

Executive Director ~ Mrs. Kordon

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Dear Camelback Academy Family,
I would like to thank each and every student, parent, and staff member of Camelback Academy for a fantastic year; I'm so proud of your hard work and dedication to doing whatever it takes to succeed inside and outside the classroom.

I encourage you to keep learning over the summer! Studies show that if children do not continue to read, they can lose up to 4 months of reading skills over a 10-week summer, so please take the time to help your students retain the skills they worked so hard to obtain this year. Remember **SUMMER LEARNING MATTERS!!**

Here are some reminders of end of the year school tasks:

- Register children for Kindergarten.
- Complete Re-enrollment forms for students returning next year.
- Pay any balances due to Camelback Soccer Academy and Enrichment.
- Urge new neighbors to come to the school office to enroll their children.
- Notify office of any changes in your address or phone numbers.
- Stop by the Health Office to pickup any leftover medications. All medications not picked up will be thrown away at the end of the year.
- Return classroom library books and/or other school property.

2011/2012 is going to be a big year for Camelback Academy! We begin our adventure as a Project CHILD school, and with the new model will come many positive changes to your child's education. Next year is also Camelback Academy's 10th anniversary year! I'm anticipating our best year yet and I can hardly wait to get started!

I hope you have a fun and safe summer and look forward to seeing you in August.

Yours in Education,
Mrs. Kordon

Principal ~ Ms. Nusbaum

Dear Camelback Parents,
What an amazing and fast school year this has been! It is hard to believe we are ready to begin the summer break. I want to thank all of you for a great year and for your continued support of Camelback Academy. I am proud to be a part of such a fantastic school community and I am looking forward to the great things to come with our change to Project Child next year.

In preparation for another terrific year, I encourage students not to

forget to continue to read this summer. Not only does the reading help ensure that students retain all of the reading skills they have acquired, it can also be part of a fun challenge. Many summer reading programs such as the one sponsored by Scholastic, challenge students to read and offer rewards for obtaining goals. I encourage parents and students to get involved. The website for the Scholastic summer program is www.scholastic.com/summer/kids.

I wish each of you to have a safe and happy summer and I look forward to beginning another exciting school year with you on Monday, August 8th, 2011. Please don't forget to attend Open House on Thursday, August 4th, 2011 from 5:30 – 7:00 p.m. As always, thank you for your support of Camelback Academy and for making my job such a rewarding one. Have a great summer!



Sincerely,
Ms. Nusbaum

Summer
Front Office Hours:
Monday—Friday
7:30 a.m.—12:30 p.m.

School/Office Closed
May 30 thru June 1

Kindergarten ~ Ms. Breed, Mrs. Lee & Mrs. Pownall

Kindergarten has been working hard on our literacy skills. We have been writing in our journals, using all the sight words we have learned along with the rhyming word families. We can even write by ourselves, stretching out words and listening to the sounds. Literacy stations have given us more practice with our reading and writing skills as well. We have become very good at counting. We can count to 20 and beyond. We have used 3-dimensional shapes, and symmetry in math. Science and social studies sent us to space as we explored the universe as astronauts. Exploration continued back on Earth as we learned about explorers of the past such as Christopher

Columbus. We even became pirates for a day, wearing our pirate hats and searching for treasures through our telescopes. We have learned so much this year and are ready for first grade!!

In Mrs. Lee's class, as part of our explorers unit we carved a ship out of soap, taking it home to float with us in our bathtubs! Our class conducted a science experiment with plants for the Science Fair. Using four plants, we took away an element plants need to grow. We learned that plants do need sunlight, water, soil and air to grow. If one of these things is taken away the plant can die.

In Mrs. Pownall's class, we created leprechaun traps, rainbows, and completed inventor reports.

We conducted a science experiment by testing which type of bread grows mold the quickest. We wrote up our experiment by following the scientific method.

