



# CHALLENGER NEWS

February 20, 2026

## Upcoming Mariposa Events

### FEBRUARY

- 23 PTO Monthly Meeting, 5:30-6:30pm (Library or online)
- 26 Mariposa Field Day, Info Below
- 27 5th Grade Yearbook Cover Contest and Love Notes Order Deadline

### MARCH

- 2 Dress Up as A Community Helper - Read Across America Week
- 3 Wear a Funny Hat - Read Across America Week
- 4 Wear Your PJs - Read Across America Week
- 5 Spring Picture Day - Fancy Dress - Read Across America Week
- 6 Dress as Your Favorite Book Character - Read Across America Week  
Fifth Grade Field Trip - AZ Science Center
- 9-23 Spring Break, Schools Closed
- 24 Classes Resume, Start of 4th Quarter

**Reminder: Every Wednesday is Early Release at 12:15pm  
Every Friday is Mariposa Spirit Day! Wear your Mariposa shirts!**

## Principal's Message

Dear Families,

Recently, families had the opportunity to sign up for Parent Teacher Conferences. We are pleased that we can host these both in person and via ZOOM. What is most important is the opportunity for the teachers and parents to discuss your child's progress and to identify ways to provide any necessary support, be it intervention or enrichment.

Thank you to the many families who were able to attend the PTO's Annual Sweetheart/Family Dance on February 7th. A special thank you to our PTO for organizing this special event. It was well attended and was a great success!

We are also excited to be hosting Mariposa's Annual Field Day which will be held on Thursday, February 26th. If you have not already signed up to help with this event, the newsletter contains information on how to do this.

If you have a student ready for Kindergarten, I encourage you to enroll your child early on rather than waiting closer to the start of school. Teacher staffing is determined by both historical enrollment

trends and the number of students already registered. We want our school to continue to grow and thrive. If you are aware of families that are transitioning and exploring their options, do not hesitate to direct them to the Mariposa website where they can sign up for a one/one school tour with me. We are proud to be a Computer Science Academy as well as having received five consecutive A+ designations, one of approximately ten schools in the state to do so.

In early January several parents and their children attended Kindergarten Showcase in preparation for the start of their children’s K-12 educational journey. It was a great success; however, if you did not have the opportunity to attend, we will hold a second Showcase Night on Wednesday, April 1st @ 5:30 PM.

Your continued support is greatly appreciated! Have a great weekend!

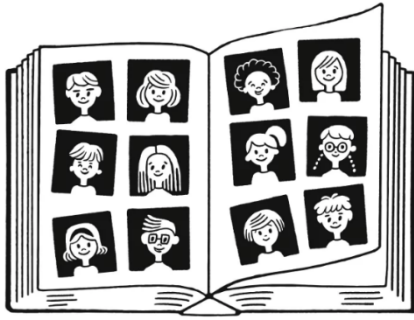
Your Partner in Learning,  
Spencer Fallgatter, Principal

### Chip's Cheers Winners!

Students who have received Chip's Cheers were recognized by teachers or staff as a leader on campus by following Chip's Way:  
**Be Respectful, Be Responsible, Be Safe.**  
Congratulations!

K	1 <sup>st</sup>	2 <sup>nd</sup>	3 <sup>rd</sup>	4 <sup>th</sup>	5 <sup>th</sup>
Harsha	Avery	Greyson	Itzmal	Daniella	Penny
Luis	Hannah	Kehlani	Jayden		Cora
	Shakira	Ellie	Ghelon		Xavier





## Yearbooks Are On Sale Now!

See the PTO News below for more information.

There are time sensitive items for fifth grade families regarding love notes and Yearbook Cover contest. Please be sure to read thoroughly below and reach out the PTO with any questions.

Be sure to order your 25-26 yearbook now before the deadline.

## Thank you!! We are Still In Need...

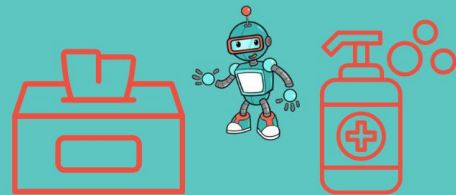
As the cold, flu and allergy season is upon us, our tissue and hand sanitizer supplies are running low. If you are able, please consider donating a box of tissues to help keep our noses comfortable or a bottle of hand sanitizer to keep our hands clean.

Donations can be dropped off in the school office any time this month.

As always, thank you for your generosity!

## SPREAD KINDNESS. NOT GERMS.

PLEASE HELP US KEEP OUR SCHOOL HEALTHY!  
WE ARE RUNNING LOW ON TISSUES AND HAND SANITIZER.  
ANY DONATIONS WOULD BE GREATLY APPRECIATED.



