

# THE ROADRUNNER EXPRESS



6930 S. Seville Blvd. West, Gilbert, AZ 85298  
480-224-3400 (Office) 480-224-3403 (Attendance)

*“On the fast track to success...beep, beep!!”*  
*“I’m a Roadrunner...what’s your superpower?”*



Dear Riggs’ Families,

It is so hard to believe that another wonderful year at Riggs Elementary is quickly coming to an end. We have experienced some remarkable achievements as well as new experiences this past school year. Our 2nd grade students completed the district wide gifted testing via the new COWS we received from our generous PTO and district. Students just completed AZ Merit testing using that format as well and both were extremely successful! Our wonderful students have been recognized for various accolades including citizenship and character awards, participants in the CUSD Honor Band and Orchestra, recipients of a Student Council convention award and Casteel HS Invitational trophy winners just to name a few. We also celebrated our 10th year with a fun, family Western Day and our PTO has provided several entertaining functions such as dances and the Spring Fling. Even more gratifying to me is the amount of generosity that has come forth from our students and their families throughout the entire school year for numerous causes!!! On May 20th the Boosterthon “GIVES BACK” event will take place at Riggs. In cooperation with Boosterthon, volunteers will prepare boxes for St. Mary’s Food Bank and our hope is that many of you will participate in this charitable experience. Please look for information to come home shortly.

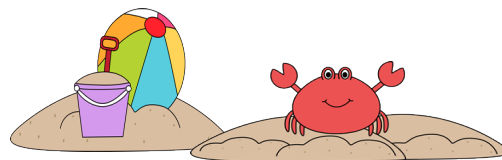
I believe there are many factors that can be attributed to our success here at Riggs...our parent’s support and caring attitude, our incredible staff members who have nurtured the growth and development of our students, our amazing students and of course our PTO! Riggs PTO has again supplied a tremendous amount of support for our students and staff. With the major fundraisers, the Riggs Read-a-thon and the successful Boosterthon this year, PTO has raised \$94,000. This year the funding from these events provided new playground equipment including a GAGA ball court, Samsung Galaxy tablets for classrooms, a portable sound system, a complete MPR audio/visual upgrade, and MORE! If you haven’t attended a meeting, I encourage you to become involved in this important and valuable organization. PTO Officers will be elected at the next meeting on May 15th at 3:30 in the Media Center and I hope to see you there!

May 1st—5th is National Teacher/Staff Appreciation Week. I believe the entire staff at Riggs is wonderful, including our teaching staff, front office, health assistant, custodians, paraprofessional aides, cafeteria workers, crossing guard and our bus drivers. They ALL are truly marvelous and I am so fortunate to work along side all of these amazing individuals. They all work together as a team to educate and take exceptional care of our students. I don’t believe you could find a more dedicated staff anywhere! If possible, please take the opportunity to let our outstanding staff know how much you appreciate their daily efforts in providing a quality education and positive learning environment for your children. Just a few kind words leave a warm and lasting impression!!

It has been my pleasure to be your child’s principal again this year! I wish you all a safe, enjoyable and relaxing summer! I’m looking forward to seeing everyone back at the “Meet Your Teacher” event the week before school begins. Student’s first day is Monday, July 24th for the 2017/18 school year!!

Sincerely,

Janis K. Weyenberg ~ Principal



## May

- 1 Staff Appreciation Week
- ATI Testing Begins
- 3 Kindergarten Orientation
- 5 Nurses Appreciation Day
- 8 DIBELS Testing Begins
- 10 Band Concert—6:30/MPR
- 11 Riggs Talent Show-6:000/MPR
- 12 Muffins for Mom
- Relay for Life @ BHS
- 15 STUCO/Firefighter Food Drive Begins (Ends 5/24)
- 22 STUCO Spirit Week Begins
- PTO Papa John’s Day
- 25 Character Counts! Assemblies
- 26 Firefighter “Hose Down”
- 29 NO SCHOOL/Memorial Day
- 31 Student’s Last Day—Early Dismissal
- Kindergarten Celebration @ 9:00 AM-MPR
- 6th Grade “Clap Out” @ 11:25

## June

ENJOY YOUR SUMMER!!!!

