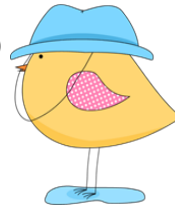
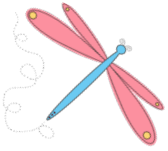


THE ROADRUNNER EXPRESS

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

“On the fast track to success...building character along the way...beep, beep!!”



Dear Riggs' Families,

Our third quarter is soon coming to an end which also means that Spring Intersession is just around the corner!! I hope that the time off will revitalize and invigorate our students so they will be prepared and ready for a very busy and productive fourth quarter. Before break, I would also like to send an immense thank you to everyone, including our Riggs PTO for your efforts in making this years Boosterthon such an enormous success. As mentioned at our last PTO meeting, we surpassed our goal and made over \$32,000 profit. Due to the success of this fundraiser, plans are in the works for the installation of a “Wall Ball” court, upgrades to the “GAGA Ball” Court, purchasing additional technology for the school and over \$5,000 was given back to Riggs' teachers for classroom purchases. Thanks again for your wonderful support!!

March and April also signifies the start of the “testing season” in Arizona. Students and staff will continue to gear up for the administration of the state wide AzMERIT test that will take place at Riggs during the month of April. Our students will again take the test online using the COWS that have been provided by our PTO and school district. Fourth grade students will also be administered the AIMS Science assessment. It is imperative that every student is in attendance during their testing days and that each Riggs Roadrunner gives their best effort while taking these standardized tests.

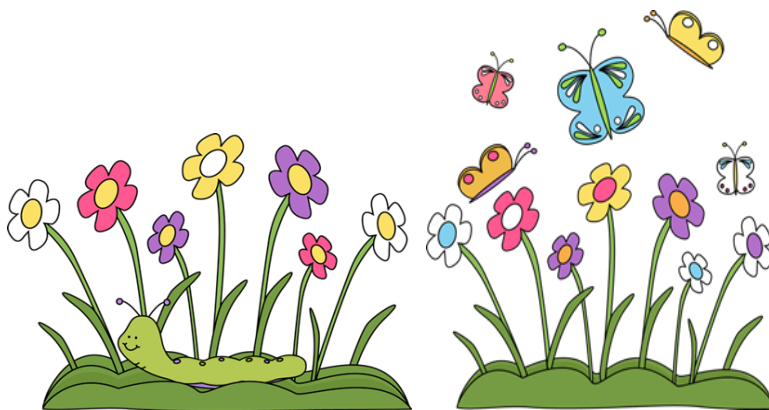
Here are several things that you as a parent can do to help your child be successful with these tests.

- 1) *Send your child to school every day (attendance is part of the criteria the state uses to determine adequate yearly progress). Students also need to arrive to school on time as well! Teachers can't teach students who aren't in school.*
- 2) *See that your child gets plenty of sleep each school night. Most students need at least eight hours of sleep every night.*
- 3) *See that your child eats a nutritional breakfast. Even toast and a piece of fruit will provide the brain and body energy.*
- 4) *Encourage your child to exercise every day. Exercise increases oxygen to the brain and helps with thinking and memory. Educational research tells us that these factors will help ensure that your child does his/her very best.*

Thank you for your efforts to help your children become the best that they can be, and thank you for your continuing support and assistance to make Riggs the best that it can be. Whatever your plans are for the upcoming intersession, if you are traveling or staying local, my hope is that it is an enjoyable and memorable time for your entire family.

