



- 1 - Academic Parent Night Grades 3 - 6 - 6:00 - 7:00pm
- 1 - Cookie Dough Orders Due
- 2 - 1st Quarter Mid Term Ends
- 5 - NO SCHOOL Labor Day**
- 7 - View your child's academic progress in Jupiter
- 8 - Grandparents Day Luncheon
- 8 - 16 - Bookaneer Book Fair
- 9 - 15 - Library Club Coin Challenge
- 14 - Preschool Screening at Simonton Elementary 8:30am
- 15 - PTO Meeting 5:00-6:00pm Media Center
- 15 - Parent Teacher Conferences 12:00 - 7:00pm
- 15 - **Early Release 11:15**
- 16 - Parent Teacher Conferences 12:00 - 4:00pm
- 16 - **Early Release 11:15**
- 21 - Ranch Little Caesar's Event
- 22 - Character Counts Lunch
- 23 - PTO Movie Night
- 27 - Bus Evacuation Drill PK - 6
- 27 - Cookie Dough Delivery
- 28 - College Days (wear your favorite college team shirt)
- 29 - 1st Grade Hygiene Assembly



Staff August & September Birthdays

August

- 2 - Christine Pirtle
- 9 - Kelly Ward
- 26 - Colleen Harvey

September

- 2 - Joy Beffre
- 22 - Vanessa Sherer

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

September 2016

Dear Ranch Families,

We are off to a great start. We have 562 fantastic students attending Ranch Elementary. The staff and I are committed to providing the students with a well rounded education. The students in K-3 have completed the Dynamic Indicator of Basic Early Reading Skills (DIBELS) and 2-6 grades have completed the GALILEO and assessment in Math and Reading.

Each classroom teacher is looking for parents to help out in the classroom. Volunteering could include reading to students, helping with math flashcards, decorating bulletin boards and photo copying. If you can help out please contact the office or your child's teacher.

Thank you for sending your children to Ranch Elementary!

Sincerely,

Mrs. Susan Kruse

Has anything in your family changed?

Has something changed in your family? Has the number of adults or children changed? Have you or a spouse lost your job? Due to financial hardship did you and your family move in with someone temporarily? Has your income decreased? There are many reasons and you may be surprised at how simple it is to qualify for our free and reduced lunch. You can pick up a free and reduced lunch form in the front office or if you prefer, you can go online at www.jocombs.org to fill out the application. It just takes a few minutes. Click on the food service link, and go to the on-line application. If you choose the form, please return the form to your child's teacher, food service manager or the front office as soon as you can. Let us know how we can assist you!

Follow us on Twitter @
Ranchroadrunner and
[facebook.com/RanchRoadrunner](https://www.facebook.com/RanchRoadrunner)

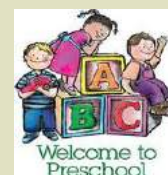



 Kinder
Prep

We are really getting started now! We are beginning our second theme, "Families." We will be asking the children to draw pictures of their families, as well as answer questions like: Who is in our families? How do family members care for one another? What do families do together for fun? Our letters of the month are Tt, Ss, and Ii. Our numbers are 0, 3, and 4. Our other math theme is "Sorting and Sizes". Our concept words are big and little. Our author of the month is Mercer Mayer. Check out the rest of the things that we will be learning about in the main hallway on our Monthly Learning Chart on the Kinder Prep side of the board.

POPS

The POPS (Program for Outstanding Preschool Students) classrooms will be focusing on Families/All About Me in September. Our color is red and the shape is a square. Our concept is big and little. The letters/ sounds are P, and B. Help us reinforce our themes and vocabulary at home by reading books about how to be a good friend, how friends help one another, who is in our families and how family members care for one another.



Kindergarten

Kindergarten is off to a great start! We are busy learning our Foundations and Math Expressions routines. Please help your child practice writing their name. Make sure that only the first letter of their name is capitalized. You can also help improve math skills by helping your child practice counting. When counting, we encourage you to help your child see things in groups. We often send papers and homework home on a daily basis. Please remind your child to bring their folder to class every day. Thank you for your support. It is going to be a wonderful year!



First grade is rocking it! For Math we are learning about partners of numbers 1-10. We know that these numbers work together to play a game, solve a problem, and are two numbers that work together to make another number. In Foundations are reviewing all letters and sounds and will soon start blending the sounds. We are exploring living things during Science.



