



Ellsworth Eagles Rock

Ellsworth Elementary

April 2017

Ellsworth Elementary
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A Message From Principal Stimatze's Desk



Ellsworth Family and Friends,

Spring is here and excitement is in the air as we continue to have a wonderful year of learning here at Ellsworth. As always, we greatly appreciate the combined efforts of all as we support our students in successfully meeting the highest of standards set before them!

This time of year also brings AZ Merit testing March 27th – April 19th.

If you are wondering what you can do to help your child, here are some suggestions:

- Encourage your child to try his/her best!
- Help your child get a good night's sleep and have a good breakfast in the morning.
- Help your child with time management.
- Remind your child to read carefully.
- Remind your child to check his/her work.

With the end of the school year quickly approaching, we want to thank each of you for your ongoing support of our students, our teachers and staff, and our mission here at Ellsworth. This year has been, and continues to be, a success due to the collective efforts of all in providing opportunities for our students to succeed and grow.

Every Student/Every Opportunity/Every I

Sincerely,

Tammy Stimatze, Principal



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Ellsworth Elementary Hours

Office Hours: 7:30am to 4:00pm

Campus opens for students: 7:45am

Class Hours: (Mon/Tue/Thurs/Fri) 8:15am - 3:05pm

Early Release EVERY Wednesday Hours: 8:15am - 1:35pm

Half Day Hours: 11:15am LUNCH served

WARNING BELL at 8:10 / TARDY at 8:15



CHARACTER COUNTS!



Student Spotlight

This month we focus on:

TRUSTWORTHINESS

Congratulations to all the
Students chosen.

Calendar

- PTO Fundraiser Yankee Candle -Ends 4/4
- PTO Fundraiser-Pastries w/Parents 4/7
- 1st Grade Field Trip - Phoenix Zoo 4/11
- Governing Board Meeting @ CMS 4/12
- NO School - Spring Day 4/14
- Progress Reports due 4/19
- Kindergarten Field Trip 4/20
- Awards Assembly 4/21
- 5th Grade Field Trip - Skateland 4/24
- District Battle of the Books 4/25
- Orchestra Concert @ CHS 5/3
- Band Concert @ CHS 5/4
- 6th Grade Field Trip 5/8
- Governing Board Meeting @ CMS 5/10
- Kindergarten Celebration 5/16
- Kindergarten Waterday 5/17
- Water Day 1st-6th Grade 5/19

Happenings in the classroom.....

Kindergarten



April is a very exciting month in Kindergarten. We will be starting our unit on Farms and how food gets from the farm to our table. We will then be taking our field trip to the Farm! We will also be discussing animal life cycles and get to watch a caterpillar grow into a butterfly! We will celebrate Earth Day by learning about all the ways we can help take care of the Earth. In FUNdations we are still practicing our digraphs and beginning to use them in our writing. We are also reading paragraphs and practicing answering questions about them. In math, we are learning all about 3D or solid shapes and beginning to solve more difficult addition and subtraction problems. Looking forward to a month full of fun and learning!

FIRST GRADE

Wow! Can you believe it's April already? This year has seemed to fly by! We are very excited about our upcoming field trip to the Phoenix Zoo on April 11th! The cost is 6.00 and please have your child's permission slip signed by Friday, April 7th. We have one day off this month for the Spring Holiday! Please check the master schedule for this date.

- In Foundations we will be working with vowel consonant-e syllable words.
- Students will read non-fiction stories about insects and animals.
- Students will be learning time and shapes in this math unit.
- Our writing focus will be writing to report information.
- Foundations and math homework will be a similar format. Be sure to practice timed reading for 1 minute each night!

Thank you for having your child in school and on time every day!



SECOND GRADE



This month in Foundations we will begin working on Vowel Teams and the "D" syllable. In reading we are working on comparing, contrasting, and biographies. We are continuing our paragraph writing with personal narratives. In math, we will begin working more in depth with word problems. We will be working with compare word problems, finding unknown addends in word problems, and mixed word problems.

Please continue to have your child read 25 minutes each night, along with the fluency passages that are sent home. Thank you for all you do! Please feel free to contact us with any questions or concerns.



