

MARK YOUR
CALENDAR!

MARCH

2/21 - 3/10 - Galileo Testing
2/23-3/3 - Book Fair
2/27 - 3/3 - I Love to Read Week
1 - Lunch on the Lawn
1 - Hoedown MPR 5:00pm
1 - Talent Show Audition 1:35pm
2 - Guest Reader day
2- 3rd grd Wax Museum Exhibit 1:45pm
2 -Talent Show Auditions 3:15PM
2 - Orchestra Club 3:15pm
3 - Lunch on the Lawn
3 - CHS Readers Theatre Fairy Tales 1:30p
7 - First Grade field trip
7 - Battle of Books Study Session 3:15pm
7 - Math Masters 3:15pm
7 - 6th Grd Crime Prevention Assembly
8 - Lunch on the Lawn
8 - PTO Popcorn orders due
8 - Social Worker Appreciation Day
9 - Library Club 3:15pm
9 - Orchestra Club 3:15pm
10 - End of 3rd Quarter
10 - Lunch on the Lawn
13 - 20 NO SCHOOL SPRING BRK
21 - Students return to school
21 - Math Masters 3:15pm
21 - Battle of Books Study Session 3:15pm
21 - Student Council Meeting 3:15pm
21 - Job Fair at CHS 4:00-8:00pm
22 - Lunch on the Lawn
22 - Wear your favorite college shirt
23 - Character Counts Luncheon
23 - Lunch on the Lawn
23 - Battle of the Books Battle III 1:00pm
23 - Library Club 3:15pm
23 - Orchestra Club 3:15pm
23 - PTO Board Meeting 5:00pm
24 - 3rd grade field trip
24 - Report Cards go home
24 - Awards Assembly K 8:20 in class-
room/1&2 8:45/3&4 9:25/5&6 10:20
24 - Principals Math Fact testing
24 - Lunch on the Lawn
27 - 4/19 - AZ Merit testing
28 - Spring Photo's
28 - Last day for Math Masters
29 - Preschool Screening 8:30am
29 - Talent Show Dress Rehearsal 1:35pm
29 - Wear your favorite college t-shirt
29 - Lunch on the Lawn
30 - Talent Show for students 1:15pm
30 - Talent Show for parents 6:00pm
30 - Orchestra Club 3:15pm
31 - Lunch on the Lawn

Ranch Elementary School

43521 N. Kenworthy Ave. San Tan Valley, AZ 85140

Ph: 480-882-3530 Fax: 480-655-6412

Office Hours: Monday - Friday 7:30 - 4:00

March 2017

Student Of The Month



Margo Sam



Margo is such a joy to have in class. She plays fair with her friends and makes sure they abide by the rules as well. She takes great care of her personal belongings and helps us take care of our classroom. Margo is courteous to both adults and peers and greets everyone with a warm smile and always has a sunny disposition throughout the day. It is a pleasure to nominate Margo for this honor.

Mrs Flore

Responsibility

AzMERIT testing for Grades 3 - 6 March 27 - April 19th
AIMS Science 4th Grade March 23rd
Testing begins at 8:30am SHARP

Taking Test Strategies for the AzMERIT:

- ⇒ Get a good night sleep and eat a healthy breakfast
- ⇒ Read all test directions even if you think you know what to do
- ⇒ Read all of the answer choices
- ⇒ Look for
 - ⇒ Opposites, Keys Words, Sway Words
- ⇒ Try to answer all of the questions in each section
- ⇒ Don't give up...Easy and Challenging items are woven throughout the test
- ⇒ Be sure you are bubbling the correct item
- ⇒ Eliminate the answers you know are wrong
- ⇒ Don't look for patterns in the answer choices
- ⇒ Your first choice is usually the best choice

POPS



The POPS preschool classrooms will be learning all about shadows, reflections and spring in March. We will be focusing on the color purple and the shape of a diamond. Our concepts are over and under. We will also be learning the letters and sounds, S and Z. Help us reinforce our theme and vocabulary at home by reading books about our theme. It will be a fun month of exploration and learning.

Kindergarten

In Foundations, we have started reading and writing using digraphs. We will also be using our tapping skills and trick word knowledge to read phrases and illustrate sentences. Please look for more information about activities in your Foundations packets. Remember to continue practicing letter formation, as well. In math, we have been working on our fluency in addition and subtraction. We are also talking about seeing things in five groups as well as ten groups when we talk about teen numbers. You can help your student be successful by helping them with counting, simple math facts (1-8), number order and writing numbers correctly. Thank you for all you do at home to help your student be successful!



