

PRINCIPAL'S LETTER

Welcome to Moon Mountain School, home of the Coyotes!

At Moon Mountain, we are proud of the warm, inclusive, and academically focused environment we've built – one that challenges our students and meets their individual needs. We are committed to fostering a learning climate that promotes student achievement and supports a positive, collaborative school community.

Our shared goals of academic excellence and a nurturing environment are made possible when families and staff work together in open and ongoing communication. Please stay connected by visiting our school website and Facebook page, reading our monthly newsletter, and reviewing the Go-Home folder your child brings home each week.

We also encourage you to take an active role in your child's educational journey. Whether by joining our Site Council or PTSA, or by volunteering in the classroom, your involvement makes a lasting difference. If you're interested in volunteer opportunities, please reach out to your child's teacher—we'd love to have you involved.

Thank you for your continued support and commitment to the Moon Mountain community. If you have any questions or concerns throughout the school year, please don't hesitate to reach out.

Warm regards,

Dawna Dohogne
Principal

VISION/MISSION STATEMENT

Our Vision

Nurture the Spark* Cultivate Potential* Guide the Journey

Our Mission

Moon Mountain's staff is committed to nurturing the whole child within the context of school, family, and community. We will promote an academic, healthy, and creative environment of learning, belonging and safety. We will work cooperatively to provide child-centered instruction that challenges and guides each student on a pathway toward his or her individual potential. We will inspire life-long learners who will utilize knowledge and experience to become productive, competent, and successful members of our global society.

GENERAL SCHOOL INFORMATION

School Colors

Teal and Black

School Mascot

Coyote

Quick Reference Information

School Office: 602-896-6000

Health Technician's Office: 602-896-6010

Attendance Line: 602-896-6011

FAX: 602-896-6020

School Website: <http://moonmountain.wesdschools.org>

Facebook page: @MoonMountainElementary

Office Hours: 7:00 a.m.-3:30 p.m.

Wednesdays only: 7:00 a.m.-2:30 p.m.

School Hours: 7:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m.

Student Arrival: 7:10 a.m.

Students in seats: 7:30 a.m.

Early Release Wednesdays: 1:00 p.m.

Head Start: 7:45 a.m. - 2:45 p.m. **(Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday)**

Preschool: (Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday) 7:30 a.m.-10:00 a.m./11:00 a.m.-1:30 p.m.

School Success

At Moon Mountain, we recognize that effective, comprehensive assessments are essential for supporting student achievement and evaluating the success of our programs. We use a variety of assessments to screen, monitor progress, and measure outcomes, ensuring that instruction and interventions are tailored to meet the unique needs of each student.

Our staff works collaboratively to identify opportunities for instructional improvement in key areas such as reading, math, behavior, and youth development. Assessment data is used to guide instructional decisions and implement timely, targeted interventions throughout the school day, across multiple settings on campus.

Our school uses a Multi-Tiered System of Support (MTSS) to make sure all students have what they need to learn and grow. MTSS helps us support students in both their academics and their social-emotional well-being. All students receive strong, school-wide support, but some may benefit from more targeted help. This might include additional instruction, small group time to practice skills, or more individualized plans. Teachers and staff regularly check how students are doing and adjust support as needed. Our goal is to work as a team with families to help all students do their best by using data to provide the right kind of support for both academic success and social-emotional growth.

We believe that student success is a shared responsibility, and family involvement plays a vital role. To support strong communication between home and school, we use ParentSquare to share important announcements, school updates, and classroom communications. In addition, ParentVUE gives families access to real-time information about their child's attendance, grades, and assessment results. We encourage families to stay engaged through these platforms and to partner with us in supporting learning at home. By working together, we can ensure every student has the opportunity to thrive.

Attendance/Ttruancy

Please notify the school if your child is going to be absent. To ensure students are successful and meet current state legislation, which requires all students to attend 90% of the school year, WESD has an Attendance Unit (AU). The AU will work with the City Justice Courts to identify students who are chronically absent or truant.

When a student reaches five total absences (excused, unexcused and/or unverified), families will receive an attendance notification letter. When a student reaches 10 unverified, unexcused, and excused absences, families will receive an attendance warning e-mail. Should a student reach 15 absences, a referral to the AU for appropriate actions (see District guidelines) will be made. **To avoid this eventuality, there are several precautions to take: (1) reinforce being on time and**

good attendance, (2) call the school each time a student will be absent, (3) present any medical documentation to the health technician and/or attendance clerk if illness will be a consistent, foreseeable issue.

