

# Hendricks Elementary Newsletter

September 2023

## FROM THE DESK OF THE PRINCIPAL:

Hawk Families,

I want to thank everyone for helping make a great start to the 2023-2024 school year! We are pleased to welcome Mrs. Jessica Cenedese, our new Assistant to the Principal, to Hendricks! Also, we were excited to welcome many families for our combined open house and parent orientation night this year. It is always wonderful to see families visiting the school and learning all about their child's new classroom. If you have not had a chance to meet your child's teacher, I encourage you to do so soon via phone, email, or by stopping in for a visit. It is important for each child's academic success that we establish relationships between school and home early in the year.

The staff has been working hard to incorporate cooperative learning into our day while teaching classroom rules and procedures. In addition, we are getting into routines with our reading and writing curriculum, *Into Reading*. Please help us build a culture of reading by challenging your child to read at least 20 minutes every night. It is critical that students develop stamina for reading longer passages to be successful in school. As we continue with *Investigations* mathematics, students will further their understanding on why mathematics works the way that it does. You can help students be successful with deep thinking in math by helping them develop fluency in basic addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division facts. When children don't have to think as hard about these basic facts, they are better able to use their brains for critical thinking. Log on to Reflex math, use some flash cards, or find a fun online game to encourage children to practice facts!

**PTO** — I want to thank the PTO for their continued support of Hendricks! Thank you to Amanda Perkins, president; Kelly Cho, vice president; and Devin Trevena, secretary who are already working hard on behalf of our school community. We currently have an opening for treasurer so please reach out if you're interested! We would love you to join us for our next PTO meeting on Thursday, September 14<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 pm via Zoom. Join the Hendricks PTO Facebook page or email them at [hendricks.pto.board@gmail.com](mailto:hendricks.pto.board@gmail.com) for more information. Also, please join us **Friday, September 15<sup>th</sup> from 4:30—6:30 pm**, for the Family Picnic on the Hendricks field. Plan to come with your family to get to know our new Hawk families or get reacquainted with old friends. Bring a blanket, or chairs, and some games! Pack a picnic meal or pick up some food on your way! We will enter through the South gates by the basketball courts. PTO and Student Council will be selling some small treats. It is sure to be a blast!

**Emergency Procedures** — Flowing Wells has collaborated with law enforcement to develop lockdown plans and trainings for students and staff. Staff have refreshed their training for the new year and taught students the procedures. We will **have our first drill on Wednesday, September 6<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 am**. It is important that all students attend that day. You will also be receiving paper notifications and a message on SchoolMessenger about our lockdown drill. After the student lockdown training, please take time to discuss with your child what their responsibilities are during an emergency lockdown drill.

**Safety**—School safety is important to all members of our community. Please talk with your child about **crossing only in the crosswalk** at the corner and about waiting to cross in front of the school until an adult can escort them across the drop-off zone. Please remember that there is **no parking in the drop-off zones** in front of the school or off of the main parking lot and it is important that you say a quick goodbye and move out of the drop-off area. Please do not wait in your car in the entryway to the school or in the south side loop. Leaving cars in these areas blocks the thoroughfare, backs up traffic, and creates a danger for students as cars try to navigate around them. Please also respect any signs on public roads that state no parking or no standing. Also, as a reminder, our new policy is that adults must drop off students at the doors and may only come on campus if they have an appointment. Last, our new school office safety system requires that visitors ring the bell and stand in front of the camera for entry. If arriving late, please always escort children to the door and buzz them into the office.

### Important Contact Numbers:

**Student Absence Line**  
696-4807

**Phyllis Agraan, Registrar**  
696-8400

**Lexi Chavez**  
Health Assistant  
696-8402

**Darlene Jones,**  
Administrative Assistant  
696-8401

**Ana Obregon**  
Cafeteria Manager  
696-8408

**Lunch Reminder** — Please fill out an application for free and reduced lunch if you haven't done so already. Please go to Quick Links on the website to add funds to your child's account.

