

# Ranch Elementary School

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

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

www.ranch.jocombs.org

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

MARK YOUR  
CALENDAR!

## MAY

- 1 - 5 - Staff Appreciation week
- 1 - 5 - DIBELS testing Grds Kinder - 3rd
- 1 - 19 - STAR testing Grds 2-6
- 1 - 19 - GALILEO Testing Grds 2-6
- 2 - 4th grade field trip
- 3 - 11 - Classroom Coin Challenge
- 3 - Lunch on the Lawn
- 3 - 5th & 6th Grd Orchestra Concert  
CHS 6:00pm
- 3 - Health Assistant Day
- 4 - Last Library Club 3:15pm
- 4 - 5th & 6th Grd Band Concert CHS  
6:00pm
- 5 - Lunch Lady Appreciation Day
- 5 - Lunch on the Lawn
- 5 - Preschool Water Day
- 8 - 12 - BOGO Book Fair
- 8 - 10 - Student Council Campaigning
- 10 - Lunch on the Lawn
- 10 - Preschool Screening at Simonton Elem  
8:30 - 11:30am
- 11 - Candidates deliver speeches
- 11 - Student Council Board Elections
- 11 - Multicultural Extravaganza 5-7pm
- 12 - Lunch on the Lawn
- 16 - POPS last day for students
- 16 - Lunch on the Lawn
- 16 - Kinder Celebration 1:30pm
- 17 - Lunch on the Lawn
- 18 - Water Day Grades 3-6
- 18 - Ranch PTO Elections/Meeting 5:00pm
- 19 - Red Solo Cup Challenge
- 19 - Lunch on Lawn
- 19 - Principals Math Fact Test
- 22 - Awards Assembly 8:20 K Classroom/  
8:45 1&2/ 9:25 3&4/ 10:20 5&6
- 22 - Kinder & 1st Grd Field Day
- 23 - **LAST DAY OF SCHOOL**
- 23 - Early Dismissal 12:00 - Lunch Served
- 23 - Report cards go home
- 23 - H.S. Graduation 7:00pm

MAY 2017

Dear Parents,

As we enter the last full month of school, I marvel at how quickly this school year has passed... time does fly when you are having fun! We have had another successful school year and I am grateful to everyone for your support of our Professional Learning Community!

This is the time of the year that I get to boost about the goals that have been achieved at Ranch Elementary.

- Accelerated Reading, 8500 points
- Average Attendance Rate - 94%
- Parent Satisfaction Survey - 91%
- DIBELS, AIMS, Science, Galileo and AzMERIT - waiting for results

The following commitment statements are part of our Professional Learning Plan:

### **Belief Statements:**

We believe that all people have dignity, worth and value. Each person deserves to be treated with fairness and respect.

We believe that education is a responsibility shared by the students, home, school and community.

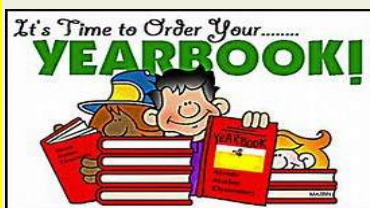
We believe that all students can learn when provided a strong academic program that recognizes and respects each child's unique physical, social, emotional and intellectual needs.

We believe that school is part of a life-long learning process leading to new knowledge and personal growth.

We believe that a structured and safe environment that promotes self discipline is the backbone of a positive learning environment.

Have a safe and healthy summer!

**See you the first day of school which is Wednesday, August 2nd**



There are still a few yearbooks available for \$25!! You can pick up an order form at the front desk.

Meet the Teacher  
Monday, July 31, 2017

School Starts  
Wednesday, August 2, 2017





## Kinder Prep

In May, we are wrapping things up for the end of the year with a little fun. Kinder prep will be learning all about the country of Germany in preparation of our Multicultural Night. We hope to see you there. We will be finishing up our assessments, as well as having some fun days this month like Water Day, Puppet Making Day, Going on a Bear Hunt, Dinosaur Day, and Movie Day. We are also planning an end of the year celebration for Kinder Prep students. Kinder prep Moms will be joining us for our Mom's Spa day event in our classroom.

## POPS

The POPS preschool classrooms will be learning all about Multicultural celebrations. Each class will be learning about a different country, in preparation for our annual Multicultural night on 5/11. This month will also be a review of all our letters, sounds and concepts we have learned.



