

HASSAYAMPA ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
SCHOOL-PARENT CONNECTION

CARISSA HERSHKOWITZ
PRINCIPAL



Welcome to the new school year!

This is the first newsletter of the 2020-2021 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.

A Note from Mrs. Hershkowitz

Hello Hassayampa Families:

I hope that you are doing well and continuing to stay healthy. Remote Learning will be in effect until our school opens. The Wickenburg Unified School District Governing Board has set October 19, 2020 as our target date to return to school. I appreciate the work you are doing, as you support Remote Learning at home. I as well as all of the Hassayampa staff understand the challenges of Remote Learning and, like you, we anxiously await the time where we can all be together again.

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.

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.

Our school reopening plan has been posted on the district website. Our school plan follows all district reopening guidelines to ensure the health and safety of all students and staff.

Respectfully,

Mrs. Hershkowitz



TIPS FOR REMOTE LEARNING

Choose a Learning Space:

Consider your child's learning environment. Choose a space that works for all members in your family. The space should include supplies that your child may need to complete assignments, such as lined paper, pencils/pens, items from the learning kits, etc. Your child should feel comfortable in their learning space.

When choosing this space, think about the background if your child is in a meeting with their classroom teacher and peers. Will people be seen or heard in the background? What are the other family members wearing? What are others saying? Keep in mind that everyone in your child's classroom can see and hear what is happening in your household during these live meetings.

- Find a quiet location for your child to participate in class and to do their independent work.
- Ensure that the learning space is comfortable for your child and is school appropriate.
- Limit distractions.
- Be sure to check in with your child; the amount of learning support will vary by age and individual need.
- Keep the class schedule available to ensure class time is not missed

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 the school email.



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. Isaac, Connor, and Jayson (JJ) were our bi 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>

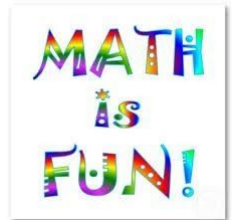
regarding these expectations, please schedule an appointment with your child's teacher or the principal.

Meet the Teacher

We had an untraditional Meet the Teacher. Grade level teachers and staff members posted their introductions for families to view at their leisure. If you missed out, you can find teacher introductions on their Google Sites or follow this link: [Meet the Teacher](#)

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. We had four winners last spring who won brand new bikes. It wasn't an easy task but bikes were delivered to Avery, Kevin, Emily, and Blaine! Congratulations! This year it could be YOU!

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

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

A student who reads	A student who reads	A student who reads
20:00	5:00	1:00
minutes per day	minutes per day	minute per day
will be exposed to 1.8 MILLION words per year and is more likely to score in the 90th PERCENTILE on standardized tests	will be exposed to 282,000 words per year and is more likely to score in the 50th PERCENTILE on standardized tests	will be exposed to 8,000 words per year and is more likely to score in the 10th PERCENTILE on standardized tests

Source: Nagy, Anderson and Herman, 1987

COUNSELOR'S CORNER

Needs...

Contact Ms. K-P

- School Supplies
- Emergency Clothing
- Weekly Food Bags

Call 928-668-5309

Weekend Food Bags

A special thank you goes to our local Elks Lodge. The local Elks Lodge will be providing weekend food bags for any family in need. Information and sign-up sheet has gone home, however, if you missed it, please contact Ms. K-P if you would like your child added to the list.

Summer THANK YOU

This summer, the weekend food bags were provided by St. Alban's Church and The Green Bag Food Program. A special shout out to Debra Loder for making this all come together!

David's Desert Chapel and the local Elks Lodge also provided meat and meals for our weekend food bag families. Your support is so appreciated.

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

- Martin Luther King, Jr.

The last few months, weeks and days have been difficult for everyone across the country. We have all faced challenges that impact our physical, mental and emotional health. You may be experiencing feelings of stress, fear, exhaustion and even anger. You are not alone.

We, the staff at Hassayampa, are here to support your family every step of the way in returning to school. That's why I will continue to share tips and resources to help you and your children take care of your mental health and well-being during this challenging time.

Here are tips from the **USA Mental Health First Aid** for attending school and helping your children cope with this pandemic:

1. **Talk to your child about the COVID-19 pandemic and school.** Reassure them that they are safe, and things will go back to normal in the future.
2. **Try to maintain a routine.** Create a schedule with learning activities, regular meals and fun games to keep kids engaged while at home.
3. **Monitor media consumption.** Kids are always listening, so limit the amount of exposure you give them to news coverage about COVID-19.
4. **Encourage your child to try something new that interests them.** This might be building with Legos, putting together a new puzzle or creating artwork.
5. **Maintain family and other social ties.** Stay connected with family and friends through phone and video calls regularly.
6. **Be a role model.** If you are calm and confident about the situation, your child is likely to be too.

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. Don't worry. More information on how you can support the school and your children with good character will follow!

Warm Wishes,
Ms. K-P