

Hawk Headlines

Estrella Vista STEM



Message from the principal: We experienced a tremendous loss with the passing of 1st grade teacher, Ms. Heather Began. I shared the following quote with our staff and wanted to share it with all of you “There are some who bring a light so great to the world that even when they are gone, the light remains.” (author unknown) I find this statement very fitting for Ms. Began and the impact she had on our campus. Thank you for all of your support during this difficult time.

November is a time to give thanks and we have many things to be grateful for here at EV. I would like to thank the following:

- To all of our parents who attended parent/teacher conferences last month. We had a great turn out! It is important to keep the lines of communication open between you and your child’s teacher. Thank you for partnering with us for your child’s education.
- To our amazing PTSA who provided a pasta dinner during conferences and donuts, juice and water for our staff when we returned from fall break. Thank you for always supporting our students and staff.
- To our awesome Student Council and NJHS members and sponsors Ms. Gensel and Ms. Reyes for back to back events! Our Spooktacular Ball was a huge success and our 2nd-5th grade students had a blast! The next day, our students and teachers were on campus for our Love Your School day. Our students did a phenomenal job painting our obstacle course and the students love it. Thank you for being actively involved in our school!

Congratulations to our Employee of the Month, 6th grade teacher, Ms. Rosie Fleeman Ms. Fleeman is the team leader and supports her team as well as other teachers on the campus. She not only supports her current students but also previous students and even future students! She is always willing to lend a hand and supports all aspects of our school. Thank you Ms. Fleeman, we appreciate you!

Kids at Hope: Here at Estrella Vista, our students are Kids at Hope Engineers! We are so excited for our Kids at Hope Week! Our Kids at Hope committee is comprised of teachers AND students and this year they have planned an exciting week of engaging activities centered around all four Kids at Hope Destinations. Be on the look out for more information regarding the events.

Safety: Safety is our number one priority. October was National Bully Prevention month and our Kindness Club planned week long activities to promote a bully free school. From a door decorating contest, to stomp out Bullying posters throughout our halls and special lunchtime activities to promote inclusiveness, we are taking a

firm stance that EV is bully free! Ask your child about the activities they were involved in and how they will commit to being bully free at EV.

Tax Credit: Remember to donate to our tax credit program. Married couples may donate up to \$400 and singles up to \$200. Any donation made serves as a dollar-for-dollar tax credit on filed state income taxes. Estrella Vista has a premier after school program. By making a donation, you help us maintain a competitive sports program along with clubs and organizations. Please donate in our office or go to our website for more information: www.littletonaz.org. Thank you for your support!



Kindergarten News

We started the month out strong with parent teacher conferences and our first trial on student-led. It was nice to take a week off and come back refreshed and ready to work!

Kindergarten is continuing to grow and is happy with all the great learning that is happening and our scores from our first quarter benchmark! Students are more comfortable with kindergarten and the weather is cooling down, it is going to be a beautiful autumn.

English Language Arts: letter names and sounds, focus on i, n, c, key details in a text, asking and answering questions about a story, characters, setting, and events, start of blending sounds, Practicing your sight words reinforces readiness to read independently.

Mathematics: five frames, ten frames, solving word problems, practice writing numbers correctly, filling-in missing numbers while counting, what makes 7, 8, 9, and 10, comparing greater than and less than.

Science: pumpkin life cycle, naming the seasons and types of weather, start the process of design thinking.

Social Studies: early European explorers- Christopher Columbus and Indigenous Peoples Day, fire safety, multi-diversity, holidays

Writing: formation of letters, practice print from left to right, finger spacing and proper punctuation, brainstorming, draft models, narrative sentence, a complete sentence with appropriate punctuation

Classroom teachers are often sending home reminders of what to expect next within our classrooms. Be sure to check those folders daily. We would like to thank parents for their continuous help with classroom supplies. Sharpened pencils, white board markers, and wipes are always appreciated.

The kindergarten team would also like to thank you for your support with completing homework and helping their students practice reading fluency every day. Students should be reading or be read to at least ten minutes a day to build stamina in reading.

As always, thank you for all that you do and we appreciate your continual support,

Kindergarten Treasure Hunters



First Grade News

We started the month out strong with parent teacher conferences and our first trial on student-led. It was nice to take a week off and come back refreshed ready to work!

First grade is continuing to grow and we are happy with all the great learning that is happening and scores from our first quarter benchmark! Students are growing and the weather is cooling down, it is going to be a beautiful autumn.

English Language Arts: letter names and sounds, short e, short u, end blends, key details in a text, text features labels and diagrams, characters, setting, and events, blending nonsense words as well as knowing at least 40 of first grade sight words. Practicing your spelling words reinforces sounds to correctly blend when reading.

Mathematics: different strategies to add, number sentences, number paths, word problems, number sentences, practice writing numbers correctly, finding missing numbers, what makes 7, 8, 9, and 10

Science: pumpkin life cycle, impacts of waterways and how to cross water safely through various modalities of transportation or pathway

Social Studies: early European explorers, fire safety and precaution presentation,

Writing: formation of letters, practice print from left to right, finger spacing and proper punctuation, brainstorming, draft models, narratives, drafting before writing, complete sentence with appropriate punctuation

Classroom teachers are often sending home reminders of what to expect next within our classrooms. Be sure to check those folders daily. We would like to thank parents for their continuous help with classroom supplies. Sharpened pencils and white board markers are always appreciated.