## Functional Life Skills

It's hard to believe that the school year is almost over. What a great year we had in our class. We worked on the alphabet and learned colors, shapes and numbers. But most of all we made awesome progress with our social skills by making some very special friends and learning how to help each other. A big thank you to Mr. Pennington (Music), Ms. Stacie (Library), and Mrs. Reaves (PE). We really enjoyed going to their classes -they taught us so much! Have a safe summer!

## First Grade

Wow! What a successful school year we have had! Students are preparing to take their end of the year Galileo and DIBELS tests in the upcoming weeks and we are positive they are going to rock it! Students have worked so hard this year and have made HUGE progress! Many students are fluently reading and are enjoying picking out books and reading independently. To foster student acquired reading skills, over the summer, continue having your students read a variety of text at home. We are sad to see the end of the year come so soon, but our first graders have grown into confident students who are ready to enter the second grade! Have a safe and fun summer.

## Kindergarten

It is hard to believe that we are winding down the school year! We are preparing for our DIBELS test coming up during the first week of May. In Foundations, we will continue working on sentence structure, reading and writing simple sentences. Keep working on those trick words! We will also be taking our last Galileo assessment of the year. In Math, we are focusing on teen numbers and math fact fluency. Our Kindergarten Celebration is Friday, May 16<sup>th</sup> beginning at 1:30pm for all Kindergarten sessions. We can't wait to see you there!

## Second Grade

We can't believe May is here already. We sure are going to miss all of our friends, but know they are ready for 3rd grade. May is going to be a VERY busy month with testing, Water Day, and Multicultural Night. Please help remind our friends we still need to finish out the year strong. Country Reports are due on May 10<sup>th</sup>. Students will be presenting their reports in class, so please help them prepare. Thank you for trusting us with your amazing kids! We hope you have a wonderful summer.



## Third Grade

Third grade rocked their AzMerit!! This month we are composing an informative piece of **writing** that explains what their favorite month is and why. In **math**, we are starting our last unit of the year, unit 5 students will be challenging students to study problem solving and problem types along with reading problems to solve one and two step word problems. In **social studies**, we are continuing our study on the regions of the United States, currently we are learning all about the Midwest region, then on to the Southwest and finally the West. This year has flown by...thank you for making it great!



## Fourth Grade

4th quarter in 4th grade is going to be full of fun and learning! We are super excited about our upcoming trip to Goldfield Ghost Town and can't wait to learn more about what life in Arizona was like in it's early days. Multicultural Night is coming up very soon. Mrs. Gillihan's class is studying New Zealand and Ms. Greene's class is studying Belgium. We are also preparing for our final Galileo tests by reviewing learning objectives in ELA, math, and science.



## Sixth Grade



The 6th grade students have been diligently working on their country reports, getting ready for Multicultural Night. They have been multitasking with lessons for both ELA and Social Studies leading up to their individual presentations. In science, one class has been put into different groups working on Natural Phenomena's with Land, Sea, Air and the Sky. They will be giving a slideshow presentation that each member of the different groups helped to write. The other class has been working on researching ways to aid in fixing our organic garden plots in the south part of our campus. They have also added flowers to the JOI Club flower garden by the picnic tables outside. We are over the hump of AZ Merit Testing and onward to our final approach to Galileo Post Tests to see what all students have learned over the course of their 6th grade year! Best Wishes and Good Luck to all of them moving on to Middle School, wherever that may be.

## Fifth Grade

Wow, what a GREAT year! We have covered a lot of material and participated in many fun and exciting projects! Although the school year is coming to an end, we still have a great deal of learning to continue. Students will be reviewing past skills in reading and math in order to help prepare for their final Galileo tests. Each class is also preparing for their annual Multicultural Night event. Students will be completing a number of activities so they can become experts about their chosen country. Please don't forget "scrapbook" tri-folds boards are due Thursday, May 11th. Thank you for all of your support this year!



## Physical Education

May is a fun month of games for the kids in physical education. Kinder - 4th grade will have four more weeks of understanding rules, sportsmanship, and playing new games. 5th and 6th grade will be finishing up softball and games the last two weeks of school. I hope you all enjoy a fun and activity filled summer. GO TEAM!!!