It is an honor to serve you as principal of Hendricks Elementary School. If you have questions or concerns, please give me a call, or come in to talk.

Hawks Are A+ Strong,

*Appreciatively,*

*Tabetha Finchum*  
520-696-8405



Hello Hawk Families!

My name is Jessy Cenedese and I am the new Assistant to the Principal at Hendricks Elementary. For the past 8 years I taught at Flowing Wells High School as a Social Studies and English teacher. I loved being in the classroom, but I wanted to support both teachers and students in a more collaborative way, so I have made the transition to administration. I value helping teachers grow as educators and supporting the needs of each student. I am passionate about making sure each child's individual needs are met and am constantly finding ways to improve the learning process and experience. I am committed to helping Mrs. Finchum with our mission to inspire, motivate, and challenge all learners to reach their highest potential.

Education is very important for me not only as an educator, but also as a parent of two Hendricks students. I believe in the community of our district and feel this district truly represents a caring, and nurturing environment. I am very excited to be in this new position and look forward to meeting and collaborating with each of you.

It is my absolute pleasure to be a Hawk!

Regards,  
Mrs. Cenedese



**A Note from  
Mrs. Agraan**

A special thanks to all parents who call in to report student absences. Even if you tell the student's teacher, the office needs to know as well. Please call the **Attendance Line** at **520-696-4807**.

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Title I Fall Parent Meeting

Thursday, September 14<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 pm via Zoom



The Title I Reading Program is inviting you to attend our Fall Parent Meeting. This meeting helps to build a strong parent-school partnership by involving parents in decision-making opportunities at Hendricks Elementary. Parents are encouraged to attend our meeting where we will:

- discuss Title I information and requirements
- discuss student achievement information
- explain parent rights

This meeting provides an overview of the Title I program (including eligibility requirements and school improvement goals). It is an opportunity for parents to receive information about student achievement, including a schedule of required district and state-wide assessments. Thank you in advance for making it a priority to attend this important meeting.

This Parent Meeting will be held on Thursday, September 14<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 pm via Zoom. It will occur during the regularly scheduled PTO meeting.

*We hope to see you there!*

## PTO News

Welcome back, Hawks Families, from the Hendricks PTO! Our purpose is to promote and support the education of all children at Hendricks, and we have an exciting year planned. We have many ways you can be a part of the fun.

- Be sure to mark your calendar for the Family Picnic on Friday, September 15 from 4:30-6:30pm on the playground. All families are invited to bring your own picnic and lawn chairs, and have some fun playing and mingling outside. PTO will have snacks and drinks for sale, cash only. Kona Ice will also be there with snow cones available to purchase through cash and credit cards.
- Can you volunteer for a shift at the picnic or do you want to join a committee? Check out our volunteer opportunities at <https://volunteersignup.org/J3CHP>.
- You can also support the Hendricks PTO with purchases you are already making! Choose the J. Robert Hendricks PTO on your Fry's digital account (see how at <https://www.frysfood.com/i/community/community-rewards>) and check-out the Box Tops for Education (BTFE) app to scan receipts that benefit our PTO.
- Keep in touch with us by following us on Facebook @HendricksHawksPTO.
- Join us at our next PTO meeting, Thursday, September 14 at 5:30pm via Zoom.
- Our PTO Dollar Days sales started on September 1- our upcoming sales are October 13 and November 22. There will be different items each sale, but always for \$1, before school on the playground.

We are so happy to be part of the Hendricks community and hope to collaborate with even more families this year! Send us an email at [hendricks.pto.board@gmail.com](mailto:hendricks.pto.board@gmail.com) with questions and to find out more about being involved with the Hendricks PTO.



### Medication Policies:

All Over the counter (OTC) and prescribed medications (Rx) must be brought or picked up from the Health Office by a parent/guardian. All OTC and Rx medications must have a prescription from a physician, medications are not allowed to be given without it.

