



CHALLENGER NEWS

March 6, 2026

Upcoming Mariposa Events

MARCH

- 6 5th Grade Yearbook Cover Contest and Love Notes Order DEADLINE EXTENDED to MARCH 6
- 9-23 Spring Break, Schools Closed
- 24 Classes Resume, Start of 4th Quarter
 - Chess Emporium, 2:20pm-3:20pm
 - Governing Board Meeting, 6:00pm
- 25 Early Release @ 12:15pm
- 26 Young Rembrandts, 2:20pm-3:20pm
- 27 First Grade Field Trip Arizona Museum of History
 - School Store, Lunch Recess
 - Los Ninos Spanish, 2:20pm-3:20pm
 - Soccer Shots, 2:20pm-3:20pm
- 30 PTO Meeting, Mariposa Library, 5:30pm
 - Deadline for 2026-2027 PTO Officer Nominations
 - AZSci Testing, 5th Grade Only
- 31 AZSci Testing, 5th Grade Only

APRIL

- 1 Kyrene de la Mariposa Showcase, 5:30pm-6:30pm

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

Spring Break

Please mark your calendars for
Kyrene School District Spring Break
March 9 - March 23.

School resumes on Tuesday, March 24



Dear Challenger Families and Friends,

As state testing approaches, our third through fifth grade students are working hard to show off everything they have learned this year. We know they are ready, but a little extra boost goes a long way!

A simple, handwritten 3x5 card from a parent or a cheering word from a caring community member can be the "secret ingredient" to calming jitters and fueling their focus.

Help us shower our students with encouragement!

Whether it's a quick "You've got this!" or a reminder of how proud you are, these small gestures make a massive impact on their mindset. Let's make sure every student walks into that testing room feeling supported, capable, and cheered on!

How to Participate:

What:

Cards of Encouragement on 3x5 cards
or Chip Cheer cards

Where:

Drop your notes in the **marked box on the counter in the Front Office.**

Deadline:

Please have all notes turned in by
Wednesday, April 1, 2026.

Thank you for being the best
cheerleaders for our Challengers!



Dear Families,

As we approach our AASA test window for third, fourth and fifth grades, there are some things families can do to help kids. The Arizona Department of Education says, "Talk with your child about the test—your conversations can help minimize any fear or anxiety your child may feel when taking the test this

spring. You can also take practice AASA and ACT tests at home to help your child prepare. For AASA, visit the [TestNav portal](#), select Arizona and click on "Mic Check and Sample Tests." Practice ACT tests are also available through [TestNav](#)."

Here are some tips and reminders to help your students come to school prepared for success:

- Start well rested - make sure your students stick to their bedtimes and come to school refreshed.
- Have a healthy breakfast - whether it be school breakfast or something at home, make sure your students start their morning with a satisfying meal
- Arrive to school **on time** - we want all students to have every opportunity to complete their test to the best of their ability; providing them with the time they need is essential
- Schedule appointments on non-test days and/or after school hours.

Our test times will be as follows:

March 30 and March 31 5th grade only, AZSci
April 2, all grades 3rd-5th, AASA Writing
April 3, 3rd grade only, AASA Oral Reading Fluency (ORF)
April 7 and April 9, all grades 3rd-5th, AASA Reading
April 14 and April 16, all grades 3rd-5th, AASA Math



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 st	2 nd	3 rd	4 th	5 th
Isaiah	David	Tyson	Bella	Michael	
	Eli	Klarisa	Autumn	Beatriz	
		Emma		Lan	



Yearbooks Are On Sale Now!

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

We need your photos from recent events and field trips!

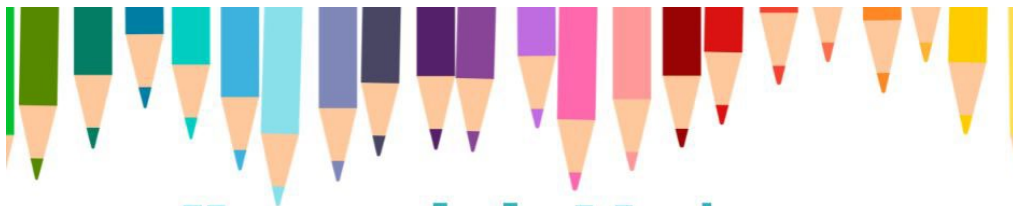
Yearbook photo submission form: [25/26 Yearbook Photos](#)

5th Grade Deadlines Extended - See PTO info below

Kyrene de la Mariposa Showcase

Mariposa families, please share with your friends and neighbors that we are hosting a special Mariposa Showcase for families with incoming students in Kindergarten-Fifth Grade that would like to learn more. This will be an excellent your chance to meet our exceptional teachers, explore our classrooms, and learn about the unique programs that make our school such a wonderful place to grow and learn. Come see firsthand how we integrate technology, nurture curiosity, creativity, and confidence in every child. We can't wait to welcome your family to our community!

