



# Vista del Sur Accelerated Academy

OCTOBER 2017

TIGER PRIDE POST

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### October 5

Governing Board, 6:00 PM  
Laveen Education Center

### October 9th-13th

Fall Break, NO SCHOOL

### October 18

Staff Development Early Release,  
12:00 PM

### October 20

Picture Retake Day

### October 24

Site Council Meeting, 5:30 PM, &  
PTO Meeting, 6:00, Library

### October 27

Walk to School Day

### October 26

Parent/Teacher Conferences,  
Early Release, 12:00 PM

### October 27

Parent/Teacher Conferences,  
Early Release, 12:00 PM

### October 23-27

Red Ribbon Week

## Principal's Note

October brings us a variety of activities for both students and families. The amazing Vista teaching staff will begin Parent-Teacher conferences soon. Be on the lookout for information from your child's teacher related to scheduling your conference. The school will be closed during the week of October 9<sup>th</sup> through 13<sup>th</sup>. We hope you enjoy your fall break!

A plethora of events, including our annual Fall Carnival, (11/17/17) are approaching and the PTO is looking for volunteers to make these events a success for our school community. For the third consecutive year, the Fall Carnival is being organized by our Dad's Club. We cannot thank them enough for a fun and successful carnival last year and know this year will be the best EVER! Our basketball and softball teams will continue their successful season after fall break, please come out and support your Tigers!

The Laveen Elementary School District is in need of substitute teachers. It is a great way to work part-time and be a part of the community. If this interests you please go to our website to apply.

PTO and Site Council Meetings are scheduled for October 24<sup>th</sup>. Several topics are discussed at these meetings please come and stay informed!



Sincerely,

Mrs. Epacs

## Yearbook Pictures

The Yearbook Club would like to invite any parents or students who want to share their pictures of sporting events or campus events, to email them to Ms. Haas at Mhaas@laveeneld.org

Thank you!

## Spelling Bee...



The Spelling Bee will be here before you know it! School spelling bees will be held in December and the District Bee will be in

January. Get ready to learn the 100 words for your grade level! Check-out the Scripps National Spelling Bee website and take the pre-test.

<http://www.spellingbee.com/>

Tips to inspire GREAT spellers:

- Designate a spelling wall in your home.
- Spell and jump rope.
- Read great books.
- Scour the dictionary in search of words to stump your parents and teachers!

## Online Free & Reduced Meals Applications



The Laveen Elementary School District participates in the National School Lunch Program. You may apply for free or reduced price meals for your child(ren) attending Laveen schools by filling out a Free/Reduced Income Application. **Parents or guardians need to complete and submit a new application every school year.** It is not necessary to file applications at each site for each child; you can simply include all the children in the household on one application. Applications are available at our website: [laveeneld.org](http://laveeneld.org) under Programs and Services.

**Completed applications bring additional funds to the District in the form of grant money.** Dollars that come from the state and federal government for prevention programs, parent training, extra help for students with reading, math, and other assistance is often based on the number of students qualified for free or reduced lunch. It is important that all parents who qualify (according to the Income Chart shown on the application form), whether or not they choose to participate in the lunch program, apply for meals. **The higher our count for free or reduced price lunch, the more dollars generated for student and parent programs within our district. All information provided will be kept confidential.**

*Fall Break  
October 9-13  
Enjoy!!!!*



**Mrs. Jessica Epacs, Principal**  
**Mrs. Megan Hamburgh, Assistant Principal**  
3908 W. South Mountain Ave.  
Laveen, AZ 85339

**Phone: (602) 237-3046**  
**Attendance: (602) 237-3046 Ext. 3303**  
**Fax: (602) 237-1976**  
**School Hours 8:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.**  
**Office Hours 7:30 a.m. - 3:45 p.m.**

VISTA DEL SUR

# What's Happening in Specials?

## Music

This year in music is very diverse for each grade level.

In music kinder and first grade students have been focusing on high and low pitches and keeping a steady beat. We sing songs and play instruments to help us remember key vocabulary and music skills.

Second and third grade have been focusing on improvisation. We have been learning all about three different types of improv and implementing them with dance, rhythm instruments, and pitched percussion like the xylophones.

Fourth and Fifth grade students have been diving into recorders and are now working on passing off their second song to earn their yellow belts in recorder karate.

6<sup>th</sup> grade has been learning about Form and Analysis in music. They recently composed their first ostinatos to go with their ternary form!

7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade are closing out the quarter with a unit on Broadway! Students have learned all about modern day musical theater and are going to learn a choreographed song and dance along with scenes from some of their favorite musicals like Mary Poppins, Hamilton, and Little Shop of Horrors.

## Band

Band auditions for honor bands are in full swing. Mrs. Wolfe nominated a record number of students for honor band this year. Results will be revealed in October/November (depending on the honor band). Please remember that students can still audition for Greater Phoenix. Those auditions are in December. Also, remember to do your tax credit donation to the band program so we can send kids to honor bands and music festivals.

## Art

This Month Kindergarten through 8th Grade will be working on an art fundraiser called "Art To Remember." Students will draw a picture, which will then be sent in to be purchased as a number of fun gifts! These gifts include a mug, T-shirt, magnet, ornament, mouse pad, and many more!

## PE

The Physical Education department is happy to welcome Mr. Wulfe to our Jr High staff. We have been busy leaning routines and procedures in order to have an excellent learning environment. Upper grades are participating in team sports while the primary grades have been working on locomotor skills and hand eye coordination.

## TAXPAYERS CAN LOWER THEIR TAXES AND SUPPORT OUR STUDENTS!

You can send all your state taxes to the State of Arizona or make a contribution to a public school and receive a State Income Tax Credit for up to \$200 for tax payers who file a tax return as single or head of household and a maximum of \$400 for married couples filing jointly on your State Income Tax Return.

A.R.S. §43-1089.01 gives you this opportunity to help your local school. A tax credit, which is the dollar-for-dollar reduction of your tax liability, is better than a tax deduction, which only reduces your taxable income before taxes are computed. The tax credit is available to all taxpayers, regardless of whether they have children in school.

For more information, go to our website at [www.laveeneld.org](http://www.laveeneld.org)

## Notes from the Health Office

Please do not send **ANY** over the counter medication to school with your student!

Check the lost and found often. Items are donated at the end of each month.

## Gifted Education



Gifted services are provided at each school in the Laveen District. Instruction for gifted students K-8 is individualized through differentiated instruction in the classroom on a daily basis. The deadline to submit the paperwork for fall gifted testing is October 31, 2017, to the Gifted Instructional Coach on your campus.

This year's gifted focus study is "Discovering My Place on the Map - Developing Geoliteracy." This year students are learning about their place in the world in their gifted enrichment classes. We invite you, their parents and family to take their learning beyond the classroom and into your home. For example: Post a map on your refrigerator and learn the places and landmarks. Consider a different culture or country to study with your family. How about learning another language? Start a "Continent of the Month" exploration - You could start with the largest or the smallest continent and explore all seven continents in seven months. You could create Continent Boxes and gather items to place in each individu-

al box. Items might include: currency, flags, animals, landmarks (man-made and natural), artifacts, postage stamps, etc.

In addition, the gifted program will have family nights based on the theme. On Monday, November 27th for the Gifted Enrichment Night Childsplay will be presenting the play "Tomas and the Library Lady" at Laveen Elementary School at 6:30 p.m. The semi-annual Parent Pad meeting will take place prior to the play.