- We are coming down the home stretch for the AZ Merit testing. Thank you for your continually support. We appreciate you getting the kids to bed on time, feeding them nutritious breakfast, and being a positive support.
- It's been a fun time reviewing all of our concepts and standards by playing review games and completing center activities.
- Math: Fun times with geometry exploration!!! So many names for a square. The kids had a great learning experience while sorting and classifying shapes.
- ELA: Read, read, read!!!! The best way to become a better reader and writer is to spend time reading. The kids have been reading all about life science through many types of texts. It has helped them review for the big assessment.
- Science: The fourth quarter will be full of learning through reading and exploration. In April , the kids have had the opportunity to go on many "Virtual Field Trips" to explore different ecosystems and habitats. Be prepared for our big trip to Australia!!!!

FOURTH GRADE



We want to thank all the parents who volunteered on our field trip! We had so much so fun mining for gold and learning about the history of Arizona's mines. Please continue to check Jupiter Grades for grade updates, Class Dojo for behavior, and backpacks for important flyers. Students have been working SO hard on AIMS and AZ Merit testing, we will be testing through the end of April. Best of luck to all of our students we know you will do GREAT! Thank you for all your continued support at home.



A cartoon illustration of a young girl with red hair in pigtails, wearing a green dress with a yellow bow and blue shoes. She is sitting on a tall stack of colorful books and reading an open book.

Thank you to all Battle of the Books participants for all of your hard work reading and studying. Battle III was amazing. Congratulations to fifth graders Hailey Sumner, Jorja Schram, and Precious Godfrey for placing 3rd in the competition, and further congratulations go to fifth graders Mya Adams, Julia Diaz, and Franki Andersen for placing 2nd in the competition overall. We are proud of all of you.

Lastly, during this testing season, it is especially important that your child arrive on time and well-rested.

- Students will begin to work on their "Country Report" project for Multicultural Night. Please make sure you and your child review the information in the packet and are aware of any pertinent due dates.
- Our field trip will be held May 8 at Stratum Laser Tag. We are excited to be able to use what we have learned in math and apply it to our experience playing laser tag. Please make sure your child's permission slip and money is turned in to their teacher.
- Thank you to our amazing parent volunteers that are always willing to help us out! We appreciate you very much!
- Sixth grade has run low on pencils. If you are able to donate any to our classes, we would greatly appreciate it!

Happenings in "SPECIALS" areas.....

BAND NEWS

Congratulations to the District 6th Grade Honor Band! This group is made up of students from all 5 elementary schools. On March 23, they participated in the ABODA Area Concert Band Festival, where as the youngest band in attendance, they received a rating of "Excellent". Great work, kids! Participating students from Ellsworth include Teague Bullard, Treeva Luschkowski, Abriana Gonzalez and Kaiden Baker.

Mark your calendars for May 4th - on that day, ALL band students from the district will descend upon Combs High School for the annual Mass Band Festival. The event will conclude with a concert open to everyone in the CHS gym, beginning at 6:00 p.m. Come and see this spectacular concert event!



Band

Orchestra



Dear Ellsworth Parents,

At 1:00 pm on May 3rd, all the Elementary Orchestra Students in our district will be bused to Combs High School to practice. Some of the Combs High School Orchestra Members will be there to provide mentoring for our elementary students, and some will even perform with us later that evening at 6:00 pm. Last year the PTO provided pizza and punch for our students. A letter will be sent home with more details with requests for chaperone's. Please put this event on your calendar and invite friends and relatives; you will not want to miss this!

Sincerely,

Mr. Guido Lavorata



April is upon us and it is a great time to continue singing songs of Spring!

During the month of April we will studying some of the different styles of music- from jazz to country, blues to rock'n'roll, standards to contemporary music!

We will also being singing and dancing to songs from Disney movies! How fun!

Physical Education P.E.



Reminder: Make sure your child has shoes to wear for PE class, otherwise they won't be able to participate.



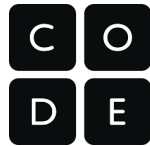
This past 9 weeks students have completed a unit on 3-D drawing and this week began a unit on Scratch (animation/game building)

Students will complete 9 tasks following step-by-step instruction

Both of these programs have free versions available on-line that students can use to practice the skills.

REMINDER: You need to be practicing your keyboarding skills at home.

<https://www.typing.com/>



Hello Ellsworth Community!