The school year has started off with lots of success. Students have been learning and practicing all the school/classroom rules and expectations. All most all second graders have completed their Galileo and DIBELS Assessments. We will share this important information with you at the upcoming Parent Teacher Academic Night.



Functional Life Skills

We are so excited to be back at school with all our friends. During the month of August we learned about our school, our new friends and what others do to help us have wonderful learning experiences. It's going to be a fabulous "Rockin with Rocky Roadrunner" year!

Jupiter Grades

Have you logged in to see the academic and attendance information for your child? If not please log in to www.jupitergrades.com. If you have any questions, please contact your child's teacher.





The 2016-2017 school year is off to a great start in 4th grade.

All students have taken their Galileo pretests. The Galileo pretest are important because they will help us measure how much we have learned throughout the year. Students have also completed their STAR reading test. Letters were sent home with important information about their AR goal and reading level. Please sign and return these as soon as possible. Your child's teacher is sending home weekly updates via email. You will find important information about our learning objectives, homework and upcoming events in these emails. Please contact your student's teacher if you have not received any updates.



Third Grade is currently reading Escape from Mr. Lemoncello's Library and the students are really getting into the story. They enjoy making inferences as to what is going to happen next in the book. We are also doing character studies on four of the major characters from which they will be completing a compare and contrast essay. In math, we have been focusing on learning and discussing multiplication and division facts plus strategies to help with remembering. Lastly, in writing we have been composing stories based on different writing prompts. Next, we will be working on their first personal narrative of the school year based on an experience with a friend.



The 5th grade classes are off to a great start! In the month of September, we will say farewell to Mrs. Pudenz who has done a fantastic job filling in for Mrs. Tabor! We will also welcome back Mrs. Tabor who returns from maternity leave on Sept. 12th! Students will continue to make progress towards mastering fractions, finding common denominators, and determining fraction equivalence! Students will also continue to update their "Student Data Folders" where they learn to track their progress towards their individual goals! We will share this progress with you at the Parent-Teacher Conferences! We look forward to seeing you then!



6th grade is off to middle school! Well not really, but they are learning what it means to be organized, responsible for their academics as well as their punctuality! Both Mr. Frank and Mrs. Cross' classes are currently switching for ELA/Math, science/social studies-biz town and will soon be changing for Reading and Math Interventions on Monday, August 22nd. We have started specials schedules this week which has put another learning curve to the switching process. In science we have begun the planting process and students seem to love to get their hands dirty! We look forward to a fun and eventful year! The 6th Grade Team



J.O. Combs School District offers Child Find screening to locate, identify, and evaluate all children who may have a disability. If you know a child who has a disability or one you suspect may have difficulty with learning, communication, vision,

hearing, behavior, or motor control and coordination, please contact the special education department at your local public school district or the charter school the student attends. J.O. Combs screens children from preschool through high school.

We refer infants and toddlers with disabilities to the Arizona Early Intervention Program for evaluation and services. All Child Find referrals are considered confidential and services are provided at no cost to the family.

Preschool screening dates can be found at <http://www.jocombs.org> Or you can call Jeremy Scherer at 480-987-5321 for more information.



We are off to a great start this year in Phys. Ed. I want to thank all

those parents who made sure that their kiddos wore their sneakers the first few classes!!! Kinder - 4th grades are learning to get acquainted with their classmates with various cooperative games, 5th and 6th grades are participating in the 100 yard dash by experiencing what those Olympic track and field athletes go through when running. 5th and 6th grades are also going to be starting a hockey unit. Again, thank you for wearing your sneakers and remember to always make good healthy choices.

Thank you,
Mrs. Reaves



8th Annual Grandparent's Day Luncheon Thursday, September 8th

We would like to celebrate by inviting all grandparents to come have lunch with their grandchildren. The cafeteria will serve Chicken Potato Bowl with roll or Bean and Cheese Burrito with assorted fruit & veggie bar and milk. The cost for an adult lunch is \$3.15. Please call the office at 480-882-3530 by Tuesday, September 6th to make your reservation.