Warmly,

Janis K. Weyenberg
Principal



March

- 1 Fast Track Lunch Bunch
- 2 Read Across America/Dr. Seuss Day
Honor Band Concert @ HHS -7:00PM
- 5 StuCo Spirit Week Begins
- 6 CUSD Track Meet Semis @ CCHS
- 8 Gilbert Citizenship Award Presentation
- 9 Grandparents Luncheon
Character Counts Assemblies
End of 3rd QTR/42 Days
- 12-26 Spring Intersession
- 27 Students Return
- 30 Spring Holiday/No School



April

- 1—24 AZ Merit Testing Begins this month
- 2 CUSD Track Meet Finals @ CHS
- 4 Battle of the Books—Media Center
Honor Orchestra @ CCA-7:00 PM
- 5 Fast Track Lunch Bunch
- 10 Site Council Meeting-Media Center
- 16 PTO Meeting @ 2:15/Room C6
- 19 Gilbert Citizenship Award Presentation
- 20 Fast Track Lunch Bunch
PTO Spring Carnival
- 27-30 Scholastic Book Fair
- 30 Dodgeball Tourney Be-



May

- 1-4 Scholastic Book Fair Continues
Dodgeball Tourney Continues
- 2 Kindergarten Orientation @ 6:00 PM
- 3 Fast Track Lunch Bunch
- 4 Riggs Staff Relay for Life @ BHS
- 7-9 DIBELS Testing
- 7-11 Staff Appreciation Week
- 8 Orchestra Concert @ CCHS
- 9 School Nurse Appreciation Day
- 10 Band Concert
- 11 Muffins for Mom
- 15-18 StuCo Food Drive
- 17 Gilbert Citizenship Award Presentation
- 21-25 StuCo Spirit Week
- 21 PTO Meeting @ 2:15/Room C6
- 24 Character Counts Assemblies
- 28 Memorial Day/No School
- 30 Last Day for Students-Early Dismissal





Running Club Race Results from January 25th at Tumbleweed Park

Kindergarten—2nd: Ceriah Pittman, 5th: Brynley Pryor

1st Grade—5th: Rowan Medina, 1st: Alec Fenton

2nd Grade—5th: Avery Wagoner, 1st: Anson Medina,
3rd: Connor Doherty, 5th: Sam Ackerman

3rd Grade—1st: Maddox Bonilla, 2nd: Tristan Dougherty,
5th: Christian Parsons

4th Grade—1st: Isabella Lewis, 2nd: Morgan Davis,
4th: Ally Stone, 1st: Cameron Mitchell, 2nd: Collin Kvamme,
5th: Kobe Olivares

5th Grade—1st: Alyssa Gruber, 2nd: Bailey Baca,
4th: Maggie Nicoll, 2nd: Jaden Creary

6th Grade—1st: Kyah Zurek, 2nd: Natalia Medina,
3rd: Peyton Gribbons, 4th: Ariel Bernard, 1st: Carson Agostini,
3rd: Kline Mcomber, 4th: Andrew Simmons

Running Club Race Results from February 8th at Tumbleweed Park

1st Grade—1st: Alec Fenton

2nd Grade—2nd: Anson Medina

3rd Grade—4th: Maddox Bonilla, 5th: Tristan Dougherty

4th Grade—1st: Isabella Lewis, 2nd: Ally Stone,
4th: Morgan Davis, 1st: Cameron Mitchell

5th Grade—1st: Alyssa Gruber, 2nd: Bailey Baca,
2nd: Jaden Creary

6th Grade—1st: Kyah Zurek, 2nd: Natalia Medina,
3rd: Madeline Philips, 5th: Peyton Gribbons,
2nd: Kline Mcomber, 3rd: Carson Agostini

GREAT JOB ROADRUNNERS!!!!



Honor Band & Orchestra News

CONGRATULATIONS to the
following students:

Honor Band: Ari Hammond & McKaley Herr

Honor Orchestra: Kara Schmidt & Brandon Kalivoda

Everyone is invited to attend the concerts and
enjoy some great music!

**Honor Band Concert @ HHS ~ March 2nd @
7:00 PM**

**Honor Orchestra Concert @ CCA ~
April 4th @ 7:00 PM**



Learning Environment Forms

As this year quickly comes to a close, we now
start planning for the 2018-2019 school year.
Learning Environment Forms will be available
in the office beginning **TUESDAY, May 1st.**



Please keep in mind that it is **NOT A TEACHER REQUEST
FORM** but rather an opportunity to share information about
your child that we should consider when placing him/her.