Parent cooperation is of the utmost importance in assuring student success.

Medications

A student should not transport medications, including over-the-counter medications, to or from school. An adult should bring medicines to the health office in the original pharmacy container and fill out the appropriate paperwork with written parent permission. The **ONLY** medication given to the student is provided by the parent, following District guidelines.

Breakfast/Lunch Information

Moon Mountain provides a universal free breakfast and lunch for all students.

Breakfast is served every morning for all students. Children may choose to eat breakfast or not. Breakfast times are 7:10-7:30 a.m.

Breakfast will not be served after 7:30.

Specific rules for the cafeteria include:

- Follow directions and be respectful.
- No running, horseplay or throwing food.
- Appropriate voices.
- Raise your hand to use the restroom.
- **Leave your area clean, including the floor.**
- All food must remain in the cafeteria. No food should be taken to the playground.
- Lunch visitors will not be allowed to encourage socialization with peers during mealtime.

VOLUNTEERS/VISITORS

Parents, families, and community members are encouraged to visit the school and take an active role in the education of all students. Visitors under 18 must be accompanied by an adult during the visit. All visitors must sign in at the front office, provide ID, and receive a visitor badge to wear before proceeding onto the campus. Parents may not accompany their child to the playground for recess at any time

Procedures regarding volunteers may be found in the WESD Volunteer Handbook. All volunteers must complete district required forms annually. All volunteers must sign in and out at the front office to obtain a visitor's badge.

Site Council

Site Council serves in a "team" capacity with the principal in planning, development, and assessment of the school's educational programs. It is comprised of teachers, non-certified staff, parents/guardians, and community members. The meetings are open for anyone to attend.

Parent Organizations

The Parent Teacher Student Association (PTSA) is a support service organization that functions to assist the school and is actively involved in financing and supporting Moon Mountain School activities. They are also available for school and teacher requests for funds to support special projects. General meetings of the Moon Mountain PTSA are held throughout the year and focus on student participation programs or major school events.

PTSA meetings will be announced through the school newsletters and our website. All Moon Mountain parents are encouraged and invited to join and become active in the Moon Mountain PTSA.

School Newsletter/Go-home Folder

Our school newsletter is published monthly. It is emailed to each parent and available on our school website. Go-home folders are sent home weekly. They include school and District information and specific information from your child's homeroom teacher. Please read all the materials, sign in the appropriate space, and return the folder to your child's teacher.

GRADING/HONORS/AWARDS

Makeup Work Policy

When students are absent, it is the student's responsibility to talk with their teachers to obtain missed assignments. Students should complete missed assignments and turn them into their teachers. Assignments can be requested after three days of absence. Students are allowed extra time to complete these assignments equal to the number of days they were absent.

Academic Honors

Academic Excellence:

1.0 grade point average – no Ns or Us

Principal's List:

1.1 – 1.5 grade point average – no Ds or Fs – no Ns or Us

Honor Roll:

1.6 – 2.0 grade point average – no Ds or Fs – no Ns or Us

Quarterly assemblies for academic achievement:

3rd, 4th, 5th and 6th grades

Student of the Month: Kindergarten – 6 Grades

Student of the Month breakfasts are held every month to honor students chosen by their teachers as students modeling both good effort and citizenship.

Moon Mountain Homework Guidelines

Homework supports student learning by reviewing and practicing skills taught in reading, writing and math. Students should not spend more than 30 minutes on homework each evening. Any special projects assigned throughout the year are explained during student orientation or with a letter sent home.

Children who consistently do not complete homework can expect to earn an N or U on their report card for work habits.

Perfect Attendance

Students with perfect attendance and fabulous attendance are recognized each quarter. Students with perfect attendance all year receive special recognition in May. Perfect attendance includes no tardies or no early sign-outs.

STUDENT DISCIPLINE/BEHAVIOR

Expectations/Make Your Day Program

The Moon Mountain community follows one school rule to ensure safety and learning for all. Our school rule is "***No one has the right to interfere with the learning or safety of others.***" To support this rule, students follow common expectations found in our Behavioral Matrix.

Our Moon Mountain motto is: We are respectful, responsible, mindful, and kind!

