



# COYOTE DEN

Hassayampa Elementary School  
Parent - School Connection



## Welcome February!

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

### Calendar of Events

- Feb. 1 – Penny Drive begins
- Feb. 1 – Spirit Day: Sports Attire
- Week of Feb. 4 – Western Spirit Week
- Feb. 6 – Principal's Coffee – 8:15 a.m.  
Site Council – 3:00 p.m.
- Feb. 7 – Spring Pictures
- Feb. 7 – PTA Meeting @ Bd. Rm @ 4:00 p.m.
- Feb. 8 - No school - Gold Rush Holiday
- Feb. 9 - Gold Rush Parade
- Feb. 18 – No School – Presidents' Day
- Feb 22 – Daddy Daughter Dance
- Feb. 11 - Benchmark Week
- Feb 27 – Mar. 31 – PTA Book Drive
- March 1 – Read Across America
- March 1 – Principal's Coffee – 8:15 a.m.
- March 7 – PTA Meeting @ 4:00 p.m.
- March 9 – Festival Friday - SPAIN
- March 12-16 –Spring Break
- March 24-26 – 4<sup>th</sup> Grade AIMS Science
- April 1-26 – State Testing Window



### Penny Drive

Over the years at Hassayampa, the students and staff celebrated Arbor Day by planting trees; over forty-eight trees have been planted on our campus. These efforts have been funded through grants and private donations, but the largest single effort has come from Hassayampa students! Pennies were collected as part of their way of giving to the campus.

As the trees are in place we have turned our focus to the overall beautification and improvement of the campus. Last year's funds were used to replace a couple trees and shrubs. Every penny counts!



The collection of pennies will begin on **February 1** and end on the **February 28**. Then on **May 3**, we will hold our annual Field Day celebration and announce our winning teacher. The Penny Drive is a contest to see which classroom teacher raises the most pennies MINUS silver coins and paper bills collected. So when your child is looking around the house for pennies, you will know the reason why. The “Winning Teacher” will get to “Kiss the Hassayampa Pig”. The winning teacher will also get to choose a winning student from his or her classroom to join in on the fun.



This is a Wickenburg PTA sponsored event.

### Western Spirit Week

In support of the Town of Wickenburg's Gold Rush Days, Hassayampa students will be encouraged to pull out their favorite cowboy jeans and shirts during the week of **February 4**. Hats are permitted in classrooms at the discretion of the classroom teachers, and, of course, **no** spurs, ropes, and weapons are allowed at all.

### Gold Rush Days Parade

On **February 9**, look for Hassayampa's float in Wickenburg's Gold Rush Days Parade. We will be celebrating our love of our school and community with the Gold Rush Parade's theme this year - “Ride for the Brand”. 3-5 Honor Roll students will be selected to ride on or walk with the float. Look for us in the parade, we will be wearing our golden Hassayampa shirts and showing our Hassayampa pride.

### Principal's Coffee

Our next Principal's Coffee is scheduled for Wednesday, **February 6**. Please join the principal for an informal gathering over coffee. All are welcome!



## Recap on what happened in January

### Hassayampa Art and Science Night

Art & Science Night was held on Thursday, January 31<sup>st</sup>. This was a great night for the family to enjoy the hard work our Hassayampa students. We were so pleased to see so many of you there! We turned Hassayampa's halls into an art gallery. The walls look so colorful! If you missed out, please stop by. The art will be hung for a while longer so that we can continue to enjoy it all!

### Honors Celebration!

On January 18, we celebrated our students' accomplishments for the second quarter and first semester. Students received recognition for special grade level honors, 3-5 Principal's Honor Roll and Honor Roll as well as Perfect Attendance. Many thanks to the families who came to support the students and to those who support them every day!



### APTT & Parent-Teacher Conferences

APTT event and traditional conferences were held in January. Thank you for your participation and continued collaboration between you and your child's teacher.



### Synergy - ParentVUE

Are you signed up for ParentVUE? Parents, you can get current information on your child's progress. With a user ID and password, you have the ability to see your child's grade for each subject, missing assignments, and grade for a particular assignment plus many other things. This system can help you know how your child is doing in school and this can be done from your computer at home or work. **If you don't have your user ID, please stop by the front office for assistance in getting more information on this useful tool.**

### A Note from the Health Station

There has been a LOT of absences. Please do what you can to keep you and your family healthy!

- Cover your cough.
- Wash your hands.
- Eat healthy foods.
- Get plenty of rest.
- Dress appropriately for the weather.