Please remember that every effort is made to place your student
with the appropriate classroom environment using both parent
and current teacher observation. We hope that everyone under-
stands that balancing class lists is quite complicated, with atten-
tion given to gender, ability levels, behavior concerns and ethnic
representation. **If you choose to complete a learning envi-
ronment form the entire form must be completed in or-
der for it to be considered.**

We believe that **ALL** of our teachers are **TERRIFIC** and we will
do our best to match student needs with specific environments.

Thank you!!

Special Congratulations to the Riggs'

5th and 6th Grade Science Fair Winners

The following students represented Riggs Elementary at HISEF
with their award winning science fair projects.

5th Grade: *Pop-A-Rama*—Haley Merrill & Sarah Mina

Sound Proof Box—Fate Glynn, Madison Ramsey & Sophia
Stevens

Blinding Biochemicals—Alexander Drakatos & Matthew
Hansen

Bath Bombs—Sophia Alexander & Bailey Baca

Ice Cream Melting—Olivia Baptista, Carson Barnes & Sierra
Cervantes

Fruitastic Battery—Lindsey Ramsey, Merrik Kubacki &
Addison Stevens

6th Grade: *Melting Ice*—Caitlyn Henry, Nicholas Jean &
Joe Mularski

The Parachute Plummet—Peyton Pechacek, Makaila Purser
& Jake Woods

Eggshilarating Vinegar!—Macey Cushing, Peyton Gribbons
& Riley Philips

Keeping Cool—Katey Borton, Claire Lober & Zeko Malouk

It's Electric—Natalia Medina & Aria Cain

**In addition, we had two teams receive 2nd Place Awards in
the Elementary Division at HISEF this year.**

**Congratulations to team "*Blinding Biochemicals*" in the
Chemistry Category and team "*Fruitastic Batteries*" in the
Physics & Astronomy Category.**

WAY TO GO RIGGS ROADRUNNERS...beep, beep!!!



Running Club Race Results

for the race on February 22, 2018

Kindergarten: 2nd-Brynley Pryor, 5th-Addie LaRoche

1st Grade: 3rd-Rowan Medina, 1st-Alec Fenton, 2nd-Jagger Orava

2nd Grade: 2nd-Anson Medina, 4th-Sam Ackerman

3rd Grade: 1st-Maddox Bonilla, 3rd-Tristan Dougherty

4th Grade: 1st-Isabella Lewis, 2nd-Ally Stone, 5th-Abigail Fenton, 1st-Mason Blech, 2nd-Collin Kvamme, 4th-Preston Fuess

5th Grade: 1st-Bailey Baca, 2nd-Alyssa Gruber, 5th-Maggie Nicoll, 2nd-Jaxon Orava, 5th-Cameron Cudd

6th Grade: 1st-Kyah Zurek, 2nd-Natalia Medina, 3rd-Madeline Philip, 4th-Peyton Gribbons, 5th-Ariel Bernard, 2nd-Carson Agostini, 3rd-Kline McOmber

Students also enjoyed a Running Club Breakfast the Friday morning after the last race as the final Running Club event of the year!

We would also like to recognize the following students who participated in the Casteel High School Running Club Invitational.

6th Grade Girls: 1st-Kyah Zurek, 3rd, Natalia Medina

6th grade Boys - 3rd - Kline McOmber

5th Grade Girls: 1st - Bailey Baca, 2nd - Alyssa Gruber

4th Grade Girls: 1st - Izzy Lewis

4th grade boys- 2nd place - Mason Blech

Girls won the team trophy and took 1st place overall!

Boys took 3rd place overall!!!

AWESOME JOB RIGGS RUNNERS!!

MEDIA CENTER MISCELLANY...

