

MORRISTOWN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL MONTHLY NEWSLETTER



Volume 2, Issue 8 February 2020

AzM2 and AIMS Science

AIMS Science (Grades 4 and 8)

AzM2 (Grades 3 thru 8)

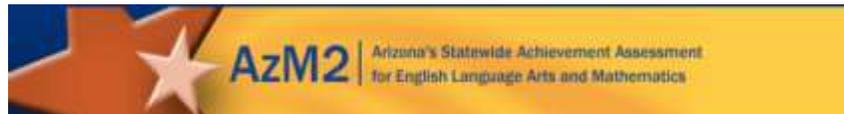


SPRING ASSESSMENTS UPCOMING

The school has scheduled its upcoming state assessments. These assessments include the AIMS Science for grades 4 & 8 and the newly named AzM2 (formally AzMERIT) administered to students in grades 3 thru 8. These assessments will depict student performance with state standards. These assessments depict the performance of our school with other school districts throughout Arizona. Our goal is to demonstrate the hard work the school, the students, and our parents have put forth during this academic year. We encourage all our stakeholders to support the efforts of the students with these upcoming assessments. Establishing homework times at home and to encourage students to do their best at all times and set a great foundation for positive performance. More information will follow this spring as we approach the upcoming testing dates.

Parents can attain more information from the Arizona Department of Education assessment website: <https://www.azed.gov/assessment/>

AzM2 Resources and Practice Tests can be found at the link: <https://www.azed.gov/assessment/resources/>



BOYS AND GIRLS CAPTURE CENTRAL MOUNTAIN LEAGUE BASKETBALL TITLES

The boys and girls basketball teams took top honors in the recent Central Mountain League Basketball playoffs. The league is composed of Morristown, Congress, Festival Foothills, Aguila, and Canon elementary school features very talented athletes. Both the girls and the boys teams were #2 seeds in the tournament and played there very best basketball of the year in upending the #1 seeds. The boys topped Festival Foothills with a score of 41 to 28. The girls held strong against the always tough Aguila Eagles with a fierce defence. The final score of the girls game was 18 to 15. Congratulations have to go out to Head Coach Lindsey Fortkamp and Assistant Coach Jennifer Ross. Not only was the team successful on the court but represented the school to the absolute fullest. Thanks to all those fans that supported the teams at the tournament and through the year.



“Congratulations to both our basketball teams..... we are proud of you”

AFTER SCHOOL INTERVENTION PROGRAM UNDERWAY

The school has started its After-School Intervention program. This program will support students with academic offerings allowing them the ability to master grade level standards leading to greater academic performance in the classroom. As the school develops this program it will provide an opportunity for students to enhance their skills which will open the doors for academic opportunities. Schools are focused in ensuring their students are “College and Career Ready” and to put them in position to take the most rigorous course work they can during their future academic classes. Thanks to all the staff members who are working to support this opportunity.



TRACK SEASON TO BEGIN

With the conclusion of basketball season the school will now transition into track season. Track will be offered to students in Grades 5 through 8 and officially begins February 10th. The team will be guided by Coach Perry. As with all sports, Track provides an opportunity for students to be involved in an activity that allows for physical conditioning and the ability to be involved with other team members. This receipt goes well with the ongoing development of students both socially and behaviorally. Track can be an activity that youth take into their adult lives and develops their body in a very positive way. As with our other sports, our students need to complete an athletic packet for track and pay the participation fee. For more information please contact the school’s office for the respective forms. Track begins February 10th and concludes in March. Practice will go from after school (3:15 pm) and ends at 4:45 pm with the school providing bus transportation.

ATTORNEY GENERAL’S OFFICE PUTS ON SUICIDE PREVENTION WORKSHOP

On January 21st, Audrey Powell of the Arizona Attorney General’s Office presented on Suicide Prevention. Those in attendance were provided an oversight on issues facing “all” people of today and the need to keep a sharp eye out for signs that might lead to suicide. Provided were a listings of resources that can be used and they are as follows:

- National Suicide Prevention Lifeline 800-273-8255 (TALK)
- Crisis Text Line Text START to 741-741
- Crisis Response Network 605-222-9444
- Teen Lifeline 602-248-8336
- SOP/Suicide Outreach Program: Arizona@afsp.org
- American Foundation for Suicide Prevention: afsp.org/take-action

A special thanks goes out to GFWC-Morristown for providing the school an opportunity to use “Old Main” as a venue for this workshop. We look forward to future Community programs that can support the partnerships between the families of the Morristown community and the school.