# STUDENT OF THE MONTH



## Autumn Allred



Autumn has shown so much growth and achievement throughout the year both academically and as a person. She has come out of her shell and able to speak up when what she feels is wrong and at the same token assist and aid those who need her help, even without her being asked to do. She is an amazing young lady, she is trusted to assist with leading a group to succeed in their academics as well as her own. She has been in Orchestra all year, Video Club and Battle of the Books. Having so many different things to be a part of often causes students to get behind in their schoolwork. That has not been the case for this young lady, she has kept up on all aspects of learning and when not busy you can always see her with a book in her hand reading! Autumn is an excellent example to follow and a great friend to many. I am pleased to award Miss Autumn Allred with the honor of Student of the Month.

Mrs. Cross

## Citizenship

# Employees of the Month for April

## Paul LaPorte



All Ranch teachers are so willing to help and support each other in so many ways. Mr. LaPorte was willing to help with a district PD by having a video made of him teaching a lesson using Pickers with his class. He was willing to support his colleagues by having the video viewed by his peers. The video was helpful in letting teachers see how Pickers work with 2nd graders. He also had 3 students give an explanation of how to use Pickers, which was very impactful!

Cassie Bates

## Allison Jensen



Allison is outgoing, easy to talk to and listens to staff and students. Allison is respectful to everyone around her and she takes the time to listen to the needs of the students. It is wonderful to work with Allison.

Adriana Nunez

You did a great job!  
Battle of the Books!  
**CONGRATULATIONS!!**

Alessia Vezzosi  
Ericka Luostari  
Savannah Moak



**CONGRATULATIONS**  
To our Pee Wee Spelling Bee  
Winners!

Brock Wrenn - Kindergarten  
Derek Weible - 1st Grade  
Gavin Rozsa - 2nd Grade  
Reagan Christensen - 3rd Grade  
(Not shown)



The following students were selected by their teachers as being outstanding representatives of the Character Counts pillar "Trustworthiness".  
Congratulations!

Alexis Mendoza  
Alexis Vakasioula  
Angelica Perez  
Aniya Thomatis  
Chloe Raper

Denver Smith  
Draven Giomi  
Emily Flores  
Gunner Merkley

James Brannan  
Jasmine Giomi  
Madison Ashcraft  
Vincent Vasquez  
Wyatt Lehman



## Annual Multicultural Night Thursday, May 11<sup>th</sup>

Cultural tours in classrooms will open for family viewing from 5:00pm - 6:30pm  
There will be a performance from the award winning Hoop Dancers from the Lehi Branch of the Boys and Girls Club & Strolling Mariachi Band  
in the Multipurpose Room  
between 6:30pm and 7:00pm

## Library News

The last day to check out library books is May 5th. All books must be turned in by May 12th

BOGO book fair from 5/8-5/12 stock up for summer reading!



## PRINCIPAL'S MATH FACT CLUB WINNERS AUGUST—APRIL

Abigail Kivin  
Adrian Morgan  
Amery Calles  
Anthony Aguilar  
Anthony Manriquez  
Aubrey Bowers  
Blake Fessler  
Branson Moak  
Brayden Engelhardt  
Briella Stewart  
Bryant Martinez  
Bryson Christensen  
Caden Chieu

Carson Sanfilippo  
Charli Ruiz  
Chloe Raper  
Cole Jensen  
Cruz Hernandez  
Danika Yoder  
Derek Weible  
Eddy Sosa  
Emma Hall  
Ericka Luostari  
Ethan Gilson  
Gunner Merkley  
Hayley Martinez  
Hunter Swencki

Jonathan Nye  
Josh Ortiz  
Jude Odell  
Kaila Solis  
Kaylee Hurley  
Landon Merkley  
Logan Parker  
Madison Stracke  
Marrek Tenge  
Mason Martinez  
Matthew Johnson  
Matthew Rivera  
Mattingly Weible  
Max Ward

Maxwell Sieg  
McKenna Richardson  
Nathan Laniewski  
Presli Oswald  
Sammi Ruiz  
Sarah Kirking  
Sarah Michaels  
Savanah Apostol  
Savanah Moak  
Taylor Beckstrom  
Travis Prudy  
Trinity Evans  
Tyler Jensen  
Vyvyen Chieu



## Social Work Corner

Here are a few community resources that might be helpful as we move into the summer.

