



Ellsworth Eagles Rock

# Ellsworth Elementary

**March 2017**

Ellsworth Elementary  
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Follow us:

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Facebook: facebook.com/EaglesEllsworth

Great Schools: Greatschools.org

## A Message From Principal Stimatze's Desk



Ellsworth Family and Friends,

As we "March" into the last few months of the school year, We want the students to continue to work hard and be prepared for the next grade level. We are experiencing a very high number of tardy students on a daily basis. Please remember that School starts at 8:10 and students will be late starting at 8:15.

Spring Break is right around the corner. It begins on March 13th and goes through March 20th. Students resume school on Tuesday, March 21st. AZ Merit Testing begins the week of March 27th and will conclude on April 19th. During this time it is important that your student gets plenty of rest, nourishment, and exercise.

Please try to avoid taking your student from school for appointments during this time. I would like to wish each and every one a Wonderful, relaxing Spring Break. Enjoy the time with Family and Friends.

**Every Student/Every Opportunity/Every Day**

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:

### **RESPONSIBILITY**

Congratulations to all the  
Students chosen for the awards  
assembly.

## **Calendar**

- Read Across America 2/27-3/3
- Monday- Thing 1 and Thing 2- Twin Day!
- Tuesday- Sleep Book!- Wear your pjs
- Wednesday- Wacky Wednesday- Wear mismatched and backwards clothes
- Thursday- If I Ran the Zoo!- Wear animal print
- Friday- Dress up as your favorite Dr. Seuss Character!
- Literacy Night 3/2
- Awards Assembly 3/3
- Band Concert 3/7
- 4th Grade Field Trip 3/10
- Spring Break No School 3/13-3/17
- Professional Development - No School 3/20
- Combs Job Fair @ CHS 3/21
- Report Cards Sent Home 3/24
- Battle of the Books #3 3/24
- Spring Pictures 3/30

## **Happenings in the classroom.....**

### **Kindergarten**



*March will be a fun and busy time for Kindergarten! We are very excited to begin our Dr. Seuss Author Study that will kick off with a celebration for Dr. Seuss's Birthday. We will be also begin studying farms in order to prepare for our field trip that will take place in April. In FUNdations we are learning all about digraphs and how to use them in our reading and writing. We are breaking apart sentences and practicing how to read them fluently. In math we are beginning to solve more difficult story problems and creating number partners and number sentences for 10. We are looking forward to starting off our last quarter of school on a great note!*

# FIRST GRADE

Thank you to all of the families who took the time to meet with us for parent/teacher conferences! We appreciate the support you give towards your child's learning success. We will start off the month of March with Read Across America Week! We look forward to some fun-filled days of reading and dressing up in some exciting ways! Please see the blue form that went home regarding activities for each day! Spring break is approaching! Students will have off from March 13-20.

- In Foundations we will continue working with closed syllables and words with five sounds.
- Students will read non-fiction stories about maps and homes around the world.
- Students will be analyzing and sorting data in our upcoming math unit.
- Our writing focus will continue to be expository compositions. 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



Thank you for visiting with us at Parent Teacher Conferences! It is always wonderful seeing everyone again and discussing your amazing kiddos! We will be starting March with Read Across America, in honor of Dr. Seuss. There are many exciting events in store during the first week. Stay tuned for more information on these events. In Foundations, we are beginning to learn about "r-controlled" vowels and how to mark them in a syllable. In reading, we are working on making inferences in a story, reviewing diagrams, and reading for information. In language, we are reviewing irregular noun plurals and proper nouns. For math last week, we have started exploring different methods of subtraction, and we will continue on by subtracting 2-digit and 3-digit numbers. For homework, please make sure your child is reading 25 minutes each night along with the passages. Thank you for your continued support from home! As always, please feel free to contact us with any questions or concerns.



- Third Quarter is flying by! Thank you for coming in for conferences. It's always a pleasure to talk about the progress being made in school.
- Math: We are in the wonderful world of place value, addition and subtraction, and applying our knowledge of mathematical operations to puzzling situations. Third graders are also using clues and strategies to navigate through two-step word problems.
- ELA: Our non fiction unit is coming to an end. The kids have had many opportunities to read biographies about people that have influenced our country.
- Social Studies: It has been very exciting to see the kids learning about American history during the Civil War and also the Civil Rights time periods. The have gained much knowledge about important events and changes throughout time.
- Science: WAHOO!!!! All 3 third grade classes had projects that won a spot in the SciTech Festival in February. The kids really enjoyed learning about the Engineering Design Process.

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## FOURTH GRADE



- We want to thank all of the parents that attended Parent Teacher Conferences! It was great seeing you all!
- Please continue to check Jupiter Grades for grade updates, Class Dojo for behavior updates, and backpacks for important flyers.
- Our students worked SO hard on fractions and decimals in the 3rd quarter. In the 4th quarter, students will be working hard on measurement and data standards. Students will be using metric and customary units to measure and we will take a look back at time.
- Please continue to have students practice math facts at home.
- In social studies, students will be learning about Arizona history. These standards will tie into the activities that will be present at Multi-Cultural Night in the month of May.
- In science, students are working animal and plant adaptations.
- In writing, students will incorporate what they have been learning in science with animal adaptations and they will be creating their own animal and writing about the new creatures!
- Thank you very much for your support from home!