BOARD APPROVES 2020-2021 SCHOOL CALENDAR

The Morristown Governing Board approved the 2020-21 school calendar for 2020-21 school year. This calendar will be the second year of the four-day school week schedule. As with other information the calendar is available on the school’s website.

STUDENTS OF THE MONTH FOR DECEMBER

The school would like to acknowledge both Triften Every (Grade 2) and Evelyn Estrada-Bollas (Grade 4) as the school’s January Students of the Month. Triften is very committed to his academic responsibilities and is very focused in working with all the other students in 2nd Grade. Evelyn is also very committed towards her academic work. She is a class representative and supports her classmates and other students of the school to the fullest.



HALEY HERNANDEZ-TRABOR MOVES ON IN ELKS HOOP SHOOT

Morristown's very own Haley Hernandez-Trabor's recent performance in the Wickenburg Elks Hoop Shoot contest allowed her to come away with top honors in her age group. Haley's next competition will be Arizona Elks State Championship in Apache Junction. The date of the competition is Saturday, February 15th at Cactus Canyon Jr High, located at 801 W Southern Avenue, Apache Junction. Haley will compete against the best from all of Arizona. We know she will be a great representative for Morristown. "Go Haley!!!"



RAELENE WILLIAMS AND HEATHER WALTERS MOVE ON TO STATE FINALS WITH ELKS DRUG AWARENESS POSTER CONTEST

Raelene Williams and Heather Walters have moved onto the Elks Drug Awareness Poster Contest. Raelene (Grade 3) and Heather (Grade 4) recent judging in the Wickenburg area has allowed them to move forward. This event is the same day and location of the Elks State Hoop School. Please see information above for the specific information. We know both will be great representatives for Morristown "Go Raelene and Heather!!!!".



AZ TAX CREDIT OPPORTUNITY

A reminder that adults still can contribute to the school through the Arizona Tax Credit program. This opportunity allows for taxpayers to earmark funds to local schools and receive a tax credit for the same dollar amount from the state. The Arizona Tax Credit contribution form is attached to the newsletter or can be downloaded from the school's website. Tax credit donations can help support a variety of activities that include tutoring, field trips, enrichment and athletic programs.

STUDENT COUNCIL HARD AT WORK



Kudos to our Student Government as they continue to be active in their efforts supporting the culture and climate of the school. Pictured is a recent "Pickles and Popcorn" fundraiser that continues to grow in participation. There is another activity just around the corner for Student Government. February is national Heart Health Month. On February 13th, there will be a jump rope competition for each grade level. A great big "Thank You" goes out to Student Council and to Mrs. Ross who has dedicated her time in sponsoring this group of students through the year.

PROPOSAL TO ELIMINATE PLASTIC WATER BOTTLE USAGE

Recently a group of 7th Grade students presented on an initiative to eliminate plastic water bottles at the school. Presenting facts on the impact these plastics have on the environment substantiate the initiative to the fullest. It is great to see our next generation of leaders focused on aspects that will preserve the natural resources of our community and planet.



KIWANIS OF SUN CITY WEST CONTINUES TO SUPPORT SCHOOL

A special thank you goes out to the Kiwanis of Sun City West for their ongoing work with Morristown Elementary School. This past month representatives from Kiwanis of Sun City came to our school and acknowledged our 1st through 3rd grade students with the Terrific Kids program. Along with this, the Kiwanis of Sun City West has started their annual Reading is Fundamental (RIF) program at the school. The RIF program allows for the students in the lower grades to receive a book during January, February, and March. In addition to donating books, representatives from Kiwanis comes to the school to read to the students. Reading is a foundational piece to literacy. The work that Kiwanis puts in helps to support our students reading development and supports in developing a passion to read. This is a great recipe for success in later years. Thanks again Kiwanis!



Upcoming Events

Feb 4	Bus Evacuations Drills
Feb 5	School Site Council (3:15 pm)
Feb 10	Track Season Begins
Feb 10	Regular Governing Board Meeting (6:00 pm)
Feb 10	Arizona Youth Survey Grade 8
Feb 17	Presidents' Day Holiday (No School)
Feb 25	Renaissance Field Trip (5 th and 6 th Graders)
March 2	Dr. Seuss, Green Eggs and Ham Lunch
March 5	Field Trip Wildlife Zoo (Grades K-4)
March 11	White Tank Park Grand Hikers Sun City Hike (Grades 5 & 6)
March 11	Science Showcase Grades K through 8
March 16-19	Spring Break (No School)
Mar 25-Apr 19	AIMS Science Test Window
March 26	Lifetouch Spring Individuals and Classroom groups.
Apr 1 – Apr 12	Az Merit Writing Test Window
Apr 1 – Apr 26	Az Merit Reading/Math