A parent/guardian must fill out a permission form in order for your child to receive medication at school. Tylenol, Ibuprofen, allergy medicine are all examples of OTC and must have a prescription from a physician.

**NO MEDICATION WILL BE ACCEPTED BY TEACHERS OR THE FRONT OFFICE.**

All medications including asthma inhalers and epi pens must be in their original RX labeled box or pill bottle, no exceptions. Your pharmacist can assist you with this.

For questions or help, contact Ms. Lexi in the health office at 520-696-8402.

**The health office could use any new child underwear or gently used children's clothing for our health office.**

# Kindergarten



Hello Kindergarten Families! We are off to a great start to the school year! Our classes have been working hard to learn the rules and procedures, build friendships and our Classroom Community, practice colors, and dive right into learning. As September approaches, please remember to continue helping your child write his/her own name by themselves. Remind them that the first letter in their name is always an uppercase, and the rest of the letters are lowercase. Reading logs begin this month! Please read with your child for 15 minutes a night, and record on the sheet that was sent home. At the end of the month, your child can return the log for a fun prize. Thank you for all you do! We look forward to another successful month in Kindergarten!



Fantastic First Grade We are so excited to be working with you and your child! First Grade is a BIG deal! Together we'll see tremendous growth and a sense of independence blossom in your child. Thank you for your support by attending Hendricks' Open House & Parent Orientation Night. The supplies and daily snacks you have so generously donated are making a huge impact in our classrooms and we are so appreciative! Thank you!

On Monday's, look for the Spelling List (write them daily) & 8 Story Words (read them daily until memorized). Homework is a great way to teach our young Hawks how to be RESPONSIBLE. So, our day starts with a warm welcome and a simple procedure "Folders First!" First Graders have learned how to remove & insert papers from/into the "R" pocket (Return to school) and "K" pocket (Keep at Home). Please help your child continue to BE SUCCESSFUL with these DAILY ROUTINES and reminders : Together with your First Grader ... • Open the Homework Folder to find a Homework Calendar and a corresponding Homework Assignment • Help Your Child complete the Homework Assignment in their own writing, including their name • Read Together & Record on the Reading Log (backside of calendar) • Return Homework Folder, Homework Calendar, Completed Reading Log (on back) and Assignment

Homework is a daily expectation to be completed and returned for a grade on your child's Report Card and your enthusiastic encouragement is so appreciated - we couldn't do it without your help!

Fondly, Mr. Johnson, Ms. Sabin & Mrs. Young





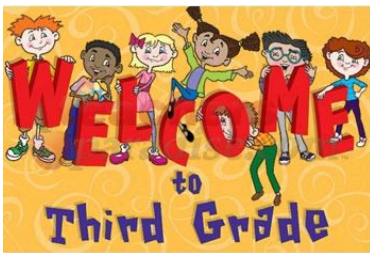
Hello Families!

Second graders are off to a super start this year! We hope you've heard your child talking about being a good citizen, short vowel sounds, kindness and much more! We are so proud of all students learning the procedures and rules of our classrooms! Already, we've seen so much kindness, creativity, and hard work! We hope to see you at the **PTO Picnic on September 15th** and for sure at our **Parent Curriculum Night!** More information about this will be coming home soon, but the date/time is **Sept. 20th at 4:45**. Mark your calendars now!

Thank you for all your support in sending in supplies and snacks! We also appreciate your notes and messages on Remind to keep in touch! Communication is the key to your child's success this year!

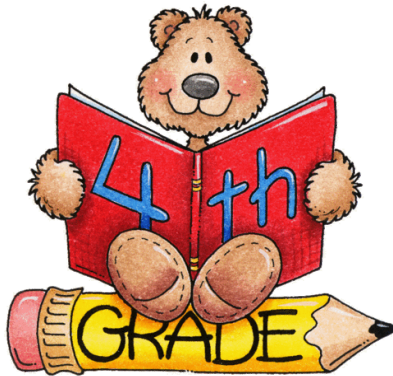
Keep up the homework and reading every night, along with bringing the folder back to school to help your child's academic skills and sense of responsibility strengthen and grow! Please reach out if you have any questions. We are here for you and your child! We hope to see you soon!

