

December 2020

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A word from Mrs. Koperno

This is a wonderful time of year, and it is exciting to see the joy in students' faces during the holiday season! It can also be a very busy and stressful time. As the adults scurry around preparing for the holidays, children can also feel the stress and exhaustion brought on by all the activity. Please continue to support your child in their school success by ensuring a bed time is maintained at a reasonable hour. Adequate sleep supports learning, brain development, concentration, and mood, and so directly affects children's success in school! Since we are in virtual learning, there will not be a December performance. We will continue to watch our health data and will let families know at the end of December whether we will stay in virtual or transition into hybrid.

On behalf of the staff have a joyous holiday season and a prosperous New Year!



We are so proud of our students and all they have accomplished over the last three months in their Arts classes! Don't forget that you can see student scores in Google Classroom. Students, please email your Arts teacher if you would like to know how to boost your grades! Below is a fun family activity for you to do over the holiday season! Enjoy!

Teachers News

Kinder

As we finish up the first half of the 2020-2021 school year, it is a great time to reflect on the many accomplishments in kindergarten. The students have learned many new sounds and words, and have also begun decoding words. They are on their way to becoming successful readers!

In math, we will focus on adding numbers through 10. We have a kindergarten goal to count to 100 in a I-minute time. A great way to help your child attain this goal is to count to 100 with your child as often as you can. The week prior to winter break, December 14-18, is parent teacher conferences. Please watch for a sign-up email to select a virtual meeting time. I look forward to meeting with each of you. During the winter break, please continue to read with your child every day. Reading with your child is one of the best things you can do to help them in their educational endeavors. Thank you for all your support!

3rd, 4th & 5th Grade

This month, third grade students will wrap up their unit on animals, and begin learning how to write their own opinion sample using a variety of text. In math, they continue working on properties of multiplication and division along with building their ability to fluently add and subtract up to 1000. Fourth grade will be working on division and fractions in math, and elements of a drama in ELA. In science, we will be finishing up weather and moving on to rocks, fossils, and changes to Earth's surface. Fifth grade will be learning some exciting things this month! In science, they will be learning more about the water cycle, and in math they will be discovering the order of operations and division of decimals. For our language arts unit, we will be studying poetry. Students will be learning about the Declaration of Independence and The Constitution in social studies. We look forward to seeing you at conferences! Have a wonderful and restful break!

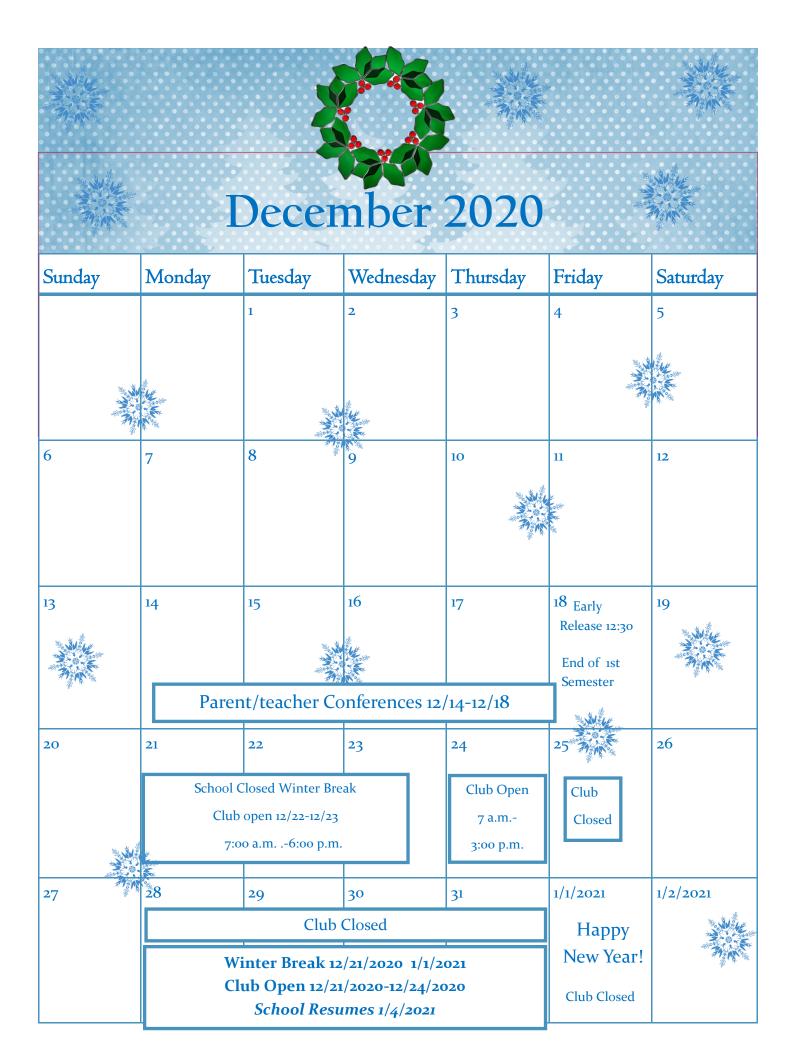
1st & 2nd Grade

We are approaching the middle of the school year and we are all still adapting to the changes presented to us. First graders are on the road to becoming readers. The focus in phonics will be on consonant blends. In grammar, we will be focusing on nouns. First grade time will also spend time learning about other cultures of the world through a variety of books based on the Gingerbread Man fairytale. In math, students will be working with addition and subtraction through twenty, and graphing. Second grade will be focusing on reading fables for accuracy and understanding. In math, we are continuing to understand place value and will begin learning how to add with regrouping. We will soon have winter break. Please encourage your child to spend some of that time reading. Your support of first and second grade is greatly appreciated.



Middle School

Warm greetings to you all. We hope your Thanksgiving holiday was enjoyable and filled with good moments with your family. With your support, Middle School students adjusted quickly to the transition to online learning. They are already back into the routine. Parent-Teacher conferences will take place this month from December 14-18. They will be held online or via phone. We will send more information regarding scheduling as the dates approach. We look forward to seeing you then. Have a safe and restful Winter Breakl







HELP OUR KIDS & SAVE MONEY ON YOUR ARIZONA TAXES!

The Arizona Extra-Curricular Activity Tax Credit is the main way we fund all of our extra-curricular activities. This includes the after-school musical, arts programs, field trips, and more!

If you, or anyone else you know, has Arizona State taxes taken from your paycheck or will owe State taxes this year, you can designate up to \$200.00 for a single person, or \$400.00 for a married couple of those taxes to go to the Academy.

Any Arizona taxpayer may participate. If you individually cannot participate this year, other family members, friends or coworkers can take advantage of this opportunity. This is not a donation. It costs you nothing. You will receive this back when you file your State taxes as a tax credit. Please contact Mrs. Oyer or Mrs. Koperno if you have questions.





with

- Fulton Homes and KOOL FM Books and Toys giveaway December 16, 2020 5:00pm-6pm Breakfast
- Christmas Breakfast w/Santa TBD
- Club is open on December 24th 7-3 pm and closed December 25, 2020 returning January 4, 2021
- Payments for January are due on December 20th. \$10 late fee after the 23rd
- Mesa Arts Academy students who would like to come to the club need to have new membership forms filled out with updated numbers and parents must attend an orientation.



Basketball starts in January

