



# Pride Press

20750 S. 214th Street  
Queen Creek, AZ 85242  
Phone: (480) 987-7400

Website: [www.gcusd.org](http://www.gcusd.org)

PTO Website: [jackbarnespto.org](http://jackbarnespto.org)

Mascot: The PRIDE

Colors: Maroon & Gold

## Jack Barnes Elementary

Volume 8, Issue 2

September 29th, 2009



### From The Principal

Kindergarten, Library	2
Counselor, 1st Grade	3
2nd Grade, PE	4
3rd Grade	5
4th Grade	6
Music Notes	7

### Calling All Capri Sun Drink Pouches

Bring in all your empty Capri Sun pouches so we can not only help Save The Earth for our children but also raise money for our school. For every pouch we save from our ever growing "dump sites" we get 2 cents and Teracycle pays for the shipping. Our children have already started recycling the pouches, at lunch time we have a separate bin for Capri Sun pouches. If you are saving them at home



Dear Parents,

Yes, it's hard to believe, but the first quarter is over already! The students have done a great job this quarter. Typically, there is some review from the prior year's skills and then teachers introduce grade-level skills. As I walk through classrooms I see some great learning taking place. The students are engaged in their learning, they're participating in classroom discussions and asking some great questions. I hope that you have been able to conference with your child's teacher and found out how your child is progressing in class and what they need to work on over the break.

On Friday, September 25<sup>th</sup> we celebrated our **EXCELLING** label. The day started with an assembly, and then the students played games, watched a movie and had some popcorn. We are so proud to have received this label for the fifth year in a row.

Thanks to the Reading Committee for organizing the "**Fall into Reading**" night. It seemed like people enjoyed the activity and heard several stories during this time. It was fun to see the kids in their PJs and to watch their faces light up with excitement as they were read to.

Students in grades K, 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> have taken the DIBELS test which assesses students' reading abilities and readiness. Please check with your child's teacher during conferences to see how your child did on DIBELS.

The **Awards Assemblies** will be on Friday, October 2<sup>nd</sup>. The assembly for grades K/1/2 will be at 8:30 and the assembly for grades 3/4 will be at 9:15. You should be getting a note from your child's teacher, if your child will be receiving a certificate.

**Parent – Teacher Conferences** are scheduled for Wednesday, Thursday and Friday 9/30-10/2. We will have **Early Dismissal** (at 12:20) on these three days.

Be sure to stop by the library and check out the fall **Book Fair**.

**Fall Break** will be from 10/5 – 10/16. **Students return to school on Monday, October 19<sup>th</sup>**. Please have your child(ren) read at least 15 minutes daily so that they don't fall behind. Also, students need to learn their math facts so that they can succeed in math. This is a skill they will need the rest of their lives, so practice, practice, practice. Students in grades 1 and 2 should know their addition and subtraction facts and students in grades 3 and 4 should know their addition, subtraction, multiplication and division facts. Kindergarten and first grade students should also practice reading their sight words.

Our **Cookie Dough fundraiser** will start when we return from break. It will be from October 19<sup>th</sup> – October 30<sup>th</sup>. The money raised from this is used to help pay for field trips, purchase classroom instructional materials, purchase incentives for the students (pins, pencils, certificates, etc.). Our goal this year is to sell 1500 items. These are great for the holidays and so yummy!

Enjoy the break. Thank you for giving us the opportunity to work with such terrific students.... they are the PRIDE of Queen Creek!

Sincerely,  
Mrs. Valenciano

*A word of praise is a 'verbal trophy' for a child. Author Unknown*





# Kindergarten

This month in Kindergarten we have been learning all about reptiles, amphibians, dinosaurs, and birds. We have really had fun learning the characteristics of each and completing our classroom activities. Mrs. Noble's class has been working on their Apples theme and on Nursery Rhymes. Their stained glass apples look beautiful! In Social Studies we have been working on learning the 7 continents. We are having fun completing each new piece on our maps. Math has focused on counting and the numbers zero through five. Please continue to practice writing each number correctly. The letters we have worked on are Pp, Ll, Tt, Cc, Bb, Hh, and Gg. We really enjoy learning about each new Animated Literacy character and love to sing their songs. In Metra (our reading program) we have also been hard at work learning all of our sight words and working on the text for our take home books. It's so exciting to see the children start to read! Please keep up the good work at home.

Thanks for all you do!

The Kindergarten teachers!

Mrs. Noble, Mrs. Standage, Ms. Groves, and Ms. Freeman



## Library News...

Destination  
**BOOK FAIR**

Read Around the World!



