



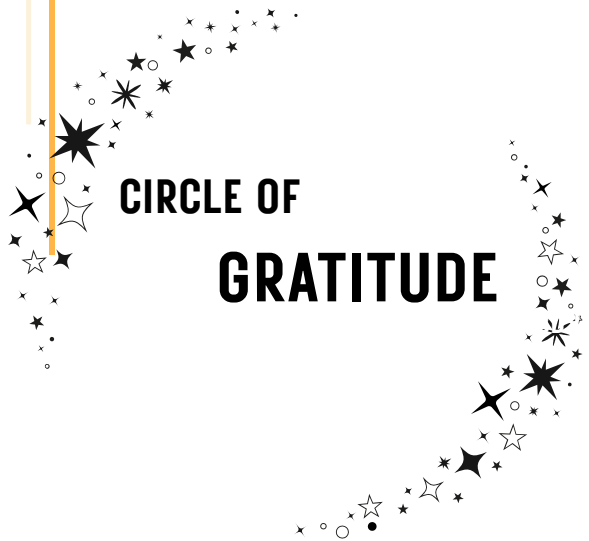
OCTOBER 2025 NEWSLETTER

HAPPENING THIS MONTH

OCTOBER 1ST & 2ND FALL PARENT TEACHER CONFERENCES (EARLY RELEASE @ 1PM)

OCTOBER 3RD - 10TH FALL BREAK *NO SCHOOL - OFFICE IS CLOSED

OCTOBER 30TH HALLOWEEN PARTY (EARLY RELEASE @ 1PM)



CIRCLE OF GRATITUDE

SPECIAL THANKS TO...

Parents: Thank for your attention submitting ESA funds and all of your patience as we navigated through this change. We sincerely appreciate you!

We would like to extend a huge shout out to parent volunteers, staff, and sponsors that graciously donated their time and resources during our school beautification day. We are beyond grateful!

The Kowalczyk Family & Kowality Plumbing for the immense amount of plumbing work!

Mark Pauley for all of your help with landscaping work!

Tim Connolly with **Surface Solutions AZ, LLC** and the **Sweepe Family**. They professionally cleaned and scraped our assembly hall floor and it has never shined so bright!

SCHOOL COMMUNITY BUSINESS SPOTLIGHT: **Surface Solutions AZ, LLC ~ 928-830-9128**

"Quality always counts. At Surface Solutions AZ, we strive to make every project as good as it can get! Based out of Prescott, Arizona Tim has been fabricating and installing natural stone countertops in the Central Basin of Arizona for over 20 years. As a former fabrication shop owner/operator, Tim has the hands on experience to assess and provide the solution to your next project. Whether it is a simple maintenance procedure, such as cleaning and sealing, chip repair or adding an undermount sink that you have wanted to your existing countertop, he has the skill and knowledge to do it right. And by utilizing dust containment and extraction, the only thing you should notice is the job well done! Now offering repair and refinish all stone flooring!"

LINE DANCING, PAINTING, MOUNTAIN BIKING and BEAR TRACKS.... OH MY!



3D Printing & Miniature Painting

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Mountain Biking Club

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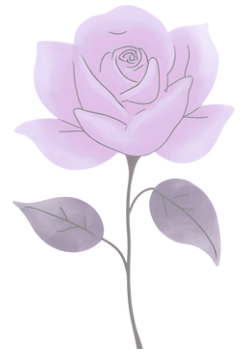
Bear tracks from the trail!

First quarter of Friday Enrichment Clubs have been full of smiles and fun! The experiences have been fulfilling all around from within the school walls stretching to the great outdoors. The clubs have provided a considerable chance for students to build skills, form stronger friendships and opportunities to try something new!!!

A glance in classrooms...

Lavender Rose Preschool

Our preschoolers are off to a wonderful start this fall! The classrooms is filled with curiosity and excitement as we embrace the rhythms of autumn and explore seasonal themes like falling leaves, pumpkins, and family traditions. Through hands-on activities, songs, stories, and play, our young learners are developing essential skills in language, math, and social development—while also nurturing a deep sense of warmth, security, and connection to the natural world. Whether they're baking, creating art with autumn leaves, painting with fall colors, or learning what it means to be a kind friend, our preschoolers are growing each day—and having plenty of fun along the way!



