



COYOTE DEN

Hassayampa Elementary School
Parent - School Connection



Welcome to the new school year!

This is the first newsletter of the 2018-2019 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, and “like” us on our school Facebook page.

Calendar of Events

August 6 – Open House – 3:00-5:45 p.m.
August 7 – First Day of School
– 8:30 a.m. - Boohoo Breakfast
August 9 – Governing Board Meeting – 6:30 p.m.
August 10 – Character Counts Assembly
August 13 -17 – Benchmark Testing Week
August 27 – 21st CCLC Programs Begins
Aug. 28/29 – Academic Parent Teacher Team Events
Aug. 30 – Picture Day
Sept. 3 – No School – Labor Day
Sept. 5 – Principal's Coffee @ 8:15
Sept. 5 – Site Council @ 3:00
Sept. 13 – Grandparents Luncheon

Hassayampa Preschool is Open!

We are proud to offer an early childhood program for three to five year old children. The program is the perfect environment for children to learn, grow, and make friends as they participate in various activities such as arts and crafts, music and imaginative play. Visit the school website for additional information or call today to enroll your child!

Boohoo Breakfast

The first day of school can be an emotional event especially for that first day of Kindergarten. We have often debated as to whether it is more difficult on the child or the parent. In an effort to offer both comfort and camaraderie, Hassayampa hosts an annual Boohoo Breakfast. After students have made their way to the classrooms, parents come together in the cafeteria for breakfast and conversation. Mark your calendars for next year!



Open House / Registration

We had many families out for our Open House the afternoon of **Monday, August 6th**. Teachers facilitated informational presentations in their classrooms. Doors opened at 3:00 p.m., and sessions ran every 25 minutes. Between sessions, families visited our many with: PTA, AYSO, Girl Scouts, transportation and cafeteria staff. In the library, families were able to sign up for Parent VUE and Class Dojo; and watched our district video.

This annual event gives families the opportunity to tour the school and meet your child's teacher. What a great opportunity to gather information and ask questions before school begins in the morning! Mark your calendars for next



Back in the Swing of Things

Coming to school every day and soaking up new information is hard work! Help your child get the most out of school by providing him or her with plenty of sleep, scheduled homework time, and breakfast every morning. Children thrive on routine and consistency. They need to know your expectations for behavior and the consequences they'll receive if they should happen to make a poor choice for themselves. Providing your child with structure at home will make it easier for them to adjust to structure at school!

Kindergarten Afterschool Care Available!

Afterschool care for kindergarteners is sometimes a struggle for families. To assist families during this pivotal year, we are offering childcare services within our preschool program. Prices are reasonable. Applications may be found online or in the school office.

School Hours

The first day of school was **Tuesday, August 7**. School **begins each day at 8:00 a.m.** Students are considered **tardy at 8:05 a.m.** It is important for students to be on time and ready for school each morning. In the morning, all students assemble in the cafeteria until 7:50 a.m., and then they will be dismissed to their classrooms. Please do not send students to school prior to 7:45 a.m. as there is no adult supervision at Hassayampa School until that time. Parents wishing to walk their children to class are welcome to do so. We ask that you wait until 7:45 a.m. to enter the classrooms. The doors between the office and the classrooms will remain closed until 7:45. Thank you for your cooperation!

Dismissal begins at **2:35 p.m.** with the Kindergarten through 2nd grade students. Third grade through fifth grade will be dismissed at 2:40. Remember that **Friday dismissal is at noon!** If there are changes to your child's route home, please communicate the changes early in the day. Changes can be very confusing for students and for staff trying to keep track of many children. However, with good communication we can ensure that everyone gets to where they need to be.

Parent Pick-up and Drop-off

The student drop-off in the morning is the parking lot in front of the stairs to the school. Ms. Henneman is our morning greeter and looks forward to seeing you and your child. Ms. Henneman as well as other staff are not on duty until 7:45. Please do not drop your child off until you see someone on duty. For longer stops, please park and walk your child to the sidewalk. Students are not permitted in the parking lot without an adult. For those times that you may need to be somewhere early, please make arrangements for your child to either ride the bus or be taken to school by someone else. Power Hour may also be a good option for you. Starting August 20, students may be dropped off at 7:00 for this before school program. Informational flyers have been sent home.

In the afternoon, parents may wait in line for your child to be sent to your car or park in the lot and wait for students at the gate. Again, students are not permitted in the parking lot unless escorted by an adult. Please do not call your child from the car as they will not be permitted to enter the lot. This is for your child's safety. Please follow the traffic flow through the parking lot and be courteous to drivers and pedestrians.

Festival Fridays

Each Friday students will study a country. Then once per quarter we will have a celebration of all we've learned about the country. In addition to studying four countries, students will also have a review of Character Counts during the first few weeks of school. For the remainder of the quarter, students will study Germany. Second quarter will focus on Russia. In second semester, students will first learn about Spain, and then take a journey to learn about the United States. We are excited to learn more about these countries!