We hope everyone had an enjoyable and fun spring break as we not look to the final stretch of the 2016-2017 school year!

Now that we are looking toward the end of the year, it is time to remind our sixth graders to begin thinking about the Arizona Career Information System (AZCIS) interest surveys. This will help our students guide their career choices as they move forward with their education into middle school and beyond.

For our K-5 students, we will be working on social skills problem solving and character education. Here at Ellsworth Character Counts, and we will be working with our students to practice and maintain what they have learned in the Character Counts curriculum.

If you have any questions, you can always contact School Counselor Elfida Telles.

Young Coyotes

Young Coyotes daycare services children ages 3-5 years old and combines play and learning in a child centered environment where exploration is encouraged. Children are provided opportunities to grow socially, emotionally, and academically through hands on activities involving music, art, and dramatic play. Young Coyotes is taught by a veteran preschool teacher with 20 years experience in early childhood. We now have 2 schools that will have our Young Coyotes program, Ranch Elementary and Ellsworth Elementary. Young Coyotes is licensed by Department of Health Services and approved by the Department of Economic Security. Children must be potty trained and current on shots. Parents must provide a sack breakfast and/or lunch.

Hours of Operation: Monday- Friday from 6:30 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. not including school holidays.

Pricing: Parents have a choice of either full or part day options.

Half day \$20 per day or \$75 per week

Full day \$40 per day or \$150 per week



Library



Friendly reminder if your child has an outstanding book from last year please contact our librarian, Lora Rael at 480-882-3520.



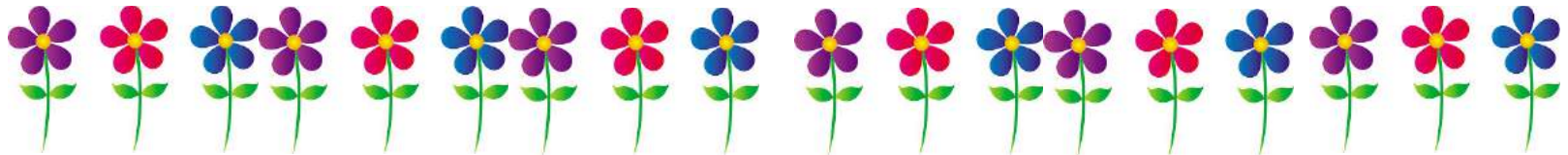
Take Flight Fridays



We had such an amazing year with our Take Flight Friday Program.

All students were able to work as a team, participate and learn from all educational activities. Whether it was going for the Gold or working on commercials for the Superbowl, what an amazing learning experience. Can't wait for next year!





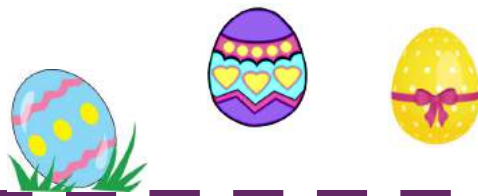
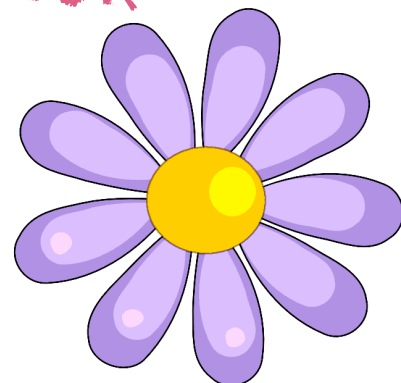
ELLSWORTH CAFETERIA

April



SPRING

END OF YEAR IS FAST APPROACHING AND THAT USUALLY MEANS EXAMS FOR OUR KIDDOS. EATING A HEALTHY BREAKFAST IS VERY IMPORTANT FOR A STRONG MIND. YOU CAN ALWAYS FIND A GREAT HEALTHY BREAKFAST EVERY MORNING HERE AT ELLSWORTH. HAVE YOUR KIDS JOIN US SO THEY ARE READY TO START A GOOD DAY!