Kyrene de la Mariposa Showcase
Wednesday, April 1
5:30pm-6:30pm



Kyrene de la Mariposa

Computer Science Academy

SHOWCASE

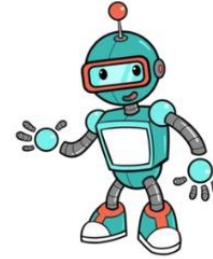
Wednesday, April 1

5:30pm - 6:30pm

This is for incoming students

Grades K-5 for the 26-27 school year.

We invite you to join us and discover why Mariposa
is the right choice for your family.



Schedule a Tour Now!

Please share with your friends and neighbors that might be interesting in attending Kyrene de la Mariposa Computer Science Academy that we would love to show them around our campus! Our tours are scheduled for during the week, after school. If you would like to join us for a tour, please fill out the form below, or give us a call to schedule a tour at 480-541-3800.

[Schedule a Tour](#)

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 30th

The class culminates with a final tournament on May 9th
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 graphic designed to look like a piece of lined paper pinned to a teal background. The text on the paper asks, "IF YOU COULD DIRECT MORE STATE TAX DOLLARS TO MARIPOSA, WOULD YOU DO IT?" with "MARIPOSA" in red. Below this, a blue brushstroke contains the text "WE HAVE GOOD NEWS." A yellow pencil is shown writing the end of this phrase. At the bottom left is the Kyrene de la Mariposa logo, which features a robot head and the text "KYRENE DE LA MARIPOSA" and "COMPUTER SCIENCE ACADEMY". At the bottom right, a red box contains the text: "MAKE A TAX CREDIT DONATION! UP TO \$200 FOR INDIVIDUALS AND \$400 WHEN FILING JOINTLY. LEARN MORE @ KYRENE.ORG/TAXCREDIT".

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 multiple positions:

- CCBS Resource Assistant (35hrs)
- Resource IA/Lunch Duty (28.5 hrs)
- Lunch Duty/IA Resource/IA Academic Interventionist (31.25 hrs)

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 hrs)
Resource IA/Lunch Duty (28.5 hrs)
**Lunch Duty/IA Resource/
IA Acad Interventionist (31.25/hrs)**

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





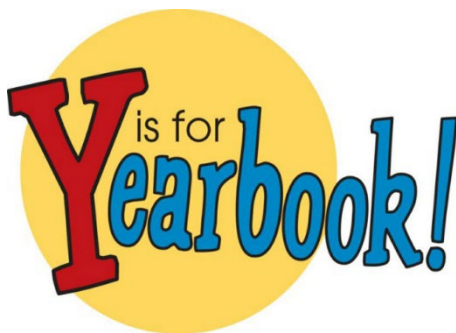
A Message from Your Mariposa PTO

Hi Mariposa families,

We are 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. Please fill out this form to sign up for ways you'd like to help: <https://forms.gle/RMBhkB7pxa9Mu9eK9>
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 welcome you to volunteer in whatever way 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 kyrenemariposapto@gmail.com for more information.



YEARBOOKS:

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

We need your photos from recent events and field trips!

Yearbook photo submission form:

<https://form.jotform.com/252960370136051>

DEADLINE EXTENDED to MARCH 6 - TODAY at 9:00pm:

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](#)



We know it is only March, but we are starting to plan the 2026-2027 school year. Nominations are now open for PTO officers.

Thank you for your interest in serving on the 2026-2027 Mariposa PTO board or nominating someone to serve!

We are seeking nominations for the following roles (for you or others). Every position has the option for a co-officer. View the [Mariposa PTO bylaws](#) for the description of each position.

- President
- Vice President
- In-School Support
- Fundraising
- Communications
- Treasurer
- Secretary

NOMINATION FORM:

<https://forms.gle/hcfSg94sm7utuPdx6>

Deadline for nominations: March 30, 2026

Nominees will be announced in April, and voting will happen at the April 20 monthly PTO meeting from 5:30 - 6:30 p.m.

PTO Calendar of Events



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](#)

Save the date:

March 28 - Spring Warner Ranch Yard Sale & Goodwill Donation Drive 7 a.m. - 2 p.m.

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 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

JOIN THE MARIPOSA PTO

Family Directory

FILL OUT THE NEW FORM FOR 2025-2026

PTO Volunteer MENU

Welcome! Think of this like a restaurant menu—pick the tasks that fit your time, talents, and appetite for helping out.