MM utilizes *Make Your Day*. This citizenship program encourages students to take responsibility for their own actions and academic performance. Emphasis is placed on the importance of each student working to his or her own ability level. The program allows all students to make mistakes without cumulative punitive action. It provides time for thought and direction. Effort is expected and rewarded, and the program offers frequent, positive feedback. The program allows students to make decisions that develop critical thinking skills. School-wide appropriate behaviors are expected as students are taught and expected to understand inappropriate behavior. The foundation of Make Your Day is that all students are capable of success. It fosters the philosophy that making appropriate choices at school will generate student success.

1. Students will always show positive behavior by respecting others' rights to learn in a safe environment.
2. Students will foster a safe environment by respecting school property, using it responsibly, and respecting the right of all students to a physically and emotionally safe environment.
3. Students are expected to choose positive alternatives to inappropriate behaviors (e.g., teacher assistance, avoidance of confrontations, and/or concerns during points).
4. Students are expected to be in class on time and to make proper use of the instructional setting by assuming the responsibility of being on-task and successfully completing all assignments, including homework.

Earning Points: Self and Peer Review Occur Daily

1. Students earn points inside the classroom by doing what is expected, staying on task, following directions, and maintaining a safe environment. Outside the classroom, students are expected to walk in the hallways, not to bother other people, and to play safely on the playground. At the end of the instructional sessions, students are asked to review their performance academically and behaviorally by awarding themselves 1-45 points (0-10 points in primary grades) for that period.
2. Once students have rated their performance, fellow students have an opportunity to give feedback to each other under the teacher's direction. Students may disagree with another's points for the purpose of improving the behavior if that person interfered with their learning or was doing something unsafe. Some classroom examples of interference would include talking, making noise, touching, getting up frequently, making faces, etc. *Teachers make final determination about concerns.* Students who remain on steps during the point review have the right to give their own points, defend concerns, but may not bring concerns about other's points, because students in this circumstance have forfeited their right to have concerns with other student's points.
3. An average of 45 points (10 per period in the primary grades) per day means the student has made his or her day and can receive a specific school reinforcement by the teacher and/or fellow student and school-wide recognition by the principal, including positive notes home to parents from teachers.

4. There are scheduled times when 50 points (13 points for primary grades) per session are possible, allowing students to earn extra points.

Children coming to class unprepared or without basic learning materials can expect:

To earn a maximum of 40 points (intermediate) and may be given an alternate means to accomplish the classroom expectation.

Homework is given for practice and reinforcement of classroom instruction. It is an extension of classroom instruction.

Children who come to school without homework can expect:

To earn a maximum of 40 points in the intermediate grades (4-6) and no fewer than eight points in third grade.

Dress Code

Please see the District portion of the handbook for Dress Code information.

IDs

The Moon Mountain School ID is part of the dress code and must be worn at all times. Students should wear the school-issued, break-away lanyard. No outside lanyards are permitted. Students who forget their ID will be issued a one-day temporary and sit at the detention table during lunch. If a student does not have an ID for the second consecutive day, they will not receive a temporary and will not be able to ride the bus home. If the ID is lost, a new set can be purchased for \$2. Pouches and lanyards are 50 cents apiece, and a Zpass costs \$1.

Items Not Allowed at School

Moon Mountain has a strict "No Gum" policy anywhere on campus. Any food items brought from home for lunch must be eaten in the cafeteria during lunch or during a nutrition break provided by the teacher. Please refer to the classroom teacher's healthy snack ideas for approved items. Please see our website for a list of approved items.

Skateboards, rollerblades, scooters, skates and wheeled tennis shoes are not allowed on campus.

Toys (except those brought for teacher-directed activities), permanent markers, lasers, musical devices, electronic games/devices, and trading cards are not allowed on campus.

Personal sports equipment such as balls, bats and Frisbees should not be brought to school. The school will provide sports equipment for use in the playground.

Electronic reading devices such as Kindles, iPads and Nooks are prohibited due to the risks of damage or loss.

Weapons, whether real or toy/model are prohibited, and their possession will result in suspension or expulsion in accordance with District policy.

Possession or the use of tobacco, alcohol or drugs is prohibited and may result in suspension or expulsion in accordance with District policy.

Moon Mountain does not accept responsibility for prohibited items. They are not to be brought to school. Any confiscated items must be picked up by parents.

Cell Phone Policy

Students are not allowed to use cell phones on campus for any purpose, including receiving calls, taking pictures, or text messaging. If you want your child to carry a phone for non-

school-time emergency purposes, it must be turned off and kept at the student's own risk in their backpack. Any violations of this policy, including having the phone ring or emitting any noise, will result in discipline. After a second occurrence, a parent will need to come to school and pick up the phone. Personal cell phone use on field trips will be clearly outlined by the grade-level teams.