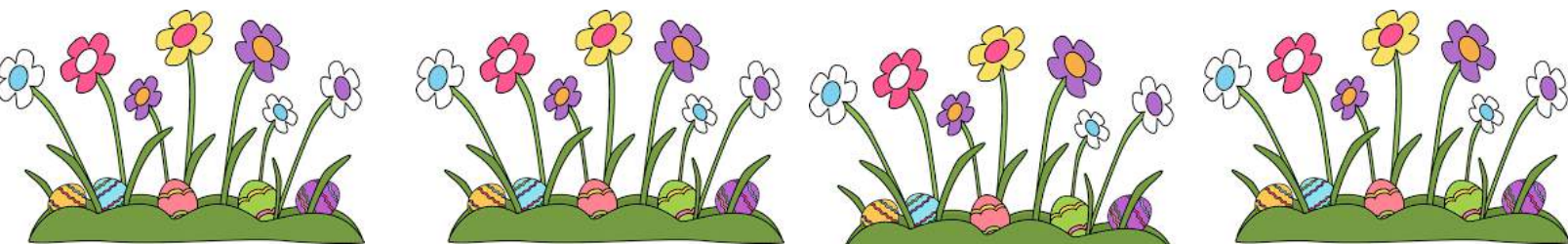
Breakfast is \$1.25

[Click here for Breakfast Menu](#)

Lunch is \$2.65

Reduced breakfast and lunch \$.30 and \$.40

[Click here for Lunch Menu](#)



LOST & FOUND



Each year students misplace their backpacks, lunch pails, coats, hats, and even their glasses.

When these items are found they are placed in the 2 large cans inside the breeze way. Eye glasses will be turned into the front office.

Please remind your child to check for their belongings.

Twice a year these items will be laid out on tables for students and parents to look through. Please take the time to check for any of your child's things.

Ellsworth Elementary will donate all unclaimed items at the end of the year to local charities that can place these items in the hands of those who need them.



Resource

Learning the multiplication facts can be a daunting task for a lot of students. A different way to support your child in math is to help them learn to skip count. If they are able to skip count their numbers from 1-12, they can use this to help them solve a problem that requires multiplication. Skip counting only takes a minute or two to practice and is a great benefit.

Examples:

3,6,9,12,15,18,21,24,27,30,33,36

6,12,18,24,30,36,42,48,54,60,66,72

Count while your in the car, setting the dinner table, taking showers, etc.

Mrs. Telfer- K-4 Resource Room Teacher

Mrs. Harris-4-6 Resource Room Teacher

Mrs. Kleinknecht-Speech Pathologist

Title 1 Reading

No matter how old your children are they will benefit from listening to you read aloud to them. Sharing a story can be an enjoyable time for both you and your children while helping them grow as readers. The books you choose can be a little above their reading ability. By discussing the plot and unknown words you will be helping their comprehension and vocabulary grow. Once you have finished the book, have fun discussing it. You might ask them who their favorite character was and if they would like to trade places with them. How would they change the ending? Be creative with your discussions. Your children will begin to think more deeply about the plot. This will carry over to stories they read on their own. Happy Reading!

Mrs. Carbajal- Title I Reading Specialist

Mrs. Berkey- Para-Professional

ELL

ELL students are learning English at the same time they are learning rigorous academic content, all while trying to remain balanced between their primary culture and the new one that they are now learning in. Parents can help their students make the transition into an English speaking school environment by helping students develop English and academic literacy at home. Try using the strategies below to help your ELL child become academically successful in not one language, but multiple.

- **Don't be afraid to use your native tongue.** This tip may be the most important since it is the bridge between your child's learning situations — that is, the connection between his or her primary language and culture and new language and culture. You can explain unfamiliar words and concepts in the language familiar to your child and continue to build his or her literacy skills in the primary language, while practicing and developing English and academic literacies.
- **When it comes to homework, have a routine.** Establishing a good study routine at home can make a significant difference in your child's learning. Provide a quiet environment by removing or minimizing any potential distractions and make sure that your child has all the supplies he or she needs including pencils, books, paper, etc. Take the time to answer any questions your child may have. If you don't know the answers, you can help your child find resources to help answer the questions he or she has, or you can help your child write down the question to ask his or her teacher. Even if you cannot yet speak English yourself, you can still check on your child to see if homework assignments are finished.

<http://www.pearsoned.com>

ACADEMIC COACHES CORNER

How can you keep your child ready for learning when the weather is warm and spring is upon us?

Children need to experience a love of learning outside of the classroom so they see connections with their learning at school and the real world.

