



The Eagle Times: Elementary School Edition



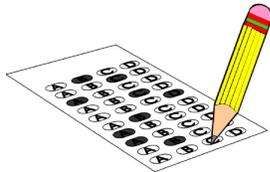
April 2017 Issue

Gila Crossing Community School

School Wide News

Every Friday dismissal is
@12:30 pm

AZ MERIT TESTING
April 10-April 19



April 6-Breakfast with the Principal
April 14-No School-Good Friday
April 16-Easter Sunday
May 4-Breakfast with the Principal
May 5-4th Grade Banquet

Kindergarten

Mrs. Phillips, Mrs. Lewis & Ms. Bahe

Hello from Kinder land! We have been very busy learning how to blend and segment words so we can read books on our own. We are also making sure we know how to count to 100 by 1's, 5's and 10's. As always, support from home is very important. Getting homework done, practicing our letters, sounds and numbers daily are also important. We have just finished our NWEA testing and we teachers are proud of all the students hard work they have done. Thank you parents for making sure your students were here for testing. We will have Galileo testing at the end of April. We have our field trip to the Phoenix Zoo on Thursday, April 12th. We can't wait to see all the animals and learn about different habitats.

News from Administration

Mr. Copenhaver

I want to thank everyone that attended our Parent teacher conferences this past month. We were thrilled to see so many people in attendance. I also want to invite everyone to our next Breakfast with the Principal on Thursday, April 6th at 8:30 AM. Come hungry and hear updates about our school, receive test taking tips, and give feedback. Next, I want to remind everyone of our AZMerit testing coming up starting April 10th. Please try to schedule appointments around these dates for your students. Finally, we love animals but please help us by keeping them home during school hours.
Thank you

2nd Grade

Ms. Thomas, Ms. Jensen, Ms. Elofson, Ms. Barehand

Second grade is busy learning basic geometry. Our students can draw and name a cone, sphere, cube, cylinder and pyramid. We are also learning how many "faces" and "vertices" these shapes contain.
In reading we are learning about the cause and effect in a story. NWEA testing has started for our 2nd graders! Parents and guardians can help our students do well by practicing simple math skills and reading aloud with your student every day. Thanks for your continued support.

Elementary School Counseling Update

Mrs. Taxter

I am happy to announce our March 2017 Student of the Month winners. They are:

Pre: Jahri Brown

K: Angely Antone

1st: Ricky Turner

2nd: Reyna Carlisle

3rd: Eden Alapizco

4th: Arya Pablo

Staff: Ms Fowler

The assembly to honor these winners will be April 7. K-3 will be at 9:30 AM and 4-8 will be at 8:30 AM.

Congratulations to all!

AzMerit Testing will begin April 10 and continue into the week of April 17th. Please be aware of this as you make medical appointments. If a student must leave school during their test time, the guidelines indicate they can't go back and make it up. Thank you for your help and understanding as we complete testing.

3rd Grade

Ms. Hillis, Ms. Smith,
Ms. Rollins & Ms. Hoskie

We'd like to thank all the Parents and Guardians that came in for conferences, were reached by phone, or home visits. It's always good to go over the student's progress and keeping you updated.

The third grade class is busily getting ready for the AZMerit test with lots of practice in the computer lab. You can also do this at home by using the portal: <http://azmeritportal.org> the students know how to maneuver their way around to practice.

In math we're beginning the last of our topics; perimeter, area, time, temperature, data, review and with lots of story problems.

In reading we're still practicing the students oral reading. Often we're looking for the evidence which supports the answers they choose in any situation.

Thank you for sending your students in on time and ready to learn. It's greatly appreciated.

1st Grade

Ms. Nevarez, Ms. Gloria,
Mrs. Hasenstab & Ms. Madrid

First graders are amazing! We have started our end of the year tests. We've seen progress already-great job first graders keep it up!

In our daily reading and math we are focusing on informational text, infer & predict, dividing shapes into equal parts, and then we'll target money. Parents, you are appreciated and we thank you for making sure your child turns in their homework every week, and also, reading daily with your child.

Akimel O'otham / Pee Posh Culture Program

Ms. Parsons & Ms. Hughes

The Culture program is very busy with great class, afterschool, and Saturday school activities.

