

### HASSAYAMPA ELEMENTARY SCHOOL SCHOOL-PARENT CONNECTION

CARISSA HERSHKOWITZ  
PRINCIPAL



#### Welcome to the new school year!

This is the first newsletter of the 2022-2023 school year. The *Coyote Den* is your guide to all the great things happening at Hassayampa! Please make sure the school has your correct email address so the *Coyote Den* and other important school information will reach you each month. If you have any questions about items in the *Coyote Den*, please contact your child's teacher or the school office at (928)684-6750.

For additional school information, please refer to the Parent-Student Handbook, visit the Hassayampa website – [www.wickenburgschools.org/HES](http://www.wickenburgschools.org/HES), and “like” us on our school Facebook page.

Hello Hassayampa Families:

Hassayampa staff, both new and veteran, are excited to get the year started and look forward to seeing everyone once again!

#### A Note from Mrs. Hershkowitz

Please help me welcome the following staff members to the Hassayampa family and Wickenburg community:

- ❖ *Nikki Hershberger -5th grade;*
- ❖ *BJ Davidson -5th grade;*
- ❖ *Laura Péwé - 2nd grade;*
- ❖ *Amber Santee -Kindergarten;*
- ❖ *Dylan Healy -art;*
- ❖ *Joy Keith-Prohl -health aide;*
- ❖ *Marilyn Hansbrough -Title 1 paraprofessional;*
- ❖ *Kristen Holman -special education paraprofessional.*

We have a couple internal changes as well! Dakota Healy has looped with the 2nd grade students to 3rd grade and Molly MacNeil has joined the 2nd grade team. Heather Klenk has moved into the instructional coach position. The final move is Lili Olivera who is stepping in as our lead preschool teacher. Debi Killer will be supporting PE as a long-term sub, until we find a permanent replacement.

I hope that you and your family are doing well and continuing to stay healthy. We are grateful to continue to have our school doors open for in-person schooling. The district mitigation plan has been posted on the district website. Although recommended, masks are optional. We will continue to sanitize high contact areas and encourage hand washing. Your support is greatly appreciated!

It was wonderful to see many of you at our Open House event on July 28! Teachers enjoyed meeting you and sharing their beginning of year excitement. For those of you who have completed your enrollment verification through ParentVUE, thank you! If you missed coming by, there are a few documents that will be sent home on Monday that require your signatures. Please help us by getting this signed and returned quickly. Free & Reduced food services require an application this school year. Families are encouraged to complete the application as soon as possible. Additional information can be found on the district website.

Please know that staff at Hassayampa work very hard, every day, to create a rigorous and challenging curriculum as well as a positive and welcoming school climate for students. We want to make strong connections with students, offer them an engaging curriculum, and help them develop and grow into responsible and respectful citizens. Not a day goes by when we are not reflecting on how we can improve as a school. With that said, please also know the great importance that you play in your role as the parent. You have the greatest impact on your child's school performance. As partners in your child's education, you will be doing your part to keep in-tune with everything going on at school and to get to know your child's teacher well.

Best wishes for an incredible school year,

*Mrs. Hershkowitz*



**COMMUNICATION**

Communication is essential! We encourage all parents to reach out to their child’s teacher with questions and concerns as we continue to strive for academic excellence. You will find teachers’ email addresses on our school website. Many families enjoy the convenience of using Class Dojo for communication as well. Keep in mind that Class Dojo doesn’t necessarily alert the teacher when a message has come through. If there is a delay in communication, please contact the teacher through school email.

Many of you have been using the Class Dojo app for several years now. Class Dojo is a simple app that allows students to earn points throughout the day for meeting behavior expectations. As the parent, you can have a quick glimpse on how your child’s day went. Teachers may also share pictures from class; you may even see some announcements from Ms. KP or Mrs. Hershkowitz.

