

COYOTE DEN

Hassayampa Elementary School
Parent - School Connection

Welcome November!

November is here! We welcome the cooler temperatures. Last month was certainly busy, and November is looking like much of the same! 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, and “like” us on our school Facebook page.

Calendar of Events

November 2 – Honors Assembly
 Nov. 7 – Principal's Coffee @ 8:15
 Nov. 7 – Site Council Meeting @ 3:00
 Nov. 5 - Food Drive/Clothing Drive Begins
 Nov. 1 – PTA Meeting @ 4:00
 Nov. 6 – Election Day
 Nov. 8 – Governing Board Meeting @ 6:30 p.m.
 Nov. 12 - Veteran's Day Holiday Observed - No School
 Nov. 15 – Thanksgiving Luncheon
 Nov. 15 – Turkeys and Tables Event – WHS
 Nov. 21 – EVENT – Webb Center
 Nov. 22 & 23 – Thanksgiving Break – No School
 Nov. 21 – 2nd Gr. Field Trip – World Wildlife Zoo

Week of Dec. 3 – DIBELS and MFF Benchmark Testing
 Dec. 5 – Principal's Coffee @ 8:15
 Dec. 13 – Spelling Bee
 Dec. 14 – Festival Friday:
 Week of Dec. 17 – Holiday Sale
 Dec. 21 – Holiday Blast – Gym @ 8:30
 Dec. 21 – End of Quarter/Semester
 Dec 24 – Jan. 7– Winter Break
 Jan. 7 - School Resumes

Principal's Coffee

Our next Principal's Coffee is scheduled for Wednesday, **November 7 at 8:15**. Please join the principal for an informal gathering over coffee. All are welcome!

Field Trips

There are a couple of field trips scheduled in November. Please be on the look-out for flyers with additional information. On **November 21**, we have a school-wide Webb Center event; we leave the school at 12:15 and return at 2:15.

Honors Celebration!

On **November 2**, we celebrated our students' first quarter accomplishments. Grades K-2 received awards for Perfect Attendance and other grade level honors. For grades 3-5, Principal's Honor Roll, A/B Honor Roll, Perfect Attendance as well as achievements on state testing were celebrated. We are thankful for the many Hassayampa families who were able to join us!

The Honor Wall

In preparation for Veteran's Day, we sent out a request to families to let us know who in their families are serving or have served. We had a great response! Everyone's names will be listed on our Honor Wall in the cafeteria for the month of November.

If you join us for our Thanksgiving Luncheon on Thursday, November 15, you will get to see our Honor Wall. Many thanks to all our military branches!



Dress for the Weather!

Our Arizona weather has been incredible; however, mornings at Hassayampa can be chilly! Please make sure you send your child in clothes that fit the temperature. Layered clothing is ideal. It is recommended that student names are added to the clothing tags.



We're Growing!

On Friday, October 5, the State Board of Education released letter grades for Arizona schools. Hassayampa Elementary School staff has been anxiously waiting for these results. Every day, Hassayampa staff and students work hard. We know that what we do every day cannot necessarily be measured in a system that looks solely at quantitative data. Nearly 90% of the score is based upon our AzMERIT results in English Language Arts and Math which for Hassayampa is given to our 3rd, 4th, and 5th graders. As preliminary information became available, we began to speculate that the results were looking good for us. Once the final grades were released, Hassayampa staff was excited to learn that we had earned a "B" which is considered highly performing! We grew 10.88 points in the following areas: year over year growth on AzMERIT as well as growth of our English Language Learners and Special Education students. Our students are growing!

As we strive for excellence, we continue to look at ways to improve and hope next year to move up another level! For more information about A-F Letter Grades, please visit the Arizona State Board of Education at: <https://azsbe.az.gov/f-school-letter-grades>

Health Safari

In October, Hassayampa held its annual Health Safari. Students had their height weight, hearing, and vision checked. We identified several students who require medical follow up to ensure that issues with their hearing or vision doesn't impede their learning. Years ago this was a grant funded project. Now it is only possible with the help of caring volunteers! Mrs. Blalock along with the Hassayampa staff would like to give a **BIG THANK YOU** to the Lion's club for their help with this important day!

