

BOTO BUZZ

newsletter

April

Teacher Message

As we look ahead to spring, we want to share that both NWEA and M-STEP testing will be approaching. Students will take the NWEA assessments in reading and math, as well as the M-STEP, which measures skills in ELA (including reading, writing, and language) and math. While we do not yet have confirmed testing dates, we have begun talking with students—especially about M-STEP—to help answer their questions, explain what to expect, and ease any worries. Our goal is to ensure students feel prepared and confident. We will share more detailed information with families as we get closer to the testing window and receive our specific schedule!

Save the Date

April 1-3: Spring Break

April 17: Mother/Son Dance

April 18: Daddy/Daughter
Dance

April 23-24: No School, Spring
Comprehensive Student
Reviews (CSRs)

April 30: Evening CSRs

Parent Partnership

We are excited to welcome Miss Porter to our Boto family! If you need to contact her, please email cporter@csaschool.org. Thank you for your continued partnership and support—we truly appreciate it!

Our Learning

Dev. Math: Students will continue their studies on fractions by adding, subtracting, and multiplying fractions and mixed numbers, as well as problem solving with fractions. They will also continue studying measurement and equivalence by interpreting data.

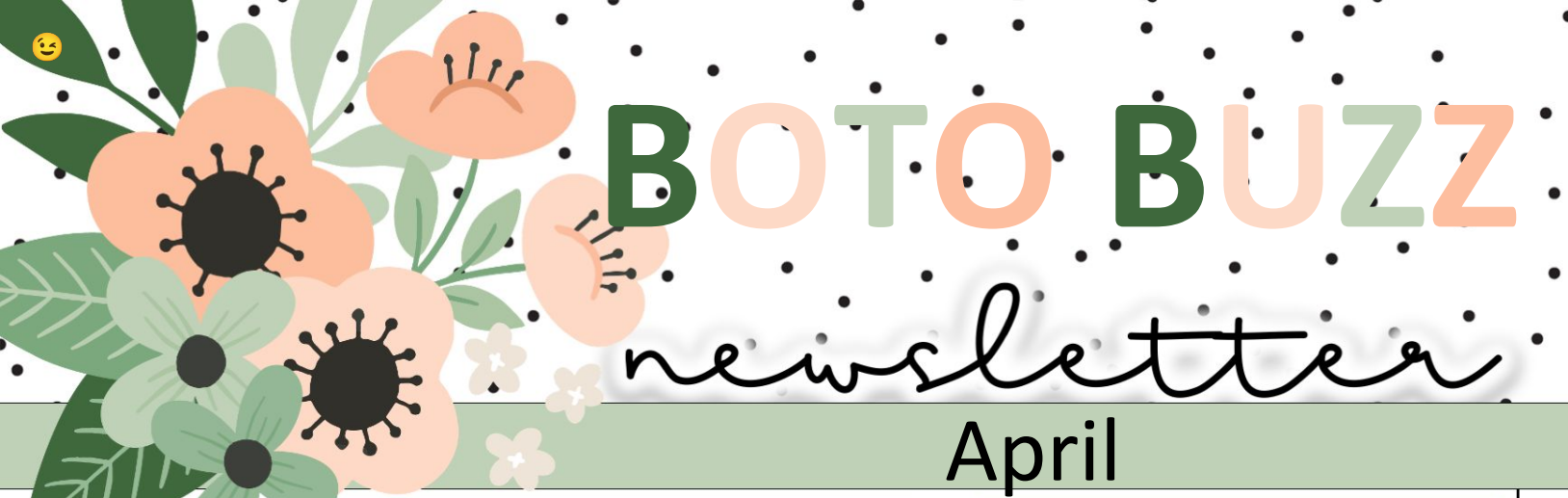
Early Math: Students will begin working to understand fractions as parts of a whole by identifying them on number lines, modeling and writing equivalent fractions, and relating fractions to whole numbers. They will also begin representing and interpreting data through various charts and graphs.

Reading: This month, students will be interpreting, analyzing, and comparing the literary elements of fictional texts - characters, setting, plot, theme, and points of view.

Writing: Students will be writing claims based on their opinions, brainstorming reasons and evidence that support their claims, organizing their information, and beginning to draft multiple paragraphs for a persuasive essay.

Science: We will explore how groupings, habitats, and ecosystems impact an organism's chances of survival. We will also begin studying fossils and the clues they give us regarding organisms and prehistoric ecosystems.





Character Corner

Two more of the Habits of Mind (the 16 life skills and intellectual habits that we teach here at CSA) that we often focus on in our classroom include taking responsible risks and thinking flexibly. Our guided math block lends itself nicely to discussions around these two traits. Oftentimes in math, students are presented with a new problem and are asked to try solving it using their prior knowledge. In addition to this, we ask students to find alternative solutions or pathways to solutions in helping to continue their overall growth and development. Having this growth mindset going into the final term of the year will be a great way for your child to start with a fresh outlook and open mind to problem solving in other areas as well, not just in math!

The CSA Way

We're always guiding learners through the process of setting achievable goals for themselves through a series of self-reflective exercises designed to get them thinking about their thinking (AKA Metacognition!). For many learners at this developmental level, setting goals and reflecting upon progress is quite challenging as their brains are still developing in some significant ways. Our hope is to dig deeper into these processes to help strengthen these pathways! As students continue formulating goals, in and outside of the classroom, we can partner together to continue encouraging them to communicate their hopes and ideas at home for both support and accountability. If they forget to mention it, we encourage you to ask (or perhaps pull it out of them, if needed!) More information on metacognition and how you can support it at home can also be found [HERE!](#)