black Hills Corp. Foundation who has approved funding to Our School, approved by the Community Giving Committee of Black Hills Energy - Nebraska for a total award from Black Hills Energy, this phenomenal grant will allow us to make a much-needed upgrade to the boiler in the toddler room!

Preschool news: The kiddos had a great time during last month's Community Members unit, this month they wanted to learn about dinosaurs. We are excited to have a dino-mite time learning about dinosaurs.

Toddler news: The toddlers will be focusing on colors, with many colorful fun activities planned for them to learn and explore.

The infants will continue to master their individual growth and development with the baby whisperer.



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New research shows that the early years set the stage for all future development. More is known now than ever before about how young children learn, think, and grow. All children are born eager to explore their world and master their development. From conception to a child's first day of kindergarten, development proceeds at a pace exceeding that of any stage of life. Infants, toddlers, and preschoolers rapidly develop capabilities in emotional regulation, relationships, cognition, motor development and language. These capabilities form the foundation from which all future development builds. Whether that foundation is sturdy or fragile depends to a great degree on the quality of the young child's early environments and relationships. Human relationships are the building blocks for healthy development. Positive early relationships greatly influence a child's ability to achieve later success in school and in life. Relationships enable young children to care about people by establishing the human connection between self and others. As a consequence of early relationships, young children seek to understand the feelings, thoughts and expectations of others, as well as the importance of cooperation and sharing. The young child's identity is shaped by the interactions that they have with others who are significant in their lives –parents, childcare providers, and other family members. The quality of these early relationships has a far more significant influence on early learning than has previously been understood.