In Ms. Breed's class, we planted marigolds and grew them for our moms! We also conducted a science experiment, Sink or Float! We had fun seeing the objects go in the water and finding out if we guessed right! We are having so much fun learning about the Arizona desert! Making fun books, seeing cool pictures, and turning in our Desert Animal Project! Keep on reading!!!



First Grade ~ Mrs. Preston, Mrs. Raj & Miss Traylor

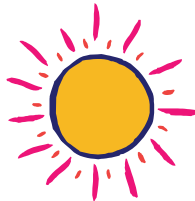
Fabulous First Graders! Beat the heat and prevent the summer "slide!" ~ What is the summer slide? The summer slide is when students don't practice their academic skills from the previous year. They forget those important strategies they learned the previous year. Let's stop the slide!

How can we achieve this? Take your child to your local library and get them enrolled in a summer reading program. Visit your local bookstore. Log on to Raz-Kids, Starfall, or Scholastic.com. Keep a summer journal to practice those writing skills. Read to your child and enjoy a favorite story! Play store with your child. Let your child keep you on schedule by practicing their clock skills. Take advantage of every day opportunities to

reinforce skills learned in first grade.

The first grade team has been amazed by the academic, physical, and social growth of each student. We hope that we have instilled in them a lifelong love of learning. We are confident they are well prepared for the challenges of second grade. We are so proud of them.

Have a safe and fun-filled summer!



**FUN
FACTS**

More than 14 billion pencils are produced in the world every year. That's enough pencils to circle the globe 62 times.

The average pencil can write 45,000 words or draw a line 35 miles long.

An average-sized tree might make about 300,000 pencils.

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Second Grade ~ Ms. Dixon, Ms. Howell and Ms. Zalewski

It is hard to believe that the end of the year is already here! The students have learned and grown so much! We are especially proud of how far the students have come in reading and how many students have reached or passed the grade level goals! We have seen amazing progress in all of the student's decoding, fluency, and comprehension skills.

In Science the students have really enjoyed learning about the scientific method. We did some fun experiments, such as the fizz-inflator, lava lamps, tornadoes, chromatography, and more! We then had fun applying these skills to our group projects for the science fair.

During our geometry unit in Math we especially enjoyed making fraction pizzas. We are now working hard on triple digit adding and subtracting with regrouping. Remember to keep practicing your basic facts and other math skills over the summer!

Ms. Howell and Ms. Dixon's class participated in a monster exchange writing activity. The students each drew a monster and then wrote descriptive step-by-step directions for how to draw the monster. We then swapped papers between classes and the students had to attempt to draw another student's monster based on their directions. It was fun to compare the drawings and see how well written the directions were. We also learned about fractured fairy tales and the students wrote some very creative

versions of the classic Cinderella. We published these stories as books and the students enjoyed sharing them with their classmates.

In Social Studies we learned a lot about government. We even elected our own mayor and held a mock city council meeting. The students were given a role and had to argue for either a swimming pool or grocery store to be built in the town. They had to be sure to support their choice. The students really had a lot of fun with this activity. We enjoyed our field trip to Rockin' R Ranch where we learned more about some social studies topics we learned earlier in the year. We were able to pan for gold, go in a real teepee, make a brand, learn to rope, and more!

We would like to thank the parents for their support over the course of the year. We have really enjoyed working with you and your children! Remember to read over the summer. Have a safe, fun, and fantastic summer break!



In 1880, President Rutherford B. Hayes was the first president to travel to California.

President William Howard Taft was the last president to own a cow and the first to own an automobile.

The tallest U.S. president was Abe Lincoln at 6'4". James Madison was the shortest at 5'4".

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Third Grade ~ Ms. Cooper and Mrs. Rucker

The third graders have had an exciting fourth quarter. On May 5th, the students and parent volunteers went to the Arizona Science Museum for their field trip. On this field trip, the students were able to learn about many different science topics, like gravity and space, and the human body and how it works. Some students even participated in demonstrations by the museum workers. They had a fantastic time engaging in all the hands-on activities at the Science Center!