## July

- 12-13 KIST Testing
- 24 SCHOOL BEGINS 2017/18!

### Learning Environment Forms

Available on Monday, May 1, 2017

*If you are completing a Learning Environment Form, please submit them to the Front Office by:*

**Monday, May 15th. Thank you!!**

### Way to go Riggs Roadrunners!!!



The individuals listed below have been recognized this year at a CUSD Awards Recognition Ceremony. Awards are given to an outstanding Student, Volunteer and Staff Member for the year. Individuals who receive these awards are chosen in the following ways. Riggs’ sixth grade teachers nominate a sixth grade student who demonstrates excellent characteristics in one or more of the following categories: leadership, sportsmanship, industriousness, service to others, honesty, friendliness and dependability. The volunteer who has gone above and beyond and made a difference in the quality of our student’s education is chosen by our PTO or nominated by a Riggs’ staff member. Our staff PRIDE Committee will select the AAA winner nominated by other staff members. This person maintains high standards in job-related tasks, is positive, strongly supports CUSD, is willing to assist others, strives for personal and professional growth and displays a concern for and communicates with students/staff.

**Superintendent’s Citizen Award — Sophia Bejarano \* Outstanding Volunteer of the Semester—Mrs. Nicole Finucan**  
**CUSD Staff Apple Achievement Award—Mrs. Kim Reininga**  
**CONGRATULATIONS TO EACH OF YOU....beep, beep!!!!**



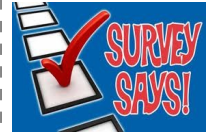
### Muffins For Moms

Friday, May 12th, 7:30—8:30 a.m.

### Multipurpose Room

It is a ideal way to spend some special time together and a wonderful opportunity to say "Thank You" to Moms for all that they do for their families and Riggs! There will also be a chance to win a FREE float at "True Rest Spa" in Chandler!

WE HOPE YOU ENJOY THIS SPECIAL MORNING!!!



### CUSD & RIGGS PARENT SURVEY RESULTS

Based on the results of the recent survey, did you know...

- ⇒ That 99.6% of parents agree or strongly agree that "a staff member is available when I have a question or concern."
- ⇒ The 98% of parents believe they "receive timely communication from their child's school."
- ⇒ That 96% of parents agree or strongly agree that their "child is challenged when needed (overall) by the work he/she is assigned."
- ⇒ That 99.6% of parents marked "YES" on "My child feels safe at school".
- ⇒ That 95% of parents agree or strongly agree that "When needed, my child receives additional instructional support".
- ⇒ That 100% of parents who completed the survey agree or strongly agree that their "child's school is clean and maintained (inside/outside)."

Many thanks to everyone who participated in the survey as it continues to provide us with essential and valuable data.

**School's still in session.....** In our last month of school, please encourage your child to remain focused on his/her schoolwork. We need to take advantage of every hour of teaching and learning time in order to ensure that our students are getting the very best possible education and are prepared for the coming grade level. We truly can't afford to cut short our students' learning time by days or weeks. Your efforts to keep the home schedule focused on school and homework and to not let extracurricular activities overtake your child's time and energy is particularly helpful. Together we can send the important message that there is still work to be done and learning to take place up until the very last day of school. Our summer break will provide a wonderful rejuvenation time for all!!

Thank you for your assistance!!



### WITH EVERYTHING THERE IS A SEASON...

It is with great pride and a sense of sadness that we send off our Sixth Grade Students to Junior High School. We wish all of our 6th grade students the very best as they leave Riggs Elementary and start a new journey in their continuing education at a new school. What a wonderful group of students they have been and it has been a pleasure to have these children and their families as a part of the Riggs Roadrunners, many of them since kindergarten! Good luck and we will miss you!!!



During the summer months we will also lose some of our Roadrunner Families who may be moving to new homes, jobs or other opportunities. Best of luck in your new endeavors, you too will be missed!!!

Best wishes to everyone...beep, beep!!!

