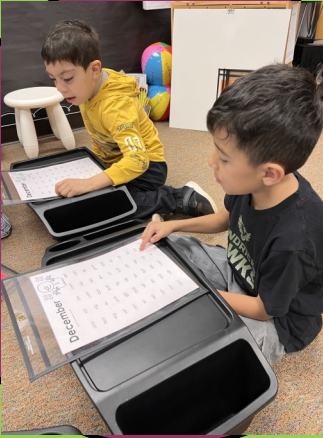


Hawk Highlight

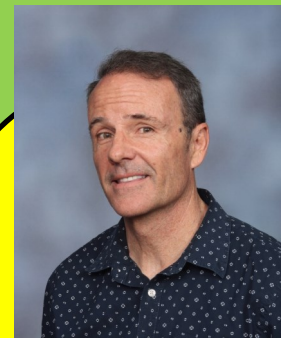
First Grade



Mrs. Young



Ms. Sabin



Mr. Johnson

Notes from Mrs. Finchum

Hawk Families:

To quote a famous holiday tune, “It’s the most wonderful time of the year!” December and the holidays are upon us and Hendricks is buzzing with excitement as we move into a month full of learning, fun, and celebration. A special thank you to the parents who helped us serve Thanksgiving dinner at Hendricks!

Before I share a bit about the upcoming fun this month, I would like to convey a few reminders. Please continue to make **attendance** a priority for your child when they are not ill. If at all possible, please do not schedule trips during school days. If your child must be absent, please call the school by 9:00 am to report the absence. All students will be required to make up work from days they miss at school. Encouraging regular school attendance is one of the most powerful ways you can prepare your child for success—both in school and in life. At our first awards assembly of the year, we were pleased to **recognize 348 students who had exceptional attendance** by attending more than 95% of the school days in the first quarter and arriving on time daily!

Second, please remember to **drive slowly and safely** as you drop students off in front and on the south side of Hendricks in the morning. Many students cross the walkway in front of the school and it is essential that all drivers are alert and moving slowly. Please be patient as you wait for cars to unload so that we can limit unnecessary passing and weaving that could be dangerous. Remember that we need to keep the car line moving, so please pull all the way to the front and have your child quickly disembark. If your child needs extra assistance or an escort, please park so that we can keep traffic moving in the drop-off zones. Last, please do not jaywalk across Camino de la Tierra as this presents a danger to our community and is against the law. Thank you for your attention to this matter!

Lastly, as the calendar year comes to a close please consider supporting our school with a **tax credit donation**. Tax **credit** dollars are used for field trips, extra-curricular activities, and school-wide assemblies. Arizona law allows taxpayers to receive a tax credit of up to \$400 per family for donations made to public schools. Tax credit donations may still be made for 2023 and are accepted through April 15, 2024. If you are able to donate, it would make all the difference to our school. Please see the included tax credit form for more details.

And now, as promised, the fun.....

Hendricks Holiday presents STEAM Saturday! **STEAM** stands for Science Technology Engineering Art and Mathematics also known as...fun for all! Please join us on **Saturday, December 2nd from 10:00 am -12:00 pm** for our annual Hendricks Holiday with a fun science twist. This fun event will feature the Desert Museum, Reid Park Zoo, Pima County Library, Insect Discovery, Pollinator Paradise, Chess Club, photo backdrops with Henry the Hawk, cupcakes for kids, coffee for adults and MORE! The best part is that it is FREE! Please note there will be some small voluntary items to purchase that will be cash only. Thank you to our fantastic PTO for sponsoring this wonderful Hendricks tradition and organizing so many community partners to join. Please email PTO at hendricks.pto.board@gmail.com if you are interested in volunteering.

First Grade Performance: Mrs. McCarthy and the first-grade team have been working hard to prepare for our upcoming performance “Rainbow Christmas” on **Tuesday, December 19th at 1:15 pm.** We can’t wait to see them shine!

First Semester Ends: Please note there is **no SKILLS the week of December 18th or the week of January 8th** when we return. Also, note that this year the first semester goes all the way through Thursday, December 21st. There is a full day of school on Thursday, December 21st but no school on Friday of that week!

Winter Break: No School Monday, December 25th through Friday, January 5th. Enjoy the time with your families! We are excited to see you back for a fresh year on **Monday, January 8th.**

As 2023 draws to a close, allow me to share how honored and grateful I am to work with the wonderful Hendricks community. I wish you a joyous holiday season filled with special times with family and friends.

Respectfully,

Tabetha Finchum





What's Happening in First Grade?



In Mrs. Young's class

WE are COLORING OUR WORLD with K-I-N-D-N-E-S-S !