Walkers, Bike Riders, and Bus Riders

In-town students may walk to school if parents choose or use bus services. Students in grades 3-5 wishing to ride their bikes must obtain written parental permission and approval of the principal. Forms are available in the Hassayampa office. All walkers and bike riders are reminded to use crosswalks and other safety procedures (see Hassayampa Handbook for additional information – p. 17). Walkers and bike riders must enter from the front of Hassayampa the same as those who are dropped off by parents.

The school bus is a privilege. In order for students to be transported in a safe and orderly manner, bus drivers must adhere to all state and district standards. Our Transportation Director, Mike Riggan, are available to assist you with your transportation questions. Mr. Riggan is also available by phone – 928-668-5342.

A Note for the Health Station

Parents must bring ALL student medicines to the Health Station. Parents are required to sign a consent form before medicine can be dispensed through the Health Station. Please contact Mrs. Blalock, our health aide, for any of your health related questions.

We strongly encourage students to wash their hands frequently! We teach students to cover their mouths and noses for those with sneezes and coughs, and wash hands afterwards. We instruct students to throw used tissues in trash not to be laid on their desks. All staff have been trained to send any students displaying flu like symptoms to the health office ASAP! Students are not allowed back to school until they are fever or vomiting free for 24 hours.

Reading and Math Nook

Read

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

Accelerated Reader

Last school year, Hassayampa students did a LOT of reading. A few students read over a million words! Our top readers were recognized during the special assembly at the end of last year. You can see their names 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>

"Move on When Reading"

Arizona Revised Statute 15-701 states that beginning this school year, 3rd graders who score **Minimally Proficient** on the **State Reading** test will be retained in 3rd grade. Parents of students in grades K-3 who are substantially deficient in reading will receive written notification each quarter. Parents will be informed if their child is deficient in reading as well provided information on how Hassayampa teachers are working with your child to get him/her up to level to pass the 3rd grade AzMERIT reading test. In addition, Hassayampa will provide parents with specific information on the deficient areas of reading along with strategies parents can use to help their child at home.

More information about this statute can be found at www.azed.gov/mowr/.

Raising Expectations Policy

Included in this mailing is a copy of the district's Raising Expectation Policy. This policy was enacted to focus attention on the value of academic achievement and to increase accountability. Please become familiar with the expectations of this policy. If you have any questions regarding these expectations, please schedule an appointment with your child's teacher or the principal.

The Hassayampa Bike Giveaway!

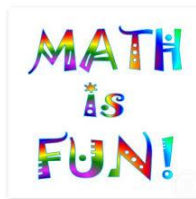


Students have an opportunity to earn an entry ticket each time they pass their grade level Math Fact Fluency benchmarks given in October, December, March, and May.

Math Fact Fluency Goals

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

The drawing for the bikes will take place in May during the annual Hassayampa Principal's Honors Assembly.



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

Many hands make light work!

THANK YOU to ALL the staff,
family, and friends of Hassayampa
who helped us get the school ready
for Open House!

Excellent Attendance

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 and special classes. Explain to your child that being sick is the only reason to stay home

Needs...

Contact Ms. K-P

- School Supplies
- Emergency Clothing
- Weekly Food Bags

Call 928-668-5309



Food Bags

A special thank you goes to our local Elk's Lodge. Because of a grant, the local Elk's have been providing food boxes to families in need this past summer. They will also be providing weekend food bags for any family in need. Please contact Ms. K-P if you would like your child added to the list.

Conversations about Character Counts! What does good character look like?

Our character is revealed by how we act when we think nobody is looking. During the first quarter, students will be learning about the 6 pillars of good character: Trustworthiness, Respect, Responsibility, Fairness, Caring and Citizenship. Character education is necessary to help children develop the tools and strategies they need to make moral choices that make them proud.

Our character program is three fold.

First, the teachers at Hassayampa talk about the pillars of good character daily in their teaching. Daily announcements also contain character messages. Each month, teachers choose a student from their classroom who exemplifies a certain pillar. This month, the pillar focus is "caring". These students are showcased on the CC! bulletin board by Ms. K-P's office. LEAD Coyotes (trained 5th graders) also visit each class once a month to help teach kindness and character lessons.



The second part of the character program is the STUDENTS!

Our students practice these pillars of good character daily. When a teacher sees exceptional character, the student is given a "golden ticket", to put on the tic-tac-toe board located in the front office. Pencils and bracelets are awarded for tic-tac-toe. All golden tickets are put into a quarterly drawing for more prizes.



The third and very important part of this program is YOU, the adult who your child lives with. Each month, your child will bring home a letter explaining the character pillars. Please, "catch your child being a kid of character" and fill out paper. When this is returned to school, it will be posted on the Character Wall. This month, your child was given a "pillar" to be filled out and returned.



Please feel free to contact me at any time.

Ms. K-P



Hassayampa Elementary School 21st Century Community Learning Centers

We are entering year four of our 21st Century Community Learning Centers programming! Both before and after school programs will be available. Power Hour starts at 7:00 a.m. this is a great option for families with parents who go to work very early. During Power Hour, students will receive homework assistance or will be able to log into their personalized learning environment on iReady and work toward math and reading goals. iReady is a highly rated and adaptive software – meaning that the program adjusts the level of instruction based upon the student’s responses and provides targeted intervention lessons.