Second Grade



Thank you parents and students for doing such an amazing job on your animal reports! First Place winners were: Mrs. Gaylord: Gracie Solis, Mr. LaPorte: Vanessa Bailey! We can't believe it is already the 4th quarter of school. Students will continue to work hard on Time, Money, Fractions, and triple digit addition and subtraction. In reading, students will continue to understand, in more detail, the main idea of the stories being read. Students should be able to retell a story to you at home that include time order words (First, Next, Last or In the beginning etc). Please make sure your child is reading each night.

First Grade



Thank you to all the families who supported their students by attending student led conferences! The first graders worked very hard to share their growth with you. In Foundations this month, we will be working on closed syllable words and special vowel teams - ee, -ea, -ey, -oi, -oy. Please continue to practice trick words with your students nightly. It is important that they master these words by sight to become fluent readers. In math, students will begin to explore measurement by expressing length as a number of units. Students will use real world objects as units of measurement. Students will also celebrate Dr. Seuss' 113th birthday by completing an author study incorporated with fun activities.

Kinderprep

In March, we will be learning about "Shadows and Reflections." The children will be answering questions like: Why do we see shadows? What makes shadows change? What is a reflection and why can't we hold on to shadows and reflections? Our color this month is purple but we will also be learning about mixing colors. Our shape is the diamond. Our concepts are over and under/ light and dark. Our letters of the month are Jj, Pp, and Yy. Our numbers are 16 and 17. Our rhyming word families are -ell and -uck. Our math focus activity will be weight. Our author of the month is Eric Carle. Our caterpillars will be delivered after Spring Break and we will begin to learn all about the life cycle of caterpillars and butterflies.





Third Grade

Third grade will be "digging" their new science unit when we start learning more about the Earth's surface and how fossils are formed. We will also be discussing the point of view of the author in an informative text and focusing on key ideas and details in informative text in reading. In math, we will be reviewing all concepts that have been taught throughout the quarter such as: multi-digit addition and subtraction, elapsed time, and measurement.



Moving right along into March! In Math we are making connections between fractions and decimals then we'll begin studying measurement. In reading we are busy reviewing for our upcoming Galileo test and working towards AR goals. In science we are moving from magnets into electricity. Stayed tuned for information regarding 4th grades upcoming FIELD TRIP!

Fifth Grade

Thank you for attending our Student Led Conferences! These conferences were a great way to actively engage students in their own learning process! AzMERIT is right around the corner! Testing will begin the week of March 27th. Please make sure your child arrives to school on time, gets enough sleep the night before the test, eats a healthy breakfast, and stays relaxed and confident! Please keep an eye out for exact testing dates. Thank you for your continued support!



Physical Education



March Madness is in full effect for the 5th and 6th graders! Basketball tournaments for both grade levels during class is happening. Kinder - 2nd grades we will be working on kicking fundamentals with soccer balls and for 3rd and 4th grades beginning soccer games. Have a wonderful spring break!

Technology

Technology will be moving into its 3D modeling unit. K-2 will be creating simple houses and 3-6th will participate in team-based building activities. These activities include building cities, fictional landscapes and neighborhoods.



Sixth Grade

6th grade has just spent a whirlwind of an adventure creating science projects, creating questions they wanted to find out the answers to then researching the science behind their project to then form an educated hypothesis based on their information collected. This proved to be quite successful since we had nearly 60 projects on display at our District Sci-Tech Fair Thursday, February 16th. We also included technology with our projects and those that had power point presentations put together were able to display this with their tri-fold and share with participants. In addition, students have now obtained their country for research within their social studies class and sharing information upon the conclusion of this research project at our Multicultural Night. Students are looking forward to this event even though it is not until May!





EARLY KINDERGARTEN TESTING DATES

OPEN ENROLLMENT FOR THE YEAR 2017-2018

Are you out of the Ranch Elementary boundaries? Are your student(s) returning to Ranch for the 2017-2018 school year? If so, please check your child's backpack and fill out the open enrollment form. It needs to be returned to the front office by April 15th.

JO Combs is offering early kindergarten testing on 4/26 & 5/17 from 3:45-6:00pm at Harmon Elementary and 6/14 & 7/19 from 1:00-3:30 at Ellsworth Elementary

Forms and additional information
<https://sites.google.com/a/jocombs.org/j-o-combs-curriculum-instruction/assessment/early-kindergarten-testing?previewAsViewer=1>



Social Workers Corner

On February 8th, the counselors from Combs Middle School met with the 6th graders and distributed the green middle school registration paperwork. Students and parents were to review the different classes offered at the Combs Middle School for the 2017-2018 school year, complete the green sheet and return it to their 6th grade teachers by 2/27/17. Hard to believe the school year is moving so quickly.

February Students of the Month

The following students have been recognized as the February Students of the Month, focusing specifically on Fairness. They celebrated by eating lunch on the stage along with a friend of their choice on Thursday, February 9. Congratulations to each student. Your character really counts; it is recognized, and appreciated!

