

## HASSAYAMPA ELEMENTARY SCHOOL SCHOOL-PARENT CONNECTION

CARISSA HERSHKOWITZ  
PRINCIPAL



### Welcome November!

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](http://www.wickenburgschools.org), and “like” us on our school Facebook page.

### A Note from Mrs. Hershkovitz

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.

As you may know, there is a nationwide teacher shortage. It has been quite challenging to find qualified teachers. In addition to these challenges, the Department of Education has had many delays in certifying teachers. I am VERY happy to announce that we have a new special education resource teacher, Mrs. Cendana, who will be working with preschool - fifth grade students with IEPs. Also, Mrs. Angeli is starting as our new art teacher! She will be working with K-8 students from Hassayampa and Vulture Peak MS. Both teachers come to us with a wealth of knowledge and we are excited to have them join the Hassayampa Family.

Our students have gotten right to work for the second quarter! During November, students will be completing mid-year benchmark assessments to ensure we are all on the right track.

Please make sure you are staying connected with your child's teacher. Together, we will ensure that our students continue to grow!

Thank you for your support!

Very truly yours,

*Mrs. Hershkovitz*

### Calendar of Events

- Week of Nov. 1 - Benchmark Week (1st-5th)
- November 3 - Principal's Coffee & Site Council
- November 11 - Veterans Day Holiday Observed - No School
- November 16 - Governing Board Meeting @ 6:30 p.m.
- November 17 - Turkey's-n-Tables Event
- November 23 - Webb Center Event
- November 24 - 2nd Grade Field Trip
- November 25 - Thanksgiving Break - No School
- Week of Nov 29 - Reading and Math Fluency Benchmarks (K-5)
- December 1 - Principal's Coffee & Site Council
- December 9 - 3-5 Spelling Bee
- Week of Dec. 13 - Holiday Sale
- December 16 - Holiday Blast
- December 16 - End of Semester

**A Note from the Health Station** The school and school family have a huge responsibility to monitor, not only our own personal health, but also that of the children. Before school, make sure everyone is healthy. Families should make back up plans in the event your child develops symptoms while at school. If COVID-19 symptoms are the concern, having a grandparent as your back up plan may not be the best idea. Identify someone who can safely pick up your child, if you aren't quickly available.

Please be aware of COVID symptoms and if your child exhibits any, please keep them home. The symptoms are:

- Fever or chills
- Cough
- Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
- Fatigue
- Muscle or body aches
- Sore throat
- Congestion or runny nose
- Nausea or vomiting
- Diarrhea
- Headache
- New loss of taste or smell

### Dress for the Weather!

Our Arizona weather is incredible! 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.

Keep in mind that all students have recess every day and PE once per week.

Shoes should be comfortable for playing!

### COSTUME WALK

We were so happy that we could host our Costume Walk again this year!

**3rd and 4th Grade  
Costume Winners**



### 5th Grade Costume Winners



### PTA Membership Drive!

**Congratulations** to Hassayampa **Third Grade** for winning the PTA membership drive. They will receive 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. If you missed out, please visit the Wickenburg PTA website and join today!

### 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](#)

## Special Events...

### **Turkeys-n-Tables**

This fun event is November 17 at the High School! There will be a free gently used clothing.

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.

### **Weekend Food Bags**

Thanks to the Green Bag Program, St. Alban's Church, and Melissa's Cupboard at our local Elks' Lodge Hassayampa has food bags to distribute each weekend. The bag contains enough food for 2 children to have breakfast, lunch, and snack each weekend. Please contact Ms. K-P if you would like more information.

### **Worth Quoting...**

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

—Maya Angelou

## COUNSELOR'S CORNER

### **Character Counts!**

If you are new to Hassayampa, you are not aware of the awesome Character Counts program that is part of our school culture. Our program has 3 parts:

1. Monthly lessons about the 6 pillars of good character with the school counselor.
2. Teachers nominate students for "student of the month". This student demonstrates the pillar of good character on a regular basis. Teachers also give "golden tickets" to students when they show good character. Students get prizes for Golden Tickets!
3. Each month, parents receive a letter from me with something on the back. When your child shows good character, fill it out and return it to school. Your child will get a prize and the paper is hung on the Character Wall. They love seeing what their parents have written.

### **CONGRATULATIONS to the following students of good character!**

#### **The GOLDEN TICKET winners for the first quarter:**

**In first grade;** Titus Amundson, Jaxton Bright, Ariana Goode, Krystena Hunley, Lucia Juarez, Khaleesi Nelson, Arya Pannell, Zoey Parker, Isaac Peterson, Andres Vidrio-Kibble, Ryatt Wheale, Alexis Cruz, Kimberly Dunnagan, Haley Gruel, Alex Ogden, and Emma Vargas.

**In second grade:** Ares Anderson-Simpson, Silas Davis, Isiah Friend, Timothy Murphy, Annalise Ogden, Gemma Valenzuela Murillo, Bryce Allison, Paisley Basham, Christopher Garcia, Aaron Ocampo Garcia, Jaylynn Zudell,

**In third grade:** Avery Barnes, McKenah Rajotte, Samuel Anderson, and Sebastiane Stibbens.

**In fourth grade:** Easton Moon, Grace Carne, Esteban Lopez, and Axel Yocupicio Soto.

**In fifth grade:** Yobani Hernandez Sanchez and Pedro Camarena.

#### **Students of the Month for October, Demonstrating the Pillar of Responsibility:**

Brian Mills, Vesper Rivera, Sebastian Lomeli, Linley Bunce, Silas Davis, Jason Dalley, Sebastiane Stibbens, Arely Ibarra, Israel Rodriguez, Sedona Steele, Zul Raizola, Miah Espinosa, Avery Douthett, Ellie Bowser, Breanna Garcia, and Perla Vargas

Happy Thanksgiving!

Ms. K-P

## Wickenburg U.S.D. – 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, the 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 tax credit 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.

### A Note of Thanks -

Our tax credit resources are used in the manner determined by the donator. When funds are placed in no-preference, the Site Council determines which of the approved areas the funds may be used. Thanks to our many donors, we have been able to purchase Chromebooks which have truly benefited all of our students. Thank you for your continued support!