Culture class daily Routine:

New Month of March: *Kwi I'ivagithag Mashath*

Class daily routine is to learn how to say the new month in O'otham, as well as the day and date. The classes also learn a phrase for the month. For the *Auppa Hiosik Mashath* (February) the phrase is:
Person 1: "S-ke:g 'o vud thash hemoch!"
Person 2: "Ha'o, S-ke:g 'o vud thash hemoch!"

Another project that Culture is very excited about is the willingness of our students to take part in the Akimel O'otham traditional singing and dancing. They are doing wonders with the singing and dancing. The Singers and Dancers meet after school on Tuesdays and Thursdays after school, and Saturday School.

The Singers and Dancers entered the 2017 Mul-Chu-Tha Parade and came in 2nd place. GCCS and the Culture Program are very proud of our students sharing singing and dancing culture with our community..

The Culture staff is extremely excited and very thankful for the District 7 Pee Posh Elders in their initiative to help the staff in learning and passing on the Pee Posh language. Thank you Pee Posh Elders.

"*Nam piab 'o ith che:gim!*"
Feel free to come visit anytime.

4th Grade

Mr. Britton & Ms. Smallcanyon
Hello from 4th grade, it's a busy time with preparation for all the testing the students are doing. Please remember to encourage your child and to have them get plenty of rest. Thank you for helping them to be prepared and making sure they are at school at this time.

In math the students are studying geometry and solids and then covering as many units as possible before Azmerit testing. Reading is a continual practice of reading comprehension along with writing.

The Reading Corner

Mrs. Bowers, Mrs. Ford
& Mrs. Barngrover

Spring is in the air! Enjoy outdoor activities while learning at the same time.....

~April is Poetry Month~

- Find a spot under a tree, at the park, on a bench and read for 20 minutes
- Make a scavenger hunt using items that begin with a specific letter
- Play catch while spelling words
- Create a poem about nature
- Play "I spy" outside

Be creative and have fun!!!

Math Matters

Mr. Murdock
Ms. Fowler

Much progress has been established in math intervention. Third and fourth grade students have been working hard on making improvements with their math skills and knowledge. Our focus has been to enrich our understanding in concepts within numbers and operations in base ten for both 3rd and 4th grade. We will continue to prepare for the AZMerit test.

Special Education

Our Special Education staff has been busy working with students on all the testing that comes at the end of the school year. Some students with IEPs (Individual Education Plans) may need a separate setting, or someone that they know as the tester or other accommodations. Your students have been working all year and we are excited to see how well they will do on the assessments. Thanks for your support. We appreciate the opportunity to work with your students.



HAPPY EASTER!

News from Music

by: Mr. Stein

The 4th quarter has started with new keyboard music. For the first time this year, Kindergarten and 1st grade will begin keyboard studies. They are learning the single line melody to Beethoven's "Ode To Joy". 3rd grade moves to the second page of "This Land Is Your Land" and 4th grade continues with "Chopsticks". Both of these pieces bring into the music challenging left hand parts which our students will find takes much work and focus. When these pieces are learned, then students will begin playing duets in class with me which strengthens their ability to listen. Eventually, soloists for our final concert of the year on May 16th will be selected.

News from Garden

by: Mr. Mendoza

With the rain we have been having everything is growing, including the weeds. Tomatoes and chilies have been transplanted to the field from the greenhouse. Students have been taking starter plants home with them.

We had a duck hatch out in our incubator and will try to hatch out more soon.

4th grade banquet is May 5th.

**News from the Library
Mrs. McQueen
Sara Dillon**

HAPPY EASTER

Wow we certainly have a jam packed April awaiting us. There will be testing this month. In addition we will squeeze in Easter.

It is **BOOK FAIR** time again. It is a **Buy One Get One Free** beginning April 21st they will be delivering to April 28th. I hope to see you all there.

I am also asking for parent volunteers to help run it. You can sign-up for as many days and times as you would like. If you would like to volunteer please contact **Karen McQueen** in the Library.

The theme for the Book Fair is **Summer Camping Fun**.

News from P.E.

Spring is here, but it will soon feel like summer! There will be lots of testing coming up in the next few weeks. Come to PE ready to listen, exercise and make the most of that 50 minutes of fun, games and exercise! I am looking forward to ending things on a good note. So have a positive attitude and know we don't have much longer to go! Let's not change what we have been doing all year! Listening, participating and having fun! **I BELIEVE YOU CAN!**