The first grade team would also like to thank you for your support with completing homework and helping their students practice reading fluency every day. Students should be reading around 15-17 words a minute right now to meet the end goal of 50 words a minute.

As always, thank you for all that you do and we appreciate your continual support,

The First Grade Team



Second Grade News

We are absolutely loving second grade! We cannot wait to continue learning and growing as we move through quarter 2!

This year, we are proud to announce that we have scored above the district averages on both our reading and math benchmark tests! We are very excited to keep up the hard work as we deepen our skills this quarter. Let's do it every quarter!

We had an absolute blast on our field trip to the pumpkin patch! We spent so much time learning about plant life, plant needs, and plant life cycles. It was amazing to see and experience (and pick) different farm crops in real life. We will be having another field trip in December, so be on the lookout for more information coming soon.

Looking forward, we are eager and ready to continue exploring the different subjects in school. In reading, we are looking forward to learning longer words, developing our vocabulary, and utilizing different reading strategies to increase our comprehension. In math, we will be utilizing place value and regrouping strategies as we add and subtract two and three digit numbers!

As always, make sure to read with your student every night! Thank you for all you do!



Third Grade News

We have officially wrapped up the first quarter of the school year! Congratulations to all of our students that had perfect attendance for the first quarter of the school year! Being at school every day is crucial! Great job to those students on Honor Roll and Principal's List. Your hard work did not go unnoticed.

Our goal for second quarter in Math is to review place value, rounding, and addition and subtraction as we move onto multiplication and division. For multiplication, students are learning strategies to help them solve the equations. Students are learning how to draw equals groups, arrays, and number lines. They will be applying repeated addition and skip counting strategies to help them find the products. Please continue to practice basic math skills at home every night as we move forward into our new math standards.

Students are strengthening their writing skills! They are using writing templates to help with typing a complete paragraph including a main idea and supporting details. Students are applying new learning to help with spelling and conventions as they type.

In reading students are digging deep into stories whether it be through the new curriculum, Wonders, Achieve3000, or through classroom stories read with peers or individually. Students are identifying the main idea and supporting details through their short reads. Students are making connections and making inferences. Reading nightly with your child is critical. Please continue to support your child in reading by reading with them every night and by asking them the Five W comprehension questions (who, what, where, when, why and how).

Thank you for your continued support.



Fourth Grade News

4th grade is diving into multiplication with 2 by 2 digits. We will also be starting division soon. They are truly understanding their facts more and more every day. We all see their dedication with learning their math facts! Go Math has so many great resources to ensure learning for all students!

ELA has been a great way to understand topics that tie into both Science and Social Studies with Wonders! The concepts and real life examples make our students want to learn and the research they come up with is inspiring.

For both Social Studies and Science we are excited for our pilot and to really have true resources to teach our students. They are hands on and engaging, which make the students excited to learn!

Achieve 3000 is the ongoing intervention that is impressing all the 4th grade team. It is a wonderful resource to bring our student's Lexile scores up and increase their understanding and comprehension.

4th grade will also be going on our first field trip of the year this Friday to the Science Center.

We are all so grateful for a wonderful 1st quarter and excited to see where the year takes us!



Fifth Grade News

Fifth grade is connecting math to real life! Students are working on adding and subtracting decimals and making connections to money and real life problems. In ELA students are learning what it takes to put a plan into action with multiple text sources. In science we are working with our new pilot curriculum. Students are loving the hands on learning. In Social Studies students are learning about the regions of the United States. Students also took part in various learning activities in celebration of Hispanic/Latin Heritage month.



Sixth Grade News

Currently sixth grade is on a camping trip to Friendly Pines in Prescott, AZ and are having the times of their lives! The students who did not attend the trip are currently working on a field trip proposal for our next sixth grade field trip. The students are in groups and each student is managing a different part of the field trip. The students are creating proposals, budgets, and a presentation to present their ideas and findings.



Seventh Grade News

In Language Arts, we are reading Part II of The Hunger Games. Last week, we analyzed how setting can influence plot. This week, we are interpreting how different points of view are established. We have also started working on creating the foundations for our extended writing project.

In Science we are finishing up Fossils and getting ready to move on to Plate Tectonics. This is always a student favorite, since it includes earthquakes and volcanoes. The study of the earth's changing surface is fascinating to teach and to learn about.

In math we were working with fractions, decimals and percentages. Students focused on how we can convert back and forth between those 3 forms. We are now going to be stepping into the world of expressions and equations. We are making sure that we know what a variable is and how it can be used, also how all of our previously learned math will be used to master algebra.

