

Acacia's Mission: The mission of Acacia Elementary, in partnering with parents and community, is to provide a safe, comfortable and cooperative environment ensuring that **all** students develop the knowledge, skills and character necessary to achieve their highest potential; and to become productive members of an ever-changing society.

January 17, 2017

Dear Acacia Parents and Students,

Welcome back! The New Year is an excellent opportunity for people to take a step back, reflect upon the priorities of life, recommit and refocus. Even though it falls in the middle of the school year, the New Year offers parents and staff a new beginning when we can rededicate ourselves to our joint responsibility of educating young people. Happy New Year and welcome back to school and to a fun and exciting remainder of the year!

We are so appreciative of the amazing donations from our A++ grandparents, Tom and Pam Nelson. Over the years they have repeatedly supported and donated to Acacia. Right before the holiday break they donated over \$250 worth of items, gifts, and incentives for both staff and students. Thank you, Nelsons!

Speaking of giving, we were so blessed by others in our community. Our retired fourth grade teacher, Dan Basche, still continues to give to our Acacia Community. Again, this year, he coordinated the gift giving to some of our needy families with his church, Episcopal Church of St. John the Baptist. Dan also collects jackets and blankets for the homeless that he delivers himself! His giving heart never seems to end. We are also very lucky to have the love and support of Palmcroft Church. They also were able to assist our social worker with gifts for families in need during the holiday season. They are constantly supporting us with their "clean-up days", donations and kindness. Many hands from Palmcroft help us, but we are especially appreciative of Ms. Becky Brown and Ms. Maggi Garrison. Their thoughtfulness and kindness is always appreciated. We are a lucky community to have such support.

Sincerely,
Christine Hollingsworth, Principal



Dates to Remember

Mon., Jan. 23	100 th Day of School
Thurs., Jan. 19	Student Council Meeting * 'til 4:15 p.m.
Fri., Jan. 20	Choir Practice * 'til 4:30 p.m.
Fri., Jan. 20	Garden Club * 'til 4:15 p.m.
Wed., Jan. 25	KC Club Meeting * 7:15 a.m.
Fri., Jan. 27	Choir Practice * 'til 4:30 p.m.
Fri., Jan. 27	Garden Club * 'til 4:15 p.m.
Tues., Jan. 31	Field Trip: 6 th Grade * Desert Foothills Jr High
Tues., Jan. 31	5 th Grade Music Concert * 5:30 p.m. * Cafeteria
Wed., Feb. 1	KC Club Meeting * 7:15 a.m.
Thurs., Feb. 2	Student Council Meeting * 'til 4:15 p.m.

**Early Dismissal
Every Wednesday
1:45 p.m.**

Report Cards

All students received their second quarter report cards last week. Please review this with your child, sign the envelope and return to the teacher. As always, please call the teacher if you have any questions or concerns. The education of your child is a team effort! We all want what's best for our students, and communication is the key.

Spelling Bee Winners



Before winter break we conducted our school spelling bee, and it was so exciting. Participants spelled almost 120 words before determining the winner. Congratulations to Clinton S. in Ms. Andrade's 5th grade class! He will represent Acacia at the District Spelling Bee. Jessica Z. in Ms. Frost's 5th grade class did great too, finishing as the runner up.

Please be courteous to our neighbors
Do not park in front of or block driveways.
Favor de ser corteses con nuestros vecinos
No se estacionen en frente o bloqueen los
caminos de entrada de vehículos.

Safety in the Morning

Please remember that students are not allowed on campus before 7:55 a.m. Staff members are not on duty until that time, and we cannot have children on campus unattended.



Congratulations to our classes that won with the best attendance for the month of December. Students were presented the "traveling trophy" to keep in their class for the month. Each student is presented with a coupon for a yummy treat.

Ms. Gordon's Class – Kindergarten
Mrs. Doss' Class – First Grade
Ms. McLendon's – Second Grade
Ms. Barrera's Class – Third Grade
Mr. Ciliberti's Class – Fourth Grade
Mrs. Andrade's Class – Fifth Grade
Mr. Hamrick's Class – Sixth Grade

Head Start is now Enrolling!

Head Start is a FREE preschool program for children 4 years of age from low income families. Call to see if you qualify!

602-347-4806



Head Start offers:

Social Services
Active Learning
Health Screenings
Parent Involvement
Nutritional Meals/Snacks

From the Office

If you have moved or will be moving, please bring in your proof of residency and fill out a new Proof of Residency form that is available at the front office. Also, please be sure to update the office of any phone number changes as well as emergency pick up information for your student(s).



PTA is a volunteer group of parents and teachers making memories with community events and raising money for our children at Acacia. They host many activities and are always looking for help from other parents. Please email Acacia PTA acacia.owls.pta@gmail.com and a board member will get back to you so you can get involved. Your child will appreciate it!

Girls Basketball Teams

We are proud to announce this year's Acacia Girls Basketball Team. These 4th, 5th and 6th grade girls worked very hard on the court to make the team. Acacia is lucky to have so many girls with such great athletic talent; we just couldn't choose one team. So, this year, we have two teams representing Acacia playing other schools in our District. Thank you to Mr. Ciliberti, Mr. Hamrick and Ms. Budovsky for coaching and teaching these athletes. We know they will be great representatives of Acacia.



Krysteena R., Laylanae C., Princess I., Vanessa H., Kendra I., Stacy S., Jasleen S., Jady V., Angeelina G., Katy F., Caitlin R., Savannah B., Angelina R., Miranda O., Leslie V., Peggy N., Sonia E., Emma E., Damone B., Alexa M., Zamantha R., Diamond J., Reagan D., Ariana F., Jayla Z., Beija E., Sa'miah D., Arianna M., Alicia A., Delaynee B., Sidney S., and Kendra I.

Thank you!

These awesome families treated our entire staff to lunch right before winter break as a "gift" to our staff for all they do during the school year for their children! You may know several of them because they are here several days a week making copies, volunteering in the classroom and helping wherever it's needed. They do so much for us and now they are doing even more!!! Our staff would like to thank you so much to these wonderful families for ALL they do for our Acacia staff and students! Lunch was yummy!



Rosa M. and her students Ian, Tania, JanCarlo / Lucia C. and her student Yahir
Laura B. and her student Lorena Dayann / Blanca S. and her student Juan Miguel
Angelica B. and her students Johnny, Amy and Arely at DF
Ariana T. and her students Nathaniel and Alekzander

After-school Academy

Acacia's After-school Academy will begin January 23. Registration forms were sent out with report cards for targeted students. Classes will fill up quickly, and students will be placed on a waiting list. If you have questions about an After-school Academy class, please contact your child's homeroom teacher. After-school Academy Band/Strings will be offered to any 4-6th grader who is currently enrolled in the band/strings program during their regular school day. There will be 2 morning classes offered in two different sessions. First-4th Grade Robotics and 6th Grade Robotics are open to students with a teacher recommendation and class availability. For these classes, **students MUST attend EVERY morning session Monday through Friday at 7:05 a.m. in the Cafeteria** which starts January 23-March 10 then the second session begins March 13-May 12 (No classes Spring Break or AzMERIT Week).

There will be a high demand for these classes. Priority will be given to students who have not had the opportunity to participate in the Acacia After-school Academy as well as teacher recommendation and commitment to attendance.