

## A message from the Principal...

It's hard to believe December is already here. We have had a tremendous school year so far and are excited for what the rest of the year brings!

We're looking forward to some amazing performances by our students! Our students in all grade levels will be showcasing their talents on Wednesday, December 8 at 6 p.m. in our first musical performances at EFGA! Our 4<sup>th</sup> graders will also represent our school at the Laveen District Winter Festival on Friday, December 3 at the Laveen Education Center at 5:30 p.m. We hope you are able to join us for these events.

Students and staff are preparing for the second quarter incentive, which looks a little different for each grade level, but the same expectations for all grade levels. Students earn this incentive by having outstanding attendance and behavior throughout the second quarter.

Thank you for giving us the opportunity to serve your children each day. If you have any concerns, please don't hesitate to contact us.

-Mrs. Zembruski

# ART AT EFGA

EFGA Artwork on Artsonia: <https://www.artsonia.com/schools/school.asp?id=178723>

WITH MS. WILD

# artsonia

Gift Shop:

<https://www.artsonia.com/gifts/products/>

CHECK OUT ARTSONIA'S GIFT SHOP! 20% IS DONATED BACK TO EFGA'S ART ROOM!

Estrella Foothills Global Academy

Laveen, Arizona

2,632 school visitors

## School Activity

Lifetime activity This school year

**2,768** [artworks](#) **1,115** [artworks](#)

**119** [comments](#) **18** [comments](#)

**28** [artist statements](#) **7** [statements](#)

**274** artist fans **239** artist fans

[view activity archive](#) for past years

## Students

**188** students won [awards](#) this year

search by first name

## Recent Comments

[view all comments](#)

|  |  |  |   |   |  |  |
|--|--|--|---|---|--|--|
| <br>Coffee Mug<br>SALE \$10.95+ | <br>Magnet<br>SALE \$2.95 | <br>Canvas Art<br>SALE \$25.95+ | <br>Fabric Mask<br>SALE \$4.95 | <br>Mug<br>SALE \$9.95  | <br>Sketchbook<br>SALE \$7.95 | <br>Notebook<br>SALE \$7.95 |
| <br>T-Shirt<br>\$19.95+        | <br>Ornaments<br>\$11.95 | <br>Art Print<br>\$8.95+       | <br>Cards<br>\$12.95+         | <br>Postcard<br>\$2.45 | <br>Snap Jewelry<br>\$24.95  | <br>Tumbler<br>\$24.95     |

CUSTOMIZE GIFTS!



Click on WEBSITE LINKS to go to page!

# Preschool News

Preschool had a very busy month! We learned about the color blue, the shape square, and all about farms. We went on a family field trip to Tolmachoff Farms to connect our content to their community around them and we had SO much fun!

We had the opportunity to visit Ms. Jenn in the library and she read us some amazing books related to our themes!

We held a preschool "Give Thanks for Pizza" event on the Tuesday before Thanksgiving to teach our students about the holiday and about being thankful. We created a "Thankful Turkey" to showcase all of the things we are thankful for. We LOVED getting to eat pizza together!



# Kindergarten News

As part of our kindergarten social studies global learning in November we have learned about Native Americans in our country and the many tribes that are found all over the US and world. We created a dream catcher as part of our Navajo studies and enjoyed dancing to some traditional POW WOW songs.

# First Grade News

November has been amazing in the world of 1st Grade!

In ELA, we have explored some great stories which connected to being a Global Learner! We read about different schools around the world as well as focused on identifying the central message in our fictional stories.

When it comes to Math, we are currently working on mastering our place value skills. Place value is a very important concept which will allow our little learners to build their addition/subtraction fluency. We also work daily on building math models with our manipulatives.

We also incorporated a STEAM lesson with the story, Balloons Over Broadway! Students enjoyed learning about the Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade as well as how science, technology, engineering, art and math all work to make this event happen!



