May 2026

Hawk News

From the Administrator's Desk

Dear Painted Rock Academy Families,

As we approach the end of another wonderful school year, I want to say thank you for the opportunity to serve your children and our school community. This year, I set out with the goal of developing meaningful connections with each student. I'm proud to say I am making real progress towards that goal. There's something special about greeting each student as they arrive on campus. This small gesture brings joy and happiness to the students and to me.

In one of these interactions, I came across two incredible students who have helped me grow personally and professionally, and I would like to recognize them in this newsletter.

Julia, a 3rd grader, touched my heart with her thoughtful initiative to organize a Pet Food Drive. Building on the success of our Food and Sock Drives, Julia recognized there was need for the animals at our local rescue and wanted to address that need. Her compassion and willingness to think beyond herself to help our four-legged friends truly inspired me.

Vandana, an 8th grader, demonstrated remarkable persistence in promoting a fundraiser to support a charitable cause for our National Junior Honor Society chapter. Her determination was instrumental in bringing these two wonderful ideas together, allowing Julia's pet rescue idea to become a reality with NJHS support.

I want to extend my heartfelt gratitude to both Julia and Vandana for their commitment to making our world a better place. Their actions are a reminder that positive change begins with compassion and a willingness to take action—no matter how small.

As we wrap up this year, I encourage all of us to reflect on the many ways we can serve our community, whether through large gestures or small acts of kindness.

Thank you for the opportunity to work alongside your children this year. It has been truly rewarding.

Warmly,
Mrs. Stella Goshow, M. Ed.
Principal, Painted Rock Academy

PRA's PROP team and volunteers have supported our school all year long. Thank you to each family for helping at events, coordinating behind the scenes, and recognizing the importance of parent involvement.

Upcoming Events

Scholastic Book Fair
Monday, April 27th - Friday, May 1st
Spirit Day & Morning Assembly
Friday, May 1st - 8:15 a.m.
Families welcome to attend.
Staff Appreciation Week
Monday, May 4th - Friday, May 8th
PROP Meeting
Wednesday, May 6th - 8:15 a.m.
PROP Used Uniform Sales
Wednesday, May 6th
Choir Concert
Thursday, May 7th
Caught Being Good
Friday, May 15th
8th Grade Recognition Dinner
Saturday, May 16th - 5:30 p.m.
7th/8th Grade Dance
Saturday, May 16th - 7:00 p.m.
Honor Roll Ceremony
Wednesday, May 20th - 6:00 p.m.
8th Grade Promotion Ceremony
Thursday, May 21st - 6:00 p.m.

Friday, May 22nd - Last Day of School
Final Report Cards
End of the School Year Class Parties
Early Release - Attn: No After-School Boulder Club
School Closes at 1:00 p.m.

Office Closed - Memorial Day
Monday, May 25th

School Office Hours During the Summer

The office will be open through the summer, May 26th to July 31st, Monday - Thursday, 8:00 to 3:00 p.m.

The office will be closed each Friday and June 29th to July 3rd.

Meet Your Teacher: July 31st
First Day of School: August 6th

Teacher Appreciation is May 4th - 8th

Your insight is valuable and can make a difference for other families when they consider PRA as their school choice. The strength of our campus is rooted in our teachers and staff, and getting your remarks about your perspective is helpful.

Consider posting a review on Facebook, Great Schools, Yelp, and Niche to support families in the community seeing what makes PRA an excellent place to choose for education!

Also consider having your child show appreciation for their teacher through a compliment, a personalized card, or by creating a picture for them. You can connect with PROP here for more ways to make this week special.

Skills to Keep Sharp During the Summer

It is important to keep reading and math skills sharp during the summer. All students can access IXL, a digital platform paid for by PRA, for language arts, math, and science. You can log in from home on a computer or through the app during the summer to increase skill levels based on your child's personalized recommendations. Find out more about IXL and see other resources here on Mrs. Thangavel's classroom site. Your child's log-in credentials are in their planner, or you may reach out to kthangavel@paintedrockacademy.com.

Scholastic Book Fair

Literary adventures await the students who may find their favorite characters in books purchased through the book fair. You can still make purchases on campus until May 1st and online here until May 7th.

