

**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.

April 18, 2017

Dear Acacia Parents and Students,

Fun and Field Days were so exciting for our students. My thanks go to Coach Manak and Coach Budovsky, our PE teachers, who worked so hard to make this fun and successful for all students. Everyone had a great time! The highlight, as always, is to see who wins the Tug-of-War Traveling Trophy. Each grade level has a class that proudly displays this special award.

This time of year is a great time to express my thanks and gratitude to our teachers and staff. Last week we celebrated National Assistant Principals Week with Mrs. Dial. This is her second year at Acacia and she's been a wonderful asset to our school! She shows so much enthusiasm with the students, compassion for the parents and support for the teachers. She's awesome and we are thrilled she's a part of the Acacia family! National Administrative Professional Day (Secretary's Day) is Wednesday, April 26. I just want to tell our fabulous office staff, Ms. Laurie, Ms. Ilda and Ms. Kira, how much we appreciate them and all that they do! They go far beyond to help parents, students and teachers at Acacia, and I know you will agree that they are very special staff members. Since we are on this subject, I wanted to remind you that Teacher Appreciation is Tuesday, May 2 and "We have the BEST!" Our teachers always go above and beyond to make Acacia the wonderful school that it is. Please take the time to write a note or have your child write a note to them. It would be so appreciated.

We're not done learning yet! Students still have more to learn and will have District tests up until the end of the school year. Please help your student continue his or her positive attitude. Here are a few tips that can enhance a positive atmosphere:

\*Use positive or optimistic words when talking to your children.

\*Recognize the good things that your child does.

\*Reward positive behavior. Rewards can be in the form of hugs, handshakes, gifts, special treats, congratulatory messages, special outings, etc.

The last day of school is not until May 23. There is still so much to learn! So, please make sure your student is here and ready to learn every day. We are all looking forward to a great remainder of the school year!



Sincerely,  
Christine Hollingsworth, Principal

## Dates to Remember

April 17 thru 20	Book Fair from 8:15 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
April 18	Kinder Concert & Ice Cream Social from 5:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.
April 20	District Choir Field Trip to Greenway from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.
April 20	District Choir Festival @ Greenway @ 6:00 p.m.
April 20	After School Academy Celebration from 3:15 p.m. to 4:45 p.m.
April 24	Soccer Game @ Acacia @ 4:15 p.m.
April 24	PTA Officer Election from 5:30 to 6:00 p.m.
April 25	Soccer Game @ Alta Vista @ 4:15 p.m.
April 25	Boys/Girls Basketball Party from 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.
April 25	6 <sup>th</sup> Gr. Parent Orientation at Desert Foothills @ 6:30 p.m.
April 26	Midterms go home
April 27	Soccer Game @ Desert View @ 4:15 p.m.
April 28	Soccer Game @ Acacia @ 4:15 p.m.

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

### Did you return your Open Enrollment

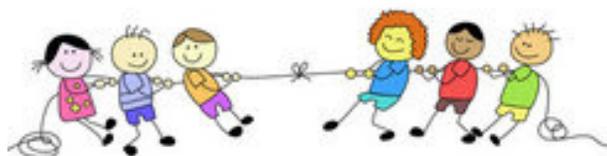
Students who reside outside of the Acacia attendance

area are required to fill out the Open Enrollment application every year. We've sent home several requests. If you haven't returned your application, please do as soon as possible. We will be beginning the class list process soon and we want to make sure your student is on the list. Please call Ms. Laurie in the office 602-896-5000 if you have any questions.

### Tug-of-War Classroom Champions

Congratulations to the following classrooms for winning the tug-of-war during Fun and Field Days. Congratulations to...

- 1<sup>st</sup> grade: Ms. Dean's Wild Things \*Undefeated
- 2<sup>nd</sup> grade: Ms. Black's Bobcats \*Undefeated
- 3<sup>rd</sup> grade: Ms. Swaydan's Silver Sharks
- 4<sup>th</sup>: 3-way tie (Round-robin)
- 5<sup>th</sup> grade: Mrs. Frost's Funky Monkeys
- 6<sup>th</sup> grade: Mrs. Bauer's Bay Rays



**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.**

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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. ~~~~~

**2017-2018 (next school year)**

- August 7 \* First Day of School
- September 4 \* Labor Day Holiday
- October 9-13 \* Fall Break
- November 10 \* Veterans Day Holiday
- November 23-24 \* Thanksgiving Break
- Dec. 25-Jan. 5 \* Winter Break
- January 15 \* Martin Luther King Day
- February 19 \* Presidents Day Holiday
- March 19-23 \* Spring Break
- May 22 \* Last Day of School

**Acacia PTA**

Your Acacia PTA is in need of you!

Acacia PTA is an active Parent/Teacher Association that sponsors and coordinates activities to bring Acacia families together. Be a part of this group and bring your ideas so our children have a fun and successful experience in school.

We are looking for board members for next school year, 2017-2018.

Call 480-492-3017 for more information about the board member's role and how you can become involved in your child's school activities.

We have a special meeting just for elections on Monday, April 24 @ 5:30 p.m. Join us!



**Attention 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Parents**

Please join us on Tuesday, April 25 at 6:30 p.m. in the Desert Foothills gym for our Sixth Grade Parent Orientation. We will present the programs and opportunities that await your child as a seventh grade student at Desert Foothills Junior High School.

Seventh grade academic teachers will be presenting their curriculum and passion for middle school students. Any questions or concerns can be addressed at this event. We look forward to meeting you and helping your child be successful in middle school.

Sincerely, Principal Susie Smith and Assistant Principal Steve Whyntott

**Raising Kids to be Kind**



Why is it important to be kind? Kindness not only builds our personal health but also our civic health. Being kind to our neighbors and friends helps people feel happier and also provides them with a greater sense of connectedness to their community. Strong community connections can create a sort of "safety net" of neighbors for your children who can care, listen, monitor them and assist in

guiding them to make safe choices. So, how can we raise children who treat others with kindness? Make kindness a habit by incorporating it into your everyday routine. Children learn kindness the same way they learn other important life skills, by watching you. Take advantage of the daily opportunities that are presented to reinforce this most crucial life skill with children. Remember that kindness is a skill that has the power to change the lives of children and the people they will meet throughout life.



**Not returning next year?**

If your student(s) is not returning to Acacia for the 2017-2018 school year, please complete and return this to the office as soon as possible. Thank you!

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Child(ren) not attending Acacia next year

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Name of school(s) student(s) will be attending

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Parent Signature