- ▶ Continue reading this summer. Plan a weekly visit to your public library.
- ▶ Practice math skills during the summer. That will prevent a "backslide" in skills.
- ▶ If your child is participating in summer sports, be sure he or she takes frequent breaks to avoid getting overheated.
- ▶ Make sure your child stays well hydrated when playing outside in the heat.
- ▶ Don't forget the sunscreen!

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Fourth Grade ~ Mrs. Cowper and Mr. Spangler

What a fantastic year! We are so proud of the hard work and efforts of our students this year. It's hard to imagine the school year is already coming to an end.

This final quarter students focused on the scientific method in creating and displaying impressive science fair projects. Students really showed their independence and knowledge of science topics during this project. Well done!

Students have focused on reviewing math concepts and preparing for 5th grade mathematics standards. Continue to practice basic math facts and look for daily real-life examples to share with your child. For example, measuring ingredients in the kitchen, estimating a total at the grocery store, budgeting money, and figuring amount of time left for an activity.

Did you know that reading as few as 6 books over summer vacation can help your student lessen the "summer gap?" Research has shown that students lose about three months of their reading gains if they don't read over the summer. According to Anne McGill-Franzen and

Richard Allington, professors at the University of Florida in Gainesville, "if children don't read over the summer, that number can add up to a considerable loss by the time the child leaves elementary school." Check out your local libraries and book stores for exciting summer reading programs.

We are so grateful we had the opportunity so spend this year growing with and learning from our outstanding 4th graders! Have an enjoyable and safe summer.

Remember to read, read, READ!



Parent Pointers

Helping Kids Get Organized

- ▶ Organization is important for everyone. Talk with your child about how you organize things and how he or she can become organized.
- ▶ Provide materials -- such as an assignment log, notebooks, folders, a calendar, and other tools -- that can get your child organized.
- ▶ When your child is presented with a large task, help them break it into small ones and establish a plan and deadlines for each task.

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Fifth Grade ~ Mr. Rucker and Ms. Sweeney

Our fifth grade has had a very successful year and we are ready for 6th grade! This quarter, 5th grade students were very busy! Students applied their knowledge on the AIMS test in April, and are anxiously awaiting the results to see their progress. On April 21st, both classes had a blast at field day; 5th graders led the dances and the water fights. Mr. Rucker's class won the competition but everyone enjoyed the activities. On Friday, May 13th, students participated in the school science fair. Students worked during class time and at home to plan, research, and develop an experiment to present to the school. Projects included volcanic explosions, rock crystal formations, observation of plant growth, and many more amazing ideas! The students' hard work should be recognized and celebrated!

Mr. Rucker's class is finishing up the year with an exciting literature study based off the novel *Bridge to Terabithia*

by Katherine Paterson. Students are engaging in daily activities to enhance their understanding of the story. They will also be performing reader's theater plays for a fun end of the year reading activity. The students will be performing for fellow classmates to culminate this activity. In writing we are putting together an end of the year reflection book, which every student will receive his or her own copy of everyone's favorite moments and what we have learned over the year.

Ms. Sweeney's class has been focusing on a biography research unit in writing. Each student chose a famous biographical figure and began researching their life. Students found information in books and on the internet detailing life events, childhood, education, and accomplishments. Once research was completed, students chose a pen pal from the class and wrote a letter as if they were the famous person they chose. Students were very

interested in learning about the various people such as Babe Ruth, Princess Diana, John F. Kennedy, and Walt Disney. To complete our unit on biographies, students researched the time period in which their famous figure lived and then dressed as that person would. The class created a Wax Museum to allow other students to visit and share in our learning. We all enjoyed participating and showing our creative wax statues!