### Book Fair!

We just want to thank everyone who helped with the fair, whether it was by shopping before or after school, Thursday night, or even just helping get the word out! The profit generated from the book fair goes to support both the Hassayampa library as well as classroom libraries. Additionally, this year, we will be able to use funds to purchase more Chromebooks.



Thank you again for your help and support!

### PTA Book Fair is Coming!

This year the PTA Book Fair will partner with the Town's Literary Festival to be held the first weekend of April. The proceeds will benefit the school library. Volunteers are needed! Flyers will be sent home soon asking for your help.

This is a Wickenburg PTA sponsored event.

We will be holding a contest to reward classrooms who bring in books for the Fair. All classrooms that bring in 500 books or more will receive \$25.00 and the class which brings in the most books school wide will receive \$100.00, to be used for classroom supplies.



### District Spelling Bee!

The District Spelling Bee was held on January 14 at Vulture Peak. Hassayampa students represented us well! Congratulations to the first place winner from Vulture Peak, Bailey Monesmith, and to the Hassayampa runner-up, Laila Neal.

If your child is interested in participating in next year's spelling bee, please visit <http://spellingbee.com/parents-and-students> to prepare!



### 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter Benchmark

In February, students will participate in 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter benchmark testing. During the week of the 4<sup>th</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup> graders will complete their science assessments. Then during the week of **February 11**, all 1-5 students will take ELA & math assessments. The results will be used by teachers to determine the instructional needs of students for the final quarter of school.



The final DIBELS benchmark is scheduled in May. DIBELS reports let teachers know your child's overall progress in reading. To help your child do well in reading, have your child READ DAILY then ask him/her to tell you about what was read. For information on your student's progress, please talk to your child's teacher.

To learn more about DIBELS  
visit: <https://dibels.uoregon.edu/>

### Accelerated Reader

Hassayampa students are AWESOME READERS!  
Students have read and taken tests to earn over **2,700** AR points so far! Fifth grade has earned over 2,000!

Please check out the Hassayampa School website (News & Events) to see a real-time display of how many books Hassayampa students have read this month! Also, from the Hassayampa School website-parent links - you can find a special a link to the Renaissance Home Connect. Students may use their login information to check their AR progress as well as look up books they might be interested in reading (check on points).

#### Just a few reminders:

**Student Handbook:** Families were provided a Parent-Student Handbook at the start of the school or when registering for school. It is important to review the contents of the handbook to ensure that you and your child are familiar with Hassayampa expectations - [STUDENT HANDBOOK](#)

**Transportation:** Following the rules of the bus keeps everyone safe. Please visit the district website to learn more about bus expectations. [TRANSPORTATION](#)

### A Corner of THANKS! Volunteers

Every day at Hassayampa we have many wonderful people who come in to help us out. We appreciate the time so many of you have dedicated to assisting us and our students. Thank you!



### Tax Credit Donations

Many parents, staff, and community members took advantage of the AZ tax credit and donated to Hassayampa Elementary School. Thank you for your support!

### Raising Expectations Policy

This district policy was enacted to focus attention on the value of academic achievement and to increase accountability. In order to meet the expectations of this policy, Hassayampa celebrates those students who exceeded the standards. Also, we offer supports to students who aren't meeting their potential. 21<sup>st</sup> CCLC assists us in this endeavor through daily academic programs. Students failing the core content subjects of reading and math will be required to attend a minimum of 8 hours of assistance. Summer school will be required of students failing to meet standards in reading and math.

### SCHOOL ATTENDANCE

Hassayampa Elementary does its very best to educate your child each day, but we cannot do our job if your child is absent. When your student is not at school, they miss key discussions, questions and explanations of subjects from their teacher, and research shows that excessive absences attributes to lower scores on standardized tests.

Being late for school hurts a child's learning too – kids who are 10 minutes late for school each day miss a whole week of instruction per school year. Attendance is an important factor in school success and helps build a strong educational background. A child who misses a day of school misses a day of learning.

If your child is going to be absent, you must notify the school office at 684-6750.



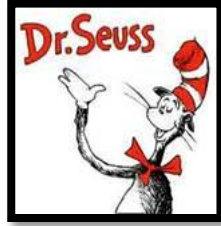
## Reading and Math Nook

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

| A student who reads  | A student who reads  | A student who reads  |
|--|--|--|
| <b>20:00</b><br>minutes per day  | <b>5:00</b><br>minutes per day   | <b>1:00</b><br>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

**SCHOLASTIC**



### The Hassayampa Bike Giveaway!

As you may know, we have an awesome bike to give away to a hard working Hassayampa student. Actually, we have FOUR bikes to give away! In May, four bikes will be given away to students. Students will earn an entry ticket each time they pass their grade level Math Fact Fluency benchmarks given in October, December, March, and May. Several K-5 students received their tickets during the Honors Assembly in January. Students have until May to earn their ticket.