Kindergarten with Ms Anya

Kindergarten celebrated our fall festival of Strength and Courage inviting preschool and parents. Families and children gathered in the Kindergarten room for a round of autumn songs the children had practiced together with Ms. Anya and Ms. Christina. Families giggled as preschoolers wore handmade capes and all acted out the songs of with invisible swords, shields and leaves. A puppet show about a knight and dragon that had been performed in Kindergarten during September, was presented for the families, with interactive movements and sounds by the children. Parents were invited to join children for a snack of treats, including zucchini muffins prepared by Kindergarten. The gathering was festive and enjoyed by many.



1st Grade with Ms Kellie

In the classroom we have been working with addition and money for math as well as "my skeleton" for science. For language arts we have been working with the letter Q for phonemic awareness, C & F are up next! Our sight words have been: at, him, with, up, all, look, is, her, there, some, out, as, be, have, go, we, am, then, little & down. After lunches the children have enjoyed as we have been reading them Harry Potter. The girls in the classroom had a fun day re-coloring their chairs with sticky notes!

Handwork

September was full of excitement in handwork as we spent many class periods creating class badges for the strength and courage festival belts. Each class was designated a badge and was responsible for making enough to share with the entire school for the festival. This was such a fun project that was met with a great experience for them to know that they were making items not just for themselves but for the whole school. It was a fantastic opportunity for many students to try a new skill or craft for the first time. Looking to October we will come back to focus and begin reviewing the basics of knitting and crocheting. For those that have already refined these skills they will begin to work with patterns to turn their skills into functional items!

Agriculture/ Science

The younger grades have been participating to seed winter greens, meanwhile the upper grades are working diligently on individual projects as well as preparing planter boxes!

2nd Grade with Ms Katie

Our second-grade class has been busy building foundational skills in math and language arts! Recently, we've been working on place value and adding numbers into the hundreds. Soon, we'll begin practicing subtraction with similar numbers, followed by units on time, weight, and measurement. Next week, we'll begin introducing multiplication in our Main Lesson through songs and hands-on activities. This approach helps students build a strong conceptual understanding before we dive into learning the multiplication tables.

In English Language Arts (ELA), we've been exploring syllables and how to count them in words. We've also studied sentence structure, focusing on the parts of a sentence such as nouns, adjectives, and more. The students are now writing their very first paragraphs about their favorite places and continuing to strengthen their reading comprehension skills.

In our Main Lesson storytelling block, we began the year with fables and are now moving into stories about saints. These tales introduce important moral values such as courage, bravery, and standing up for what is right—an essential part of second grade, as students begin to explore and understand deeper ideas about character and morality.

3rd Grade with Ms Sullivan

Third grade has been learning about farming and the seven cereal grains. They will visit Sharlot Hall on the 30th to deepen their understanding of farming practices. They will also begin cooking with grains, beginning with wheat by making bread in a bag. Next, they will prepare a rice dish!

4/5/6th Grade with Ms Jodi

Hey Mountain Oak! Our class has been super busy and has so many more activities ahead of us! We are currently working on creating board games. Students are using their problem solving skills, artistic creativity and their imaginations to create games based on current interests and ideas. Writing skills to create clear and concise instructions are being taught, developed and used to create activities that will challenge students, friends and families and help them form lasting relationships. In addition, we have been reading and analyzing two different books. *Flying Solo* by Ralph Fletch, and *Schooled* by Gordon Korman.

Flying Solo is a story about a 6th grade class left alone with no sub. This is actually based on a true story! Students take control of their class and successfully navigate the entire day without adult support, demonstrating their regard for their teacher Mr. Fabiano. The kids make it until the school has an assembly at the end of the day and the truth comes out. The whole situation is funny, sweet, sad, and relatable. Kids seemed to really enjoy it. *Schooled* is a story about how people fit into society and how being different is both a blessing and an issue! The main character, 'Cap' or Capricorn has been growing up on a commune and being home schooled. When his grandmother falls from a tree and breaks a hip, Cap is thrust into modern society without the safety net his grandmother has provided for him. This sadly leads to Cap being bullied at the middle school where he is enrolled while his grandmother recovers. We are still in the process of determining what will happen as the story unfolds.

We will begin learning about the US government and its structures in the coming weeks. Students will learn about the 3 branches of government as well as complete activities to demonstrate their learning! We have so many other activities planned ahead and we are looking forward to trying new things!

7th/8th Grade with Mr Jonathan

Mountain Oak 7th and 8th grade class culminated their food systems and health unit with a visit to Mortimer Farms. The students took a farm tour that highlighted the farm's vegetable fields as well as their animal husbandry which included chickens, goats, and pigs that they grow for ongoing products like eggs and soaps they make on the farm, as well as for slaughter for meat. The students did get time to hang out, engage in play and physical activity, and have a picnic lunch as well. Their teacher spent time afterwards discussing the farm's sustainable and regenerative practices, water usage, and local foods they market in various capacities across multiple area farmers' markets.