A Note from the Health Station

Research shows that attendance is an important factor in school success. A child who misses a day of school misses a day of learning. There are several things you can do to improve your child's school attendance:

- Avoid scheduling family trips or doctor appointments during school hours.
- Don't accept excuses for why your child "must" be late or miss school. Support school rules and consequences for missing class and being tardy.
- Lead by example. If your child sees you take off work for no reason, they might expect to be able to do the same thing.
- Talk with your child about the importance of attending school regularly.

Safety Day - Thanks!

Prior to Fall Break, Wickenburg Fire Dept., Wickenburg, Police Dept., and the Life Line EMT crew all came out to educate students about safety and their jobs. Thank you to all who serve and protect us!

Hassayampa Elementary School

21st Century Community Learning Centers

Our 21st Century Community Learning Centers (CCLC) programs for Quarter 2 will begin on November 5th. Please be advised you will need to fill out a new form if you would like your student to attend programs in Quarter 3. We had over 160 students attending after school programs one day a week or more during Quarter 1. Reminders of what days your students have signed up for will be sent home Friday. Our after school bus leaves at 5:00 on Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday, please let us know if you would like your student to ride the bus home after their programs.

Year Book Club: Ms. Joy will be starting a yearbook club that will help her create the yearbook for our school. This is a brand new class and we look forward to seeing their creation at the end of the year. Thank you to Ms. Joy for taking this on.

Spell It: The 21st Century after-school program has started a spelling preparation club for Quarter 2. This club will help students prepare for our upcoming school-wide spelling bee. Students will get to practice spelling patterns, and proper etiquette while participating in a spelling bee. Thank you, Ms. Henneman, for taking on this program. Participation in this club is not mandatory for students to participate in the school wide spelling bee, but is highly encouraged.

The Quest: Ms. Breckenridge is hosting this enrichment program. Students will use higher order thinking and participate in challenging activities.

Zumba Kids: Ms. Henneman will be starting for the first time a Zumba class for 4th and 5th graders. It will be on Thursday from 4:00-5:00. Please sign up fast as space is limited.

Power Hour: Power Hour was a huge success last quarter with over 30 students attending in the morning. Students are given opportunities to complete homework and use our adaptive iready software. Please let you classroom teacher know if you would like to sign up.

Roving Chef: We will be hosting two visits from the Roving Chef in November as part of our Friday after school program. Students will prepare food in our cafeteria. Invitations will go out two weeks before for these two events.

Shout Outs!: The 21st Century coordinators would like to give a shout out to our cafeteria and transportation staff for helping our program run smoothly. We would also like to thank all the teachers who help make these programs happen.



21ST CENTURY COMMUNITY LEARNING CENTERS

HASSAYAMPA HEADQUARTERS

| Day/Time | Programs for 2nd Quarter |
|-----------------------------|---|
| Daily – 7:00a.m. – 8:00a.m. | Power Hour |
| Monday – 2:50 - 3:50 | 1 st , 4 th , & 5 th Grade Tutoring 2 nd -5 th Grade Study Hour LEAD Coyotes – 5 th Grade 3 rd -5 th Reading |
| Monday – 4:00 – 5:00 | 3 rd -5 th Fitness 4 th Grade Science League 3 rd – 5 th Spelling Club 3 rd -5 th Quest 4 th -5 th Yearbook Club |
| Tuesday – 2:50 – 3:50 | 2 nd , 3 rd , 4 th , & 5 th Grade Tutoring 2 nd -5 th Grade Study Hour |
| Tuesday – 4:00 - 5:00 | 2 nd Grade Science 3 rd – 5 th Chess Club 3 rd -5 th Drama Club |
| Thursday – 2:50 – 3:50 | 1 st , 2 nd and 3 rd Tutoring 2 nd -5 th Study Hour 4 th & 5 th Grade Coyote Chorus |
| Thursday – 4:00 – 5:00 | 1 st - 3 rd Stackers 1 st -3 rd Brainiacs 4 th -5 th Grade Zumba 3 rd -5 th - Technology |
| Friday – 12:15 – 4:00 | K-5 th After School Program |

Please contact your child's teacher if you are not sure which days your child should be staying after school.

