

FEBRUARY 2025

HERRERA SCHOOL FOR THE ARTS



PANTHER PRINTS



IMPORTANT DATES

February 6- Winter Student Art Showcase Reception at Emerson Court (4:00- 5:00 pm)

February 7- Operation School Bell; Peter Piper Pizza Fundraiser (5:00-7:00 pm)

February 12- Valentine's Day Family Dance (5:00-7:00 pm)

February 13- Phoenix Sings Choir Festival (11:30 am- 7:30 pm)

February 17- President's Day (No School)

February 18- Coffee with the Principal

February 19- Full Day Wednesday

February 20- Complete Vision Care on Campus

February 26- Student of the Month

Don't have Class Dojo for school updates or ParentVue on Synergy to view your student's grades? Reach out to your child's teacher or the front office for support!

● Note from the Principal

Thank you for a great first month of Quarter 3! It has been exciting to see the projects and field experiences across the different grade levels. In January, we had two students represent our school at the district-wide spelling bee. 5th Grade worked in partnership with some of our amazing parent volunteers to learn about volume of objects while creating a geometry zoo. Some of our 7th and 8th grade students had the opportunity to paint a mural at Faith North for our preschool students. Meanwhile, our lower grade level classes had experiences such as Butterfly Wonderland visits for 4th Grade and preschoolers building models of their own houses.

As we move into the next upcoming months, please ensure your student is at school every day. Attendance is key to being able to learn and grow in school!



School Goals for the 2024-2025 School Year

Every year our school site identifies areas to focus on for improving and growing our campus community and academics. This year, we will be focusing on:

- Increasing our Mathematics proficiency scores on the state assessments by 5%, moving from 21% to 26%.
- Increase our Reclassification rates for our English Language Learners.
- Grow our Arts and Electives into programs that compete with local Arts schools, and tying this learning into academics.
- Strengthen partnerships and communication between staff, students, families, and community members



Our Herrera Spelling Bee Winners!



Upcoming February Field Trip Experiences

February 14- 5th-8th Grade Choir Field Trip to Arizona Sings Competition

February 18- 7th-8th Grade Drama/ Tech Field Trip

February 28- Preschool Wildlife World Zoo

Ask your grade level teacher for more information!



Updates from the Arts Department

The Fine Arts and Administration team of Herrera Elementary would like to inform you about an upcoming change in the way that Fine Arts and P.E. will be handled in the upcoming school years. We are going to be returning to a method where older students (5th thru 8th graders) are dedicating themselves to picking and specializing in a set of specials for their middle school years. They will be auditioning for 2 different classes so they can gain experience and expertise in the subject matter they choose. These will be called their Major and Minor studies. Their Major study will remain the same from 5th to 8th grade. They can petition to have their Minor study changed between 6th and 7th grade by completing a new audition. Auditions will take place in February, and be communicated by the arts team.

Sports/ Clubs Schedule

	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Before School 7:00-7:45 am					Running Club
After School 3:30-4:30 pm (Wednesday Clubs until 3:00 pm)	Student Council Girls Basketball Game/ Cheer Performance Club Basketball	Drama Club Boys Basketball Game/ Cheer Performance	Crochet Club	Drama Club Boys Basketball Game/ Cheer Performance Tabletop Gaming Club	Boys Basketball Game/ Cheer Performance

Are we hitting our attendance goal? Our goal: 95% daily attendance

87.5% on Monday, January 27th
daily attendance

89.4% year to date
average daily attendance

Office Reminders

Our office staff are working hard to make sure our school runs smoothly. To be able to support, please help us with the following:

- When visiting the campus, it is crucial that you sign in at the front office and obtain a visitor badge if entering the school. They must be worn the entire time when in the building. *If you are interested in becoming a volunteer, please reach out to our Family and Community Engagement (FACE) Specialist, Adriana Ramirez.*
- If your child is going to be absent, please call the front office to notify us so we can adjust your child's attendance for the day.
- Make sure you have an ID with you when picking up your child early as well as the reason for them leaving.

Ballet Arizona Opportunity!

We have an exciting opportunity for some of our 2nd-4th grade students! Ballet Arizona is sponsoring up to 15 Herrera students to participate in free classes February-April at their facilities. The class will take place every Monday and Thursday. Students will be driven by district transportation at 3:15 pm (dismissal time). Parents will be responsible for picking students up at 5:00 pm after the class finishes.

Each student that participates will get free classes, a dance bag, shoes, and a costume. Upon completion of the program, scholarships will be offered to continue their experiences at their facilities. Registration Forms will be sent by teachers.

The first day of the class is Monday, February 10th. Applications are due by Wednesday, February 5th with a first come/ first serve basis as students complete their registration. They can be turned in to teachers or Dr. Clynick.

Thank you for all of your help!

Preparing for Testing

As we move farther into the second half of the year, there are many important assessments for students in all grade levels. Keep the following months in mind for important testing dates:

- February - AZELLA (All English Language Learner students)
- February- Interim Winter Writing Assessment
- April- AASA in Math and Reading (3rd-8th Grade)
- April- AzSci (5th & 8th Grade)

It is important that students are here and healthy as we prepare for testing!



Student Projects in 1st Grade!



enjoy FOOD & FUN

AND RAISE SOME DOUGH
15% of all food, beverage and funpass game credit sales benefit

Herrera School
"Love Our School Night!"

Date: Friday, February 7, 2025
Time: 5:00 PM - 7:30 PM
Place: Peter Piper Pizza at Tower Plaza
3945 E. Thomas Road
Phoenix 85018

CAN'T MAKE IT OR IN A HURRY?
You can still donate by ordering online or through the app!

1. Order at peterpiperpizza.com or through our app on the fundraiser date
2. Select the restaurant hosting the fundraiser
3. Enter the promo code **FRESHDOUGH** at checkout for donation contribution

GET YOUR game on!
funpass

PLEASE PURCHASE YOUR FUNPASS AT THE REGISTER
Purchases at the kiosk are not donated to the organization.

QR code to download our new app

peter piper pizza

HERRERA PARENTS

Family Dance

FOOD - MUSIC - FUN - DANCE
DANCE ENTRY FEE: \$1
(FREE ENTRY FOR HERRERA STUDENTS)
TIME: 5:00 PM TO 7:00 PM
PLACE: HERRERA PAC
"CASH ONLY / NO BILLS BIGGER THAN \$20"
WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 12

PTO will be selling food
PARENTS JUST A REMINDER:
STUDENTS MUST BE ACCOMPANIED BY AN ADULT TO ENTER THE SCHOOL DANCE.

WE SEE YOU THERE!
ANY QUESTIONS PLEASE EMAIL MS. RAMIREZ
ADRIANA.RAMIREZ@PHXSCHOOLS.ORG