Lunch Schedule:

1st Grade- 11:00
2nd Grade - 11:10
Kindergarten - 11:20
6th Grade - 11:35
5th Grade - 11:35
3rd Grade - 12:10
4th Grade - 12:10



Social Workers Corner

Welcome back to Ranch Elementary, Roadrunners! With the start of the new school year comes the opportunity to set new family goals. Consider setting a goal with your child to work toward excellence attendance. "Being in school means your child won't miss out on learning. Try to schedule appointments and family trips outside of school hours. If your child wants to stay home "just because", remind them of what they will miss, such as reading group or a class art project" (*Home and School Connection*). Missing just a few days here and there can create gaps in learning that can be difficult to overcome.

If a pattern of absences begins to develop, Ms. Laurie McRae, the school social worker will be in contact with parents to discuss how the school can help parents get their children to school, on time, every day. All of us, working as a team, will help to make this a great year of learning.



PTO Movie Night - September 23rd
Home Coming Parade - October 20th
PTO Spooktacular Skating Party - October 25th
PTO Breakfast for dinner with Santa - December 16th

STUDENT OF THE MONTH



Brayden Thompson



This young man is quite the upstanding citizen in every way. He was selected as our classroom banker because of his reputation among his peers as trustworthy and responsible. He carries out each and every assignment or duty completely and is always on task ready for the next order of business. He is respectful and his character displayed inside the classroom is carried out through the halls of the school, to the outside specials he attends differently each day. He is an outstanding young man that both Mr. Frank and myself have observed in our classes since school started. He is a pleasure to have in class and witness his character traits everyday, that stand out, to set the example for all of his 61 classmates, here at Ranch Elementary. We are honored to select Brayden Thompson as the first recipient of the year for the Character Trait of Responsibility!

Mrs. Cross

Responsibility

CONGRATULATIONS

The Character pillar for the month of August was Responsibility. Students honored by their teachers for showing responsibility in their classes were invited to attend the Character Counts lunch on Thursday, August 25th and sit on the stage during their lunch time. The following students displayed Responsibility this month. Congratulations!

Abby Gunderson
Ashley Estrada
Blake Fessler
Brayden Thompson
Brenden Champagne

Emerson McMeen
Ethan Stephens
Jerry Engelhardt
Jordan Stephens
Kane Odell

Kate Thornes
Shaila Hernandez
Tyler Jensen
Naomi Wilkins



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 _____

20 BOOKS Can Make the Difference

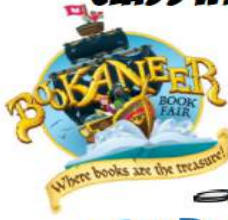
Kids who grow up in a home with as few as 20 BOOKS reach a higher level of education than those who don't.



Join us in sharing a love of reading with our students at the Ranch Elementary Scholastic Book Fair in the Library from 9/8/16-9/16/16. The Book Fair will be open daily from 8am-11am, 1pm-3:45pm. Special hours: 9/15-8am-7pm; 9/16-8am-5pm. Join us in sharing a love of reading with our students at the Ranch Elementary!

ALL FOR BOOKS COIN CHALLENGE!

BRING YOUR LOOSE CHANGE INTO YOUR CLASSROOM FROM 9/9-9/15. THE CLASSROOM WITH THE MOST CHANGE (IN DOLLAR AMOUNT) WILL WIN A SET OF BOOKS FOR THEIR CLASSROOM LIBRARY AND EACH STUDENT IN THE CLASS WILL GET A FREE BOOK FROM THE BOOK FAIR! THE BOOKANEER BOOK FAIR WILL BE HERE FROM 9/8-9/16.



All for Books

EACH \$1 RAISED IS A BOOK DONATED TO A CHILD IN NEED OR IN A DISTRESSED SITUATION. ALL MONEY DONATED ALSO HELPS US BUY BOOKS FROM THE BOOK FAIR FOR OUR SCHOOL LIBRARY.

SCHOLASTIC BOOK FAIRS



Form and payment due by November 4th. No order forms will be accepted after 3pm on 11/4. Order will be placed with Harkins on November 7th, 2016. Your order helps support the Library Club!

