

# THE CARLSON COURIER



CUSD INSIDER  
APRIL 2013

## John & Carol Carlson ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

5400 South White Drive  
Chandler, Arizona 85249

### HOME OF THE CHAMPIONS

—Phone Numbers—  
**Main Office 480-224-3800**  
 Attendance 480-224-3803  
 Cafeteria 480-224-3804  
 Health Office 480-224-3802

—WEBSITE—

<http://www.mychandlerschools.org/Domain/4422>

WORK TOGETHER



WIN TOGETHER

#### April 2013

- 4 Kindergarten Cap & Gown Picture Day
- 2 PTO General Mtg 6:00 pm
- 11 Kindergarten Field Trip Phoenix Zoo 9:15-1:45
- 12 Jamba Juice Fun Friday
- 16 AIMS TESTING 5th & 6th gr Through April 19th
- 17 SAT TESTING 2nd grade Through April 18th
- 23 Volunteer Tea 3:00 pm
- 23 Site Council Mtg w/parents 6:00 pm Media Center
- 24 Channel 10 News Weather Report Live! 7:30 am
- 24 Early Release 11:30 am Teacher Planning Day
- 26 3rd gr Field Trip 9:15a-12 Childs play Tempe PA
- 26 Birthday Club Celebration April Birthday's 12:15-12:45
- 26 PTO Spring Carnival 5:00 pm—9:00 pm

#### May 2013

- 1 CUSD AAA Awards Night Chandler Center of the Arts
- 3 Jamba Juice Fun Friday
- 3 Progress Reports Go Home
- 13 Kindergarten Parent Tour 4:00 pm Carlson Campus
- 14 Kindergarten Orientation 5:30 pm Media Center
- 17 3rd Gr. Assembly Zoo To You 1:30 MPR
- 20 Kindergarten Parent Tour 4:00 pm Carlson Campus
- 21 Drama Club Presents: "Happily Ever Now" 1:30 pm & 6:30 pm



Dear Carlson Families,

As we usher in our final quarter of the school year, I felt it important to highlight some of the great opportunities your children had to participate and get involved this school year. The Carlson Student Council, consisting of fourth, fifth, and sixth graders represented the new school well providing spirit opportunities and activities for students to connect themselves to the Carlson campus – Way to go Carlson Student Council!

Continuing strong is our Drama Club. These amazing 4<sup>th</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> graders have presented a variety of skits and enactments at our Champion's assemblies. They are currently readying themselves to present a final play in May. Many of these students have given up time afterschool on Fridays and even some select Saturdays to hone their skills for this club. We are proud of all of them and look forward to their spring presentation.

Running Club was outstanding. With close to 200 participants in grades kindergarten through sixth grade, we came out of the gates strong. Our district races had wonderful representation and every participant worked hard to stay healthy and do their best at each meeting. Our students collectively ran over 3200 miles this year. Way to go boys and girls. We are proud of your effort.

Behind the scenes, our Yearbook club, has been busy snapping photos at all our events and making sure that every Carlson Champion has a chance to be showcased in our soon to be published Carlson Yearbook. This group of committed students has shown up at every event before, during, or after school to make sure we have a pictorial history of Carlson's inaugural year. What a great way to demonstrate strong citizenship and commitment – thanks Yearbook club for everything you do.

The Carlson Glee Club shined brightly as they represented us well at the State Capitol, at school assemblies, and the district Choral Festival. These joyful students brought a wonderful sound and passion to the music they shared with us. What an outstanding group of 3<sup>rd</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> grade students. Thanks for sharing with us your joy of music.

Finally, we were fortunate to have CLUB CUSD host a variety of afterschool activities for our students this year including Soccer Shots, Young Rembrandts, Bricks4Kids, Dance Sequins and Athletes in Training to name just a few. A big thank you to all our students who participated in these great afterschool activities working hard to stay involved and connected at their school.