The Book Fair is here!

Students will visit the book fair to view the choices and complete their wish list on Sept. 23<sup>rd</sup> & 24<sup>th</sup>.

Book Fair Hours and Events:

Thurs 9/24	Open 5:30 p.m. - 7:15 p.m. for a presale with "Journey Into Reading" Family Night
Fri 9/25	Open 7:45 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.
Mon 9/28	Open 7:45 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.
Tues 9/29	Open 7:45 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.
Wed 9/30	Open 7:45 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. Parent/Teacher Conferences
Thurs 10/1	Open 7:45 a.m. - 7:00 p.m. P/T Conferences and Family Night w/ Klutz Build a Book
Fri 10/2	Open 7:45 a.m. - 9:00 a.m.

Proceeds benefit JBE Library in putting new books on the shelves for our young readers.

Thank you for your support.

Have a wonderful Fall Break! Relax and enjoy a great book!

Mrs. Gilliland



## Counselor's Corner

Throughout September, JBE students are learning, practicing, and establishing TRUST. Trust is the first of six *Character Counts* pillars our school works to instill.

Trust is the cornerstone of good character. It is the basis of a good relationship, and it is necessary when we work in any sense as a team.

Trustworthy people are honest. They keep their promises and commitments. They don't betray confidence.

Parents can promote trust by talking to children about being reliable, loyal, and courageous. They can speak to their children about friendship. Children should be encouraged to always do the right thing, and to build a solid, trustworthy reputation. Kids should be praised when they show their loyalty to family, school, and community. Children must understand that cheating, stealing, and deception don't build trust nor do they create a positive view of one's self.

Working hand in hand, we can build a community of good character.

Mrs. Flores



## First Rate First Grade

September has been a busy month for first grade. We have been reading whole stories, learning new sight words and vocabulary. Our writing is becoming longer with more detail and we are learning how to use our word walls and dictionaries, as well as sounding out words and spelling words on our own. Penmanship is a top priority because we know correct formation of letters promotes good reading skills. During math time, we are adding, subtracting, making patterns and building number sense. Our classes have also been learning about our five senses, apples, neighborhoods and farms.

We will continue to work on responsibility and taking care of ourselves. Reading and handwriting will be top priorities.

We are looking forward to meeting with you during conference time.

During the fall break, remember to practice your reading and math skills so you will be extra sharp when we return in mid-October.

Have a great fall break and thank you for the time and supplies you give to our classrooms. Your support is appreciated.

Mrs. Butler  
Mrs. Faulkner  
Mrs. King  
Mrs. Mata  
Mrs. Prock





## Sensational Second Graders

Wow! What a busy month we've had. Our super second graders have been working hard. In reading our theme is Nature Walk. We have enjoyed writing creative stories, planning an indoor camping day, and eating indoor s'mores to end the unit.

In math we've continued Number Sense and money. We're using manipulatives to help with tens and ones. Be patient, this is an on going skill throughout the year.

In Science we completed our Human Body Unit. We made models of the digestive system, we created a "chest vest" of the respiratory system, and we colored a circulation wheel for the circulatory system.

In Social Studies we discussed the American Revolutionary War and some events that led up to it.

In Language we're practicing writing complete sentences, the parts of a letter and beginning paragraphs. Whew! We're keeping busy.

Last, thank you for your support and we are looking forward to an exciting year. We appreciate all the supplies you have donated. We couldn't do it without you.

The Super Second Team,  
Mrs. Adkins, Mrs. Hawes, Mrs. Hull, and Mrs. Tinney



## PE News...

Wow! Can you believe we are almost through the first quarter? It goes by pretty fast. The kids are very well behaved and are wearing great shoes for participation. Thank you parents for helping keep your kids safe during Physical Education class. Sandals, thongs, and Crocs are not safe shoes for running or any of the other activities we perform. Remember that the girls should be wearing shorts under dresses.

Speaking of activities, all grade levels have been working with scooter boards and the parachute for the past couple of classes. Scooter boards are heavy-duty plastic squares with four wheels attached to the bottom. Students sit on the scooter boards and push with their feet. We play tag games where students work together in teams. Most all students enjoy the games we play with the scooter boards.

The parachute is another student favorite where everyone works on the same piece of equipment. We talk about working together as a team, listen-

ing, and paying attention while working with the parachute.

We'll be working outside more next quarter since the weather will be cooling down. Students are encouraged to wear sun-block, hats, and to bring a water bottle with them.

