



Viper View



Volume 2, Issue 2

February / March 2009



Happy Birthday!

- Feb. 2: Sadie Micinski
- 8: Corey Cleveland
- 10: Mr. Valentine
- 11: Lyla Martin
- 15: Milluna Martin
- 16: Ms. Pam
- 20: Angelika Hernandez
- Mar. 3: Megan Micinski
- 6: Ms. Gretchen T.
- 9: Alayana Martin
- 13: Kaylee Glenn
- 26: Ms. Toi
- 27: Seth Wilson



Winter Fun!!



Katie and Sadie showing off some moves!

Ms. JaimeSue, Ms. Windy, & Ms. April in the K1 Classroom



Jeremy & accomplices busted in the copy room!



Fun times at the Valentine Dance and Social!



Seth, Nikolay, Joey & Shawnee in Ms. Toi's Classroom.

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Because They Need This Now!

"Children of Divorce"
 A six week children's group with
 Pamela K. Keuter, M.S., D.C.H., LLC
 Life Coach— Educational Counselor
 *Small group settings
 *Designed to promote and enhance each student
 *Focus on acceptance / Motivation
 *Talk - Art -Poetry -Letter Writing
 90 minute Sessions / Once a week
 Only \$20.00 per session

520.331.0833
 362 S. Ocotillo Road, Benson , AZ 85602
 To the Left of R&R Pizza

Arizona Early Intervention Program & Special Education Services

February 6, 2008

Dear Parents,

It is the responsibility of Visions Unlimited Academy to inform the general public and all parents of students enrolled in our school of our responsibility to make available special education services for students with disabilities and how to access those services. In addition, we have a responsibility to provide information regarding early intervention services for children birth through 2 years of age.

We are responsible for identifying, locating, and evaluating all children with disabilities within our school and for making appropriate referrals to:

1. Arizona Early Intervention Program (AZEIP) for children birth through 2 years of age for evaluation and services if needed; and
2. School district of residence for children aged 3 through 5 for evaluation and services if needed.

We are also responsible for providing a free and appropriate public education (FAPE) which includes special education and related services for students with disabilities at public expense, under public supervision and direction and without charge to the parents.

For all new students to the school, the classroom teacher will complete screening activities within 45 days of enrollment. The teacher will look at the child's ability in the areas of academics, vision, hearing, adaptive, communication, social/emotional and motor skills. If any concerns are noted, the child may be referred for additional help.

If you have any concerns about a child you know, please contact **Richard Valentine** at **586-8691** for more information.

Respectfully,

Richard Valentine



Monday, March 2nd

Extra order forms available in the office.

Be sure to have the order ready with payment the day of pictures.

Student Council Spirit Days and Candy Grams

Student Council will continue the sale of Candy Grams in the month of March. Students, staff, and family members may purchase a gram for \$.50 and write a personal note to be delivered to the student. In March, the Candy Grams will be delivered on Tuesday the 17th in celebration of St. Patrick's Day.



AIMS Testing

2008-09 Test Dates

Test Week: March 30—April 3, 2009

Make-up Week: April 6—10, 2009



Visions 2008-09 Yearbook

Now on Sale!

Be sure to put your order in by Monday, Feb. 25, 2009

The cost is \$20.00

Order forms are attached to the newsletter.

No Cost, Easy Fundraising!

Box Tops For Education

Cut and save to earn cash for school improvements.



Campbell's Labels

Cut and save to earn merchandise for our school.





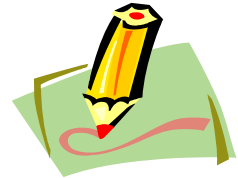
JOIN US!

For our
Chili Supper
Title I Meeting and
Writer's Celebration

1275 E. Barney Lane
Benson AZ 85602
Ph.: 520-586-8691
Fax: 520-586-3074

Visit us on the web:
www.visionsunlimitedacademy.com

**Tuesday, Feb. 24,
2009**



Please join us at 6:00 P.M. for a
chili dinner followed by a brief
meeting to discuss our Title I wide
plan.



March 2009

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2 Picture Day	3	4 Bookmobile 1/2 Day	5	6	7
8	9 School in ses- sion: Makeup for snow day	10	11 Parent Conferences 1/2 Day	12 Parent Conferences 1/2 Day	13	14
15	16 Spring Break: Back on the 23rd	17	18 1/2 Day	19	20	21
22	23	24	25 1/2 Day	26	27	28
29	30 AIMS Testing Begins	31				

PRINCIPAL'S CORNER

Dear Parents,

Visions Unlimited Academy is nine years old this month. In February of 2000 a group of us (the organizers were teachers, school administrators and parents) was awarded the privilege of beginning a charter school in Benson, Arizona based on three main ideas: quality instruction focused on how children learn as demonstrated by the 'best' in research into learning; a family supportive environment; and a safe nurturing place to be a kid. We are required to comply with the needs of the state- teach the Arizona Academic standards, spend money according to spending laws, and be subject to an annual financial audit.

It was a glorious moment when we were awarded the charter, but it was then that the real work began. Let us jump forward nine years. Visions Unlimited Academy has a solid teaching staff and nearly full classes. The K1 and middle grade classes are full, and we are starting a waiting list. Our Financial Audit was PERFECT- no findings or management suggestions. You can imagine what kind of learning had to take place before we were able to have a perfect audit- our accounting and attendance taking must meet exacting standards set and enforced by the Department of Education.

I want to take a minute to reflect on mission and the ups and downs of a nonprofit charter school before tackling the next thing in front of us. These ups and downs to date have been met with dogged determination and proactive to aggressive problem solving. The School Board and Staff have been loyal, creative, and determined to provide a choice for your children not previously available. Thank you to all current and past staff for believing in the project and to parents for trusting us with your child's education.

Our next set of challenges has to do with the current world financial situation. Arizona legislature is cutting funding; the U.S. stimulus package will slightly increase funding. The Legislature is concerned about paying for all day kindergarten; we are concerned that children have a safe, nurturing environment in which to be a kid. The legislative budget cuts are in healthcare, colleges and universities, and K-12 education.

After nine years working to establish and run a quality school we at Visions Unlimited Academy- leadership, teachers, staff, and board members have no plan to give up. You will have an opportunity to help.

1. We need some garden tools and seed- see Willow Hoaglund
2. The PTO is raising money for better playground equipment and play structure
3. Tax Credit donation information is on our web page www.visionsunlimitedacademy.com
4. Students are raising funds for field trips-- see Susan Hall
5. We will be hosting a NCLB Parent Information Meeting and Chili Supper on Tuesday, February 24 from 6:00-7:30 to discuss our learning programs and the future. Please come.

We are in this together and we will emerge together.
I wish you the best of Februarys

Richard Valentine