Here are some ways to help keep your child motivated as the school year comes to a close.

- *Fill your child's world with reading. Read at home and visit the library or bookstores to instill that love of learning.*
- *Discuss your love of learning new things with your child. Show them learning continues even when you are an adult.*
- *Help your child organize their school work, their homework space and even their bedrooms.*
- *Turn everyday events into learning opportunities. Make trips to the grocery store or gas station a time to discuss learning times.*

If you would like further details, see the accompanying article.

<http://www.scholastic.com/parents/resources/article/motivate-school-success/10-ways-to-motivate-your-child-to-learn>



District News:

Combs Kidz Summer Camp is a fun and safe place for your students this summer. They will enjoy field trips, guest speakers, specialty classes, and much more! Check out the flyer for details.

The Combs Education Foundation was formed in July with the mission of providing scholarships to graduating Combs High School Seniors and mini-grant to Combs teachers. We are very excited to be awarding the first \$1000 scholarship to a senior at the May 16th Awards Night. Watch for future ways that you donate to the Combs Education Foundation and make a difference in students' lives.

Enrollment for the next school year is ongoing, and we need your help spreading the good news about our schools to your neighbors! Registration packets are excepted at all schools until June 8th and then the district office until July 14th. Register early to help us in planning for the next school year. Check out the latest edition of the [J.O. Combs newspaper!](#)

If your student does not meet the August 31st birthday cut-off for Kindergarten registration, s/he may be eligible for early entry. Testing information can be found online at www.jocombs.org under the Community Education tab, Kinder Options link. Testing dates are April 26th, May 17th, June 14th, and July 19th.

J.O. Combs Unified Sports

J.O. Combs is excited to begin its 3rd season for Unified Basketball. Unified Sports are sponsored by Special Olympics and are AIA supported.

Unified basketball games are conducted in 8 minute quarters with a running clock. The team consists of "Athletes" and "Partners." Athletes are students with special needs specifically with intellectual delays. Partners are typically developing peers and can be students with IEPs without intellectual delays. The team practices at Combs High on Mondays and Thursday. The athletes are from both our middle and high school.

For 3 years consecutively our Co-Coaches have been Varsity Basketball Coach, Mr. Kirk Fauske, and Previous Varsity Girl's basketball co-coach, Ms. Jette Thompson. Mr. Fauske has been teacher special education at Combs since the fall of 2009 and Ms. Thompson is a Counselor at both the high school and Combs Traditional Academy and is in her 4th year at Combs.

The Unified Teams play 5 games and then have the opportunity to participate in a Saturday tournament held at Perry High School in Chandler. This season we play against Higley, Chandler, Queen Creek.

Away vs. Florence High 4-13 @ 6:00pm

Home vs. Higley High 4-20 @ 6:00pm

Home vs. Hamilton high 4-27 @ 6:00pm

Home vs. Queen creek (Senior Night) 5-4 @ 6:00pm

Away vs. Chandler High 5-11 @ 6:00pm

Combs Kidz Summer Camp



At Ellsworth Elementary
Monday—Friday
May 24—Aug 1

Camp Hours
6:00 am—6:00 pm

Camp Rates
Registration Fee
\$20/student

Full Day
Daily Rate \$40.00
Weekly Rate \$170.00

Half Day
Daily Rate \$20.00
Weekly Rate \$70.00
(Half Day is 6:00 am—12:00 pm OR
Noon—6:00 pm exceptions)

All Field Trips \$7.00

Summer School Rate
Attend After Summer
School
\$100.00 / week

20% Sibling Discount
20% Employee Discount
BES approved



Questions?
Call 480-987-5310

SUMMER FUN AT COMBS

Weekly Themes

Field Trips to:

Peter Piper Pizza, Harkins, Laser
Tag, Sea Life Aquarium, Bowling,
Swimming and many more to come

Arts & Crafts

Ping Pong

Technology

Indoor & Outdoor Activities

Science Experiments

Wii Games

Register Online!

Look for the "Camp Programs" page under the "Community Education" tab on the www.OCombs.org website. If you already have a DayCare Works account, please log in to the existing account and use the "registernow" tab.

Camp can be paid on a weekly basis. Choose and pay for camp days by 4:00 pm on Friday for the upcoming week.