

## HASSAYAMPA ELEMENTARY SCHOOL SCHOOL-PARENT CONNECTION

CARISSA HERSHKOWITZ  
PRINCIPAL



### Hello September!

The school year is moving right along! 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](http://www.wickenburgschools.org/HES), and “like” us on our school Facebook page.

### A Note from Mrs. Hershkowitz

In four short weeks, we have already accomplished so much. Families, YOU are doing a great job! That's not to say that it has been easy, right? None of this is easy. That's because no matter how hard you try to establish a good routine and sleep schedule, being at home to facilitate school is very different from being physically in the school building. Stick with it! Having a consistent routine helps children know what to expect and it makes them feel safe and stable. The routine helps ensure that children get enough sleep so they can think well, and consistently eating healthy is important for thinking, growth, and development.

During this first week in September, third through fifth grade students are going to take their Galileo Benchmark tests. To better understand the purpose of this test the District has created this video - click on the link [Benchmark Testing](#).

Many are wondering when we will be returning to in-person learning. During the August Board meeting, the Board identified October 19 as our target return date. Keep in mind that this is a *target*; meaning if the metrics regarding COVID-19 are hitting the right levels, we will return. For us, this means we need to keep practicing CDC strategies - social distancing, hand washing, using face coverings, etc. The better we do now, the more likely we are to be on track to return. Once we return, it will be critical that we continue to follow these best practices so we can remain open. I can't wait!

The dedication and collaboration of many good people: students, staff, parents, and community is what makes the Hassayampa Family successful. Thank you!

Best regards,

*Mrs. Hershkowitz*

# TIPS FOR REMOTE LEARNING

## Attendance Matters

Even during Remote Learning, attendance matters. Even if “school” is happening at the kitchen table, attendance and participation are very important. Showing up for school has a huge impact on a student’s academic success starting in kindergarten and continuing through high school. Even as children grow older and more independent, families play a key role in making sure students get to school safely every day and understand why attendance is so important for success in school and in life.

We realize some absences are unavoidable due to health problems or other unavoidable circumstances. But, we also know that when students miss too much school— regardless of the reason – it can cause them to fall behind academically. Your child is less likely to succeed if he or she is chronically absent—which means missing 15 or more days over the course of an entire school year. This will be a challenge this year as COVID symptoms will require students and staff to stay home.

Absences add up quickly! A child is chronically absent if he or she misses more than three days in a quarter.

Even in a world of Remote Learning, it is important for students to be on time and ready for learning each morning! Hassayampa students have three live meeting times plus small group live meetings. Please make sure your child is ready to login for each meeting time.

Children should eat their breakfast *prior* to starting their morning meetings. Children should be dressed and groomed prior to logging in.

Thank you for your help in starting the day right!

**MARK YOUR CALENDARS!**

**Food Services**  
**Monday - Thursday**  
**9:00 - 10:00 a.m.**

**September**  
**Sept. 3 & 4 - Grades 3-5 Galileo**  
**Sept. 7 - No School Labor Day**  
**Sept. 8 - Grade Check**

**KEY TIMES to Practice Social Distancing**

**Inside your home when someone has, or thinks they have, COVID-19**  
 If possible, stay at least 6 feet away.



6 feet



**Outside your home**  
 Stay at least 6 feet away from people outside of your household in indoor/outdoor spaces. Stay out of crowded places if possible.



6 feet

[cdc.gov/coronavirus](https://cdc.gov/coronavirus)

**READING AND MATH NOOK**

**Reading Fluency**

There are many things that are a little bit different this year. This includes our reading benchmark assessment. It's essentially the same test that we've used for years, but with a new name and a refreshed focus. The reading assessment is now called Acadience. The name is not important, what does matter is the valuable data it provides our teachers to assist in driving our reading instruction and to provide support where needed. Beginning of the year reading fluency tests will take a little longer to complete this year. Our assessment team is working hard to virtually meet with individual students.



**Amazon Smile**

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

[Amazon Smiles for Hassayampa](#)



**Facebook**

We currently have **576** Facebook likes! That's 52 more than last year! Thank you for joining! Please continue to visit Hassayampa Elementary School on Facebook and tell your friends. Once you "Like" our page, you will receive up-to-date information on what's happening at Hassayampa!