### Read Across America Day

National Read across America Day is March 2<sup>nd</sup>, which is Dr. Seuss' birthday. Mrs. Hershkowitz loves this celebration of reading.

What can you do to support your child becoming a reader? It's simple:

- \* Take your child to the library or find something in your home library.
- \* Find the silliest Dr. Seuss book and read it together.
- \* Let your child know what your favorite children's story is.
- \* Have your child tell you all about his/her favorite book.
- \* Encourage your child to read daily!

Reading is a part of life. Although we have this special day of celebration, reading should be celebrated daily. **Build the love for reading in your child today!**

### "Move on When Reading"

Parents of students in grades K-3 who are substantially deficient in reading will receive notification each quarter. It is important for parents to know how their child is progressing in reading and if help is needed. Parents should also be aware of how Hassayampa teachers are working with their children to get them to meet grade level reading standards. In addition, Hassayampa staff will provide parents with specific information on the deficient areas of reading along with strategies parents can use to help their children at home. Together we can build strong readers!

### Math Fact Fluency Goals

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

**READ ACROSS AMERICA**

THIS WEEK WE ARE CELEBRATING DR. SEUSS' BIRTHDAY AND A LOVE FOR READING!

Monday: *Green Eggs and Ham* - Wear GREEN

Tuesday: *One Fish, Two Fish, Red Fish, Blue Fish* - Wear RED or BLUE

Wednesday: *Fox in Socks* - Wear SILLY SOCKS

Thursday: *Cat in the Hat - Crazy Hair/ Crazy Hat Day*

Friday: *Horton Hears a Who!* - Wear your favorite Seuss shirt

"The more you read the more things you know. The more that you learn the more places you'll go." -Dr. Seuss

## COUNSELOR'S CORNER

### Kids of Character!

Each quarter there is a drawing for students who earned golden tickets for being Kids of Character. This quarter, 3 students were drawn from k-2 and 3 were drawn from 3-5. The Coyote Kids of Character winners will enjoy a special luncheon. Congratulations to these students for being chosen:

- Brooke Littell
- Kayden Martin
- Neveah Parker
- Yoana Hernandez
- Geraldine Benitez
- Alex Kensinger

### 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.

### Worth Quoting...

*"The goal of education is not to increase the amount of knowledge but to create the possibilities for a child to invent and discover, create people who are capable of doing new things.*

*-Jean Piaget*

### FEBRUARY: IS THE MONTH OF RESPECT.

Austus the lion helps to teach children how to:  
Treat others with respect; follow the Golden Rule

- Be tolerant and accepting of differences
- Use good manners, not bad language
- Be considerate of the feelings of others
- Don't threaten, or hit



### LEAD Coyotes

There is a group of fabulous 5<sup>th</sup> graders who are helping Hassayampa students become better kids of character. LEAD Coyotes go with Ms. K-P to help teach Character Counts lessons.

### Internet Safety Tips From Parenting Magazine:

#### Create Ground Rules

If your kids are old enough to be using the computer on their own, they are old enough to understand that there are rules they need to abide by. Breaking them should not have a lesser consequence than if they broke a rule in the offline world. The best way for families to agree on ground rules is to create a contract that all parties must live by.

#### Get To Know What Your Child's Habits Are

You don't need to be a super sleuth and spy on your kid's every online move, but it is important to be aware of the kinds of sites he is frequenting and the people he is associating with. You get to know the friends he's hanging out with at school, and his online friends shouldn't be any different. One of the contract rules should be that you have full access to his Facebook friends and can take a look whenever you wish.

### Catching Kids of Character

In February, please look for the parent letter with the HEART on the back. The children LOVE seeing their name on the wall.

### Random Acts of Kindness Day -

Celebrated on February 17th, National **Random Acts of Kindness** Day has grown in popularity each year. It is celebrated by individuals, groups and organizations, nationwide, to encourage **acts of kindness**. Hassayampa students will participate all month long with our own special version of random acts of kindness. What will you tell your child about being kind?



Ms. K-P



## Hassayampa Elementary School 21<sup>st</sup> Century Community Learning Centers

Quarter 3 of our after school programs began January 22<sup>nd</sup>. We have over **150** students signed up to attend programs with an average of 80 students attending each day.

**Power Hour:** This is our popular before school program. Staff is available to provide homework assistance to students so they can start their day off right. Students meet Ms. Lanz or Ms. Henneman at the gate at 7:00 a.m.

