

Mark
your
Calendar

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

JANUARY

- 5 - School Resumes
- 5 - Orchestra Club 3:15pm
- 6 - Lunch on the Lawn
- 10- Report Cards go home
- 10 - Math Master 3:15pm
- 10 - Battle of the Books study session 3:15pm
- 11 - Preschool Screening 8:30am
- 11 - Lunch on the Lawn
- 12 - Lunch on the Lawn
- 12 - School Spelling Bee 1:00pm
- 13 - Awards Assembly Kinder 8:20-8:40 in classroom/8:45 1&2/9:25 3&4/ 10:15 5&6
- 13 - Lunch on the Lawn
- 16 - **NO SCHOOL Civil Rights Day**
- 17 - Math Masters 3:15pm
- 17 - Lunch on the Lawn
- 17 - Battle of the Books Battle II 1:00pm
- 17 - Student Council Meeting 3:15pm
- 18 - Lunch on the Lawn
- 19 - Class group photos
- 19 - Orchestra Club 3:15pm
- 19 - Ranch PTO Meeting 5:00pm
- 20 - Principal's Math Fact Testing
- 20 - Ranch Career Fair 1:00pm
- 20 - Lunch on the Lawn
- 23 - Project Alert Assembly 6th grd
- 23 - District Spelling Bee CMS 6:00pm
- 24 - 6th grade visit to CMS
- 24 - Math Masters 3:15pm
- 24 - Character lunch
- 24 - Battle of the Books meeting 3:15pm
- 25 - Lunch on Lawn
- 25 - Ranch College Days (wear your favorite college team shirt)
- 26 - Library Club 3:15pm
- 26 - Orchestra Club 3:15pm
- 27 - Lunch on the Lawn
- 27 - Principal's Math Fact Testing
- 30 - BIZTOWN field trip Grds 5 & 6
- 31 - Math Masters 3:15pm
- 31 - Academic Parent Teacher Team Meeting (Preschool) 5 -6:00pm K-2 6:00-7:00pm
- 2/1 - Lunch on Lawn
- 2/1 - CMS Open House
- 2/2 - Academic Parent Teacher Team Meeting (Grds 3 - 6) 6:00-7:00pm

January 2017

Student Of The Month



Kaylee Hurley



Kaylee is a true representation of what having character means. Everyday, Kaylee comes to school ready to learn. Not only does Kaylee get all her classwork done, she goes the extra mile to make sure it is done with her personal best. She is willing to help others, follows all classroom and school rules, and is a true leader in our class. I'm so honored to select Kaylee as this months Student of the Month.

Mrs. Gaylord

Respect

RANCH STAFF JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

- 1 - Kate Bolton - POPS Speech
- 8 - Paul Laporte - 2nd Grd Teacher
- 14 - Diana Tabor - 5th Grd Teacher
- 24 - Adriana Nunez - Lunch Aide
- 28 - Barb Calvert - Food Manager
- 30 - Gretchen Scheurich - POPS Speech



HAPPY NEW YEAR!!



Kinder Prep

In January, we will be learning about the jungle and the desert. We will be answering questions like: What is a jungle? "What animals live in the jungle? What is a desert? What animals live in the desert? Our letters of the month are Kk, Nn, and Hh. Our numbers are 11 and 12. We will be making a clock and reinforcing our numbers by learning the hours on the clock. Our concepts are hot and cold. We will be having a "snow" STEAM day with some hot and cold science activities this month. We will be beginning to use the letters and sounds that we have learned to sound out words. Our author of the month is Jan Brett.



POPS



The POPS preschool classrooms will be learning all about jungle to desert/ exploring animals (including dinosaurs) in January. We will be focusing on the colors black and white and the shape oval. Our concepts are hot/ cold. Our letters and sounds are K and G. Help us reinforce our theme and vocabulary at home by reading books about animals that live in different places. It will be an exciting month!

First Grade

This month, first grade is focusing on blending and reading words with new glued sounds. We have reviewed/learned 40 trick words thus far and we are continuing on working toward our goal of 93 words by the end of the year. It is important for students to review these words at home as knowing these words by sight will help them become fluent readers. It is just as important for them to be reading 20 minutes a night at home to increase reading fluency. We highly encourage you to use Moby Max at home to foster literacy and math skills.



Kindergarten

Happy New Year! We hope that everyone had a wonderful break. Thank you to all of you who were able to participate and help out during our holiday activities. We could not do it without your help! We will begin working on Unit 3 of Foundations. Please look in your child's Foundations packet for more information. In Math Expressions, we will continue counting, working on the +1 and -1 operation, math facts, and creating math stories. Please mark your calendars for January 31st, our next Academic Parent Teacher Team meeting. We hope that you can make it! Thank you for all you do at home to help your student be successful.

Second Grade

Welcome Back! We are now entering our last 2 quarters of the school year. Students will start on their animal reports towards the end of January. All information about student reports will be coming home to you (as well in January). It is hard to get back into the grind of homework and reading, but please help motivate your child to strive for their best. Please plan to attend the next Academic parent Teacher Team meeting on January 31st. We hope you had a wonderful holiday season.