**Calendar of Events**  
 August 1 – First Day of School  
 August 9 – Benchmark Testing Begins  
 Sept. 1 – Principal’s Coffee @ 8:15  
 – Site Council @ 3:30  
 Sept. 6 – No School – Labor Day  
 Sept. 9 – Grandparents Luncheon  
 Oct..5 – Picture Day,  
 Principal’s Coffee, & Site Council  
 Oct. 7 – End of Quarter



**ATTENDANCE**

**ATTEND TODAY, ACHIEVE TOMORROW**

GOOD SCHOOL ATTENDANCE MEANS...

**ELEMENTARY STUDENTS** read well by the end of third grade  
**MIDDLE SCHOOLERS** pass important courses  
**HIGH SCHOOLERS** are on track for graduation  
**COLLEGE STUDENTS** earn their degrees  
**WORKERS** succeed in their jobs

Too many absences - excused or unexcused - can keep students from succeeding in school and in life. How many are too many? 10% of the school year - that's just 15 days at Hassayampa.

**Attendance Works**  
[www.attendanceworks.org](http://www.attendanceworks.org)

Being in school every day means your child won’t miss out on learning. Try to schedule appointments and family trips outside of school hours. If your child asks to stay home “just because” simply remind them of what they will miss, such as reading, specials classes, recess and friends. Help your child understand that being sick is the only reason to stay home. Of course, it is still important for students to stay home when they are truly sick. Please call the front office if your child will be absent.

**Students must be 24 hours fever free before returning to school.**

**STOP THE SPREAD OF GERMS**  
 Help prevent the spread of respiratory diseases like COVID-19.

**Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds.**

[cdc.gov/coronavirus](http://cdc.gov/coronavirus)  
 ©2020 May 12, 2020 4:01 PM

# READING AND MATH NOOK

## Read

Let's start the year off right! Reading is a vital part of elementary school life. **Build the love for reading in your child today!**

### Accelerated Reader

Every year, Hassayampa students do a lot of reading. Last year, the following students entered the million word club: Yahel Ramirez, Brain Carillo, Eddie Gutierrez, Sadie Shields, and Oakley Klenk. Also, Carlos Benitez Padillo did it for the 2nd year in a row! Our top readers are recognized at the end of the year and will have their names added on the Million Word wall above the library doors.

Please check out the Hassayampa school website to see a real-time display of how many AR books Hassayampa students have read this month!  
<http://www.hassayampa.wickenburgschools.org>

### The Hassayampa Bike Giveaway!

Knowing basic math facts is a skill that supports students for a lifetime! In class students will practice these skills daily. Practicing at home is highly encouraged!

Students have an opportunity to earn an entry ticket each time they pass their grade level Math Fact Fluency benchmarks given in October, December, March, and May.

### Math Fact Fluency Goals

- Kinder** - Count and identify #'s to 100
- 1<sup>st</sup> Grade** - addition & subtraction facts within 10
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade** - addition & subtraction facts within 20
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade** - addition & subtraction facts and multiplication facts within 12
- 4<sup>th</sup> Grade** - addition, subtraction & multiplication facts and division facts within 12
- 5<sup>th</sup> Grade** - addition, subtraction, multiplication, & division facts and fractions/decimals/percent

## HERE'S THE IMPACT OF READING 20 MINUTES PER DAY!

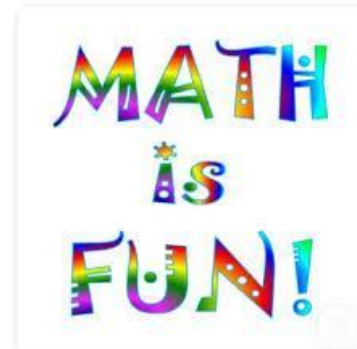
A student who reads	A student who reads	A student who reads
<span style="font-size: 2em; font-weight: bold;">20:00</span>	<span style="font-size: 2em; font-weight: bold;">5:00</span>	<span style="font-size: 2em; font-weight: bold;">1:00</span>
minutes per day	minutes per day	minute per day
will be exposed to <b>1.8 MILLION</b> words per year and is more likely to score in the <b>90th PERCENTILE</b> on standardized tests	will be exposed to <b>282,000</b> words per year and is more likely to score in the <b>50th PERCENTILE</b> on standardized tests	will be exposed to <b>8,000</b> words per year and is more likely to score in the <b>10th PERCENTILE</b> on standardized tests



Source: Nagy, Anderson and Herman, 1987

The drawing for the bikes will take place in May. We had four winners last spring who won new bikes: Angela Velasco, Esteban Lopez, Kennedy Sacher, Joaquin Casas Martinez! Congratulations! This year it could be YOU!