Sixth Grade & Seventh Grade ~ Mrs. & Mrs. Lloyd and Mr. Ogden

Mr. Ogden's Class: It is hard to believe that this school year is already coming to an end. I have enjoyed the time I have spent with each and every student and look forward to the changes in our school as well as in our educational journeys in the coming school year. This school year has taken us on many educational adventures from learning about the great civilizations of the past to the way we view our world in this Universe. The students have done an amazing job along this journey with their educational studies as well as their projects and reports. I look forward to seeing all of you next school year as we move into our Middle School years with the students taking on more responsibility with their studies. I hope that you all have a safe and spectacular summer and cannot wait to see you next school year.

Mrs. Lloyd's Class: As the school year comes to an end, the sixth graders should be very proud of the progress they made in sixth grade.

This final quarter we have explored a variety of genres in reading. Beginning with the suspenseful fantasy Gregor and the Curse of the Warmbloods. In this the main character, Gregor, is on a dangerous quest to cure a plague that has spread in the underworld. He and his friends encounter many obstacles on their way to solving the mystery of the awful plague. This book allowed us to build comprehension skills and the students used their wonderful creativity in the writing prompts that connected to the story. We are currently reading Esperanza Rising, a

realistic fiction story. In this novel Esperanza believes that her life would be wonderful forever and she would always live on her family ranch in Mexico. A sudden tragedy shatters her world and forces Esperanza and her Mama to flee to California where life will forever change. Through this piece of literature, students are learning about the personal and financial struggles of the Great Depression and how we can be like Esperanza and rise above difficult circumstances.

In math, students worked hard to learn operations and concepts relating to algebra. Currently, we are challenging ourselves in a measurement unit by identifying and solving metric unit conversions. Math is largely related to experiences we have in the real world. I encourage students to keep an eye out for situations in which they can apply their mathematical knowledge to solve problems they encounter in their daily lives.

We will discover that there are future engineers among us as students are using Newton's Laws of Motion to design a project that will demonstrate the properties of force and motion. Students will present their work to the class. I'm looking forward to seeing their innovative ideas.

It has been a pleasure working with your student throughout the 2009-2010 School Year. I wish you a relaxing and fun-filled Summer Break. These children certainly have bright futures ahead of them.

Mr. Lloyd's Class: What a finish!! The school year is coming to a close and the summer fun is about to begin!

This last quarter has been extremely busy. We began by reviewing, reviewing, and reviewing again for the AIMS test. The students felt very confident going into the test, and when it was over, and real sense of relief was seen on their face. However, that did not mark the end of the school year!

In reading class, we have continued to plug away at our spelling words and the students have done a great job. We have also began reading true stories of brave soldiers during World War II. The only catch.....these soldiers range in age from 12 to 17. It is the stories of young boys who bravely signed up for military duty and found themselves in the middle of extreme battle, only to rise up and become American heroes. The students have really enjoyed the stories and find it amazing that such young people would do this!

In math class, we finished our unit on percentages, and are currently working on mastering the measurements chapter. The students have had to work very hard to decipher cups to quarts, feet to inches, and tons to pounds, but they are doing very well. I am very impressed with the work ethic that these students are showing as the school year ends.

I hope everyone has a fun and safe summer break, and look forward to seeing all the students and faculty back in August!

Camelback Soccer Academy & Enrichment ~ Coach Wood

The Camelback Soccer Academy (CSA) and Before/After School Enrichment is completing its third year; we're so proud of the level of participation seen by our students. The Soccer Academy has had another successful year and the student's growth, both in their skill level and understanding of the game has been outstanding. The level of skill shown during the games and desire to work as a team has allowed the students to play at a high level. Coach Wood appreciates the students' hard work and commitment they bring to the Soccer Program everyday.

Coach Frank and Coach Serena are proud of the aftercare students' effort in completing their daily homework, and good sportsmanship and enthusiasm while playing organized games this year. Mrs. Oracion has been working with the morning care students throughout the year and the students have had a great time with all the activities that are available and the tremendous support from "Mrs. O". The group as a whole has grown together in so many ways and it has been rewarding to see students of all grade levels work together and support each other throughout the year.