## 2nd Grade News

**HERE IN SECOND GRADE WE ARE FINISHING LEARNING ABOUT THE SOLAR SYSTEM. WE LOVED DOING OUR MOON PHASES OREO PROJECT! THIS WAS DEFINITELY A MEMORABLE ACTIVITY FOR KIDDOS! WE WILL BEGIN GEOGRAPHY NEXT.**



# 3rd Grade News

December is always a busy time of year in third grade! We're having so much fun making meaningful connections to the narrative, "*The Year of Miss Agnes*". Through it's example, we're writing our very own historical fiction narratives, as well! We're also going to be developing our conceptual understanding in math as we identify the relationship between multiplication and division! We've been making science a priority and we're in the experiment phase of the 5-E process right now! Happy Holidays from third grade!



# 4th Grade News

Here's what's going on in 4th grade:

In ELA students have spend the last several weeks focused on story elements. They have learned how authors use settings, characters, and events to help develop a fiction story. In writing they used these skills to create a "Spooky Story" and a myth.

In math, students have learned many new things. They have learned to multiply multi-digit numbers as well as how to divide multi-digit numbers. Students learned to solve multi-step word problems, too.

In social studies students studied mesoamerica and even history behind Thanksgiving. Veteran's Day was a lot of fun too. We had a guest speaker come in (Mr. Newman) and talk with students about the meaning of Veterans Day.

In science, students began a unit on magnetism and electricity.

# 4th Laveen Online Academy Grade News

In math we are working hard on mastering our division facts!

We are learning long division!

In ELA, we are reading "The Longest Night" by Jacqueline Guest. Children will discuss Wind Runner's Vision Quest preparation and consider how his actions demonstrate his personality.



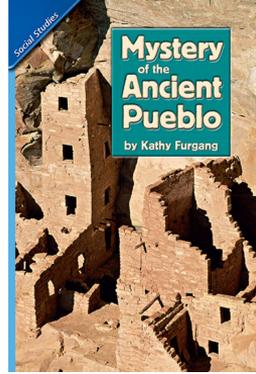
In Science, we are learning about magnetic force!

In writing we are applying the 4 Square writing technique to write tall tales!





## 5th Grade News



We did it!!! We survived round 2 of our NWEA test and are showing fantastic growth! In ELA we have been working on mini-books focusing on topics such as Jazz, Native Americans, and Developing a Nation. After reading these mini-books, students have been working in groups to research more on the topic and presenting those to the class. Building both research, writing and presentation skills. In math, we just wrapped up chapter 6 of multiplying and dividing decimals. We are now moving on to the unit Expressions and Patterns. In Social Studies we have been discussing the Constitution and Bill of Rights and how those documents formed our country we know today. Lastly in Science, students have wrapped up on traits and the environment.

# 5th Grade Laveen Online Academy News

*The learning is strong, even while learning from home!*

We survived our 2nd round of NWEA testing in person! In ELA, we are finishing out these next few weeks with some poetry and analyzing non-fiction texts about different cultures around the world. For math we are wrapping up our chapter on multiplying and dividing decimals. Westward Expansion is our topic for social studies, and for science we are still focusing on traits and the environment.



# 6th Grade (Rocks!) News

Greatness starts here

**Greetings Families,**

**November has indeed been a busy month for our Scorpions. We've enjoyed some fun moments with experiments in science and activities like the Turkey Trot..**

**We've wrapped our study of integers and the coordinate plane. Students should be able to tell you about how the world is a huge plane. In science, we've also finished our study of friction. It was a tremendous benefit to have students connect the learning to sports.**

**On behalf of Mr. Fraser and I, we wish your family a Happy Thanksgiving!! Can't wait to see what the rest of the quarter brings!**

# 6th Grade Laveen Online Academy News

For ELA, we will contemplate the concept of darkness. How does facing the darkness affect or change a person? How does one finally reach the decision to take action in the face of uncertainty? This unit offers a mixture of texts, both fiction and informational, about people that face uncertainty, including the classic myth “Heroes Every Child Should Know: Perseus,” and Rick Riordan’s The Lightning Thief. After reading the stories and informational texts about individuals and characters that take action in the face of uncertainty, students will have the opportunity to write an informative essay. In their essays, students will identify three individuals or characters from the unit texts and explore their motivations.