May your holiday season
be decorated...
with love and happiness!



Third Grade

Welcome back from winter break! Our third graders are learning about our government system, how it works and what makes up the government. They are eager to start studying the different branches of the government to see what branch does what job(s) for our country, state, or city. In just a couple of weeks we will begin studying important people from history and researching all of their amazing accomplishments. In math, we will be moving toward telling time to the nearest 15 and 30 minutes and the different ways to say such. By doing these first steps it will get us closer to finding the elapsed time in word problems. Plan to attend the next Academic Parent night on February 2nd!



Fifth Grade

Happy New Year! We can't believe 2017 is already here! We hope everyone had a wonderful winter break! This quarter we will continue to focus on our JA BizTown curriculum in preparation for our field trip on January 30th. Parent chaperones will need to arrive at JA BizTown by 7:45 am. Thank you in advance for volunteering to chaperone our field trip! We are also gearing up for our first science project! Using the Scientific Method, students will create a science project of their choice. More information will be coming home soon! Thank you for your continued support!



Fourth Grade



January is here and 4th graders are ready for another month of fun & learning! In math we will be diving into the Fabulous world of FRACTIONS! During our writing time we are continuing with expository writing practice. In science we will begin our unit of study on Magnetism. Fourth grade is in need of copy paper, glue sticks, and pencils. Your contributions will be greatly appreciated.

Sixth Grade

ELA/Writing we will be finalizing our essays for submission to the Gilbert, AZ Optimist Club. Students who did not get the opportunity to type up for editing before winter break will now have the chance to complete this step in the process. Science we will be taking a look at phenomena and allow students to seek answers to their own questions. Practice for our hypothesis and our sci-tech projects for February's Fair. At the end of the month, students will be traveling to Biz Town in Tempe, at the Junior Achievement facility where they will get to work their hands at a job they applied for and interviewed at the first of the month. We do hope that those that traveled afar made it safely back from their destinations and we look forward to an amazing second half of the year! Also, we get to begin our new organization, Junior Optimist International Club. Governing board will be elected and the Gilbert Optimist Club will induct our officers into their positions to lead both 5th and 6th grade in many community service projects!

Title I Reading

Happy New Year from your Title 1 staff. The start of a new year brings with it new goals and fresh beginnings. Now is the time for students to buckle down and begin working diligently towards their AR goals. You can help by encouraging your child to read at home. ***Just 15 - 20 minutes set aside each night for reading is an important part of developing a good reader.*** When reading with your child, stop and ask questions to be sure your child comprehends what is read. When you read with your child you are sending a message that reading is important. And, remember to ask your child about progress towards his/her AR goals. When your student knows it's important to you, it becomes important to them!





Physical Education

This month in physical Education we will be getting into the fundamentals of basketball for kinder through 4th grades. For grades 5th and 6th we will be finishing up our flag football tournament and then come in from the cold (really sunny and warm Arizona weather) for the start of basketball. Thank you for all the parents who came out and joined the kiddos for our jingle jog last month it is always fun to start the holiday with some exercise.



Technology

After the Christmas break, students will be exploring game design and 3D computer modeling. 3rd-6th grades will start using a game engine called Stencyl. Stencyl uses a highly intuitive block-snapping interface inspired by the popular MIT Scratch project, which has proven to be an effective teaching model for children. We will design our own Mario-style platforming game. Once this unit is complete, we will delve into Sketchup. Students will manipulate geometric shapes in the 3D space to construct various objects.

Honor Awards Ceremony

We will celebrate our students accomplishments on
Friday, January 13th

8:20 - 8:40 Kindergarten in classroom

8:45 Grades 1 & 2

9:25 Grades 3 & 4

10:15 Grades 5 & 6

Scholar of Distinction, Principal's Honor Roll, Honor Roll,
Racing Roadrunner, Outstanding Citizenship, Perfect Attendance
and Accelerated Reader



HAPPY
NEW
YEAR!

Academic Parent Teacher Team Meetings

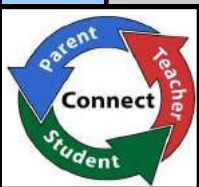
Please join the Ranch team as we work together to discuss grade level academics and more importantly YOUR child's progress.

Tuesday, January 3 1st POPS & Kinderprep 5:00pm

Tuesday, January 3 1st Kindergarten, 1st & 2nd grade 6:00pm

Thursday, February 2nd Grades 3rd, 4th, 5th & 6th 6:00pm

Just for attending your name will be entered into a drawing for a
Gift Certificate!





Parents, the Ranch Elementary Career Fair will be held on Friday, January 20th from 1-3pm in the gym. Please consider spending a couple of hours meeting with 2nd through 6th graders and allow them to ask basic questions about your career or hobby. If you can give your time, please call Laurie McRae, school social worker at [480 882-3530 ext 1633](tel:4808823530) or email at lmcrae@jocombs.org. This was a highlight for many students last year.