The afterschool program goes until 5:00 pm. and offers modified bus services. Afterschool programs include extended learning opportunities in reading and math, as well as a variety of enrichment and youth development activities such as recreation, nutrition, hands-on science, Chess, and more! These programs will allow students to grow academically, socially, and physically. Keep an eye out for program details and sign-up information which will be available after the start of the school year.



In addition to student activities, the 21st CCLC program helps to facilitate Academic Parent Teacher Teams (APTT) events. Our first APTT meetings are scheduled for August 28 and 29. Kindergarten through second grade meetings are scheduled for the evening of Tuesday, August 28. Third through fifth grade meetings will be on the evening of Wednesday, August 29. During these meetings, parents will receive information regarding grade level expectations and set personal learning goals for students.

Please save the date on your calendars! Invitations will be sent out by classroom teachers. Although not required, we do ask that you RSVP so that we can make arrangements for childcare support for the evening.



Power Hour begins Monday, August 20 at 7:00 a.m. After school programs will be up and running by August 27. Keep an eye out for more information!

Please contact program coordinators with questions.

slanz@wusd9.org – Ms. Lanz

mknight@wues9.org – Mr. Knight

General Mills Box Tops for Education Program

General Mills Box Tops for Education is a nationwide program that helps K-8 schools earn extra cash for items that are not covered by shrinking school budgets. With Box Tops for Education, our school can earn up to \$10,000 in cash for new playground equipment, library books, technology, art supplies, whatever our school needs most!

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! There are more ways to earn money for Hassayampa. Please visit www.boxtops4education.com to learn about other ways to earn money for Hassayampa.

Box Tops

Hassayampa has an annual goal of **\$1,000.00**. Wouldn't it be great if we earned over \$2,000 this school year? Box Tops is our number one fundraiser!



Please help us out and continue to clip! Hopefully, during the summer, you continued to save Box Tops. Thank you for your support.

Start clipping those Box Tops, the first contest will start with school! We will have several contests throughout the year. Some friendly competition keeps the collecting interesting for students.

Let's make sure that Hassayampa gets a share

HASSAYAMPA PRESCHOOL ENROLL NOW

We are accepting new enrollments
for 3 - 5 year olds.

The program is the perfect environment for children to learn, grow, and make friends as they participate in various activities that allow them to explore, investigate, create, and discover new learning through age-appropriate and engaging activities.

Please call the Hassayampa Office or visit the school website.

Kindergarten Round-up

Each spring, Hassayampa holds a Kindergarten Round-up. If you have a child who will be five next September 1st, please mark your calendar now for April!

Facebook

We have many new Facebook followers this school year.

473 to be exact. Wouldn't it be great to hit 500 this year! Please continue to visit Hassayampa Elementary School on Facebook and tell your friends and family. Once you "Like" our page, you will receive up-to-date information on what's happening at Hassayampa!

Note from the Principal:

Welcome back from a wonderful summer! Hopefully, you found plenty of time to have fun in the sun and enjoy some unstructured time with your families and friends. It has been a busy summer, and we are ready to get this school year started!

We are excited to present our new staff to the Wickenburg community. I am very pleased to welcome nine new staff members to Hassayampa Elementary: Danett Pierson (Kindergarten), Jackie Rutherford and Nancy Mandl (both in 1st grade), Maranda Wise (2nd grade), Robin Hilbert (4th grade), Michelle Charbonneua (5th grade), Shantelle Ullery (Special Education), and Tiffany Francois (attendance clerk). Also, our new art teacher, April Veraldi, who started with us earlier in the spring, can now formally be welcomed as well! I am happy to also announce that two of these new positions are supplemental in that they were added to the existing roster of teachers. Due to special state grant funding, we were able to provide three teachers in both first and second grades. Teachers and parents have been thrilled to hear this news! All of our new teachers have already been in classrooms and have started to put their rooms together!

Hopefully, many of you were able to attend our Open House night and have already completed all of the beginning of the year paperwork. These documents are important to complete annually. If you receive free or reduced food services, make sure to submit a new application for this school year. You have **30** days to get the new application submitted. When completing the school documents, make sure we have current phone numbers and an accurate address for you. Teachers will also be asking that you sign into Class Dojo. Many of you used this app last year and LOVED it! Class Dojo is a simple app that allows students to earn points throughout the day for having excellent behavior. As the parent, you can have a quick glimpse on how your child's day went. Teachers may also share pictures from the class; you may even see some announcements from Ms. KP or myself.



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.

I am excited about this new school year! I hope to see you at the many great events throughout the year. I look forward to working with you and your child because TOGETHER we make a difference.

Very truly yours,

Mrs. Hershkowitz



HASSAYAMPA PARKING LOT

We have a responsibility to ensure the safety of all students. Please help us by being a courteous driver and following our parking lot procedures.