### HOT! HOT! HOT!

As we begin heading towards our Arizona summer months, it's the time when the temperatures begin rising! Please be sure to have your child bring a water bottle to school each and every day and if necessary, apply sunscreen on your student before they head off to school in the morning!!



Thanks for your assistance!

### School Nurses



### Friendly reminder from the Health Office:

If you currently have medications for your student in the Health Office, please look for a reminder to come home in May about picking the medication up before the end of the school year. Any medication not picked up by Wednesday, May 31st will be discarded on June 1st. **MEDICATION CANNOT BE SENT HOME WITH THE STUDENT.**

Incoming 6th graders for 2017-2018 school year must be up to date (when they turn 11) on the **Tdap and Menactra** vaccines before starting the school year. Any students entering Kindergarten will also need to be up to date on ALL immunizations **prior** to the first day of school on July 25, 2017. If they have not received the appropriate vaccines, students **will not** be allowed to start the first day. Please consider getting appointments scheduled now as the summer will be over before we know it.

The Health Office is still in need of new boy's underwear, sizes, 4, 6 and 8 (must be brand new) and flip flops of all sizes (the flip flops can be in gently used condition) I am also in need of boys shorts/pants sizes 4-6 & 7-9 and they may also be gently used - basketball shorts are the best. Thank you for your consideration!

The Health Office will open for the 2017-2018 school year on Monday, July 18th. Please be sure to drop off any updated immunization records as well as any medications that your student will need for the school year. Forms for medications can be found online and can be printed from the Health Services section on the Riggs Website. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact our Riggs' Health Assistant, Loretta Novak at 480-224-3402. Thank you!



## Character Counts!

**As we enter into our summer break, set a family goal of focusing on building Trust in all things you may do.**

**Trustworthiness:** to take responsibility for one's own conduct and obligations.

When you say you will do it, you will follow through.

**Trustworthiness:** is Honesty, YOU can keep a secret and YOU never betray a confidence or a trust! (in appropriate situations)

**Trustworthiness:** Will be seen in your actions and words, you can be 'trusted'!

**Trustworthiness:** Takes years to earn trust, seconds to lose it.

**Something for all adults to remember:** "Be Honest when you are with your kids, because you see your past in their eyes and they see their future in yours."

To build Trust, we must be Honest.

Have a great summer!! Mrs. Houvener,  
Student Service Coordinator \* 480-224-3406

## MEDIA CENTER MISCELLANY.....

*It's almost summer and that means Summer Reading Club and activities. The Chandler Public Library at Basha High School and the Maricopa County Library at Perry High School both have great summer reading and children's programs. See their website at:*

<http://www.chandlerlibrary.org/kids.html>

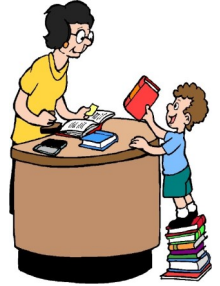
and

<http://www.mclidaz.org/>

*Besides summer reading incentives, the library offers Lego clubs, Mine-craft Mondays, and the STEAM Club. There are free summer classes for kids and adults at both libraries. On the website you can also find grade level book lists, AR book lists, and other great parent resources!! Dip your toes in the pool and get reading!!*

*Both libraries have online books available to check out for two weeks for use on your Kindles or others electronic devices. They also offer free online magazines, movies, and music.*

*If you have any questions, please email Mrs. Reininga in our Media Center at [reininga.kim@cusd80.com](mailto:reininga.kim@cusd80.com)*



## The Corner Room...

It is always hard to believe that the school year is almost over. Once we reach May the school year certainly heats up with activities. We have Band concerts, field trips. Talent Shows, Kindergarten Celebrations and 6<sup>th</sup> grade clap outs. Remember to take in all the moments as some of these special times will be your last joyous experiences at Riggs. Children grow so fast, so step back and take a breath and enjoy what is happening right now.