Encourage your child to  
**LEARN MATH FACTS** and  
**EARN A CHANCE TO WIN A BIKE!**



## COUNSELOR'S CORNER

### Contact Mrs. K-P

- School Supplies
- Emergency Clothing
- Weekly Food Bags

Call 928-668-5308

### Weekend Food Bags

A special thank you goes to our local Elks Lodge, The Green Bag Project, and St. Alban's Church. These local organizations will be providing weekend food bags for any family in need. Information and sign-up sheet are available, please contact Ms. K-P if you would like your child added to the list.

### Groups with Mrs. K-P

I will be working with groups of students who are suffering socially, emotionally or behaviorally. If you feel your child has experienced trauma or is just struggling with all the changes that have occurred, please contact me.

*"The time is always right to do what is right."*

- Martin Luther King, Jr.

Even though we have not been in masks and lockdown this year, this is a wonderful article.

## Parent Article

### Mental Health First Aid:

### Tips for Transitioning to the New Normal

(MHFA Monthly, June 30, 2021)

As we transition into the new normal, remember to keep mental and physical health as a top priority. It's perfectly OK to take a step back, go at your own pace or set boundaries as things begin to change. Here are some tips to help you take care of your mental health as we ease back in:

1. **Give yourself some grace:** It's OK if you find yourself feeling a bit anxious about COVID-19 restrictions loosening. You may have days where it feels easier than others. Whether you're overjoyed, reluctant or both, your feelings are valid, and you can adjust at your own pace.
2. **Focus on what you can control:** You may not be able to control the restrictions in your state, but you can control where you go and how you protect yourself and your mental health.
3. **Set a new routine:** Some aspects of your life may have changed in the last year — and you can expect more change as we move forward. Try creating a new routine to help you ease into the change.
4. **Create healthy boundaries:** We have all experienced a range of emotions over the last year, and this transition will be different for everyone. Focus on what you are comfortable with and what will be best for your mental health. It's OK to set boundaries with friends, family and colleagues if you're feeling overwhelmed or anxious.
5. **Do activities you enjoy:** We've all missed some activities over the past year, so to help ease into this transition, you can start to think about doing the things you haven't been able to do. It's important to remember, you only have to do activities you're comfortable with – don't jump back into things too quickly.

### Social Emotional Learning (SEL) and Character Counts!

This year, as part of our "specials" rotation, I will again be teaching SEL as well as Character Counts! During the scheduled Library time, your child will have a 30 minute Second Step lesson. The focus of these lessons will be teaching students skills such as self-regulation, persistence, empathy, self-awareness, and mindfulness.



Don't worry, there will still be time for your child to check out library books.

Warm Wishes,

Mrs. K-P

# PBIS - Let's HOWL!

Education is full of acronyms. So, what is PBIS? PBIS stands for **Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports**. In the past, Hassayampa staff used a PBIS "Light". We identified our COYOTE WAY behavior expectations, but we needed more. Our data showed that we were losing instructional time due to disruptive behaviors. This summer a wonderful representation of Hassayampa teachers came together for three days of training. Over these three days, an eight member team created an implementation plan for Hassayampa. The plan began with the vision of **increasing instructional time**. We will achieve this goal by providing clear expectations for all students to use in all areas of their school environment. The expectations will be **taught, practiced, enforced, retaught, and celebrated**. The Coyote Way will now include the acronym **HOWL** which stands for **Honor, Ownership, Work, and Leadership**. Under each of these headings are specific behavior expectations. All Hassayampa staff will be teaching these expectations the first week of school and throughout the school year. Students who are caught meeting expectations will earn tickets which can be redeemed for special rewards. We will have a special shout out to students during morning announcements and during our quarterly assemblies. During the year, we will continue to review our discipline data to determine our progress.