For math, we will be focusing on finding that elusive variable,  $x$ . We will also learn how to write numerical expressions, compute powers and exponents, and how to use the distributive property.

For science, we’ll concentrate on global warming, the greenhouse effect, and atmospheric layers.

In Social Studies, we will be continuing our study of ancient cultures and world religions. So far, we have learned about Mesopotamia, Egypt, Indus, and China, which included the religions Hinduism, Buddhism, Confucianism, and Daoism. This month, the world religion we will focus on will be Judaism.

It was so wonderful to see the students in person! Thank you parents and guardians for getting them here for all 3 days of NWEA testing and on time! Most students showed growth in both ELA and Math.

# 7th Grade News

**Math:** Our 7th graders are ending out the semester with an introduction to Algebra. Students will be working on Properties, Simplifying Algebraic Expressions and Linear Expressions

**Science:** We started the quarter with studying weather patterns across the United States. We did not include Arizona because students needed to be able to identify the front types of weather fronts. We will end the quarter with exploring tectonic plates.



**Urick:** Students have been making AMAZING progress and apparent growth this year. They did an incredible job writing their 5 paragraph essays on The Highwayman by Alfred Noyes. We have wrapped up UNIT 3 already in the ELA curriculum and are already plugging away in Unit 4 :)

**Davis:** With the end of our first semester rapidly approaching, students will be cruising through out last unit (the French Revolution). We will also be taking out final Seterra country quiz: 90 Most Populous Countries!

# 8th Grade News

**Math:** Our 8th grade class is starting our Geometry Unit. We will be covering Triangles and the Pythagorean Theorem and then move on to Transformations on the coordinate plane.

**Urick:** Students have been making amazing progress with our ELA Curriculum. We have just wrapped up the novel *The Outsiders* and students reflected by writing an essay about the central themes discussed throughout the novel.

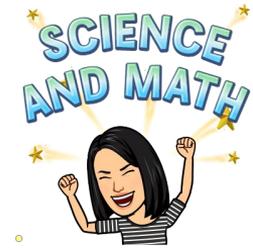
**Science:** We started the quarter with learning about about Earth's history. We have explored fossils and made our own cast of fossils. We are currently continuing are Earth science unit with exploring tectonic plates, earthquakes and plates boundaries.

**Davis:** With the end of our first semester rapidly approaching, students will be cruising through out last unit (the French Revolution). We will also be taking out final Seterra country quiz: 90 Most Populous Countries!





# 7th Grade Laveen Online Academy News



This month Grade 7 will focus on informational texts that dissect the events and moments that shaped the lives of extraordinary individuals. Students learn how a moment can activate a chain of events that result in dramatic change. For example, in *The Boy Who Harnessed the Wind*, William Kamkwamba recalls a moment in a Malawian library that would lead him to build a windmill out of scrap parts. In *The Power of Student Peer Leaders*, students will see how a conversation with a teacher lead Moises Urena on a path to leadership and college.

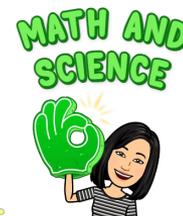
Students will have the chance to analyze the pivotal moments in the classic short stories "Harrison Bergeron" by Kurt Vonnegut and "The Three Questions" by Leo Tolstoy. They will read Ernest Thayer's poem "Casey at the Bat" and an excerpt from Viola Canales' award-winning novel *The Tequila Worm*.

Although December will be a short month for school, we will still be working hard!

For math, our brilliant mathematicians are building on their knowledge and being introduced to algebraic concepts. We've discussed the meaning of the variable and how algebraic expressions and equations are set up. In the month of December, students will delve deeper into these concepts with simplifying algebraic expressions, writing algebraic expressions, and solving them using real world context.