**Arizona @ Work** is an Employment Service at no cost to adults and youth. They can help to connect job seekers to employment and community resources in Pinal County. So, this may be a great resource for any high school or graduating seniors who are seeking employment. <http://www.arizonaatwork.com/>

**JO Combs District: Community Education** has summer camp and other enrichment programs listed. Call Community Education for more information. 480 987-5300, ask for Community Education.

**Queen Creek Parks and Recreation** Keep your family busy with Queen Creek's recreation program and classes. <http://www.queencreek.org/departments/parks-recreation>

**Community Information and Referral** [www.211arizona.org](http://www.211arizona.org)

**Compassion Center** [www.stvccc.org](http://www.stvccc.org) Food bank and community services

**Apache Junction Food Bank** <http://www.ajfoodbank.org/> Food bank and other services

## TITLE I Reading (K-6)

Wow! What a successful school year we have had! Students are preparing to take their end of the year Galileo and DIBELS tests in the upcoming weeks and we are positive they are going to rock it! Students have worked so hard this year and have made HUGE progress! Many students are fluently reading and are enjoying picking out books and reading independently. To foster student acquired reading skills, over the summer, continue having your students read a variety of text at home. We are sad to see the end of the year come so soon, but our first graders have grown into confident students who are ready to enter the second grade! Have a safe and fun summer.

## J.O. Combs Food Service

The food service department would like to take a few moments to pass along some helpful information for the upcoming school year.

- Meal Applications for the 17/18 school year will be available in July online or at your child's school
  - Ensure the school has an updated address and phone number
    - Only one completed application per household
    - Allow 10 business days for processing
- Meal modifications for intolerances/allergies/IEP require proper documentation with the food service department
  - Forms are available online or in your school cafeteria
  - Form must have omissions and substitutions listed
- Form must be completed and signed by your child's medical authority
- Courtesy meals will be provided to students who forget money or have forgotten lunch at home
  - Charges will no longer be allowed for the 17/18 school year
- Sign up for ezschooldpay to add money to your child's account and/or monitor their account activity





**OUR TEACHERS ARE  
SUPERHEROES!**

# **TEACHER APPRECIATION WEEK!**

## **May 1-5**

*Nothing is required. However, the following list includes ideas for showering your teacher(s) with gratitude and appreciation all week long!*

**MONDAY:** Bring your teacher something SWEET to get their week started... maybe their favorite candy, drink or dessert.

**TUESDAY:** Treat your teacher to DINNER or a MOVIE. Gift card idea Harkins, Oreganos, Olive Garden, Mod Pizza, Redbox., or Starbucks.

**WEDNESDAY:** Bring something to help your teacher get ORGANIZED... post-its, file folders, sheet protectors, paper clips, etc.

**THURSDAY:** Give your teacher a heartfelt "THANK YOU" note or card to let them know how much you appreciate them.

**FRIDAY:** Classroom SUPPLIES are the way to a teacher's heart! Bring your teacher a ream of paper, a pack of pencils, their favorite pens and/or a bottle of glue.



# YOUNG COYOTES SUMMER CAMP



May 30th - July 28th

Monday- Friday | 6:30am - 6:00pm  
Hosted at Ellsworth Elementary

## Check out the Calendar of Events!

PosterMyWall.com

### May

- 3 - Renee Braun - 5th Grd Teacher
- 4 - Vitza Brown Manrique - FLS Aide
- 8 - Susan Flore - Kinder Teacher
- 9 - Debbie Barger - Title One Para
- 12 - Tammy Luostari - Kinder Prep Teacher
- 13 - Barb Gallegos - FLS Aide
- 14 - Tom Murray - Night Custodian
- 14 - Brenda Septer - Physical Therapist
- 17 - Allison Jensen - Lunch Aide

### RANCH STAFF MAY, JUNE & JULY BIRTHDAYS

### July

- 2 - Stacie Leonard - Media Aide
- 2 - Megan Nevitt - RN
- 19 - Brandy Greene - 4th Grd Teacher
- 31 - Jennie Swencki - POPS Para

### June

- 2 - Keith Pennington - Music & Orchestra Teacher
- 8 - Amber Gaylord - 2nd Grd Teacher
- 11 - Jennifer Chasey - Kinder Teacher
- 13 - Philip Debons - Psychologist
- 17 - Lindsay Fischer - 3rd Grd Teacher
- 25 - Elliot Gory - Psychologist

*Happy  
Summer*





J.O. Combs Unified School District

\*\*\*\*\*

# Summer Foods Program

**Join Us for Breakfast and Lunch**

Ellsworth Elementary School will be hosting our Summer Foods Program

38454 N. Carolina Avenue

San Tan Valley, AZ

May 30, 2017-June 30, 2017.