From the Desk of Nurse Rose

All medications held in the health office must be picked up by the last day of class, May 22, 2026. Over the summer, any medications left behind will be discarded per school policy.

Please also ensure that your students are caught up on vaccinations for next school year. In Arizona, children who are 11 years old are required to obtain a Tdap and a quadrivalent Meningococcal vaccine prior to their 12th birthday. If you have any questions, please email the school nurse at irose@paintedrockacademy.com.

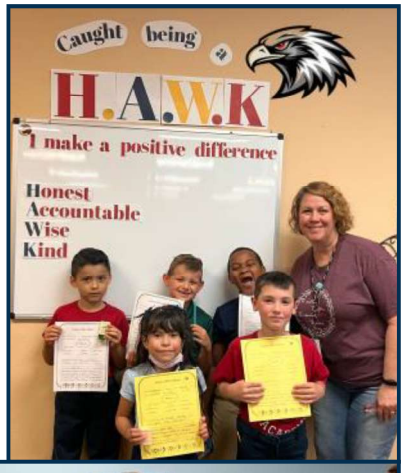
Eighth Grade

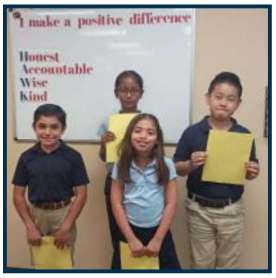
Thank you, Mrs. Smith, for capturing group photographs of our eighth grade class in their custom t-shirts.

Caught Being a H.A.W.K.

Students are encouraged to develop skills in citizenship ranging from penmanship to following dress code standards. Taking care of property, behaving courteously towards others, and following directions is foundational to each classroom. Students are recognized for excelling in these areas and are given positive office referrals to see Mrs. Nash.

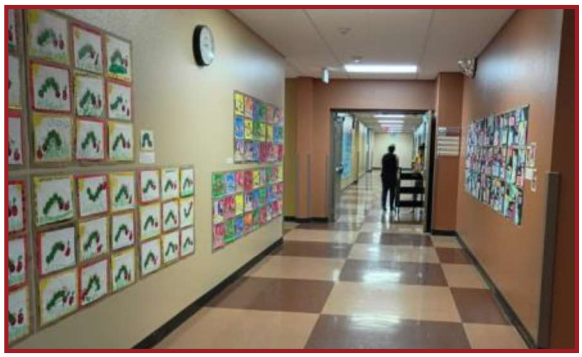
Pictured are some students caught being a H.A.W.K. this month.