# Fifth GRADE



Help! The fifth grade students are experiencing a massive shortage of paper and pencils. If you are able to donate pencils and/or college-ruled lined paper, we would be so grateful!

Attention all Battle of the Books participants, our last after school meeting will be after school on March 6th in Ms. Thames' room till 4:15. Please remember to save the date on April 25th for the district battle, as well as May 3rd in case your child moves on to the regional battle. Our last battle, Battle III, will take place on Friday, March 24th at 1:00 in the Multi-Purpose Room. Hope you can come watch the battle. We have an especially interesting group of books this round.

Furthermore, we are all very proud of the efforts our fifth graders put into their Sci-Tech Fair group projects in class, as well as of those that opted to also do a home project for extra credit. The inventions turned out wonderfully.

Lastly, thank you so much for helping with the excessive tardy issue in fifth grade. It has improved greatly recently. Thank you for your ongoing support.

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## Sixth GRADE



A BIG shout out to Mr. David Girard, our new science/social studies teacher. You can reach him at [dgirard@jocombs.org](mailto:dgirard@jocombs.org) or at x1532.

- Thank you to all the parents that came to Parent/Teacher Conferences. We really enjoyed speaking with all of you!
- In math, students are working with statistics and learning about dot plots, histograms, and other ways to display data
- In ELA, students are finishing up "The Mighty Miss Malone".
- In Science, students are learning about our Planet Earth.
- Thank you to all of the parents for your amazing support!

# Happenings in "SPECIALS" areas.....

March is a busy month in the band world! We start with our Spring Concert, which will be held at Ellsworth Elementary School on Tuesday, March 7. All band students are expected to attend! Like our winter concert in December, students should be on the stage ready to practice, at 5:00 p.m. The doors will open for parents at 5:30, and the concert will start at 6:00. Come & see the progress that all band students have made!

Next is March 11, but just for two Ellsworth Eagles. Congratulations to **Lynde Adams** and **Teague Bullard** for being selected to the Arizona 6th Grade All-State Band! They will rehearse with that band all day on the 11th, with a concert at the end of the day, at 5:00 p.m. This festival is being held at Shadow Mountain H.S. in Phoenix.

On Wednesday, March 22, several 6th grade students will be performing with the 6th Grade Honor Band at the Combs H.S. Band Concert & Dinner Under the Stars. This is a fundraiser for the high school band, but the 6th graders are providing a portion of the musical entertainment for the evening.

This performance is partly in preparation for the following day, March 23rd. This is when the Honor Band will travel to Alhambra H.S. in Phoenix to perform at the Arizona Elementary Band Festival. They will receive scores and comments from judges, and then one of the judges will conduct them and offer ways that they can improve their playing. What a great opportunity for these motivated students!



## Band

## Orchestra



Dear Ellsworth Parents,

I was so happy for the great job our orchestra students did at our last performance. We are busy working towards our next performance on May 3 at Combs High School. Some musical concepts that our Beginning Students will be working on are: Eighth Notes, Accidentals, Medley, Pinky "A," and  $\frac{3}{4}$  time signature. Advanced students will work on the following musical concepts: Slurs, Dotted Rhythms, Playing Harmonies in rounds and songs, mastery of the "C" Scale, Accidentals, and Syncopated Rhythms.

Sincerely,

Mr. Guido Lavorata,



**March is upon us and the first day of Spring is not far away! We will be listening and singing songs of the season in the Music room!**

**We are also continuing to study the different families of instruments! It is fun to listen and study the different instruments in the band (brass, percussion, and woodwinds) and the different instruments in the orchestra (the string family)!**

**Happy Spring Break!**

## Physical Education P.E.



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





# CHARACTER COUNTS! in a Digital World Technology

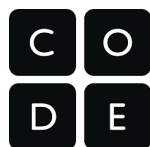
This past 9 weeks students have completed a unit on 3-D drawing and this week began a unit on Scratch (animation/game building)

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/>



School Counselor  
**SPOTLIGHT**

Yeah!! Spring time is finally here.. In the Ellsworth community, we have many fun activities planned . This includes, Read Across America Week, spring break , classroom field trips, and many more activities our teachers have planned.

This is also a great time to remind our Children about our Character Traits. It's important to explain that these activities are fun but, we should always show good character.

Trustworthy\_ Always be honest.

Respect- Practice the Golden Rule.

Responsibility- Do what you're suppose to do.

Fairness- Play by the rules.

Caring-Always be kind.

Citizenship- Always respect authority.

## 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 of \$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.



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## 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 the educational activities that were planned . 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!

Enjoy the Holiday Break.





# Ellsworth Cafeteria News



We LOVE having your children everyday for Breakfast and Lunch! We look forward to feeding those beautiful smiles.