Breakfast: 7:15 AM-8:30 AM

Lunch: 11:00 AM-1:00 PM

**Adult meals: \$1.75 breakfast and \$3.00 lunch**



**FREE Breakfast and Lunch for kids 18 and under.**



# Summer of Learning Enrichment Classes!

Hosted at Ellsworth Elementary

June 5 - June 29

ROBOTICS

FITNESS

Art

Dance and Cheer

And Many MORE!

Theater

GROSSOLOGY!

[www.jocombs.org](http://www.jocombs.org)  
Community Education  
Tab



J.O. Combs

# SUMMER CAMP

**MAY 24 - AUGUST 1**  
**HOSTED AT ELLSWORTH ELEMENTARY**



## OUR FUN ACTIVITIES

Weekly themes, Arts & Crafts, Ping Pong,  
Technology, Indoor & Outdoor Activities, Science  
Experiments, Water Days, Weekly Field Trips!

**LIMITED  
SPACE!**

## DAILY AND WEEKLY PRICING OPTIONS

Combine with Summer of Learning Classes for all day fun!

**[WWW.JOCOMBS.ORG](http://WWW.JOCOMBS.ORG) COMMUNITY EDUCATION TAB**

## J.O. Combs Unified School District 2017-2018 Calendar



JULY 2017						
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JANUARY 2018						
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## JULY 2017

- 4 Fourth of July (Holiday)
- 27 All Teachers Return
- 28 Professional Development K-12
- 31 Elementary and CHS Open House

## AUGUST 2017

- 1 CMS Open House
- 2 First Day of School K-12 & Kinder Prep
- 10 First Day of POPS Preschool

## SEPTEMBER 2017

- 4 Labor Day - No School
- 14-15 K-8 Parent/Teacher Conferences - 1/2 Day \*

## OCTOBER 2017

- 9-13 Fall Break - No School
- 16 Professional Development K-12 - No School
- 17 School Resumes

## NOVEMBER 2017

- 10 Veteran's Day - No School
- 23,24 Thanksgiving - No School

## DECEMBER 2017

- 18 End of Semester & Early Release 7-12 \*\*
- 19 End of Semester & Early Release K-12 \*\*
- 20-29 Winter Break - No School

## JANUARY 2018

- 1-2 Winter Break - No School
- 3 Professional Development K-12 - No School
- 4 School Resumes
- 15 Martin Luther King Day - No School

## FEBRUARY 2018

- 19 President's Day - No School
- 22-23 K-8 Parent/Teacher Conferences - 1/2 Day \*

## MARCH 2018

- 12-16 Spring Break
- 19 Professional Development K-12 - No School
- 20 School Resumes
- 30 Spring Holiday - No School

## MAY 2018

- 15 Last day for POPS Preschool
- 21 End of Semester & Early Release 7-12 \*\*
- 22 End of Semester & Early Release K Prep-12\*\*
- 22 Graduation
- 23 Last Day for Teachers
- 28 Memorial Day (Holiday)

AUGUST 2017						
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FEBRUARY 2018						
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SEPTEMBER 2017						
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MARCH 2018						
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OCTOBER 2017						
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APRIL 2018						
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NOVEMBER 2017						
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MAY 2018						
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DECEMBER 2017						
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JUNE 2018						
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## \*P/T Conferences Dismissal

Sept. 14 & 15 / Feb. 22 & 23  
Elementary - 11:15 am  
Middle School - 1:00 pm

## \*\*End of Semester Dismissal

Elementary - 12:00 pm  
Middle School - 1:00 pm  
High School - 11:20 am

1st Semester = 90 Student Days  
1st Quarter 47  
2nd Quarter 43  
2nd Semester = 90 Student Days  
3rd Quarter 45  
4th Quarter 45  
Total = 180 Student Days

## Every Monday

Early Release - High School (1:30 p.m.)

## Every Wednesday

Early Release - Elementary (1:35 p.m.)

Early Release - Middle School (3:10 p.m.)