Sincerely,  
Mrs. Capas, Mrs. Hitchings, and Miss Siegel



Thank you for attending parent orientation and for sending supplies to help your child get organized for the year ahead. We are looking forward to an exciting year with our third graders. Students are tackling new math concepts and learning to construct viable arguments to solve problems. We encourage all students to utilize the Reflex Math program at home to help improve their fact fluency.

In science, we have started our ecosystem unit focusing on the Sonoran Desert. We will have our first field trip to the Desert Museum in November. Reading is a critical subject in third grade, so please make sure your child is reading every night and writing a summary sentence on their reading log. We will have a parent fluency training night on September 28th and will begin our weekly fluency homework the following week. Please continue to check your child's homework folder and sign their agenda/planner daily. We appreciate your communication and support and look forward to a fabulous year with you and your child



Welcome to Fourth Grade! We can't believe that we have already had a month with your amazing kiddos. We have really enjoyed getting to know them over these past four weeks. If you were able to attend parent orientation, thank you for coming! We look forward to building a relationship and getting to know all our students' families. If you have not joined your child's class app, please reach out to your child's teacher as this is our main line of communication this year.

It may seem like school just started, but we have already begun our second unit in math. This unit focuses on data and measurement. Students will complete two data projects throughout the course of this unit. The first project compares fourth grade heights to first grader heights. Students create line plots to display their data and then look for trends and outliers. In the second data project, students derive their own testable question, gather data, and then display the data of two different groups on one graph or line plot. The culmination of this project is a reflection of data trends and gives students an opportunity to reflect on the data gathering process.

In reading, we have completed Module One and just began Module Two. Students have read a variety of texts and began completing close reads for specific targeted reading skills. Many of these skills build upon third grade learning but become more advanced. Students have enjoyed reading a variety of texts ranging from a graphic novel excerpt to a folktale to informational non-fiction text.

During the last week of August, students wrapped up their first of many writing projects that spanned over a course of three weeks. This project was a narrative about a time in their life when they learned a lesson or made a discovery. The story had to incorporate dialogue and have a problem/solution. Students enjoyed sharing these stories with their classmates. It was a great first project to get them going on writing this year. We have also been completing some collaborative literary analysis paragraphs, also known as a cold write. These are similar to the ones they were completing in third grade, but we are teaching students how to incorporate elaboration. This is when students explain how their text evidence connects to the writing prompt in their own words.

We know that this year is going to be a great year! Thank you for sharing your child with us.

The Fourth Grade Team  
-Mrs. Wendt, Mrs. Creager, Mrs. Weirich

# 5th Grade

We want to thank everyone who has contributed to the wonderful start of our new school year. There are a lot of exciting things happening in 5th grade this semester! So far, we have learned about various inventors and inventions, building balloon powered race cars, multiplication strategies, solving order of operation problems, and learning about different types of sentences. We have upcoming field trips to the Desert Museum and Sabino Canyon. Keep an eye out for permission slips if you would like to chaperone.

Please do not hesitate to reach out to the fifth-grade teachers with any questions, comments, or concerns. We are looking forward to the rest of the year together.

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# Sixth Grade

Hello 6th grade families! If you have not already, please join our Remind class using the Remind app using the class code @hhawks6.

In Science, students learned about the scientific method and then practiced the method with an origami frog lab. They also learned the engineering method and practiced that with a seed dispersal lab. We just began our first unit on ecosystems. Students have been given access to their online science textbook through Savvas Realize. This textbook includes text that can be read to students by the computer, interactive labs, and quests.