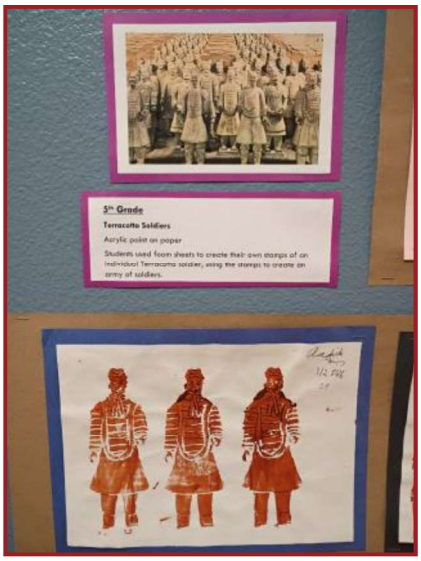


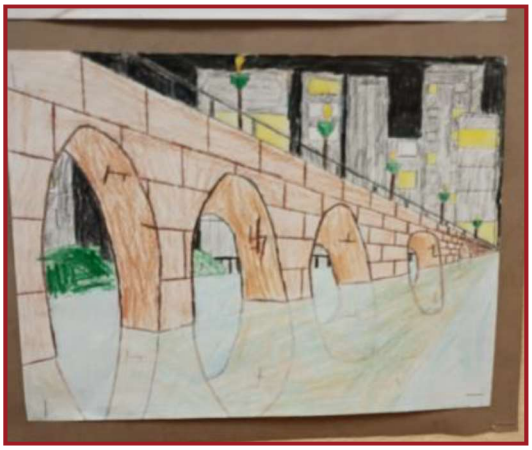


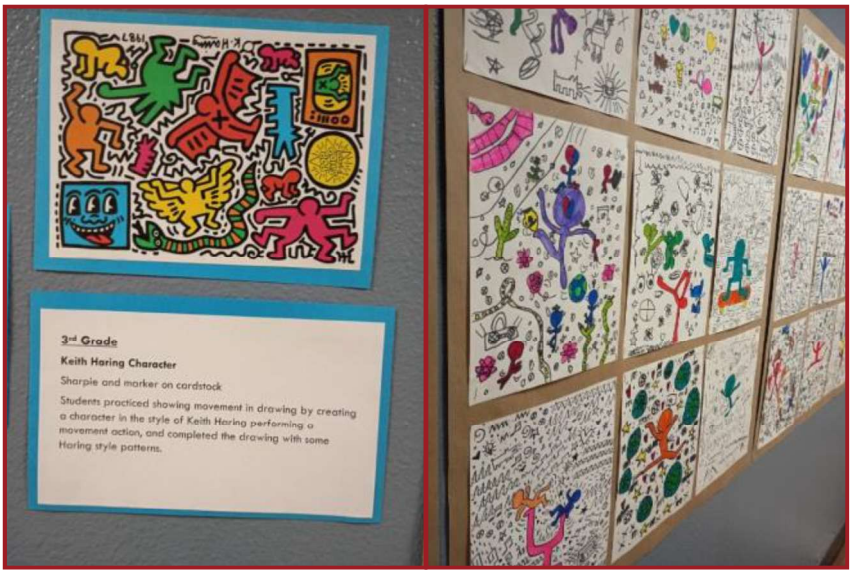
Art Walk - April 30th

During the annual Art Walk, Ms. Wolpert displays the amazing works of art that students have studied and created all year long.







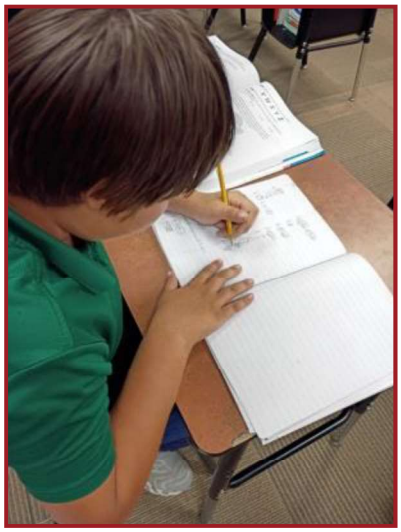


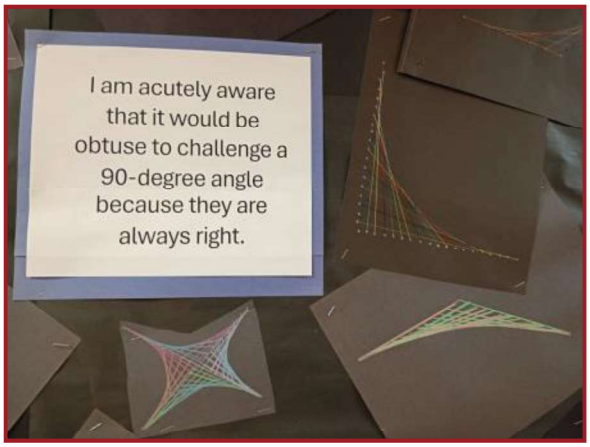
Annual Read In

Members of our community from a range of professions volunteered their time to visit our campus and read from their favorite books. Thank you, each one of you, for sharing your experiences.