- Angelica Perez
- Arhianna Muniz
- Bowen McKinnon
- Brayden Engelhardt
- Derek Morgan
- Elijah Hinton
- Haiden Seavy
- Isabella Surico

- Jonathon Melvin
- Joshua Ortiz
- Patrick Miller
- Reagan Christensen
- Roy Campa



Congratulations to Jennifer Raper

She was the winner of a \$25 Fry's gift card drawing for attending the Academic Parent Teacher Team Meetings.



Title I Reading

Hello from your Title 1 reading staff. It is hard to believe that it is already March and spring break is just around the corner. If you are trying to come up with activities for your children to do over the break you might consider reading stories to them. 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!

Harkins THEATRES
SUMMER MOVIE FUN
 10 MOVIES FOR KIDS

2017 STUDENT ORDER FORM



The Summer Movie Fun Organizer at your school will collect all order forms and payment, and will then issue the season tickets accordingly.

Summer Movie Fun Organizer:	Phone/ Email:	Return to Organizer By:
Stacie Laufer, Library	480-882-3530 x1618	March 9th, 2017 by 3pm

STEP 1

Student Name:	Teacher & Grade:	Contact Name:	Contact Information:

STEP 2 Mark your first theatre choice and your second theatre choice. You must make two different theatre choices.

Choice 1: _____ Choice 2: _____

STEP 3 Mark your first day choice and your second day choice. You must make two different day choices.

Choice 1: _____ Choice 2: _____

STEP 4

Mark the number of season tickets you would like to purchase and the payment total.

Number of Season Tickets:	X \$7 = \$	Payment Total:

Visit us at www.scholastic.com/bf/ranchspringfair
 for our online book fair. Sale ends on March 3rd

NEWS FROM THE DISTRICT

If you were unable to attend parent teacher conferences we would like to invite you to complete the annual district parent survey for Ranch Elementary. Please take a few minutes to give us your feedback to celebrate our success stories and develop goals to continue to improve upon our school community.

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



RANCH STAFF MARCH BIRTHDAYS

22 - Meredith Hopaczylo - 1st Grd Teacher

24 - Blinda Mills - FLS Teacher

24 - Jenny Curtis - POPS Teacher

26 - Allyson Burton - Speech POPS Asst.

27 - Jessica Solis - KP Aide

29 - Loreen Reaves - PE Teacher



DID YOU KNOW...

- St. Patrick was not Irish. He was from Wales
- The first St. Patrick's Day parade took place in New York in the 1760s
- In Chicago every year, the Plumbers Local 110 union dyes the river "Kelly" green. The dye lasts for about five hours.



Ranch Staff Acknowledgement Form

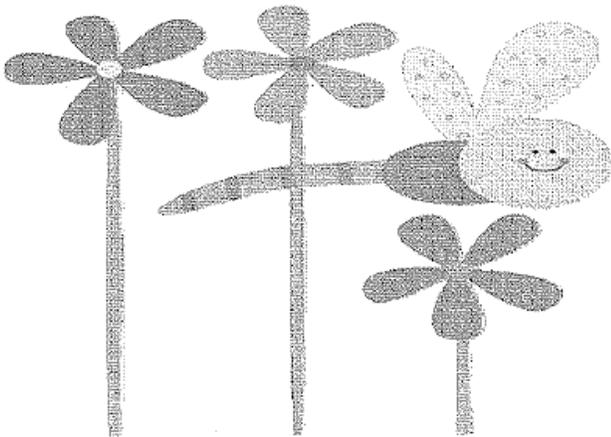
Has a Ranch staff member gone above and beyond for you or your child? We would love to hear about it! Please share your appreciation for a Ranch staff member and turn it in to the front office.

I would like to recognize _____ for _____

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

Under the "Community Ed" tab, choose "Camp Programs."

Combs

J.O. Combs Unified School District

Community Education 480-987-5310



And



Combs High School Band Boosters Present:

1st Annual CHS

Concert & Dinner Under the Stars

Come enjoy a delicious dinner of Chicken or Steak prepared for you by Outback Steakhouse Onsite while listening to the Music of the Combs High School Bands.

DATE: Wednesday, March 22, 2017

Time: 5 o'clock to 8 o'clock in the evening.

Location: Combs High School Outdoor Amphitheatre

2505 East Germann Road, San Tan Valley, AZ 85140

Dinner will start to be served at 5:00 pm, Concert will begin at 6:00 pm.

Presale tickets available now thru **February 18th, 2017**

\$13.00 per Student & Child / \$16 per Adult

Ticket price after February 18, 2017 to March 10th

\$17.00 per Student & Child / \$20 per Adult

To purchase tickets please visit <https://combsbands.ludustickets.com>

Thank you for Supporting Combs High School Music Programs. Your contribution is greatly appreciated!

