



# Cactus Wren Elementary School

9650 N. 39th Avenue • Phoenix, AZ 85051  
Office: 602-347-2100 • Fax: 602-347-2120 • [www.cactuswren.wesdschools.org](http://www.cactuswren.wesdschools.org)

## Mission Statement

The mission of Cactus Wren School is to provide a safe environment that promotes academic excellence while developing personal responsibility.



Kaylene Ashbridge, Principal

November, 2016

(Volume 4)

[cactuswren.wesdschools.org](http://cactuswren.wesdschools.org)

Monday, Nov. 1, 2016  
Wednesday, Nov. 2, 2016  
Friday, Nov. 4, 2016  
Tuesday, Nov. 8, 2016  
Wednesday, Nov. 9, 2016  
Monday, Nov. 14, 2016  
Wednesday, Nov. 23, 2016  
Thursday, Nov. 24, 2016  
Friday, Nov. 25, 2016

Picture Retakes  
Early Dismissal (1:00 p.m.)  
Great Skate Night 5:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.  
Voting Day 7:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m. Library  
Early Dismissal (1:00 p.m.)  
PTO Meeting (6:00 p.m.)  
VIP Luncheon and Turkey Trot  
Thanksgiving Holiday – No School  
Thanksgiving Holiday – No School



**Signing your student out of school before dismissal? The office staff will ask you for your picture ID. NO exceptions.**

*¿Sacará a su estudiante antes de la hora de despido? Cada vez que esto suceda, el personal de la oficina le pedirá una identificación con fotografía. SIN excepciones*

**Nov., 23:**



**and**



## A Thanksgiving Reflection

Devon Engel, chairman of the Arizona affiliate of the Partnership for a Drug-Free America, had some significant things to say in Letters to the Editor section of *The Arizona Republic*. I think we would all agree with Mr. Engel that we live in very challenging times. Despite this, he encourages all parents and caregivers to give thanks to the children in their lives who are making good choices this Thanksgiving. Positive reinforcement, according to Mr. Engel, can sometimes be the best way to encourage ongoing good behavior. Parents and caregivers, you play an important role in the life of a child and you have the ability to guide him or her toward healthful choices at every stage of life. So, this Thanksgiving and holiday season, Mr. Engel challenges us to take away the pressure, enjoy each other's company and give your child a gift he or she will always remember – You!

## Reflexión del Día de Dar Gracias

*Devon Engel, presidente de la filial de Arizona de la Asociación para una América Libre de Drogas tenía algunas cosas importantes que decir en la sección Cartas Al Editor en el Arizona Republic. Creo que todos estamos de acuerdo con el Sr. Engel que vivimos en tiempos muy difíciles. A pesar de ello, este Día de Acción de Gracias, anima a todos los padres y personas que proveen cuidados a agradecerles a los niños en sus vidas quienes hacen buenas elecciones. El refuerzo positivo, según el Sr. Engel, a veces puede ser la mejor manera de fomentar el buen comportamiento continuo. Los padres y personas que proveen cuidados, ustedes desempeñan un papel importante en la vida de los niños y tienen la capacidad para guiarlos hacia opciones saludables en todas las etapas de la vida. Por lo tanto, en este Día de Acción de Gracias y festividades, el Sr. Engel nos desafía a quitar la presión, disfrutar la compañía de otros y darles a sus hijos un regalo que siempre recordarán - ¡Ustedes!*

## WESD to Host Teacher Interview Fairs

The Washington Elementary School District (WESD) will host a Teacher Interview Fair on Saturday, November 5, 2016 to hire teachers for the 2017-2018 school year.

The fair will be held from 8:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. at the WESD Administrative Center, 4650 West Sweetwater Avenue, Glendale, 85304. Contracts for the 2017-2018 school year will be issued to successful candidates.

This is the first of four scheduled Teacher Interview Fairs. The others will take place at the same place and times on:

Saturday, December 10, 2016,  
Saturday, January 28, 2017, and  
Saturday, February 25, 2017.

Interviews will be conducted for those interested in teaching: kindergarten, elementary education, special education, language arts, mathematics, science, social studies, general music, art and special needs preschool.

Apply online at [jobs.wesdschools.org](http://jobs.wesdschools.org). Please select the posting titled, Teacher Fair – November 5, 2016 Teacher Fair. Human Resources will contact qualified applicants directly to preschedule an interview. Walk-in applicants are welcome.

To increase your chances of obtaining a teaching certificate, bring the following items to the Interview Fair:

- Copy of most recent teacher or student teacher evaluation
- Teaching Certificate (Not applicable to December 2016 or May 2017 graduates)
- IVP Fingerprint Clearance Card

For more information, contact the WESD Recruitment Office at 602-347-2622 or e-mail [lydia.garcia@wesdschools.org](mailto:lydia.garcia@wesdschools.org).



4650 W. Sweetwater Avenue, Glendale, AZ 85304 • 602-347-2600 • [www.wesdschools.org](http://www.wesdschools.org)

Governing Board: Aaron Jahneke, President • Clorinda Graziano, Vice President  
Bill Adams, Member • Larry Herrera, Member • Tee Lambert, Member

Dr. Paul Stanton, Superintendent

## From the Principal

It has been awesome seeing you attending your child's teacher for Parent/Teacher Conferences. It is so important to stay in tune with what is happening in your child's learning! Parental involvement is so important for your child's success! Please ask your child about their homework and remember that you can access grades through ParentVUE. If you don't have an access code, please call Sofia Ramirez at 602-347-2101. Connecting with your child daily and asking about what he/she is doing is so critical!