Starters

Quick and easy ways to jump in.

- Bring snacks for appreciation events 30 mins
- Help set up at an event 1 hr
- Assemble packets for teachers 1 hr

Lighter Fare

Medium commitments that matter.

- Volunteer for a shift at the book fair 2 hrs
- Help teachers prepare materials 2 hrs
- Decorate for a school event 2 hrs

Take-Out

Pitch in without leaving the house.

- Design flyers for events/activities tbd
- Post on social media tbd
- Create sign-up sheets tbd
- Assemble packets for teachers tbd

Mains

Got more time to give? Help us organize activities or plan an event.

- Chair an event 1 yr
- Manage communications/social media 1 yr
- Oversee spirit wear sales 1 yr
- Lead teacher appreciation activities 1 yr
- Manage a fundraiser 1 yr

Sweets

Small ways to help us spread joy at school.

- Hand out popsicles on hot days 30 mins
- Write thank-you notes for staff 1 hr
- Set up staff meeting snacks 1 hr

Ready to lend a hand? Scan the QR code to sign up!



Stay in the loop! Follow Mariposa PTO on Facebook and Instagram



PTOtoday

Questions/comments: kyrenemariposapto@gmail.com

Donate

YOUR NO LONGER NEEDED ITEMS AND MORE!

Help **Kyrene de la Mariposa PTO** raise money by donating your gently used items to:

Goodwill Retail Store – Rural & Ray Rd
4949 W Ray Rd, Chandler AZ 85226

Saturday, March 28th 10am-2pm

Kyrene de la Mariposa PTO earns money for every pound of donated items

Large items requiring team lift not accepted at this time

WE GLADLY ACCEPT:

Small Appliances, Books, Clothing, Computers, Cooking Accessories, Electronics, Glass & Housewares, Handbags, Jewelry, Knick-Knacks, Linens, Musical Instruments, Pictures, Shoes, Small Furniture, Tools, Toys.

UNFORTUNATELY WE CANNOT ACCEPT:

Auto Parts, Building Materials, Disassembled Exercise Equipment, Hazardous Materials, Tires, Cleaning Products, Flammable Products, Mattresses, Pesticides/Lawn & Garden Products, Paint / Painting Supplies, Pool Tables, Sofa Beds, Televisions Older than 5 years, Treadmills, Large Furniture, Large Appliances.



Connect with the PTO:

[Mariposa PTO Facebook](#)

[Mariposa PTO Instagram](#)

[Mariposa PTO Website](#)

FROM THE OFFICE

Kyrene Resource Fair

Join us for an enriching experience tailored to families navigating the journey of raising children with disabilities. Kyrene School District's Exceptional Student Services team invites you to our Resource Fair, an opportunity for families to discover local resources and create connections in the community.

Date: Wednesday, April 22

Time: 4:30-6:00 pm

Where: Kyrene del Pueblo Middle School



**KYRENE SCHOOL DISTRICT
RESOURCE
FAIR**

**ADMIT ONE
APRIL 22, 2026**

ATTEND THE KYRENE RESOURCE FAIR

Join us for an enriching experience tailored to families navigating the journey of raising children with disabilities. Kyrene School District's Exceptional Student Services team invites you to our Resource Fair, an opportunity for families to discover local resources and create connections in the community.

Gain insights, strategies, and valuable information from experts in a variety of fields involved with raising children with special needs.
Engage in one-on-one conversations with resource providers to address your family's unique needs and concerns.
Gather informational flyers, brochures and contacts to support your family.

Wednesday, April 22 🍌 From 4:30-6:00 p.m.

Kyrene del Pueblo Middle School
360 S. Twelve Oaks Boulevard, Chandler, AZ 85226

WHO WILL BE THERE?

AHCCS	Higher Octave Healing	The Miracle League
ASU SPELL Program	Hope Group	The Suzy Foundation
AzTAP	Kyrene Resource Center	YMCA
B Noelle Foundation	Mariposa Therapy	Out and About
Care for Caregivers	Mountain Park Health Center	Absolute HCBS
Chicanos Por La Causa	Phoenix Adaptive Rec	Kyrene Related Service Providers
Disability Rights Arizona	Phoenix Public Library/Ironwood	DES Child and Community Services
Duet (Grandparents Raising Grandchildren)	Ryan House	DDD
Encircle Families	Southwest Network	Inspire Services
Gompers	Tempe Adaptive Recreation	AND MANY MORE!

KyreneSchoolDistrict

Contact Us

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

Phone: 480-541-3800
Fax: 480-541-3810
Attendance: 480-541-3801

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

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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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.