Our inspiration has blossomed from a bouquet of experiences this year, like . . . learning to paint sunflowers in the style of Vincent van Gogh and finding JOY in our CREATIVITY . . . then gifting others with our IMAGINATIVE IDEAS . . . authoring and illustrating our latest "HOW to MAKE a FRIEND" books then putting our words into action on the playground . . . laughing and dancing to our latest go-to-song "ABC, Easy as 123" for a pick-me-up when learning gets hard . . . and when it gets hard ENCOURAGING EACH OTHER because WE DON'T GIVE UP . . . complimenting each other with notes of KINDNESS for all of the little things . . . then RESIPRO-CATE OUR LOVE for friends who make a BIG DIFFERENCE . . . singing with bright eyes and expression for our upcoming performance of "A RAINBOW CHRISTMAS" . . . then splashing our festive artwork throughout the hallways to bring a SMILE to your face . . . SHOW and TELL OUR UNIQUE SELF . . . and then CELEBRATE OUR DIFFERENCES! When we share acts of kindness, we color our world. We hope to have put a smile on your face today by sharing some of our acts of kindness in hopes that you will show others how they too, can color our world!

BE KIND

With Love, Alex, Carter, Catalina, David Jr, Elinor, Elliana, Jaime, Jazlin, Liam, Lucia, Martin, Oliver, Patricio, Pyper, Roman, Sol, Valentino, Winston, Ximena, and Zephaniah in Mrs. Young's Class

In Ms. Sabin's class

In Ms. Sabin's Class, we are enjoying the fall season in room 12. We cleaned and carved four pumpkins after learning about the pumpkin life cycle. We will be keeping the seeds to plant later in the year. Your students have participated in making fall trees and scarecrows that will decorate our classroom.

Thank you to all the parents that helped with our amazing Zoo field trip. The kids loved seeing the animals they did reports on.

Another special thank you to the parents for all the amazing donations we received for our Halloween party.

In November we learned about how to be a good sport and play fair. The students got to play and learn about different games. Then the students created their own games. We got to share some of those games with our buddies. We cannot wait to start practicing for our winter show called A Rainbow Christmas. If you are interested in helping, we could use donations for costumes and props.

Lastly please send your child with a water bottle daily and a snack. We are running low on snacks so donations would be appreciated. Thank you again for making this an amazing beginning of the year keep up the good work of reading nightly and turning in homework daily.

In Mr. Johnson's class

We just completed an interesting unit on how animals use their bodies. We simulated the way birds use their beaks and wings in different ways, made animals that move, and wrote a multi-page report on cheetahs that included facts about how and where they live. This all came on the heels of watching caterpillars turn into butterflies right before our eyes in the classroom!

We took a wonderful field trip to the Reid Park Zoo. We will extended our in-class science lessons to social studies and talked about how animals interact and form social groups. We are focusing on positive interactions in learning and games to understand groups and communities and why it is important to get along.

Our students are showing great reading growth! Homework support has been strong and that is really helping our reading levels soar.

In math we are adding three numbers and finding missing parts, which is early algebra. We are also measuring length and surface area. We use curriculum games and activities, as well as partner and team interactions to spur learning.

Our class was honored by the music and P.E. specials teachers as very well-behaved class in first grade this quarter. That thrilled the kids and they are admiring their awards during the day.

We are also filling those "fluffy puffy" cups to earn prizes for good work and behavior. That is part of our positive rewards system. It's a joy to see students light up when they empty that cup and gather their rewards.

What's Happening at Hendricks?



All K-3 classes will be doing
Acadience testing the week of December 11th.

**Happy Holidays to all our Hendricks families from the
Hendricks staff!**



**Holiday Break begins on Friday, December 22nd! School will resume on January 8th. We
would like to take this time to wish you a wonderful holiday and here's to a great 2024!**

What's Happening at Hendricks?

Thank you to all parents and grandparents who accompanied us to the Desert Museum. We appreciate you!

The second quarter "Book Project" is due on Monday, December 18th. Project choices will come home on Monday, December 4th.



1. Walk Around Wednesdays (WAW) are in full effect! Ask your child how many laps they have done! 4 laps = a mile, which is the goal every Wednesday!
2. Our school has done 5,000 laps already! 2nd grade, Bases, and 1st grade are in the lead with the most laps! Each Wednesday, anything can change!
3. We have a new group of Wellness Warriors this year! This is a student wellness leadership group of 4-6 graders nominated by their teachers. They are helping plan wellness weeks, offer ideas to motivate students for WAW/overall wellness, get special training from Pima County on Tobacco Prevention and Awareness and more!
4. This year the first 100 students to run a marathon will go on a fieldtrip to DEFY!! We are so excited about this new opportunity!
5. Keep your family active in this gorgeous Arizona weather! Physical activity helps with mental health too, especially around the busy holiday season! Be well and enjoy this festive time!