COUNSELOR'S CORNER

Special Events...

Turkeys-n-Tables

November 15th join us for a resource fair including free family holiday pictures! If your family is in need of a Thanksgiving turkey, please contact Ms. K-P.

Wrangler Wishes

This is our district's own program that is similar to the Christmas Angel program at the mall. If your child needs assistance this holiday season, please let Ms. K-P know. It's completely anonymous:



Halloween Costum

Do you have Halloween costumes no longer fit? You can donate them to Hassayampa. Just drop them off and Ms. K-P will store them for next years' students in need.

Worth Quoting...

"Try to be a rainbow in someone's cloud."

—Maya Angelou

Students celebrated **Red Ribbon Week** the week of October 22-26. This week also proved to be a huge success with students learning about certain drugs as well as signing a drug free pledge that framed the Pillar Banners on the Character Wall. Thanks to MS Joy for allowing time during Library to complete these pledge cards! You can see them in the lower portion of the picture.

National Character Counts Week was October 29-November 2. During this week, students practiced good character not only at school but also at home. Many students demonstrated their spirit for Character Counts by wearing colors designated for each pillar on specific days. These students were able to add to the "character chain". Students have also been asked to see if their parents can "catch them" being a "Kid of Character", fill out the paper feather and return it to school! Students were caught being "Kids of Character" here at school and had their names added to the "Character Chain" as well as the tic-tac-toe board.

Finally, **November 19th-25th** is *National Family Week*. Thanksgiving presents the perfect time to re-connect with family. Play with your kids, read them a book, and eat with them at the dinner table to help instill values and culture.

"The dinner table is the cornerstone of conversation and civilization. It is at the dinner table that young people also learn to say, "please", "thank you", and "you're welcome." It is at the dinner table that the family learns how to talk with each other – conversation. We ask them what they did today and they find out what mother and father did today. We talk about vacations. We talk about dreams. We talk about going to college. We even argue and fight. But we learn how to solve problems and move on with life. We learn how to solve problems at the family dinner table. It is at the dinner table that the students learn practices. It is at the family dinner table that they learn values."

- Dr. Harry Wong

Practical Tips To Help Teach Children To Read

- READ to your child. Take time each day to sit and read together.
- Find words to teach where ever you go. Teach children what the sign says.
- Take your child to a bookstore or the library.
- Use rhyming words with your child.
- Label with your children. Make labels and help your child organize their things.

Happy Thanksgiving!

Ms. K-P

Wickenburg Unified School District -Tax Credit Program

Arizona Revised Statute (A.R.S.) 43-1089.01 allows individual taxpayers to receive a tax credit up to \$400.00 (joint return) for payment to a fund set aside for extracurricular activities fees. Generally, any educational or recreational activity that is a supplement to the educational program of the school is considered to be an extracurricular activity. This is a dollar for dollar tax credit. It allows you, the taxpayer, to decide where you would like to put up to \$400.00 of your tax dollars to work. When it comes time to fill out your tax forms, you will receive a tax credit for up to \$400.00. It is a win-win situation for yourself and the school activities you support with your tax dollars. You do not have to have a child in school so grandparents or anyone can also take advantage of this tax credit.

Questions and Answers:

What public schools and grades are eligible for the credit?
Public schools that provide instruction in grades kindergarten through 12 are eligible for the credit. **What is a fee paid for the support of extracurricular activities?** A fee is a dollar amount paid to a public school for the support of extracurricular activities.