Looking for summer activities:

[www.gilbertaz.gov/parks](http://www.gilbertaz.gov/parks) (Gilbert activities)

[https://dcw.cusdcommunity.com/chandler/start\\_registration.jsp](https://dcw.cusdcommunity.com/chandler/start_registration.jsp) (CUSD summer fun)

[www.visit Chandler.com/.../chandler-parks-and-recreation-department/243](http://www.visit Chandler.com/.../chandler-parks-and-recreation-department/243) (Chandler Fun)

*Have a memorable relaxing summer filled with many new discoveries!*

*Mrs. Houvener. Student Service Coordinator/counselor - 480-224-3406*



## Meet Your Teacher

**The Riggs' "Meet Your Teacher" Event for the 2017-2018 school year will be held the week before school begins. Please check the summer mailing or visit the Riggs website during the summer for updated information on specific days, times, and grades as well as additional details on the event. Thank you!!**

## Last chance this year for a Roadrunner Staff Acknowledgement!!

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

I would like to recognize \_\_\_\_\_ for \_\_\_\_\_

From: \_\_\_\_\_



**Preschool** was super excited to watch our Caterpillars grow into beautiful butterflies. Then we got to watch them fly away to a new home. The students have been learning a lot about the different types of bugs and animals. They are going to be experts by the end of May! We will also be talking about Dinosaurs soon! It will be fun to excavate and dig up some new and exciting news about our Big Prehistoric friends. Well, the end of the year is almost here. Our Kinder bound students have started visiting some of our Kindergarten classrooms to see what to expect for 2017-2018. And we are planning our year end celebration and graduation with the kids. More information will be coming home soon! It has been a great year!



**Kindergarten** is diving deeper into learning in May! We will explore the ocean and its amazing creatures with our independent animal reports.



In reading, we will continue to work with long vowels and refine our skills to become more fluent readers. In math, we will focus on place value

**1** **First Grade**—May is a very busy month for us! There is so much to do to finish up the school year. In writing and science we will be doing occupation research reports. The students will select an occupation and use many resources to research and create a project to present to the class. In math we will work hard to master our knowledge about three-dimensional shapes. We will also fine tune our ability to solve story problems utilizing our knowledge of our addition and subtraction facts.



**Second Grade**—We have had a busy and fantastic year in second grade! Our final field trip to the Arizona Science Center was fantastic and the weather was beautiful for our big day. Our final language & social studies curriculum includes stories about fairy tales, important scientists, early civilizations, Henry Ford and the Wright Brothers. We round out math with counting money, time to 5 minutes, and numerical patterns. Thank you for all your support with our students this year!



**THIRD GRADE** ~ In the past 3<sup>rd</sup> grade has done a field trip called “chores for charity”. This year, we are doing an economics study from our Social Studies Books. We will create a business and sell items in the business that we create. All of the proceeds from our businesses will go towards our dear friend and teacher Ms. Partusch. The study will focus on economics as well as giving back to those in need.



**FOURTH GRADE**—This month, we will continue our big literature study on Literary Heroes. Stories that we will be focusing on are The Tale of Despereaux and different tall tales with heroes like Paul Bunyan and Stormalong. In math, we will be working on logic/reasoning and reviewing skills taught throughout the year. They will finish out the year in social studies with our research projects and our big caricature unit. We look forward to seeing their amazing work displayed in the main hall this month. We have had a great year with our fourth graders and we're so proud of all that they have accomplished this year!



**FIFTH GRADE**—It is hard to believe that this school year is coming to a close. We still have a lot of learning taking place to finish up the year. We have been working on our autobiographies and we are excited to see how amazing they will turn out! In Science, we have been studying space and have created some amazing planet projects! We will also be creating solar ovens to cook our lunch right here at school! In Social Studies, we have enjoyed being on the trail moving west as we have learned about Westward Expansion. We will end the year with an AR celebration and award breakfast to celebrate our successes here in 5<sup>th</sup> grade!



**SIXTH GRADE**—The month of May brings Fantasy Baseball to the sixth graders. Fantasy Baseball is a program designed to help reinforce math skills in a fun and engaging way. Students will use statistics from specially designed baseball cards to analyze data, compare players, create circle graphs, and ultimately play simulated baseball games where they may even lead their teams to the Fantasy Baseball World Series! Poetry anthologies and puppet shows are on the agenda for writing. In Social Studies, students will be exploring the Medieval Times.