DONATIONS CAN BE DROPPED OFF IN THE  
FRONT OFFICE ANY TIME IN FEBRUARY

*THANK YOU!*



## FIELD DAY 2026

KYRENE de la MARIPOSA FIELD DAY  
FEBRUARY 26, 2026

GRADES (K-2) 8:30 a.m. to 9:45 a.m.

GRADES (3-5) 12:35 p.m. to 1:50 p.m.

Dear Parents and Guardians:

Our Field Day this year will be on Thursday, February 26. The kindergarten, first and second grade students will have their Field Day in the morning from 8:30 a.m. until approximately 9:45 a.m. The third, fourth and fifth grade students will have their Field Day in the afternoon from 12:35 p.m. until approximately 1:50 p.m. The students will be participating in physical education games and activities at an assortment of stations. The purpose of the event is to have everyone participate and have fun celebrating physical activity. Students will need to wear comfortable clothing, tennis shoes and sunscreen.

For the Field Day to be a success, parent volunteers are needed. We need many volunteers to work at the activity stations that students will be rotating through during the event. As an activity station volunteer, you will be responsible for organizing the students and teaching them your assigned game station. Classroom teachers will be with the students as they participate in each game station. You can sign up to volunteer at an activity station at [Field Day Volunteer Sign Up](#)

You can contact Dave Moser at [dmoser@kyrene.org](mailto:dmoser@kyrene.org) if you have any questions or concerns about this event. Parents that are attending the Field Day should sign-in at the west gate to the campus. Parents will need a photo ID to enter the campus. Photo ID's will be collected, and returned when parents are leaving the event.

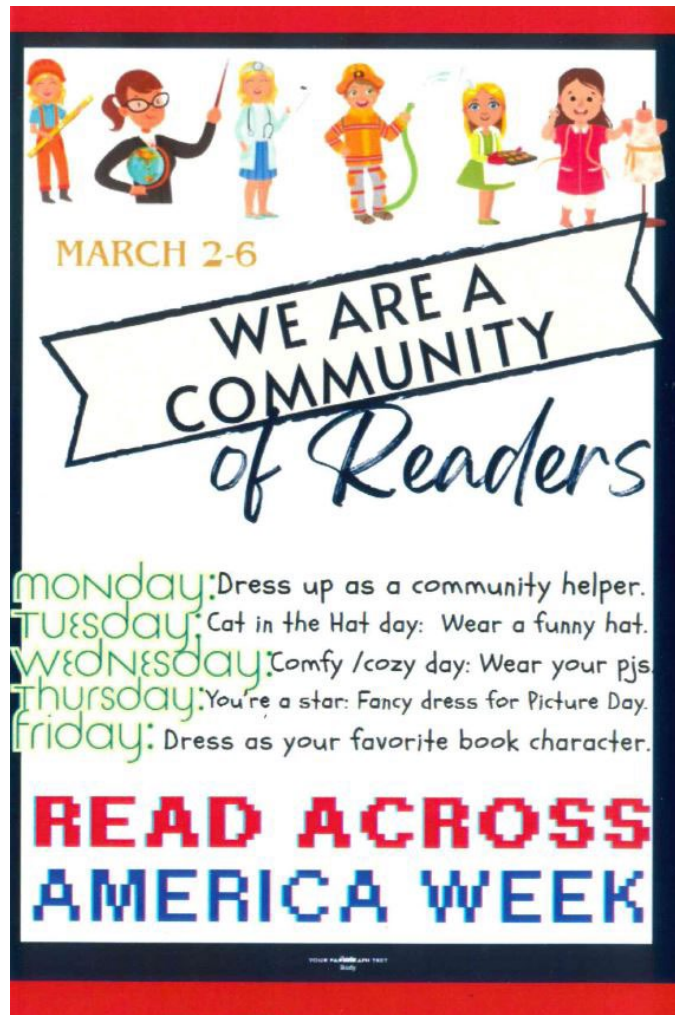
Thank you,

Dave Moser  
Physical Education Specialist at Mariposa

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### Save the Dates for Read Across America Spirt Week

- |                |                                       |
|----------------|---------------------------------------|
| Mon, March 2   | Dress Up as A Community Helper        |
| Tues, March 3  | Wear a Funny Hat                      |
| Wed, March 4   | Wear Your PJs                         |
| Thurs, March 5 | Fancy Dress for Spring Picture Day    |
| Fri, March 6   | Dress as Your Favorite Book Character |



## Intramural Kickball Registration is Now Open

Kyrene Kickball encourages a healthy and active lifestyle for students while having fun with their friends! Register for Intramural Kickball [here](#)



Kyrene Kickball encourages a healthy and active lifestyle for students while having fun with their friends!