SCHOOL SAFETY

Moon Mountain has a crisis/lockdown plan in place in the event of an emergency. Fire and lockdown drills are conducted in accordance with District policy. If the need to evacuate the school should occur, students will be evacuated to a secure location. Parents, guardians, and childcare providers will pick up students at the chosen location.

Handicap, Carpool, Apple Award Spaces/Pickup

Handicap spaces in the front of the school are reserved for those displaying a handicap license plate or placard. We have parents, guardians and/or students who may need access to these spaces at any given time. Maricopa County requires carpool spaces be reserved for those participating in the trip reduction program. We appreciate you making those spots available for carpooling staff. Moon Mountain recognizes outstanding staff members through the Apple Award Program. Winners receive the privilege of parking in a reserved spot. We appreciate you leaving the designated space available for employees receiving this honor. Please feel free to park in any non-reserved, open parking space and walk to the sidewalk to pick up your student. You may also enter the pickup line and wait for your turn to come around to the pickup area. Your child/ren will then enter your car from the curb. Please adhere to our parking lot drop-off and pickup rules for the safety of all students.

Bicycles

Students in grades K-2 are not permitted to ride bicycles to school. Students in grades 3-6 are allowed the privilege of riding their bicycles. Any student who abuses this privilege by using unsafe behavior will lose it. Bicycles must be secured by a lock in the bike rack. Moon Mountain is not responsible for loss of or damage to bicycles.

Crosswalks

There are three school zone crosswalks: in front of the school on 19th Avenue, behind the school at the corner of Willow and 17th Avenue, and on Voltaire in front of the bike rack area on 18th Avenue. Students are to follow the directions given by the crossing guards for their safety and well-being. Students are not permitted to cross at the light on 19th Avenue and Wood.

Our crossing guards are on duty at this crosswalk from 6:45-7:50 a.m. and 1:45-2:50 p.m. for all students.

Parent Pick Up and Drop Off:

Parents are requested to respect the traffic patterns in all parking areas. Please use the parent drop-off lane in front of the school off of Voltaire. **THIS IS A DROP-OFF LANE ONLY AND NOT FOR PARKING.** Because this is also a fire lane, you will risk the chance of a ticket if you park and leave your car in this lane.

When you drop off or pick up your child and you need to enter the school, please park in the parking lot. The front parking spaces are reserved for parents and other visitors.

Dismissal

Changes in dismissal should be made via email to Moon Mountain or by sending your child with a signed note. A change in your child's dismissal plan must be in place prior to 12:00 p.m. In an effort to minimize interruptions to the classrooms at the end of the day, students cannot be checked out any later than 2:15 p.m. This time is reserved for announcements, homework assignments and end-of-the-day instructions. Picture ID is required for signing out a student.

Olweus Bullying Prevention & Social/Emotional

Learning

OLWEUS BULLYING PREVENTION PROGRAM is part of our daily routine at Moon Mountain. This is in response to the Bullying Legislation in the State of Arizona. Bullying is considered a serious offense. Additionally, Second Step lessons are used to support students' social and emotional learning.

EVENTS/ACTIVITIES/PROGRAMS

Head Start/Extended Day Programs

Moon Mountain offers Head Start, 602-896-6061, extended before and after-school care known as KidSpace, 602-896-6051, and PAC (phoenix.gov/parks/pac) programs on our campus.

Celebrations

Students in grades K-6 have classroom celebrations for special occasions. Celebrations are generally held the last hour of the school day. Parents may be notified by the classroom teacher and asked if they want to contribute. Please contact your child's teacher before sending treats for your child's birthday. **ANY TREATS THAT ARE BROUGHT IN MUST BE STORE BOUGHT and FROM THE WESD APPROVED FOOD LIST.** Copies of the list are available on our school website or in the front office. Balloons, stuffed animals or floral arrangements for individual students are not permitted.

Activities

Parent involvement in a child's education is crucial. When parents get involved in their children's education, children are more likely to do better in school, be better behaved, have more positive attitudes toward school and grow up to be more successful in life. Below are some activities that will be scheduled throughout the year.

- Title One Student Showcase
- Trunk or Treat
- Turkey Trot
- Holiday Sing-along
- Field Days
- Talent Show
- Spelling Bee
- Spirit Weeks