- Mrs. Ryan read Jobs We Do by Anna W. Bardaus to our preschool students.
- Mr. Hills, a police officer, read Fly Guy Presents - Police Officers by Tedd Arnold to our kindergarten and first grade students.
- Mrs. Scott, an author herself, read her own soon-to-be-published book 12 Seconds Football to our second grade students.
- Mrs. Dutchover, a nurse, read from I Wonder What I'll Be - Doctor, Nurse, Vet by Daisy McClain to our third grade students.
- Mr. Mitchell, an artist, read from Henry and the Chalk Dragon by Jennifer Trafton to our fourth grade students.
- Our fifth grade students also met an author, Mrs. Arner, who read from Longshot to a Miracle - The Kassie Arner Story by Dave Arner.
- Mrs. Maretta read How It's Built - Rockets by Elise Wallace to our sixth grade students because she is a space systems specialist.
- Show Me A Sign by Ann Clare LaZotte was read by Mrs. Brace, a high school teacher for students who are deaf and blind, to our seventh and eighth grade students.

Around Our Campus





The timeless skill of mathematics is critical for all students to master. Using Saxon math curriculum, students progress from essential counting skills to algebraic calculations in middle school. Learn more about all areas of curricula here on our website. Pictured is a student hard at work and hall décor featuring working with fractions (3rd grade), understanding angles (5th grade), and using graphs and equations (8th grade).

In Technology Class

Students develop technology skills beginning with a foundational understanding of computers to learning to write code, which students used to program a miniature car-type robot.

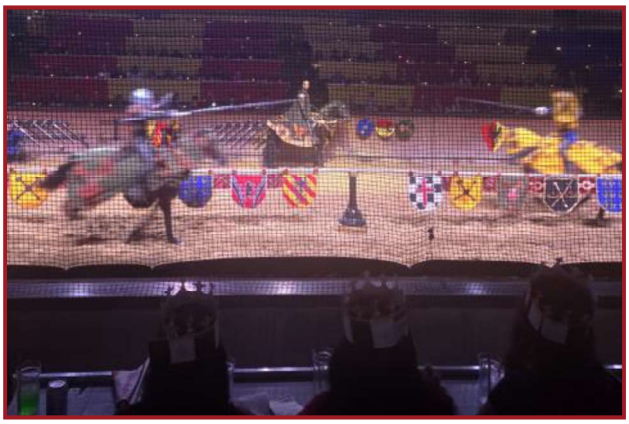
Return Library Books

Let's countdown to all borrowed Library books being returned!

Field Trips

Sixth Grade - Medieval Times

Our sixth grade students visited the Medieval Times Dinner and Tournament this month, getting a personal experience of an 11th century feast and tournament. Approaching the magnificent castle and seeing the full scope of royalty and knights with their horses, students were fully immersed in the era.



Teachers, your dedication to our students and their understanding is evident in the way you planned this field trip. Thank you!

Our Exceptional Staff

Working at Painted Rock Academy is more than a daytime job. Each day is spent building friendships and a collective sense of value in what we teach or do. The relationships with parents and their involvement is a cornerstone to create the caring, supportive environment in which students learn. Each staff member has a love for this community that we call Painted Rock Academy! Named below are those who have been a part of our team for five or more years as of the month of May 2026! We are proud to be here serving our students, whether we are administration, teachers, or support staff!

10 Years and more

Mrs. Wolpert, 7th / 8th grade history teacher, 13 years at PRA (6 years before this at Valley Academy)

Mrs. Venugopal, Kindergarten teacher, 13 years at PRA (4 years before this at Valley Academy)

Ms. Bunch, food service, 13 years

Ms. Christian, 5th grade teacher, 13 years

Ms. Scrip, 5th grade teacher, 13 years

Mrs. Goshow, M.Ed., Principal, 12 years (5 years before this at Valley Academy)

Mrs. Fellars, Preschool teacher, 12 years (5 years before this at Valley Academy)

Mrs. Patel, 4th grade teacher, 11 years

Mrs. Ramirez-Perez, food service manager, 11 years

Ms. Skiba, Preschool teacher, 11 years

Mr. Hicks, 7th / 8th grade literature teacher, 10 years

Ms. Illsley, Music teacher, 10 years

Mrs. Nash, Assistant Principal, 10 years

Mrs. Kamble, 1st grade teacher, 10 years

5 Years and more

Ms. Jackson, 4th grade teacher, 8 years

Mrs. Yellowman, 7th / 8th grade science teacher, 8 years

Mrs. Kamble, 1st grade teacher, 7 years

Mr. Brashears, custodian, 7 years

Mrs. Krawtschuk, Kindergarten aide, 5 years

Mrs. Nielsen, 7th / 8th grade math teacher, 5 years

NJHS - Pet Supply & Food Drive

Recently, our students took part in a pet donation drive initiated by our 3rd grader, Julia H., and spearheaded by our 8th grader, Vandana S., for NJHS. It was really special to see such a thoughtful response come together. Families sent in **pet food** and **gently used items** like toys and blankets.