A Note from Interim Director Dr. Tim Harrington

Dear Mountain Oak Community School Families,

As the crisp autumn air settles over our campus and the leaves begin their beautiful transformation, I'm reminded of the incredible change happening within our school community. October brings with it a sense of renewal and reflection that perfectly captures the spirit of learning that defines Mountain Oak Community School.

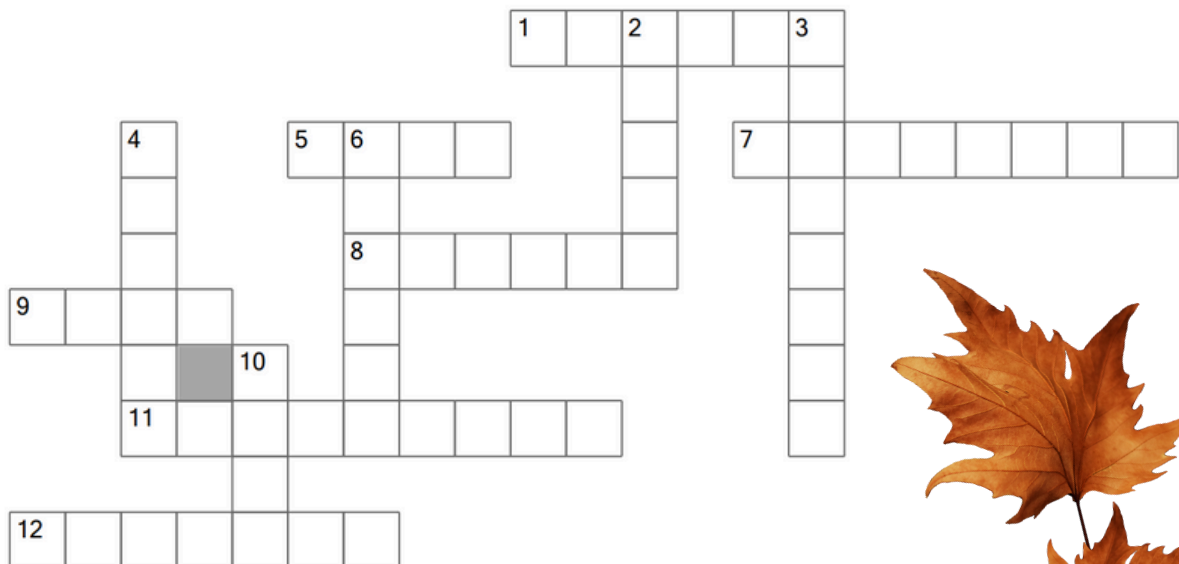
I want to take a moment to acknowledge the remarkable dedication of our families, students, and staff who continue to make MOCS a place where every child can flourish. Your commitment to our shared mission of educational excellence and community partnership is evident in everything we accomplish together.

As we move deeper into the fall season, I'm continually inspired by the sense of belonging and purpose that characterizes our school. The partnerships between families and educators, the enthusiasm of our students, and the dedication of our staff create an environment where learning truly comes alive.

Thank you for choosing Mountain Oak Community School and for being such an integral part of our educational family. Together, we're cultivating not just academic success, but character, creativity, and community spirit that will serve our students throughout their lives.

With gratitude and excitement for the months ahead,

Dr. Tim Harrington
Interim Director
Mountain Oak Community School



ACROSS

1. Changes colors in the fall
5. Grows on stalks
7. Great for pies and for carving
8. The third season of the year
9. Another name for Autumn
11. Scares birds from cornfields
12. To reap or gather

DOWN

2. The fruit of the oak
3. A small rodent
4. Keeps the doctor away
6. Red and yellow makes this color
10. Used to gather fallen leaves

LOOKING BACK

September...

A month to Celebrate with our Annual **Strength & Courage Festival!**

This ancient harvest festival that is traditionally celebrated just after the autumnal equinox in late September where the children take part in the play where they "Tame the Dragon". As northern climates head into winter, the festival's meaning shifts to preparing for the darker, colder months ahead. The festival is a reminder to nurture our inner strength, courage, and initiative. The celebration fosters a sense of togetherness before winter sets in.



We want to give a heartfelt "Thank you" to all of our parent volunteers that dedicated their time to help us prepare for this wonderful festival!



Crossword Key

Fall	Apples	Acorn
Autumn	Orange	Rake
Leaves	Scarecrow	Corn
Pumpkins	Harvest	Squirrel