**ParentWE**

Are you signed up for ParentVUE? Parents, you can access current information on

your child's academic progress. With a user ID and password, you have the ability to see your child's grades in each subject area, identify missing assignments, and grade for a particular assignment plus many other things. This can be done from your computer or cell phone. If you don't have your user ID, please stop by the front office for assistance in getting more information on this useful tool.

**Call Yucari today to get set up!**

**MATH FACT FLUENCY!**

During the second week of school, students spent a few minutes taking a quick math fact fluency assessment based upon the goals defined below.

**Math Fact Fluency Goals**

**Kinder** - Count and identify #'s to 100  
**1<sup>st</sup> Grade** – addition & subtraction facts to 10  
**2<sup>nd</sup> Grade** - addition & subtraction facts to 20  
**3<sup>rd</sup> Grade** – addition, subtraction, & multiplication facts  
**4<sup>th</sup> Grade** - addition, subtraction, multiplication facts & division facts  
**5<sup>th</sup> Grade** – multiplication & division facts & percentage/fractions/decimals conversions



**21<sup>st</sup> Century Community Learning Centers**

21st CCLC programs will begin soon! First round invitations will be sent to families of students in need of extended learning opportunities.

If you have any questions about the programs, please contact the program coordinators, Ms. Lanz – [slanz@wusd9.org](mailto:slanz@wusd9.org) OR Ms. Henneman – [jhenneman@wusd9.org](mailto:jhenneman@wusd9.org).

Free and reduced meal eligibility (from the previous school year) will expire soon. All families must reapply each school year. If you have not already applied this school year, please apply at <https://family.titank12.com/>

## Conversations about school:

### COUNSELOR'S CORNER

#### If you have concerns...

Many children are struggling with not seeing their friends and not being in school. I would be happy to meet with your child in a Google Meet.

Feel free to contact me at 928-668-5309 or

[dkeithprohl@wusd9.org](mailto:dkeithprohl@wusd9.org)

#### Did you know?

Children who regularly eat meals with their families tend to do better in school and avoid risky behavior. Eating dinner together is great, but other meals count, too. If you work at night, maybe you could make time for a family breakfast. Or on a weekend, try a picnic.

#### Food Bags

Melissa's Cabinet is run through our local Elk's Lodge. It helps to supply our weekend food bags along with St. Alban's Church. If you are in need of a weekend food bag, please contact Ms.K-P. They can be picked up either at school or at a bus stop if you order ahead of time.

At times it is difficult to get your child to talk about their school day. Here are some good suggestions taken from Sherry Artemenko, MA-CCC, Tips to Get Your Child to Talk About Her School Day , *Parents' Choice magazine*.

**Ask open-ended questions.** Try some open-ended questions like, "Tell me about the game you played at recess today" or "That's a beautiful picture of the farm. Tell me about it." or "I wonder what you had for lunch today."

**Use their artwork or take-home papers to start conversations.** Take advantage of these masterpieces, asking open ended questions of your little artist and don't forget to listen. . Showing interest in their work can increase their self-esteem as well as link school and home.

**Know their school schedule** so you can start talking about music class, PE or art class. "What activities did you have for PE today?" or "What did you create in art?" "Tell me about the music that you listened to today."

**Model sharing about your day.** "I had a great day today. I talked to grandma and grandpa about it" or "I met a new friend and we had coffee."

**Use books as conversation starters.** Choose a book about school and see what conversation unfolds. For a laugh out loud, read [What a Day it was at School!](#) by Jack Prelutsky. His collection of poems about school "tipping over with a heavy backpack, throwing food in the cafeteria, hopelessly competing with a classmate in gym, or emitting an accidental noise during class" is outrageously silly, getting a child laughing and connecting the stories to her school experience.

**Take advantage of your child stalling at bedtime.** One mother shared with me that if she lingers with her first-grade son after stories are read and the bedtime routine is over, she can count on about 10 minutes of chat about his day. He's smart "he knows what mom likes and how to stay up longer!

**Listen, listen, and listen.** Once your child gets started talking about her day, hold off more questions and let her go. As parents, we tend to jump in with more questions, but pausing is important. A child gains confidence as she relates her day and you affirm her.

#### 5 Weekend Activities from *The Ripple Of Kindness Magazine*

Here are 5 weekend activities to keep your kids engaged, active and learning.

1. Start a garden. This is an activity the entire family can take part in.
2. Explore your backyard. Teach your children about rocks, birds, and other outdoor creatures.
3. Do a science experiment. Have you ever made gack?
4. Go on a field trip to the park.
5. Play a board game.

Ms. K-P