One more thing, if you are sending an e-mail to me at [jshores@gcusd.org](mailto:jshores@gcusd.org) please place something in the subject line about JBE. We get many junk mail messages and it is hard to distinguish between a parent e-mail and junk e-mail. Furthermore we are told not to open some message because they may contain viruses. Thanks for your help with this.

Don't forget to get outside and get a little exercise with your students now that it's getting cooler. Have a great Fall Break.

Coach Shores





## Terrific Third Grade

It has been an exciting and busy month in third grade! We have just begun the theme "Celebrating Traditions," in reading. This theme will focus on author's viewpoint, classifying information, and noting details.

In language the students have finished learning about sentence structure and types of sentences. The next goal is nouns! The focus in spelling has also changed from short vowel patterns to long vowel patterns. The students' writing is really improving. They have been introduced to a three paragraph paper and are really doing well. They are filled with great ideas. We have finished up addition and subtraction in math and will end the quarter with time and money.

Please continue to work with your child on math facts at home nightly for at least five minutes. Third grade has begun switching for science. They are either learning about plants, the food chain, rocks and minerals, or light and sound. Our focus in social studies so far has been Greece and Rome, and even the American Revolution. The kids really love discussion in social studies!

Remember to continue to check snapgrades for up-to-date progress for your child. Thank you parents for your continued support!

Mr. Heel, Mrs. Horst, Ms. Klisuric, Mrs. Nichols

---

---

# Have A Safe Fall Break





# Fantastic Fourth Grade

Our first grading period is quickly coming to an end. Parents should be expecting to see notification of their prescheduled Parent – Teacher Conference times. Please let us know if the schedule time will work with your schedule. Many things have been happening in our fourth grade classrooms and we can not wait to tell you about how your student is progressing.

With our reading program, we will continue to work on effective reading strategies (predict/infer, question, monitor/clarify, decode words, summarize, and evaluate). These strategies will continue to be explored, while we delve deeper into our basal reader or our literature studies.

Our integrated language curriculum has provided our students opportunities to express themselves in written language. As developing writers it is helpful that we model the process that successful writers use everyday. The language grammar skills that have been emphasized this month include recognizing the four types of sentences (declarative, interrogative, imperative, and exclamatory). We have also been defining what makes a sentence complete (a subject and predicate). Within each complete sentence students can identify nouns (common, proper, singular, and plural), as well as revisit all of the eight parts of speech.

In mathematics, we have learned strategies to compare, order, and round numbers to a given place value. We have also been revisiting addition and subtraction, while introducing algebraic concepts (expressions, equations, and solving for variables.) It continues to be the goal for students to develop effective strategies for problem solving. We will continue to work on building our basic math skills, while we learn strategies to improve our speed and accuracy in timed math facts. It is important that students continue working on such skills inside and outside of class. Your support at home is most helpful and beneficial.

Our fourth grade classrooms have continued to explore interesting stories and facts about Arizona and our physical environment. The projects, upcoming and current, are sure to be both enjoyable and memorable. We look forward to peaking our student's curiosity to learn more about our fabulous state.

Thank you to all parents for your continued support and assistance, both inside and outside of our classrooms.

Your Fourth Grade Team,  
Ms. Vela, Mrs. Papa, and Mrs. Martinez



# Music Notes

The Kindergarteners have been introduced to the rhythm instruments: triangles, wood blocks, hand drums, and finger cymbals. The students are playing these instruments with our song "My Thumbs Are Starting to Wiggle".

First graders are learning more songs that they will use in our program in November. In our song "Worms" they have added the maracas. They have learned the new song "Oats, Peas, Beans, and Barley Grow". I am also teaching the students "Los Pollitos" which has one verse in Spanish and one in English. They are doing great with the Spanish words.

The second graders have been creating and working on performing their own ABBA piece. We are using the poem "Together", our found sound instruments, and our Orff instruments.

Third graders will be performing on October 30<sup>th</sup> here at the multi-purpose room at Jack Barnes. Our program is titled "At the Movies" and tells about a family trip to the video store. We have learned all of our songs and are now working on choreography and speaking parts. Hope to see you at our performance in October.

The fourth graders have learned four of their songs for the Christmas musical "Santa's Stuck in the 50's" in December. They have been working on "Whole Lotta Cleanin' Goin' On", "Strollin' Through The 50's With You", "Rock Around The Shop Tonight!", "Gift's Come From The Heart", and have just started "Santa, Be Good To Me". They are doing fantastic.

The choir has just started rehearsals on Monday, September 14<sup>th</sup>. We will be meeting every Monday till 4:00 p.m. I am so excited that I have 60 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> grade students that have joined choir this year. It is going to be a great year!

Mrs. Payne