In science, students have learned about friction. We also discussed the difference between weight and mass. To close out our unit in Physical Science, we will explore magnetism and electromagnets.

# 8th Grade Laveen Online Academy News



Grade 8 will prepare students to explore questions about how authors choose the right words.

Some of history's greatest wordsmiths are represented in this unit. Iconic speeches by Abraham Lincoln and Sojourner Truth show students how the right words can inspire and challenge a diverse audience. An excerpt from Mark Twain's classic novel *The Adventures of Tom Sawyer* shows how the right words can yield results. In Irene Hunt's *Across Five Aprils*, family members try to find the right words to express their feelings on the issue that was threatening to tear their country apart.

Students will write argumentative essays, applying what they have learned from the literature, speeches, and informational texts.

The 8th graders have been working hard this quarter!

In math, students are building on their knowledge of linear equations and applying them to functions. They are seeing their previous learning of slope,  $y$ -intercept, rates of change, etc. come into play with different concepts specifically with real world situations. In the month of December, students will continue with linear functions and then have an introduction to quadratic functions. From there, we switch gears to our unit in geometry. However, students will find that the algebraic concepts they have been learning will also apply to geometry.

For science, we are coming to a close on our unit in Earth and Space Science. Students have studied fossils and how they contribute to our understanding of earth's past as well as how past events have affected Earth today.

# Gifted Education

- Thank you for all your terrific gifted referrals! We found 8 new gifted students at Estrella/LOA this round of testing!
- Gifted groups will be as scheduled for the last couple Thurs./Fridays of the quarter.
- I'm mostly at Estrella on Fridays (and now briefly Thurs. mornings), but feel free to reach out anytime if you'd like to talk about/plan for your high level students! Email is the best way to reach me: [sharris@laveeneld.org](mailto:sharris@laveeneld.org)



# FALL INTRAMURAL SPORTS

■ AWAY    ■ HOME  
 All games @ 4:35pm



Boys/Girls Softball  
Boys Basketball



| MONDAY       | TUESDAY        | WEDNESDAY | THURSDAY        | FRIDAY |
|--------------|----------------|-----------|-----------------|--------|
| 1<br>        | 2<br>          | 3<br>     | 4<br>           | 5      |
| 8 MONDAY<br> | 9 TUESDAY<br>  | 10        | 11              | 12     |
| 15           | 16             | 17        | 18 THURSDAY<br> | 19     |
| 22           | 23 TUESDAY<br> | 24        | 25              | 26     |
| 29           | 30             |           |                 |        |

**ESTRELLA  
FOOTHILLS**  
GLOBAL ACADEMY

- Monday, November 1st (@ Trailside Point)
- Tuesday, November 2nd (@ Cheatham)
- Wednesday, November 3rd (@ Desert Meadows)
- Thursday, November 4th (@ M.C. Cash)
- Monday, November 8th (@ Paseo Point)
- Tuesday, November 9th (@ EFGA- against Vista del Sur)
- Thursday, November 18th (@ EFGA- against Rogers Ranch)
- Tuesday, November 23rd (@ Laveen)
- Tentative: Post- Season Tournament (November 29th-December 6th)

# December 2021

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday                          | Thursday | Friday            | Saturday |
|--------|--------|---------|------------------------------------|----------|-------------------|----------|
|        |        |         | 1                                  | 2        | 3                 | 4        |
| 5      | 6      | 7       | 8<br>Early Release<br>at 12:00p.m. | 9        | 10                | 11       |
| 12     | 13     | 14      | 15                                 | 16       | 17<br>No School → | 18       |
| 19     | 20     | 21      | 22                                 | 23       | 24                | 25       |
| 26     | 27     | 28      | 29                                 | 30       | 31                |          |

**No School - Winter Break**

**Dec. 17 - Jan. 2**

**School Resumes - Monday, January 3rd**