Our students got to be a part of something bigger than themselves and see how small acts can help animals in need.

Thank you to everyone who donated and supported this effort - we truly appreciate it. We hope these acts of kindness inspire others and help make a meaningful difference for our furry friends.

Sports

Co-ed Soccer

The team is having a great season so far. Stay tuned for playoff information.
Go Hawks!

Sports

Sports Recognition Ceremony

On April 30th, we celebrated the hard work and dedication of the students and coaches who participated in extracurricular sports this year. Student athletes, coaches, and families were all necessary components of our program, and it was an honor to have them in our annual Sports Recognition Ceremony. Thank you, coaches, for showing dedication to the teams and consistently being an example of our tradition of excellence. Thank you Mrs. Nash for your leadership in all aspects of our sports teams.

Coaches J., Armentrout, and Chau with the soccer team.

The following students received awards for being the Most Valuable Player (MVP), Most Improved Player (MIP), or sport-specific award.
In Flag Football:
Cameron B. - MVP, Stellarose D. - MIP
In Volleyball:
Sofia E. - MVP, Reygan M. - MIP
In Boys' Basketball:
Meba K. - MVP, Joshua Z. - MIP
In Girls' Basketball:
Dahlia M. - MVP, Reygan M. - Best Defense, Bailee B. - Best Offense
In Soccer:
Aaron O. - MVP, Victoria L. - MIP

Coach Brace with the Flag Football team.

Coach Brittney with the Cheer Squad.

Coaches Yellowman and Taylor with the Volleyball team.

Coaches Tracey, Lisa, and Nikki with the Girls' Basketball team. (left) Coaches Brittney and Greg with the Boys' Basketball team. (right)

The Hawk Awards for excellence in athletics, academics, and behavior was earned by Dahlia M. and Austin A.

Painted Rock Organization of Parents

Monthly Meeting

Thursday, May 7th

8:15 a.m.

Voting for the PROP Board Members for the 2026-27 school year will be held during this meeting.

Used Uniform Sales

Visit the Parent Room to purchase gently used uniforms.

Last Sale Date for this School Year: May 6th

Before school: 7:30 - 8:15 a.m.
After school: 2:15 - 3:30 p.m.

Shirts: $2
Bottoms, Jumpers: $3
Sweaters: $3

Donate two clothing items, get one free.

****MORE VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED to help with Used Uniforms.**

Email propazpresident@gmail.com for more information

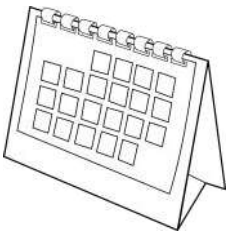
Get involved in PROP for the upcoming school year!

Please email volunteerprop@gmail.com for more information.

Here are the open positions with a brief description of each role:

- **Vice President-** assists President & the Board as needed
- **Special Events Committee**- plans Fall Festival & Spring Fling
- **Major Fundraising Committee**- organizes fall Fun Run/Move-A-Thon fundraiser
- **Hawk Pride Committee**- organizes PROPsicles, spirit shirt & used uniform sales
- **Commission-Based Fundraising Committee**- plans Restaurant Nights/Family Fun Nights
- **School Program Support Committee**- assists the school with programs like hearing/vision screenings and lockdown kits.
- **Library Committee**- plans Book Fairs & oversees book reviews
- **8th Grade Activities Committee**- plans 8th grade fundraisers & end of year 8th grade events
- **Athletics Committee**- assists school sports teams and helps with field day

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!



Staff Appreciation Week

May 4th - 8th (LINK TO DONTATE)

Peter Piper Pizza Family Fun Night

May 14th, 4:00 - 8:00 p.m.