In Social Studies we have turned our focus to the Scientific Revolution and how it impacted the Enlightenment. As we explore the Enlightenment period we will learn about how the different forms of government were created and different thinkers during this period



Eighth Grade News

The first quarter absolutely flew by in 8th grade, as students are now one-step closer to their 8th grade promotion and the beginning of high school. In social studies, students are exploring the characteristics of political parties and analyzing political advertisements to better understand the role of politics in our nation's government. In English Language Arts, our students are refining and building upon their essay writing skills as they work toward writing high school level essays that are well supported by evidence. In math, students have recently learned Pythagorean Theorem and are continuing the foundational skills of algebra and geometry in learning translations. In science, students are exploring the principles of Mendelian genetics to better understand how traits are inherited.



Music News

In Music, we are learning about two exciting musicians. Edvard Grieg was from Norway and wrote the famous “In the Hall of The Mountain King” that is heard often around Halloween. Randy Newman has written music for many movies including the Toy Story series. Students have had the opportunity to learn about these famous musician’s lives, listen to their music, and even play some of their songs on Boomwhackers! Additionally, students have been learning about music fundamentals like steady beat as well as identifying instruments by their sound.

In Middle School, students are learning about holiday music and celebrations.



Technology News

Students of all grade levels complete lessons involving the use of computers. These lessons include the proper etiquette of internet and safety use. The lower elementary grades learn how to use the basics, such as the “mouse”, dragging, keyboard use, etc. Upper elementary grades do the same to include the creating of Google sheets, slides and docs. Students in grades K-6 are on a 4-week rotation all year. Students in 7th and 8th grade are on a quarter rotation. The majority of the lessons are 10-15 minutes. Some quizzes or projects for the upper grades can take up to 45 minutes to complete. Students should be able to complete 2-3 lessons or one quiz/project per day, depending on their program. Students work at their own pace, however, if they fall behind, their grade does decrease. I would like to stress the need for them to have their own earbuds or headphones. They are needed for many of these programs and for health reasons, they really should bring and use only their own.



Physical Education News

Kinder is working on their eye hand coordination through various scoops and balls games.

1st – 5th is working on rolling the bowling ball properly. They are also learning about how to keep score in bowling to help them with basic math skills.

6th – 8th are practicing their volleyball skills. Students are learning not only the skills needed to play but also the rules and setup to be able to officiate their own games in volleyball and others should the need arise.



Art News

Kindergarten kids are learning about kinds of lines and are creating primary colored, basic shaped, lined birds! Work with scissors, glue, pencils and markers are all being used. They will be gluing beads onto the letters of their names as well.

1st and 2nd grades are studying the work of Paul Cezanne and will be creating watercolor versions of Tulips in a vase. They will be exploring watercolor resist as they work on a Secret Sentence Modern piece, modeled after Stewart Davis.

3rd and 4th graders will begin by drawing HUGE sunflowers, or parts thereof, showing wind movement and overlapping (4th) . These will be in oil pastels. Look out, they're going to be amazing!!

5th and 6th grade students will be working on creating collaborative Circle paintings at each table. There is much to learn here in terms of cooperation and collaboration and respect and creation. They will also be creating Totem Faces with cut paper. We will look at the Totems of the Northwest and decide which animal best represents them.

The 7th and 8th graders are working on creating an armature for their Greek or Native American vases.



STEM News

K to 8: Students are learning and exploring different careers including a description, job responsibilities and education required for those careers.



Band News

In 5th grade band, students have learned the first 3 notes on their instruments and are beginning to play songs using those 3 notes. They are also working on fundamentals of playing their instruments.

6th-8th is working on fundamentals as well as beginning repertoire.

Upcoming Events

11/1: First Friday Assembly, West Field, 8:45 AM

11/1: Kinder Field Trip to Tolmachoff Farms in Glendale, 9:00 AM to 1:30 PM

11/4 -11/15: KAH Food Drive for St. Mary's Food Bank, all classrooms

11/7: Student Council Field Trip to AAJHSC State Conference, Mesa Convention Center, 9:00 AM to 2:00 PM

11/8: 3rd grade Field Trip to Legoland Discovery Center in Tempe, 9:00 AM to 1:30 PM

11/11: Veteran's Day, No School

11/12 – 11:15: 2019 Kids at Hope Week – Spirit Week

11/12 - Community and Service Day - Camo Day, students may dress in Camo. Students will also write letters to First Responders (military, police, firefighters, emergency room workers, etc.)

11/13 – Hobbies and Recreation Day – This will be games day and students will be allowed to dress for their favorite sport/team.

11/14 – Time Travelers Day – College Career classroom activities, College Shirt Day

11/15 – School Spirit Day – Wear Spirit Shirts

11/15: Grads Student Picture Retake Day – Stage in the cafeteria, 8:30 AM to 9:30 AM

11/15: Peter Piper Pizza Night, Dysart & I10, 5:30 PM to 8:30 PM

11/19: PTSA Meeting, Library, 5:30 PM to 6:30 PM

11/20: PTSA Dollar Dress Down Day, School wide

11/22: PTSA Annual Turkey Trot, West Field, 7:30 AM to 8:30 AM

11/22: Thanksgiving Luncheon Day, Cafeteria, 11:00 AM to 1:00 PM

11/25 – 11/29: Thanksgiving Break – No School