The big ideas that were covered in math this month include using the standard long division algorithm, exponents, greatest common factor, and least common multiple. We will apply our knowledge of GCF and LCM to fraction concepts such as simplifying fractions and finding common denominators throughout the year.

In Social Studies/Writing, we are working on our first unit, looking at how geography affects the movement and settlement of people. We have introduced a textbook and accompanying workbook. With our materials, we are addressing reading and writing skills through a social studies lens. We have been learning how to use our resources through notetaking and various activities, and we will be finishing the unit with a narrative essay based on unit one material to strengthen their writing and understanding of the topic.



# Credit for Carrying



## Take advantage of the AZ School Tax Credit

Using your Arizona School Tax Credit to help a child get more out of school.

Arizona law (ARS 43-1098.01) allows taxpayers to receive a tax credit of up to \$400 for donations that benefit students in our public schools. That's not just a deduction, it's a *tax credit*—it reduces what you owe in state taxes, dollar-for-dollar.

### Here's how it works:

Just send a donation to the Flowing Wells School District, earmarked for support of one of our many qualifying extracurricular activities. We'll send you a receipt for your records. Then, when you fill out your Arizona state taxes, you can subtract your donation from what you owe in taxes. Credits should be taken in the year donated; however, donations made from January 1—April 15 can be used in either the current or prior year.

### What qualifies:

By law, only donations to extracurricular activities that charge a fee qualify for the tax credit. Donations must be made to the school district, but directed toward a specific activity at a specific school.

You may specify that your donation is a contribution that benefits all children, or you may designate it to cover a current fee for a specific child's participation in a qualified activity.

Just fill out the form then make your donation in person at any Flowing Wells school or mail it, along with your check, to Flowing Wells School District.

Donations may also be made online. Go to [www.floatingwellsschools.org](http://www.floatingwellsschools.org) and click on the link for Tax Credits.

### Questions?

Contact Stacy Trueblood at 696-8813 or [stacy.trueblood@fwusd.org](mailto:stacy.trueblood@fwusd.org)

Yes! I'd like to donate to the Flowing Wells School District and receive a tax credit up to \$400.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip code \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Donation amount \$ \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail Address for Receipt: \_\_\_\_\_

Please direct my donation to the following:

### For Elementary School

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Centennial Elementary School | <input type="checkbox"/> Davis Elementary School      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Douglas Elementary School    | <input type="checkbox"/> Hendricks Elementary School  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Laguna Elementary School     | <input type="checkbox"/> Richardson Elementary School |
| Specific Activity * _____                             |   |

### For Flowing Wells Junior High School

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Project Oceans/Whales/Catalina  | <input type="checkbox"/> Arizona Senators  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Leadership Retreat              | <input type="checkbox"/> Mustang Athletics |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Wherever the need is greatest   |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other, specific activity: _____ |  |

### For High School

- ☐ Flowing Wells High School

Please direct my donation to Flowing Wells High School as follows:

- ☐ Wherever the need is greatest
- ☐ Specific Activity \* \_\_\_\_\_

- ☐ Sentinel Peak High School

My fee is paying for the following child's participation in the specified activity. The fee is non-refundable.

Student's name \_\_\_\_\_

School \_\_\_\_\_ Activity \_\_\_\_\_

Please make your check payable to:

Flowing Wells School District

Mail to: Stacy Trueblood

Flowing Wells School District

1556 W. Prince Road

Tucson, AZ 85705

Tax credit limit: \$400 for married couples filing jointly; \$200 for married couples filing separately; and \$200 for individual and head of household.

Please check with your tax advisor for answers to specific tax-related questions.