Practice begins the week of March 30<sup>th</sup>

The class culminates with a final tournament on May 9<sup>th</sup> at Pueblo Middle School

Registration Fee: K-2 \$85 & 3-5 \$100

Spots are limited



Scan to Register, or call 480-541-1500

<https://kyrene.arux.app/course/3023/kyrene-athletics-25-26/kyrene-elementary-intramural-kickball>

## Support Kyrene de la Mariposa with the Arizona Tax Credit

When you made a tax credit donation, you're investing in opportunities that bring our school to life. From NEHS, Mariposa Annual World Fair, assemblies, Chip's Creation Station, transportation for field trips and so many other things.

Your support helps students build confidence, leadership and a love for learning all right here at our school. Please consider making a tax credit donation today. You don't even have to be a Mariposa family to donate to our school, any Arizona family can help.

Thank you for considering supporting Mariposa with your tax credit giving and thank you for being part of our school.

[Mariposa Tax Credit Donation Link](#)

A promotional graphic for the Mariposa tax credit donation. It features a white notepad with a pink tab on the left and a yellow pencil on the right. The text on the notepad reads: "IF YOU COULD DIRECT MORE STATE TAX DOLLARS TO MARIPOSA, WOULD YOU DO IT?" Below this, a blue brushstroke contains the text "WE HAVE GOOD NEWS." At the bottom of the graphic is a red banner with the text: "MAKE A TAX CREDIT DONATION! UP TO \$200 FOR INDIVIDUALS AND \$400 WHEN FILING JOINTLY. LEARN MORE @ KYRENE.ORG/TAXCREDIT". On the left side of the red banner is a circular logo for "KYRENE DE LA MARIPOSA" with a robot character and the text "COMPUTER SCIENCE ACCELERATOR".

IF YOU COULD DIRECT MORE STATE TAX DOLLARS TO MARIPOSA, WOULD YOU DO IT?

WE HAVE GOOD NEWS.

MAKE A TAX CREDIT DONATION!  
UP TO \$200 FOR INDIVIDUALS AND \$400 WHEN FILING JOINTLY.  
LEARN MORE @ KYRENE.ORG/TAXCREDIT



## Mariposa is Hiring!

Mariposa is currently hiring for a for CCBS Resource Assistant and a Resource IA/Lunch Duty. If you are interested in joining the Mariposa team and/or learning more about these opportunities please visit [Kyrene Careers](https://www.kyrene.org/careers)

Kyrene de la Mariposa Elementary School  
Computer Science Academy

**WE'RE HIRING!**

**CCBS Resource Assistant  
(35 hr)**

If interested, please visit  
[kyrene.org/careers](https://www.kyrene.org/careers)

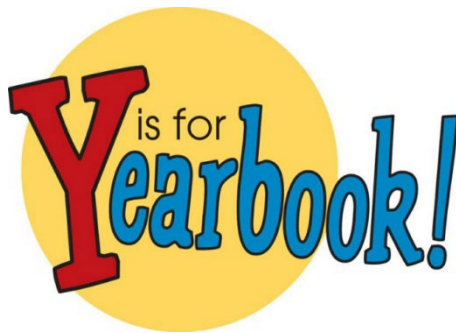


## A Message from Your Mariposa PTO

Hi Mariposa families,

Our monthly PTO meeting is coming up on Monday from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. Join us in the Library or [online via Google Meet](#). On the agenda is planning activities for the spring including the Spring Book Fair, Chip's Change Makers fundraiser, and Teacher Appreciation Week. We need your help to make these activities a success. We will also start planning PTO leadership for the 2026-2027 school year.

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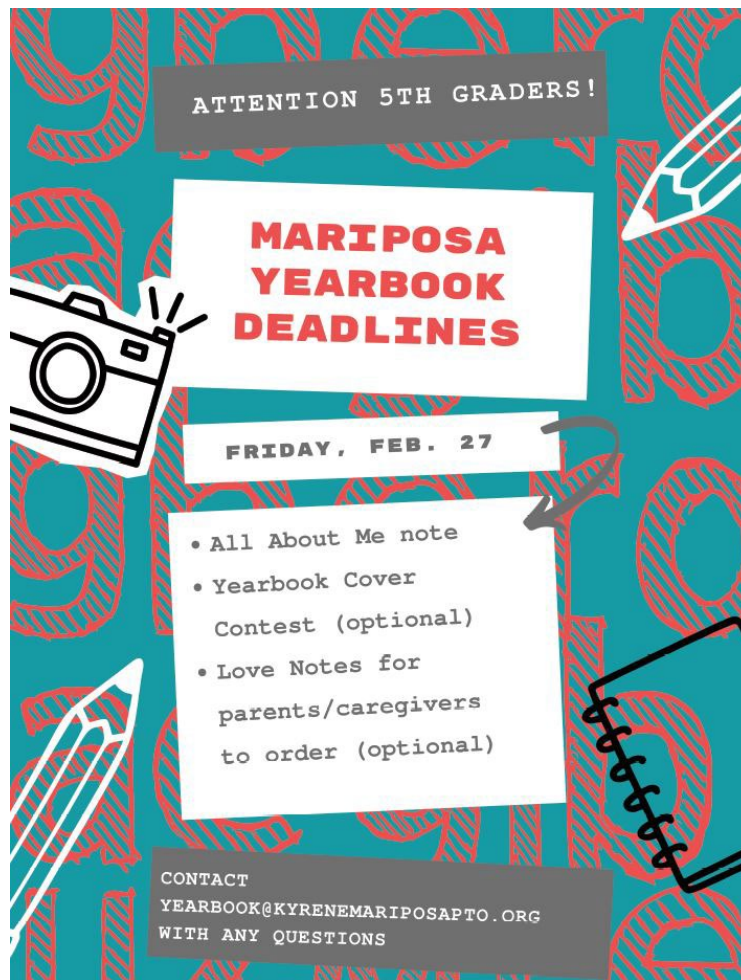