The following students were recognized as being great students of character with a focus on Caring. They were invited to eat lunch on the stage with a friend on December 6th. Congratulations! December Students of the Month:

Alexa Byaus
Grace Palfreyman
Tanner DeSpain
Adelyn Alcaraz-Araujo
Kasen Reed
Aleena Apolarin
Olivia Munger



Linnea Miller
Samantha San Miguel
Isabel Estrada
Kimberly Fairbanks
Savannah Nichols
Lilah Jackson
Payden Allred



CONGRATULATIONS TO THE WINNERS OF THE CLASSROOM SPELLING BEE

3rd GRADE

1st Place

Inara Hall
Branson Moak

2nd Place

Olivia Munger
Savannah St. George

Runner Up

Jackson Roth
Analise Thomatis

4th GRADE

1st Place

Maximus Gray
Ada Sam

2nd Place

Isaac Chaves
Vincent Vasquez

Runner Up

Matthew Rivera
Alexis Vakasiuola

5th GRADE

1st Place

Denver Smith
Josh Thornes

2nd Place

Julian Braun
Ericka Luostari

Runner Up

Lilly Angle
Johnathan Melvin

6th GRADE

1st Place

Jezreel Cristobel
Michael Fiermonti

2nd Place

Yarimar Mendivil
Carson Parker

Runner Up

Sammi Ruiz
Brayden Thompson



Our School Spelling Bee is Thursday, January 12th at 11:00am

Employee of the Month



Amanda Terpay



Amanda made me feel so calm about going on my leave. I know that if there is anything I need I can call on Amanda. She is not only a great partner to work with; she is a wonderful friend as well.

Lindsay Fischer

Employee of the Month



Emily O'Dell



Emily is an Outstanding Employee of Character. Emily acts as the one on one assistant for a student. She gives the student just enough assistance for him to be successful without being overbearing. She consistently follows through with activity ideas from his teacher as well as the therapists who work with him. This student has made significant gains because of Emily's gentleness and steadfast consistency. We are lucky to have Emily working at Ranch Elementary.

Brenda Septer

HELP US BRING CHILDSPLAY THEATRE TO RANCH ELEMENTARY THROUGH YOUR 2016 TAX CREDIT



Childsplay is a nationally and internationally respected professional theatre company that provides professional theatre experiences for children in Arizona. We would like to integrate drama and writing skills with an emphasis on putting the language into action, body positions and facial expressions. Research shows that children retain more of what they learn when they are actually physically involved in learning.

How can I make a tax credit donation?

Take advantage of Arizona Tax Credit. Ranch front office has tax credit forms or you can go to our website at www.jocombs.org to print the tax credit form. When filling out the form please be sure to check the box for Ranch Elementary for any amount up to \$400 (joint filing) or \$200 (single filing) that will be used for extra curricular activities and you can reduce your Arizona taxes.



Combs Families,

Did you know all families are eligible to apply for participation in the National School Lunch Program? We have had many new families join our schools mid-year who may not have had the opportunity to submit an application.

If you are a new family to J.O. Combs or if you have not applied for the program yet this year please complete the application online or on paper for timely approval. The application can be found on our district website (www.jocombs.org) on the food services page. You may submit it online or print and complete. Forms should be returned to your child's school for processing. Remember to complete all sections for faster approval. The response to the eligibility is usually less than 10 days, and qualification keeps your family eligible through the 2015-2016 school year.

If you are already participating, and your application has been submitted and approved this year please do not complete a second application. Submittal of a second application for participating families could interrupt your current status and benefits. Your application is valid through the 2016-2017 school year.

For additional questions, please contact Jennifer Roorda, Food Service Supervisor, at 480-987-5311.



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 _____

NEWS FROM THE DISTRICT

Combs Middle School has several exciting new elective courses to choose from including Photography, Graphic Design, TV/Film Production, Coding, Weight Training, Teens 'n Teaching, Introduction to Medical Professions, and Leadership Development. These and other elective classes provide students an opportunity to explore future careers and interests.

Jan. 25th - Combs High School Open House at 6 pm. Parents, incoming 9th graders and new students are invited to tour the school and learn about CHS.

Feb. 1st - Combs Middle School Open House at 6 pm. Parents, incoming 7th graders and new students are invited to tour the school and learn about CMS.

Feb 7th - Kindergarten Round-up at Ellsworth, Harmon, Ranch, Simonton Elementary Schools from 6 pm - 7 pm. Parents will tour the school and talk to teachers while students enjoy activities in the classroom.

Feb 9th - Kindergarten Round-up at Combs Traditional Academy from 6 pm - 7 pm. Parents will tour the school and talk to teachers while students enjoy activities in the classroom.

Feb 16th - District SciTech Festival will be hosted at Combs High School. Students from around the district, as well as community organizations, will demonstrate Science and Technology in Society. Join us for a fun evening highlighting Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) projects and professions.

