



Academy Magic Newsletter



*Welcome back, students and families,
and welcome to 2023!*

It will be a great remainder of the year for our Academy students, starting with our second all-school **Lightning Rally** at the end of January! We will acknowledge Lightning Leaders and celebrate the start of a new semester! We will also start looking forward to other exciting school-wide events like the **100th Day of School**, **Science Fair**, **Multicultural Day**, and our **Spring Spirit Week**!

More information is to come on these and other exciting events to look forward to as our students return from Winter Break refreshed and ready to tackle the rest of the school year. In the meantime, I found a quote by Neil Gaiman, an English author and novelist, ***"I hope that in this year to come, you make mistakes. Because if you are making mistakes, you are: making new things, trying new things, learning, living, pushing yourself, changing yourself, changing your world."***

Let's change the world, Academy students! Let's charge into this new year brave and unafraid to make mistakes, for it is through mistakes that the best learning opportunities happen! Here's to a wonderful new year!

Emily Hoffman

Director of Lindamood-Bell Academy



Upcoming Events

JANUARY

- 2** New Year's Day
(No School)
- 4** Late Start Minimum Day (US)
Early Release Minimum Day (UK)
- 4** Wacky Wednesday
(Favorite Book Day)
- 11** Wacky Wednesday
(Pajama Day)
- 13** Pajama Book Day
- 16** MLK Day
(No School - US Only)
- 18** Wacky Wednesday
(Animal Day)
- 25** Wacky Wednesday
(Silly Hat Day)
- 27** Academy Lightning Rally
- 30** First Day of the Second Semester





STUDENT SPOTLIGHT



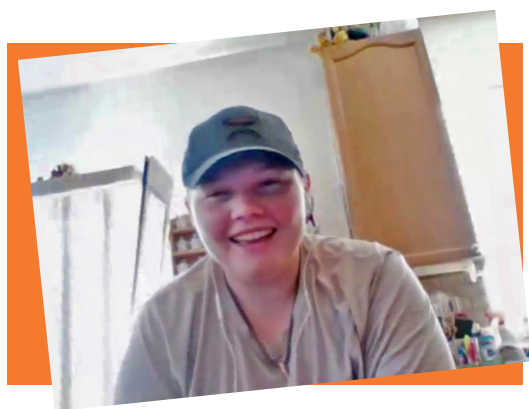
Denver Students' Magic



Shuki has an incredible imagination! While he used to struggle with writing prompts during journaling exercises, Shuki now thrives with detailed entries. He covers diverse and entertaining topics like being a scientist predicting a volcanic eruption, what job he'd have if he lived in ancient Egypt, what if he had a time machine, and describing a day in the life of his favorite animal, the axolotl!

Owen thrives in our caring environment where it's OK to make mistakes and learn from them! Recently, the staff noted that for the first time, he didn't criticize himself for making a mistake. He laughed and had fun.

I love how he's starting to take more initiative and contributing his humor and interests in his classes and with his pen pal during their exchanges.



Samantha has come a long way on her journey to discover success in school. It's all coming together for her now, and she can apply her sensory-cognitive work to LBA curriculum - a massive step toward instructional independence! Most noticeably, her confidence is growing daily, and we're finally getting to see her smiles more often.

Her mom reiterates those successes and has shared in her progress updates:

“All of a sudden, it's her initiating.”



“This is giving her confidence, so other stuff isn't hurting her self-esteem.”

“She picks up books and says, 'Let's read, Mom.' I'm just thrilled.”





The Denver Star Cast!

From Middle School Curriculum Advisor, Trevor:

I wanted to give the Denver team a shoutout for the amazing things I saw during observations and recently collaborating with them.

Academy isn't easy, yet you all seem adamant about proving that statement wrong. I saw your clinical staff working dynamic lessons with engaged students while being mindful of accommodations. That same quality instruction extends to the leadership team, who know their students so well and are always looking for more ways to support them.

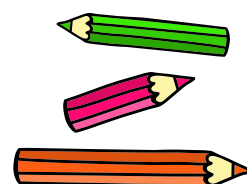
Being the second year working with the Denver team, I'm so excited to see all the growth, passion, and positivity you are all giving. Thank you for all that you have been doing. It is recognized, and we appreciate it!

In the words of Denver CD, Jessica:

The two words that best describe Denver's 2022-23 class of Academy students are growth and kindness. Each of our learners has unique interests and loves to share them with the other students at our center.

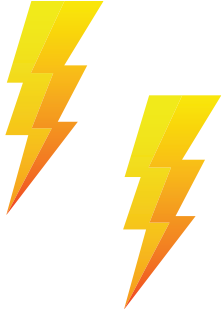
In any given week, we see breaktime chess matches and Lego build-offs between our 6th graders Owen and Shuki, afternoon art projects with 9th and 11th graders Midori and Henry, and our online 8th grader Samantha sharing her diverse interests with her teachers. Each student approaches learning new things with openness and has developed a 'can-do' attitude in the face of new challenges that once would have been overwhelming.

It is truly a pleasure to watch our Academy students grow and learn with the support of their Clinicians, Consultant, and Curriculum Advisor team. Big things are in store for these students!

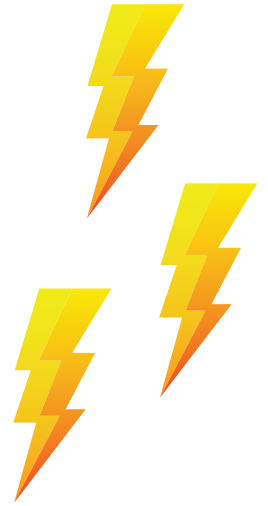




Don't forget to join us for our second *Lightning Rally* on January 27, 2023.



Together, we will celebrate our Academy Lightning Leaders with special recognition and prepare to kick off the start of the second semester. Let's see that school and community spirit of care come to life as we join together and show that we are **Powered by Lightning!**



Feeling Festive at Academy!



Good to Know

The Academy monitors all provisioned student computers for safe and appropriate usage:

Restricted Access: Kindergarten through 5th-grade computers will only have access to online resources that the Academy has pre-approved. Only content needed for the elementary/intermediate curriculum will be accessible.

General Access: We vet 6th to 12th-grade computers with our ongoing general access monitoring practices. In this exercise, attempts to access flagged content categories are instantly restricted and reported to our technology support teams.

Student access may change per their needs or activity for safety and compliance. The Academy will communicate with all families in advance of these transitions.