Follow PROP on Facebook and Instagram!

@painted_rock_parents

@PaintedRockParents

Contact Us! Email volunteerPROP@gmail.com

May 2026

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1 **Spirit Day** **Morning Assembly 8:15 a.m.** PROPsicles Scholastic Book Fair 3	2
3	4 4	5 5	6 PROP Used Uniform Sales 7:30-8:15 a.m. & 2:15-3:30 p.m. 6	7 PROP Meeting 8:15 a.m. 1	8 2	9
10	11 3	12 4	13 5	14 Family Night Peter Piper Pizza 4:00 - 8:00 p.m. 6	15 1	16 8th Grade Dinner 5:30 - 7:00 p.m. 7th/8th Grade Dance 7:00 - 8:30 p.m.
17	18 2	19 Kindergarten Field Day 9:45 - 10:45 a.m. 3	20 4	21 Preschool Promotion 8th Grade Promotion 5	22 Report Card Last Day of School Class Parties 6 Early Release No P.M. Boulder Club	23
24	25 Front Office Closed	26 Front Office Summer Hours: 5/26 - 7/31 Monday through Thursday: 8:00 - 3:00 p.m. Closed each Friday and 6/29 - 7/3	27	28	29	30

Staff Appreciation Week

May 2026

What's for lunch?

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
A LA CARTE Served daily **Sides** - PB&J - Cheetos - Lays Chips - Doritos Nachos - Mini Oreos Snack Bag - Yoplait Go-Gurt - Mini Chocolate Chip Cookies - GoGo Squeez Apple Sauce - Salad Bar and Fruit - PB&J, Salad and Fruit - No Drink - Uncrustable - Grape or Strawberry - Knotts Berry Farms Strawberry Cookies **Drinks** - Apple Juice Box - One Milk - Capri-Sun – variety flavors **Breakfast Day Add-ons** - One Egg Patty - One Hash Brown - One Sausage Patty				1 - Mini Cheese Pizza - Mini Pepperoni Pizza - Cheese OR Pepperoni Stuffed Crust Pizza Slices - Pepperoni Hot Pocket
4 - Chicken Nuggets & Fries - Chicken Tenders & Fries - Grilled Cheese & Fries	5 - Bean Tacos - Nachos: Tortilla Chips & Nacho Cheese - Rolled Up Beef Taquitos - Rolled Up Chicken	6 - Buttery Noodles - Pasta Marinara & Meatballs - Pasta w/ Marinara Sauce - Pepperoni Hot Pocket	7 Breakfast Sandwich: - w/ OR w/o Cheese EGGO Mini Pancake: - Confetti OR Maple Syrup - EGGO Mini Waffles	8 - Mini Cheese Pizza - Mini Pepperoni Pizza - Cheese OR Pepperoni Stuffed Crust Pizza Slices - Pepperoni Hot Pocket
11 - Corn Dogs & Chips - Hot Dog & Chips - Grilled Cheese & Chips	12 - Mini Cheese Pizza - Mini Pepperoni Pizza - Cheese OR Pepperoni Stuffed Crust Pizza Slices - Pepperoni Hot Pocket	13 - Bean Tacos - Nachos: Tortilla Chips & Nacho Cheese - Rolled Up Beef Taquitos - Rolled Up Chicken	14 - Pancake & Turkey Sausage on a Stick - EGGO Mini Waffles EGGO Mini Pancake: - Confetti OR Maple Syrup	15 - Hamburger & Fries - Chicken Sandwich & Fries - Grilled Cheese & Fries
18 - Chicken Nuggets & Fries - Chicken Tenders & Fries - Grilled Cheese & Fries	19 - Mini Cheese Pizza - Mini Pepperoni Pizza - Cheese OR Pepperoni Stuffed Crust Pizza Slices - Pepperoni Hot Pocket	20 - Cheese Quesadilla - Chicken Quesadilla - Beef Chimichanga - Chicken Chimichanga	21 - Pancake & Turkey Sausage on a Stick - EGGO Mini Waffles EGGO Mini Pancake: - Confetti OR Maple Syrup	22 Early Release Last Day of School