# Hendricks Elementary School

## HawkHawk of the Month



**Name:** *Ana Valenzuela*

**Position at Hendricks:** *Custodian*

**How long have you worked in education?** *1 year*

**What education/job experiences did you have before coming to work at Hendricks?**

*For seven years I worked at Walmart in several different areas. I have been at Hendricks for one year.*

**Tell us about your family.**

*I've been married for 40 years to my husband, Filipe. I have four children, nine grandchildren and one great-grandchild.*

**What hobbies do you have?**

*I love gardening. I like to read in my spare time. I love history.*

**Tell us something interesting about yourself that we may not know.**

*I make "mucho" tamales and they are "estan muy deliciosos!"*



# Hendricks Elementary School



**Name:** Lydia Carlson

**Position at Hendricks:** 6<sup>th</sup> grade teacher

**How long have you worked in education?**

Just starting my 9<sup>th</sup> year

**What education/job experiences did you have before coming to work at Hendricks?**

When I was in high school, I attempted to sell \$100 jeans for commission at the mall, very unsuccessfully, and quit before they could fire me. I have coached at: Reffkin Tennis Center, TRC, Esperero Canyon Middle School, and Tanque Verde High School. I also worked at Centennial for five years before moving to Hendricks.

**Tell us about your family.**

I have three sisters and one brother- and my brother is basically my best friend. I spend a lot of time with my dad who is now retired from the military. My mom lives up in Scottsdale and is a spray tan artist. My sister Courtney has seven children, so I am also a Tia. I live with my boyfriend Cody, and two puppies- Cricket and Cooper.

**What hobbies do you have?**

Anything that's active- I play tennis, volleyball, I ski, I enjoy yoga and I also cycle. I recently got into birding. Hanging out with friends and taste testing craft root beers.

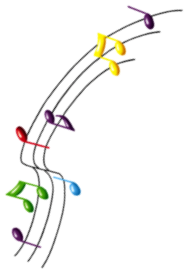
**Tell us something interesting about yourself that we may not know.**

In high school I was super into guitar hero and I was able to play expert level songs with the guitar behind my head.



## September Important Dates

- September 4 Labor Day—No School  
September 5 Girls Volleyball A Team Richardson @ Hendricks  
Boys Volleyball A Team Hendricks @ Richardson  
September 6 Lockdown drill  
5th Grade Parent Night  
September 7 Boys Volleyball B Team Richardson @ Hendricks  
Girls Volleyball B Team Hendricks @ Richardson  
September 12 Girls Volleyball A Team Hendricks @ Davis  
Boys Volleyball A Team Davis @ Hendricks  
September 13 5th Grade Field Trip to Desert Museum  
September 14 Girls Volleyball B Team Hendricks @ Davis  
Boys Volleyball B Team Davis @ Hendricks  
PTO Meeting Via Zoom  
September 15 Fall Picture Day  
Spirit Wear sales kick off  
PTO Family Picnic  
September 19 CATS Field Trip to Brandi Fenton Park  
Girls Volleyball A Team Hendricks @ Centennial  
Boys Volleyball A Team Centennial @ Hendricks  
September 20 2nd Grade Parent Night  
September 21 Girls Volleyball B Team Centennial @ Hendricks  
Boys Volleyball B Team Hendricks @ Centennial  
September 26 Girls Volleyball A Team Douglas @ Hendricks  
Boys Volleyball A Team Hendricks @ Douglas  
September 27 First Grade Parent Night  
September 28 Girls Volleyball B Team Hendricks @ Douglas  
Boys Volleyball B Team Douglas @ Hendricks  
3rd Grade Parent Night
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**Band and Orchestra Students:** Make sure you have your instrument and book ready for each class. Use your calendars! Set up a quiet place to practice without any distractions. 10-15 minutes is all that is needed for practice at home. Consistency is key, so please help your young musician work out a practice schedule of at least 4 times per week.

If you are borrowing a school instrument, make sure you have stopped by the front office to pay your fee.

**Choir:** It's time for Choir! The Hendricks Choir is open to all 4th, 5th and 6th graders who like to sing. No audition required! We meet after school on Thursdays (except on half days) from 2:15-3:00. Please see Mrs. McCarthy for a permission slip.

*Mrs. McCarthy and Mr. O'Keefe*