April is a very important month as we engage our students in the annual state testing. A final reminder to all our parents to ensure that all our students show up for our week of AIMS testing from Tuesday, April 16<sup>th</sup> through Friday, April 19<sup>th</sup>. We are excited to see our Champions "show what they know."

In Education,  
Leo Schlueter - Principal

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**Important Reminder**

Our annual state testing for AIMS (Arizona Instrument to Measure Standards) will take place Tuesday, April 16<sup>th</sup> through Friday, April 19<sup>th</sup>. It is imperative that our students in grades 3-6 be present each day to take the test as the state and federal government require that a minimum of 95% of our students take the test or the school may face penalties. AIMS testing is administered to all students in Arizona public schools in grades three through six at the elementary level. Our fifth and sixth graders are tested in writing along with reading and math. Grades three and four are tested in reading and math only, while fourth grade is also tested in science. These tests are secured and may only be proctored on the assigned days. Therefore students may not take tests ahead of time in the event they will be absent. As well, once a student begins a particular test, they may not leave the test and return to it at a later point. If this occurs, the test is considered invalid and will not count toward the students score and WILL count against the 95% participation requirement. **As a result of these requirements, this is why we ask parents to refrain from making outside appointments on these four days so we can ensure that all our students have the opportunity to succeed and do their best on our testing.**

Students in second grade will undergo a similar, but not as extensive testing during these four days as well. Second graders will take the Stanford Achievement Test in Reading/Language Arts and Math. Both of these tests take approximately 45 minutes each and will be proctored on Wednesday, April 17<sup>th</sup> and Thursday, April 18<sup>th</sup>.

Lest you think students in grades K-1 are off the hook, well guess again. The state and federal government require that all schools maintain a 90% or higher attendance rate school-wide during the testing window as well.

Should we fall below 90% in our overall attendance rate, penalties/fines may be applied.

So I would graciously request that to the best of our ability, please work with my teachers and me to ensure that your students, especially those in grades 2-6, are present during the week of April 16<sup>th</sup>-19<sup>th</sup> to take the necessary testing. As these tests help us to identify areas of strength and potential gaps in learning for the year ahead, it is important that all students participate and take each section of the AIMS. Test results will be communicated out in late spring/early summer.

Thanks for all your help and support as we edge closer to this important assessment window.



**Tips for Success**

**EAT, REST, Do Your Best!**

Make sure to get plenty of rest, set a bed time schedule that ensures nine hours of sleep each night.

Wake up with plenty of time to eat a good breakfast so your mind is awake and ready to get to work.

Attendance is KEY!

Make sure to arrive to school on time, ready to do your best.

Don't Stress-- you are well prepared and ready to shine, don't worry, you will do fine!

**PTO Spring Carnival April 26th**

Mark your calendars and plan to attend the PTO Spring Carnival on Friday, April 26th from 5:00-9:00 pm on the South Field. Special thanks to our outstanding PTO board Natalie Davin, Randi Rasmussen, Lora Robinson, Christina Burke, Deb Georgvich and Wendy Zakowicz for all of their hard work and time invested to make this a great event for our families. Check your Monday morning message and visit us on Facebook for additional information.

**Like us on Facebook!**

**Environmental Request Forms**

Environmental Request forms will be available April 1st through April 12th by request in the front office. Parents who are interested in completing a form to assist with their child's placement next year may do so. Forms will not be sent home.

**Volunteer Tea Tuesday, April 23rd**

**It's time to say THANK YOU!**

We couldn't have done it without you! To all of our wonderful volunteers: Please join us on Tuesday, April 23rd at 3:00 pm in the Media Center for the Volunteer Tea. We can't wait to show you how much we appreciate your time and dedication to our success. Thank you!



**Yearbook Sales**

*Don't forget to order your copy of the Carlson Yearbook. Copies are \$25.00 ea. Custom dedications may be ordered for an additional \$5.00. Make checks payable to Carlson PTO. Special thanks to Yearbook Volunteer Michelle Ugarte for coordinating the production of this year's book.*