 <span style="font-size: 2em; color: yellow;">The Coyote Way</span> 				
	Honor	Ownership	Work	Leadership
Classroom	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>★ Keep hands, feet, and objects to yourself</li> <li>★ Follow directions when given</li> <li>★ Listen while others are speaking</li> <li>★ Use appropriate language</li> <li>★ Move safely in the classroom</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>★ Use appropriate voice level</li> <li>★ Transition quietly and quickly</li> <li>★ Organize, use, and care for materials appropriately</li> <li>★ Be a full-body listener</li> <li>★ Be in school everyday</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>★ Have materials ready to learn</li> <li>★ Stay in assigned area</li> <li>★ Stay focused and finish the assignment with quality and care</li> <li>★ Participate by asking questions and communicating ideas respectfully</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>★ Challenge ideas politely</li> <li>★ Take initiative to help others</li> <li>★ Include and encourage others</li> <li>★ Be a problem solver</li> <li>★ Report unsafe behavior to a staff member</li> </ul>
Hallways	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>★ Keep hands, feet, and objects to yourself</li> <li>★ Follow directions when given</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>★ Use zero voice level</li> <li>★ Stay to the right</li> <li>★ Walk single file along the wall</li> <li>★ Walk and take one stair at a time using the handrail</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>★ Have a hall pass</li> <li>★ Walk directly to your destination</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>★ Keep our campus clean and pick up litter</li> <li>★ Report damage and/or unsafe behavior to a staff member</li> </ul>
Bathroom	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>★ Keep hands, feet, and objects to yourself</li> <li>★ Respect privacy of others</li> <li>★ Move safely in the area</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>★ Use zero voice level</li> <li>★ Do your business and flush</li> <li>★ Wash your hands with soap</li> <li>★ Limit towel use and throw it away in the trash can</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>★ Return to class quickly and quietly</li> <li>★ Keep facility clean</li> <li>★ Have a hall pass at all times</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>★ Model positive behavior</li> <li>★ Respect the facilities</li> <li>★ Report all problems and vandalism to a staff member</li> </ul>
Cafeteria	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>★ Keep hands, feet, and objects to yourself</li> <li>★ Follow directions when given</li> <li>★ Wait quietly for your turn in line</li> <li>★ Move safely in the area</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>★ Use appropriate voice level, #2 or below</li> <li>★ Keep food on tray</li> <li>★ Leave your area better than you found it</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>★ Stay properly seated facing your table until dismissed</li> <li>★ Food or drink stay in the cafeteria</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>★ Only eat your own food</li> <li>★ Say "please" and "thank you"</li> <li>★ Use good table manners</li> </ul>
Playground	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>★ Keep hands, feet, and objects to yourself</li> <li>★ Follow directions when given</li> <li>★ Be a good sport when playing with others</li> <li>★ Line up immediately when whistle blows</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>★ Use equipment safely</li> <li>★ Leave rocks, sticks, and sand on the ground</li> <li>★ Wear appropriate shoes</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>★ Strive to make friends</li> <li>★ Follow game rules</li> <li>★ Put equipment away</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>★ Take turns and include others</li> <li>★ Use positive talk and be a role model</li> <li>★ Report unsafe behavior to a staff member</li> </ul>
Arrival/Dismissal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>★ Keep hands, feet, and objects to yourself</li> <li>★ Wait quietly in line</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>★ Stay to the right on the sidewalk</li> <li>★ Keep materials in your backpacks</li> <li>★ Report to office if tardy</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>★ Walk directly to your destination</li> <li>★ Arrive to school on time</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>★ Greet teachers and peers kindly</li> <li>★ Be calm and ready to learn</li> </ul>