Name: _____

Teacher: _____

Address: _____

City/ State/ Zip: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____



LOYALTY CUP \$5.50 EACH

Enjoy \$1.50 soft drink refills through the end

X \$5.50=

QTY

TOTAL \$



LOYALTY T-SHIRT \$ 25.00 EACH

Receive a FREE medium popcorn every time you wear your Loyalty T-shirt to the movies

X \$25.00=

QTY

TOTAL \$

Total amount Collected:

Cash: _____

Check: _____

News from the District

Combs has a variety of job openings to match your skills and schedules. Openings include food service, custodians, paraprofessionals, and high school coaches to name a few. All job positions can be viewed online at www.jocombs.org under the Employment tab.

Join us for the Community Health Fair on September 20th from 6pm - 8pm at Combs High School. Many health related organizations will be present including Hearthsavers CPR, free blood pressure screenings and AirEvac emergency response. Students who participate in the bike rodeo will be entered into a drawing for a free bike! *participants must have their own bike and helmet. We hope to see you there!

Mark your calendars for the 1st Annual Parent University. Held October 22nd from 9am - 12pm at Ranch Elementary, parents can select from conference style sessions ranging from Understanding the IEP process to Drug Prevention in Youth or Navigating Puberty. Free child care will be provided. Look for more information coming home at Parent Teacher Conferences!



Harmon Elementary School
39315 N Cortona Drive
San Tan Valley, AZ 85140

Thursday, November 24th

7:00 am- Check in
8:00 am- 1 mile family fun run/walk
8:30 am- 5k waddle/run
10:00 am- Course closed
Volunteer clean up

This year's benefactor is the Tibben family. Visit <https://sites.google.com/a/jocombs.org/turkey-waddle-combs/> for more details

STUDENT TRANSPORTATION

If you need to make a change to your child's afternoon transportation, please be sure to contact the school office **prior to 2:00pm** to give us adequate time to notify your child's teacher. Thank you for your cooperation and assistance in this matter.



Cookie Dough orders are due to your child's teacher by Thursday, September 1st.

CHS FOOTBALL



Family Night



Wear Red and Black

Come show your support for Coyote Football. Help us beat the Bradshaw Mountain Bears, Friday September, 9th at 7pm. The school with the largest turnout and most canned food donations, (all proceeds will be donated to the Combs food and clothing bank) will win a visit from the CHS Football players, Cheerleaders, Band, Student Council and Mascot, for a pep rally.

When: Friday 09/09/2016 at 7pm

Where: CHS Football Field

Admission: \$5/Adult

\$4/Student

\$1/Student with family night flyer

Admission not to exceed \$15/immediate family

**FLYER SERVES AS BALLOT AND DISCOUNTED ADMISSION TO GAME
BRING ONE FLYER PER STUDENT**



The PTO has been working hard at planning events for the year. On August 19th we had our cookie dough kick off. Information and order forms were sent home with each child. We need your help to raise funds for our kids. At our first PTO Community Meeting, we discussed upcoming events. We will be collecting Box Tops, Campbell Soup labels, and Little Caesars Pizza proof of purchase on the side of the box. Our next PTO Community meeting is September 15th where we will discuss participating in the High School Homecoming Parade. We will also discuss Movie Night and Spooktacular at Skateland! We look forward to seeing you there!



COMBS HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL

Golf Tournament *@ Encanterra Country Club*

brought to you by American Family Insurance/Travis Williams Insurance Agency

September 24th, 2016 @ 11 am

**\$75.⁰⁰ Greens Fee - includes lunch,
practice balls and cart rental**

Mulligans for Sale

Raffles for Prizes

**Hole, Pin and Other Sponsorship
Opportunities Available**

Contact Chris Shaw for more info @ 480.205.8467

*Club Dress Code - Collared
shirts, no jeans, no side-pocketed
pants or shorts (cargos)



**Visit combscoyotesfootball.com
for more information!**

J.O. COMBS UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT PRESENTS
COMMUNITY HEALTH FAIR

Combs High School
 Tuesday, September 20, 2016
 6:00 to 8:00 pm



**HeartSavers
 CPR Compression Only**



**Emergency Response
 AirEvac**



**Free Blood Pressure
 Screenings**



**Bike Rodeo To
 Teach Bike Safety**



...and much more!

- *Participants must have their own bike & helmet
- *Participants entered into drawing for a new bike

Sponsored by Combs High School CTE Medical Professions Program
 For more information contact Susan Belshe at sbelshe@jocombs.org