What are extracurricular activities?

Extracurricular activities mean school sponsored activities that require enrolled students to pay a fee in order to participate. Such activities may include, but are not limited to use of band uniforms, use of equipment or uniforms for athletics, or use of scientific laboratory equipment or materials. Any educational /recreational activities that supplement the educational program of the school.

If a school establishes a fund to pay for extracurricular activities, would a payment to this fund qualify for a tax credit?

Yes, the credit is authorized for fees paid by any taxpayer to a public school for the support of extracurricular activities.

Must a taxpayer have a child enrolled in order to claim the tax credit?

No, a taxpayer is **any** person subject to tax.

What is the claim limit for a married couple?

The credit claimed by married couples filing a joint return is limited to a maximum of **\$400.00**. Married couples filing separate tax returns can claim only one-half of the allowable credit on each return.

What kind of receipt will I receive for my tax return?

The school will issue a receipt that includes the school name, district number, taxpayer name, amount paid, date paid and description of the activity for which the fee was paid.

At Hassayampa Elementary, we currently have several extracurricular activities that we charge a fee. Some of our approved extracurricular activities are:

- Science Camp for 5th graders,
- The Art Club,
- Gifted,
- Coyote Chorus
- Field Trips and
- Character Education.

You may also choose Extra-curricular No Preference. Our Site Council then determines best use of these No Preference funds to support approved programs. Your tax credit donation will be used to provide children the opportunity to participate and also provide supplies, guest speakers, and field trips. If you would like to make a tax credit donation to any of these activities, fill out the enclosed form and send it along with your check to school. If you have any questions, please contact the office at 684-6750 for more information.

Hassayampa Happenings!

Students & staff enjoyed dressing up to show their dedication to the pillars of Character!



PTA Membership Drive!

Congratulations to Hassayampa **Kindergarten** for having the largest percentage of PTA member sign-ups. They received a special treat. The Wickenburg PTA supports our school in many ways. Your membership dues help with special projects and special celebrations all year long.

Box Tops Contest

We're having some challenges this year in finding a new coordinator to manage our Box Tops collections. If you are interested, please contact the school.

It is important to remember to keep an eye on BT expiration dates; they won't accept them if they're expired! Also, remember to cut out the whole Box Top; partial Box Tops won't be accepted. It is also VERY important to place your Box Tops in a baggie with your teacher's name on it.

Box Tops for Education is the school project that's easy for everyone. All you have to do is clip and save Box Tops for our school. It's that EASY! Please visit www.boxtops4education.com to learn about other ways to earn money for Hassayampa.

Note from the Principal:

I hope this letter finds you well and enjoying our beautiful Arizona weather! It is wonderful to see students able to fully enjoy their time at recess! I have seen a few teachers sneak some lessons outside. Having the ability to fully enjoy this wonderful weather can only enhance our education system.

We had great turn-outs at our October events. We ended the month with parent teacher conferences. These meetings are so important. If you weren't able to make it in for a conference, please contact your child's teacher and schedule a meeting today! Also, mark your calendars now, our next APTT meetings are scheduled in January.

As we head into cold and flu season, may I remind you of the importance of contacting the school to let us know of your child's absence. This communication helps us to manage students missed work as well as

We love having you in the audience and by our sides. Thank you for your support! Please review the calendar of events closely and add the information to your family calendar. I look forward to seeing you at any one of future events!

Very truly yours,

Mrs. Hershkowitz

Facebook

Have you checked us out on Facebook? Tell a friend or other family members. Visit Hassayampa Elementary School on Facebook and "Like" our page to receive up-to-date information on what's happening at Hassayampa! We currently have **477** likes on Facebook.

Amazon Smile

Are you an Amazon shopper? Are you getting ready to make some holiday purchases? Please use Amazon Smile to help raise additional funds for Hassayampa. Please spread the word!

[Amazon Smiles for Hassayampa](#)