We have some great items for lunch this month. Chicken & Waffles, Teriyaki Chicken w/Rice, Pizza, Spaghetti and Meatballs. Click below to check out our wonderful menu.

[Click here for Breakfast Menu](#)

[Click here for Lunch Menu](#)

Breakfast is \$1.25

Lunch is \$2.65

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



# 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

## Testing

Parents Testing season is upon us and as you know our students tend to get nervous/anxious. Here are just a few tips to assist you with helping your child deal with testing anxiety.

- \*Practice at home with them reading and math strategies
- \*Practice calming techniques like deep breathing, yoga, meditation
- \*Have your child repeat each day positive affirmations(i.e. I am smart, I am good at what I do)
- \* Write a letter to your child letting him/her know how proud you are of his/her achievement and encouraging them to do well on their test

Mrs. Telfer- K-4 Resource Room Teacher  
Mrs. Harris-4-6 Resource Room Teacher  
Mrs. Kleinknecht-Speech Pathologist

# Title 1 Reading

By reading aloud to children and talking about the story, they learn that understanding a story is a process that occurs before, during, and after reading.

Before reading -Read the title and author - take a picture walk, talk about what you notice in the pictures. Brainstorm on the topic - talk about what you may already know, what might happen, or what you might learn in this book.

During reading- Hold the book so the pictures and words can easily be seen. Take time to talk about the character's actions and feelings in the story. Talk about what you have learned so far in the story.

After reading- Talk with your child about one or more of the following; Explain your favorite part and tell why. Share connections made to the story. Discuss the most important thing that happened in the story and tell why. Non-fiction text- Discuss information you have learned from the book?

Mrs. Carbajal- Title I Reading Specialist  
Mrs. Berkey- Para-Professional

## ELL

**Thank you students,  
parents and teachers for  
your support during  
AZELLA testing. Our  
students did their best and  
met AZ ELP Standards. We  
will have the official  
results by the end of the  
school year.**

**-----Happy March-----**

Mrs. Roy  
Mrs. Bencomo

## ACADEMIC COACHES CORNER

*Arizona Merit will be upon us before we know it. As a parent, you play a vital role in your child's success on this state assessment. There are things you can do before, during and after to help your child be and feel successful.*

*Before the test:*

- Be prepared
- Help your child in areas that are difficult for him/her
- Give your child a chance to practice
- If you have concerns, talk with your child's teacher

*On test day:*

- Make sure your child gets a good night's sleep & a healthy breakfast.
- Make sure your child is prepared.
- Be positive.

*After the test:*

- Celebrate
- Review the results with your child.

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

*<http://www.colorincolorado.org/article/parent-tips-how-help-your-child-prepare-standardized-tests>*



## District News:

If you or someone you know is looking for a career in education, plan on joining us March 21st from 4pm -7pm at the Combs Job Fair. Open positions include cafeteria staff, bus drivers, paraprofessionals, and classroom teachers. Please see the flyer for more details.

The J.O. Combs Unified School District values your opinion about your child's school and uses the information provided to improve the educational environment and services for your child. Please take the annual survey to provide your input.

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/Combs2017>

Spring Camp is right around the corner! Check out the attached flyer for details and registration information.



**J.O. Combs  
Unified  
School  
District**

# **Job Fair**

**Positions Available  
July 2017**

- ♦ Teachers
- ♦ Special Education Teachers
- ♦ Teacher Substitutes
- ♦ Classroom Aides/  
Paraprofessionals
- ♦ Bus Drivers
- ♦ Custodians
- ♦ Food Service
- ♦ Support Staff  
Substitutes

**Walk-Ins  
Welcome!**

**March 21, 2017**  
**4:00 p.m.-7:00 p.m.**

**Combs High School Library**  
**2505 E. Germann Road**  
**San Tan Valley, AZ 85140**

**Apply online by March 15  
to be guaranteed an  
interview**

**[www.jocombs.org](http://www.jocombs.org)**



**Call 480-987-5305 for further  
Career Fair Information**

**Combs**

**J.O. Combs Unified School District**

**Learning Today, Leading Tomorrow**



# Combs Kidz Spring Break Camp

K-6 students will stay engaged and enjoy arts & crafts, planned activities, board games, ping-pong, indoor & outdoor action and oodles of fun during this Spring Break Camp.

Snack is provided, however, please pack a lunch.



REGISTER ONLINE  
NOW!

Combs Kidz is the J.O. Combs Before and After school child care program. Combs Kidz is a licensed, safe, fun-filled extended learning program for children in kindergarten through 6th grade.

**Date: March 13-17 & 20**

**Time: 6:30 am—6:00 pm**

**Location: Ellsworth Elementary**

\$25 Registration fee (waived for students currently in Combs Kidz)

\$30/full day or \$15/half day

\$150/All 6 full days

\$75/All 6 half days

20% Sibling Discount

20% Employee Discount

\*Camp will not be held if minimum enrollment is not met.

**Register: [www.jocombs.org](http://www.jocombs.org)**

Under the "Community Ed" tab, choose

**Combs**  
J.O. Combs Unified School District

**Community Education 480-987-5310**