### YEARBOOKS:

The 2025-2026 yearbook is on sale for \$25 and can be purchased until April 16. Order your student's yearbook [here](#).

**5th grade families:** Celebrate your graduate with love notes in the yearbook and encourage them to submit a design for the yearbook cover contest. More info [here](#).

Purchase the love notes here: [LOVE NOTES PURCHASE HERE](#)



#### **VOLUNTEERS:**

We need your help to support and grow our PTO! We welcome you to volunteer however it best fits your schedule. We understand that it is a juggle with school, work and family. Please take a look at some of the opportunities and contact Kelsey at 480-734-1827 or [kyrenemariaposapto@gmail.com](mailto:kyrenemariaposapto@gmail.com) for more information.

*Thank you in advance!*

#### **VOLUNTEERS NEEDED:**

Social media  
School teacher workroom volunteering (PALS group)  
Fundraising coordination (Chip's Change Makers/ Penny Wars in May)  
Teacher appreciation (monthly meeting snacks, appreciation week in May)  
Spirit wear (t-shirts, water bottles, etc.)  
Financial auditing (reviewing monthly budget reports/expenses)



We've made it easy for you to stay in sync with our events. **Subscribe to the PTO calendar and MAGIC...** it appears alongside your personal calendar.

Android Calendar: [Android PTO Calendar](#)

iPhone: [iPhone PTO Calendar](#)

Upcoming Events:

Feb 23 - PTO Monthly Meeting - 5:30-6:30 p.m.

Save the date:

March 30 - PTO Monthly Meeting - 5:30-6:30 p.m.

April 20 - PTO Monthly Meeting - 5:30-6:30 p.m.

April 27 - May 1 - Spring Book Fair

April 29 - Celebration Of Learning

May 4 - 8 - Teacher Appreciation Week

May 8 - PTO's Annual Bingo Night

May 11 - 15 - Chip's Change Makers Fundraiser

## Mariposa PTO Family Directory

[View the Family Directory](#)

Please reach out to us at [kyrenemariposapto@gmail.com](mailto:kyrenemariposapto@gmail.com) or send us a message on [Instagram](#) if you have any questions or would like to volunteer.

Your Mariposa PTO Board

Co-Presidents:

Jennifer Olonan and Kelsey Wolf-Donnay

Secretary: Jennifer Pratt

Treasurer: Sarah Alexander

In-School Support: Jeni Fuhrmann

Fundraising: Suzanne Percy



## Connect with the PTO:

[Mariposa PTO Facebook](#)

[Mariposa PTO Instagram](#)

[Mariposa PTO Website](#)

## Contact Us

Kyrene de la Mariposa  
50 E Knox Rd  
Tempe, AZ 85284

Phone: 480-541-3800

School Hours: 7:30 am - 2:15 pm  
Early Release Wed: 12:15 pm

Office Hours: 7:00 am - 3:30 pm  
Wednesday: 7:00 am - 1:30 pm

Fax: 480-541-3810  
Attendance: 480-541-3801

**PORTRAIT OF A KYRENE KID** 

**ADAPTABLE LEARNER • SELF-ADVOCATE • COMMUNITY CONTRIBUTOR**  
**COMMUNICATOR • CRITICAL THINKER • PROBLEM SOLVER • COLLABORATOR**

**READY FOR THE FUTURE. HIGH SCHOOL. COLLEGE. CAREER. LIFE.**

A+ School of Excellence™



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Kyrene School District would like to continue connecting with you via email. If you prefer to be removed from our list, please contact Kyrene School District directly. To stop receiving all email messages distributed through our SchoolMessenger service, follow this link and confirm: [Unsubscribe](#)

SchoolMessenger is a notification service used by the nation's leading school systems to connect with parents, students and staff through voice, SMS text, email, and social media.