### Extended Studies

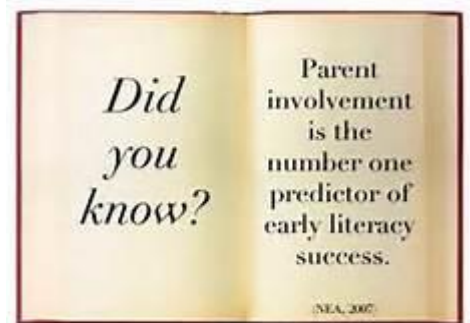
Each grade level offers weekly extended studies opportunities. Students meet with teachers after school on their designated days from 2:50-3:50 p.m. to work on their math and/or reading skills.

Under our Raising Expectations policy, students who are failing core classes or earn a Minimally Proficient on Galileo testing are **required** to attend tutoring. Other students may also be invited for additional assistance. If you feel that your child is struggling, please contact your child's teacher to identify options. Hassayampa offers a variety of supports for students. At this time, most programs are at capacity; however, your child can be added to the waiting list for 4<sup>th</sup> quarter programs. Also, summer school is a great option to continue learning.

**Art Class:** Our art teacher Mrs. Veraldi has started two after school art classes. We are extremely excited to have an art class in our program. Mrs. Veraldi did an amazing job with Art and Science Night and we can't wait to see what she has planned for her after school classes. Kindergarten, first, and second grade have an art class Monday from 4:00-5:00 while 3<sup>rd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> meets Tuesday from 4:00-5:00.

**APTT:** We did things a little differently for the 3<sup>rd</sup> APTT meeting on January 16. We started the night in classrooms to discuss student scores, progress, and grade level goals. Parents received their child's report cards as well as other grade level data. We then divided between the library and the cafeteria to play some games! These games were identified specifically to assist students in meeting grade level goals. It was fun to see so many smiling faces. If you missed out, we hope to see you at future events. In addition to these group meetings, parents were given opportunities to schedule a time to meet with teachers individually.

**Thank you!** The 21<sup>st</sup> 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 staff who help make these programs happen.



## Box Tops Contest

We have just finished our fourth Box Tops contest. The next contest will begin soon so keep collecting!



Please visit [www.boxtops4education.com](http://www.boxtops4education.com) to learn about other ways to earn money for Hassayampa.

sent home soon.

## Facebook

Have you checked us out on Facebook? We finally hit our goal. We currently have **503!** Thank you for helping us to spread the word to your friends and family. Visit Hassayampa Elementary School on Facebook and “Like” our page to receive up-to-date information on what’s happening at Hassayampa!



## Boots 'n Bling - PTA Daddy Daughter Dance

This dance is for all Hassayampa Pre-Kindergarten through Fifth Grade students along with their special someone! PTA is sponsoring our first Daddy Daughter Dance on Friday, February 22 at 6:30 p.m. in the Wrangler Event Center. \$10 per family for advance purchases (\$15 at the door). Flyers will be



## Amazon Smile

Are you an Amazon shopper? Please use Amazon Smile to help raise additional funds for Hassayampa.

[Amazon Smiles for Hassayampa](#)

## Note from the Principal:

We are over half way through the school year! Hassayampa teachers and staff and myself, know that the second semester is the big “push” to accomplish the year’s goals. To be successful, our students, your children, need your support. Please stay abreast of your child’s school work. Through ParentVUE, you can have your child’s grades emailed to you weekly or you can login and get the details of your child’s progress. Please contact the school office for your personal login information. This is, of course, in addition to communicating with your child’s teacher. Also, make sure you encourage your child to read *daily!*

We are starting to prepare for 3<sup>rd</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> grade AzMERIT. At the start of this month, students will be taking their ELA and math benchmark assessments on Galileo. The data collected will assist the 3-5 staff in identifying what students need to be successful on the state testing. Also, we have been working on a testing schedule to accommodate all three grade levels taking this test in an online setting (we are grateful to have two computer labs). A tentative test window has been set to start the last week of March. Please avoid scheduling dental visits or vacations during that time. On the state website, you will find additional information - <http://www.azed.gov/assessment/>. The state has recently added parent resources. I highly recommend checking them out.

Right now the hot topic for the district is the possibility of a 4-day school week. The district is in the research phase of determining if it is a good fit for Wickenburg. Surveys have been sent out to the community. These surveys are highly informational and will help us in making a sound decision. If you’d like to discuss what it might mean for Hassayampa, please join me for Principal’s Coffee on Wednesday, February 6.

As is typical, we have many great things happening at Hassayampa. Please review the calendar of events closely and add the information to your family calendar. I look forward to seeing you all at any one of our many events!

Very truly yours,

*Mrs. Hershkowitz*