Camelback Soccer Academy is offered to all Kinder-2nd grade students Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays, and 3rd-7th grade students on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays. The Before/After School Enrichment is offered to all students Monday-Friday.

We are pre-registering for the Soccer Academy and/or Enrichment for next year. Please stop by the PE office, located in the gymnasium for more information.

Have a safe and fantastic summer and we look forward to seeing you next year!

Coach Wood, Coach Frank, Coach Serena, Ms. Oracion



Music ~ Mrs. Peralez

Greetings from the music room!

Over the last several months, students have been expanding their music knowledge. Each grade level has continued their focus and has been quite busy. All students worked hard with learning our spring concert songs and they did a FANTASTIC job! It has been fun this year getting to know and learn about your students. Students have displayed great Musical learning abilities and wonderful talents that some have uncovered this year. I would like to say a special thank you to the talent show winners and making our spring concert and talent show a success!

Grade Level Music Learning:

Kindergarten

Dynamics and Tempo – sounds:

With the song “Looby Loo” we have been distinguishing our right sides of the body from our left. They have been taught dance movements and also had the opportunity to join in a circle dance. Circle dance is forming a large circle while music is being played and all of the students join in 2 to 3 at a time to show off their best dance moves to the class.

1st grade

Jazz Music:

Highlighted artist was Louis Armstrong

We learned about a trumpet and how it was constructed using the T.V show “How it is made” from National Geographic. We also constructed our own versions of a trumpet with parent support through providing supplies for their students. Thank you for helping!

2nd grade

Constructing a Song:

Is learning to construct a song using the “sandwich method” We will be using rhyming words at the end of the sentences and write a theme about “summer”.

3rd grade

Jazz Music History

We have been talking about Jazz Artist Louis Armstrong and watched a live video of his performance “What a wonderful world” Students have read his biography and discussed and made posters about what would make this world wonderful to them. What things do we hear him singing about in the song?

4th & 5th grade

Dancing and Rhythm:

This unit we will be focusing on Salsa dancing. Students will be taught the traditional movements to the music of salsa. Our highlighted Artist is Carlos Santana. We will have students perform in music class the movements to the song.

6th & 7th grade

Rhythm and Spanish Music – Tempo, Beats, and Rhythm:

Highlighted Artist Carlos Santana, we will read about his life and learn one of his songs “Oye Como va” Stu-



Health Office ~ Mrs. Whitehead

The end of the year is fast approaching and I would like to take a moment to remind parents if your child has medication, SVN equipment or Inhalers, they must be picked up and signed out by the parent in the Nurse's office on or before May 25. They will not be sent home with the student.

Also, parents that will have a student entering Kindergarten need to have all vaccinations completed before the student will be allowed to enter school. If you are a parent of a student who is at least 11 years of age and entering the 6th grade for the 2011-2012 school year, they are required to receive the Meningococcal Vaccine. Sixth graders who are under the age of 11 when the new school year starts are not required to receive the meningococcal vaccine at this time. It is important that you check with your health care provider to receive the latest immunization updates.

Parents, if you have uniform pants or shirts that your student has grown out of - I have a good home for them. This year, many students have, for one reason or another, needed to change their pants or shirt. Now, my cabinets are very low. If you would like to donate items, we would greatly appreciate any new, clean and gently used uniform items.

Susan Whitehead
Health Aide



**Math
@Home**

Electronic Flash Cards
Use the electronic flash cards at the links below to practice math facts:

<http://www.aplusmath.com/Flashcards/>
<http://www.allmath.com/flashcards.php>
<http://www.aaamath.com/>
<http://www.blackdog.net/games/math/flash/>
<http://www.mathplayground.com/MathAttack.html>

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