Spring is here and don't forget to "SPRING" to our Chandler Public libraries for great literacy programs. Some of the free services offered with your library card include Accelerated Reader lists, free online reading programs, and lists of great books for your kids to read. Check out all of the great children's programs at <http://www.chandlerlibrary.org/kids.html> With your Chandler library card, you get free access to online books and audiotapes from the 3M Online Book Library as well as Tumblebooks, Family Book Clubs, and Lego Club.

Want to have some fun over Spring Break? Check out these great destinations and times they are free to the public.

Arizona Historical Society

480-929-9499

2-for-1 on first Tuesday of the month 10am-4pm

Desert Botanical Garden

480-941-1225

Free on the second Tuesday of the month

Phoenix Art Museum

602-257-1222

Free on Wednesdays 3-9pm and First Fridays 6-10pm

Scottsdale Museum of

Contemporary Art

480-874-4666

Free on Thursdays 12-9pm



Kim Reininga—Media/Technology Specialist



CHARACTER COUNTS!!! FAIRNESS

Understanding the concept of fairness is important for young people. From a very early age, we begin to develop opinions on what is fair and what isn't. As a parent we often use the words "be fair" to our children, from a child we hear the words "that is not fair". It is only as children get older do they begin to understand the perceptions of

fairness and how it changes based on personal experiences. Once a student can comprehend this, it can become a teachable moment and what is fair to one person may seem unfair to another. When being fair, we must be fair to everyone concerned in regards to what that individual person may need at that moment.

Play by the rules. * Take turns and share. * Be open minded and listen.

*** Treat all people fairly**

Huge thanks to the following volunteers for their assistance on our recent Picture Day. It was a new format this year but because of their help Picture Day went perfectly! Liz Bishop, Eva Cooke, Kasey Clarkson, Shaunda Harris, Stephanie Lindberg & Anna Streeter...these ladies were AMAZING!!!



HAPPENINGS.....

Upcoming 6th grade students and new Kindergarten – Please Read!!!!

Upcoming 6th graders that are 11 years old must have all of the required immunizations, Tdap and Meningococcal (Menactra), which are Arizona State requirements must be received before the 2018-2019 school year starts. **Students entering 6th grade that are already 11 years old at the start of school will not be allowed to start the school year unless an updated shot record or waiver is in the health office at the start of the 2018-2019 school year.**

Students entering Kindergarten will also need to be up to date on all immunizations prior to the first day of school on July 23, 2018. So please schedule those appointments now as summer will be over before you know it. **Kindergarten students will not be allowed to start the school year unless they have their updated shots and an updated shot record or waiver in the health office by 7/23/18.**

If you have signed an Exemption Form for religious beliefs (PRE K) or your student is entering 6th grade, an updated WAIVER form will be required. Feel free to stop by the Riggs Health Office to update your information. Thank you!!

If you have any questions, please contact Loretta Novak in the Health Office at 480-224-3402.

PS. If you have borrowed clothes or flip flops from the Health Office – please return them to allow other students to use as necessary. If anyone has large youth or adult size flip flops they would like to donate – we are in dire need. Thank you.



The "Corner Room"...

The countdown begins!!

March is finally approaching with the smell and sites of spring, blooms popping and kites blowing. This can

be a difficult time of year for students to stay inside, concentrate, follow school routines, and hold on to their studies. Don't give up and don't give in. Just as we adults have to stay focused during this refreshing time of year, our students need to continue to focus and remain on track with their lessons and school work. Parents, the easiest way for our students to continue to be successful as we move into March is to keep those daily ROUTINES.

Preschool—We have so many fun things planned for spring in pre-school! We will become beginning botanists as we explore the life cycle of plants and take a closer look at nature all around us. We are so excited to observe the plant life cycle first hand planting seeds and watching them grow!



After break we will investigate weather and look forward to our spring ladybug release!