Speaking of parental involvement, our PTO was able to elect a new cabinet on Monday, October 24. I am pleased to work with our new officers.

President: Denia Bartholomew Vice President:  
James Schumaker Treasurer: Maribel Rangel

We need to build a strong PTO and we need YOU! Our meetings will be held once a month, and will occur on Mondays. The next meeting will be on November 14 at 6:00, in our cafeteria. Can you come and help us do great things for your children? If we all give one hour of our time per month, we could do GREAT things together! We need you!

Hope you can also attend our VIP Luncheon and Turkey Trot on November 23! Make Cactus Wren your school!



## From our PE Coach:

Parents, Aunts, Uncles and Grandparents, please plan to participate in the Cactus Wren Turkey Trot scheduled for Weds., Nov. 23. We are fortunate to be able to give away turkeys, pies and other prizes for this event again this year. A big thank you to our Target business partner for supplying the turkeys! Please check the schedule for your child's time to trot. We will be sending it out with your child. Don't forget this is also the day of the VIP luncheon so you can get some exercise and then have lunch with your child. I hope to see you all there!!

## De nuestro Entrenador de Educación Física:

*Padres, Tías, Tíos y Abuelos, favor de planear participar en el trote de pavos de la Escuela Cactus Wren, que será el miércoles 23 de noviembre. De nuevo tenemos la suerte de poder regalar pavos, pasteles y otros premios para este evento este año. ¡Un gran agradecimiento a nuestro socio de negocios Target por proveer los pavos! Se enviará con sus hijos el horario de trotar de su clase. No olviden que este día también es el día del almuerzo VIP por lo tanto podrán hacer algo de ejercicio trotando y luego almorzar con sus hijos. ¡Espero verlos a todos aquí!*

## **TAKE CREDIT FOR HELPING A CHILD**

You can do something great for the students at Cactus Wren School and reduce your tax liability at the same time by making a tax credit donation. You decide where your money goes! When you make a school tax credit donation you're enhancing the education of a child. Your donation can go to the program you specify, or you may permit the school to designate which of its extracurricular programs your donation will support – athletics, after-school classes, character education, field trips, and music programs.

### State Department of Revenue Guidelines

- The tax credit program gives a dollar-for-dollar reduction in state income taxes. The credit is \$400 for married taxpayers that file a joint return and \$200 for single taxpayers or heads of households. If married taxpayers file separate returns, each spouse may claim one-half of the credit that would have been allowed.
- Public education tax credits may only be used to the extent that they reduce a tax liability to zero. Any unused amounts may be carried forward for not more than five consecutive years.
- You do not need to have a child enrolled in a school to take advantage of this tax credit.
- If a program is not designated by the contributor, the school will choose a program based on greatest need.
- Checks must be made payable to the individual school of the taxpayer's choice.
- Tax credit donations must be made on or before April 15 to be applied to the prior year's taxes.
- When the school receives the check, a receipt will be issued for the individual's tax record. The District will also submit notification to the Arizona Department of Revenue.

To make a donation, simply go to the WESD Web site, [www.wesdschools.org](http://www.wesdschools.org), Quick Links. Print and complete the tax credit form and return it to the school office or to the WESD Administrative Center at 4650 W. Sweetwater Avenue, Glendale, AZ 85304.

Remember, tax credit donations must be made on or before April 15 to be applied to the prior year's **taxes**.

For further information, contact the Cactus Wren School office at 602-347-2101 or Chris Wing in the Accounting Department at 602-347-2631.

## De la Directora

*Ha sido impresionante verlos asistir a las conferencias de Padres y Maestros de sus hijos. ¡Es tan importante mantenerse en sintonía con lo que está sucediendo con el aprendizaje de sus hijos! ¡La participación de los padres es muy importante para el éxito de sus hijos! Por favor, pregúnteles acerca de sus tareas y recuerden que pueden revisar las calificaciones por medio de ParentVue. Si no tienen un código de acceso, por favor llamen a Sofia Ramirez al 602-347-2101. ¡Es muy importante la conexión con sus hijos, preguntarles diariamente sobre lo que están aprendiendo en la escuela!*

*Hablando de participación de los padres, el lunes 24 de octubre se eligió un nuevo gabinete de nuestra Organización de Padres y Maestros (PTO). Tengo el placer de trabajar con nuestros nuevos oficiales.*

*Presidente: Denia Bartholomew  
Vicepresidente: James Schumaker  
Tesorera: Maribel Rangel*

*¡Necesitamos construir una fuerte Organización PTO y para eso los necesitamos! Nuestras reuniones se llevarán a cabo una vez al mes los lunes. La próxima reunión será el 14 de noviembre a las 6:00 p.m. en nuestra cafetería. ¿Pueden venir a ayudarnos a organizar grandes cosas para sus hijos? ¡Si todos damos una hora de nuestro tiempo por mes, podríamos hacer cosas GRANDIOSAS juntos! ¡Los necesitamos!*

*¡Espero que también puedan asistir a nuestro Almuerzo VIP y Trote de Pavos el 23 de noviembre! ¡Hagan de la Escuela Cactus Wren su escuela!*



4650 W. Sweetwater Avenue, Glendale, AZ 85304 • 602-347-2600 • [www.wesdschools.org](http://www.wesdschools.org)

Governing Board: Aaron Jahneke, President • Clorinda Graziano, Vice President  
Bill Adams, Member • Larry Herrera, Member • Tee Lambert, Member

Dr. Paul Stanton, Superintendent