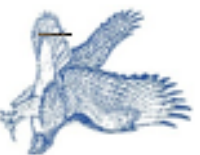
What's Happening at Hendricks?

First graders would like to invite their families to see our musical, Rainbow Christmas, on December 19th at 1:15pm.

The Choir will be performing at our annual Hendricks Holiday on Saturday, December 2nd at 10:00am. Our final rehearsal for all choir members before winter break is December 7th. We will start rehearsals again on January 11th. The District Choral Festival will be on January 30th at FW High School, so please mark it on your calendars now. Permission slips will be sent home after the break.

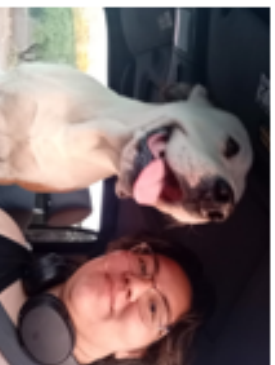


The Health Office is currently we are low on boys underwear, boys bottoms, and girls bottoms. However any and all clothing donations of any type are sincerely appreciated and accepted."



Hendricks Elementary School

Hawk of the Month



Name: Olivia Graves

Position at Hendricks: Special Education Teacher Aide II

How long have you worked in education? Since August! (4 months)

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

I've been a lot of things: Caregiver, Valet, Line Cook, Exterminator, Quality Specialist for Pima Online, and finally a Teacher Aide at Hendricks!

Tell us about your family.

I'm the oldest of 5 kids (5 kids including me) and a lot of cousins (my great grandma had 8 kids). My siblings and I are very close, and my mom is my hero.

What hobbies do you have?

Drawing and Artsy stuff, playing the saxophone, wordsearches, gardening, collecting CDs for my truck Mayhem - I bounce around a lot of hobbies when I have the time.

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

I used to be in FFA and the FW Caballero Marching Band. I was the Drum Major from 2019-2021, and it was the best and worst experience (so stressful but so rewarding). It was a big factor in me wanting to really go back to school and become a Music Teacher. My previous boss (a professor at Pima) encouraged me to apply to every position, even if I didn't feel I qualified, and that's how I was lucky enough to start working at Hendricks with a lot of awesome, compassionate people and students.

If I haven't told everyone already, thank you for being so welcoming and patient while I figure out how to be a good teacher. I love this school!



Hendricks Elementary School

Hawk of the Month



Name: Sara Merriman

Position at Hendricks: Permanent Sub

How long have you worked in education? Way too long 😊 You Guess!
I do feel like a beginning teacher though with my new position. I truly find myself at a loss at times and am asking LOTS of questions from all of you. I am amazed at what all you do in a day. Everyone should try my job for a day. WE are definitely in A school!

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

I worked at Laguna for 2 years as a 4th grade teacher and 15 years as a full day kindergarten educator in Peru, Pa.

Tell us about your family. I have an awesome husband and 2 grown "kids." Do they really ever grow up. 😊

What hobbies do you have? Well herein lies the problem of retirement. Obviously, none that will keep me busy.

Tell us something interesting about yourself that we may not know. I am a native Tucsonan which is amazing since most people traveled to Tucson 60 plus years ago and were not born here. I am a U of A Education graduate and have a Masters in Early Education and a "minor" in gifted education for young children.

CHESS



Several Hendricks students will be participating in a tournament at the Tucson mall on December 17th.

We will be hosting a large Southern Arizona wide tournament on January 7th. Information will be coming out soon regarding this tournament.

Tobias Hammar is our top student right now. He tied for second place in the Southern AZ Chess Association Tournament Sept 30, 2023.





We would like to say a special "Thank You" to the following people who helped us serve Thanksgiving lunch and helped with Grandparents breakfast/lunch and helped in the book fair!

Sarah Breitweiser

Alisa Silva

Angela Streck

Debbie Villandry

Danette Sindon

Robert De'mary

Richard Woods

Jessica Brogan

Brenda Solheid

Kristie Hammar

Oliver Streck

Ronnie Jones

Tom Lodge

Brandon Devoy

Phil Devoy

Araceli Munoz

Paola DelValle

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.flowingwellschools.org and click on the link for Tax Credits.

Questions?

Contact Stacy Trueblood at 696-8813 or 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

- ☐ Centennial Elementary School ☐ Davis Elementary School
☐ Douglas Elementary School ☐ Hendricks Elementary School
☐ Laguna Elementary School ☐ Richardson Elementary School
Specific Activity * _____

For Flowing Wells Junior High School

- ☐ Project Oceans/Whales/Catalina ☐ Arizona Senators
☐ Leadership Retreat ☐ Mustang Athletics
☐ Wherever the need is greatest
☐ 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.