Kindergarten—“You can find magic wherever you look. Sit back and relax, all you need is a book.”~Dr. Seuss



This month we are concluding our Dr. Seuss author study. It has been so much fun digging deeper into Dr. Seuss' engaging books and bringing them to life in our classrooms. As we head into spring break please continue reading stories each night with your child. Additionally, have your child keep a journal of their experiences away from school. Students should begin to form their own complete sentences with correct conventions (punctuation, capitals, spacing, and penmanship).



First Grade—Third quarter is coming to an end quickly. Math this quarter involved measuring using non-standard units, telling time and two and three dimensional shapes. We will be really focusing on the properties of three dimensional shapes and fractions in March. Our 1st graders continue to amaze us with their reading growth. Reading groups continue and the kids are working with long vowels, suffixes and their meaning, ABC order, and classifying. For social studies, we are enjoying our student experts teaching the class about various topics. In science, we look forward to learning all about the life cycle of a butterfly while watching our butterflies emerge.



Second Grade—It is always an exciting time of year as we research Arctic animals! This includes looking at animal adaptations, life cycles, and polar ecosystems. Our Phoenix Zoo field trip gives us hands-on experience as well. More time is spent reading non-fiction books. Our writing expectations continue to challenge students to write descriptive sentences, look at verb agreement, commas, adjectives, informational texts, and paragraphs. Our math includes telling time, measurement, and graphing. This busy month will be a memorable one!

Third Grade—Wow 3rd grade is wrapping up third quarter! They have worked so hard. Students are enjoying many math and science STEM activities in class and making huge growth using technology. Also, the students in third grade are now completing most homework online using our ATI program. This is allowing more practice and confidence at home and school using technology. Third graders just finished publishing their first book. Those are off to the publishing company. We look forward to receiving their published books this spring. Finally, they had great success researching and learning all about their President in Social Studies. We enjoyed their mini presentations. Way to go 3rd Grade!!



Fifth Graders are springing into action this quarter. We have worked hard over the past three quarters to prepare for the AZ Merit and are eager to show off what we know! We will be setting testing goals in class. Please have a conversation about these at home. A fun and exciting month is awaiting us. We will begin a solar system unit in Science, a new literature study in Reading, studying westward expansion in Social Studies, working on geometry in Math, and also working on amazing STEM activities as well.



Fourth Grade—This month for our fourth graders we will continue becoming experts with Informational Text and learning several new strategies/skills in reading and math. The students will explore animals and plants through our science lessons. When we return from spring break, it'll be full-speed ahead for AIMS science and AzMERIT. We'll be reviewing all that we've learned this year in math, reading, writing, and science. We know that the students will all do their very best and we are so proud of all they have accomplished this year!



Sixth Grade—In March, sixth graders we will continue the process of preparing for AZ Merit Testing. To help your student prepare for this year's test we will begin by helping them become familiar with the test format and terminology. They will learn/review test-taking strategies (when to guess, when not to), to become comfortable with time restrictions, and to practice answering different types of questions. Also, Mrs. Oerter will be meeting with each student to discuss last year's results and set goals for this year's testing. Our goal for all students is that they score high and show adequate growth.



SPECIALS—March is Music in our Schools Month! We have a great Music Dept. with Mrs. Stewart and Mrs. Borden serving our K-4th grade students. Students in 5th & 6th grade have the opportunity to continue with General Music or be in Orchestra with Ms. Jones or Band with Mrs. Mallek. The CUSD Honor Band and Orchestra will be meeting and getting ready for their concerts. P.E. - Students have been following and participating in Winter Olympic Sports! Students have done curling, hockey and bobsledding; just to name a few! Students had fun having Olympic fun without ice or cold weather! **Computer Lab:** Students in Grades K-5 will have a busy fourth quarter! Kindergarteners and 1st graders will continue working on basic computer skills, including signing onto the computer and will utilize a variety of programs including programing Ozobots. 2nd grade will work on patterns and grades 3rd—6th will continue to refine their skills to gain proficiency and speed as well as continuing to refine their research skills.

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: _____

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