

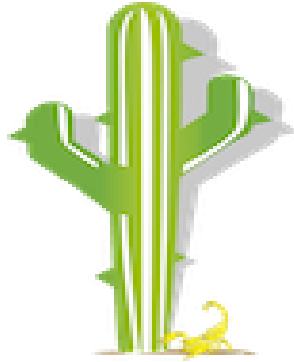
# Saguaro Elementary School

## Meet Your School Counselor

Hello My name is Miss Montes de Oca or Miss M and I'm your new School Counselor. I am excited to be starting at Saguaro Elementary! I feel like I have the best job because I get to help wonderful students succeed and learn. I will teach SEL (social and emotional) lessons in the classroom and the first lesson topic will be about managing our emotions. I will help students meet Saguaro's expectations of Being Safe. Being Responsible. Being Respectful and Being Kind. Students can visit me for many reasons or no reasons at all - just if they need someone to talk to - I'm always here for them. I have a daughter that goes to CGMS and a cat - Oreo. I love to eat pozole and sushi, travel and spend time with my family. I can be reached at (520) 836-7661 ext. 3515 or through email at [sylvia.montesdeoca@cgesd.org](mailto:sylvia.montesdeoca@cgesd.org).

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## September Dates to Remember:

6th - No School - Labor Day  
8th - Early Release 12:45  
17th - No School - In Service Day  
22nd - Early Release 12:45  
30th & Oct 1<sup>st</sup> Parent Teacher Conferences-Early Release 12:45  
Oct. 1 - Picture Retake Day  
Oct. 4<sup>th</sup> to Oct. 15<sup>th</sup> - Fall Break

## Message From the Principal

### Mrs. Downey-Foye

Saguaro staff is incredibly excited about the start of the 2021-2022 school year. Prior to the first day, we welcomed all students and families to campus for Back to School Family Event. Students and families joined us to meet their child's teacher, visit the classroom, and learn about teaching and learning in the classroom, communication, PBIS, and Restorative Practices. Families also had the opportunity to view our annual Title I presentation to learn more about the program, our goals, and curriculum resources.

In August, Saguaro held our first celebration of the year with our PBIS (Positive Behavior Intervention Support) Is Out of This World Blast Off! Our virtual assembly was led by our amazing students. Students and staff dressed in attire centered around the galaxy, planets, stars, and space. Each grade level took part in the assembly by showcasing how to earn Star Scorpion tickets by Being Safe, Responsible, Respectful and Kind in all areas throughout our campus.

Saguaro students recently completed the beginning of the year i-Ready diagnostic testing. These assessments provide teachers with valuable information to guide both whole group teaching and learning and small skills groups instruction. In addition to the assessments and tools for teachers, the i-Ready math and reading program provides each student with an individual learning path to promote learning and accelerate growth. Students also engage in ST Math, an online program that uses spatial-temporal reasoning abilities to solve mathematical problems that students utilize during independent work time. After the success of our PBIS Blast Off, we are planning a virtual i-Ready, and possibly an ST Math, virtual kick-off assembly for students.

We are happy to offer free lunch and breakfast to all students. Weekend meals will also be available for students to take home on the last day of each week. Saguaro is pleased to once again be a recipient of the fresh fruit and vegetable program grant. Students receive a morning snack, 3 days per week of a fresh fruit or a vegetable in the classroom through the program.

Saguaro welcomed fabulous new staff members to our amazing Saguaro Family this year. Ms. Sylvia Montes de Oca is our new school counselor. Ms. Paizlie Salinas joined our kindergarten team. In first grade, Ms. McKenzie Rains is our new teacher. Ms. Judy Lopez is our new support staff with our resource team. Ms. Esther Moreno transferred to the Saguaro/CGMS campus as our school nurse. Ms. Rahberta Estrada is teaching music for us this year. Ms. Susie Duarte is our new noon assistant. Ms. Natasha Ibarra transferred to Saguaro as our super substitute teacher who covers for staff when they are absent. Ms. Jennifer Clark is our office specialist and the smiling, friendly face greeting guests, when entering the Saguaro office.

Saguaro staff are gearing up for our fall parent/teacher conferences on September 30 from 1:00-8:00 p.m. and October 1 from 1:00-3:30 p.m. Teachers will be reaching out to families soon to schedule a conference with each family to discuss the progress of their child(ren) so far this year. Conferences are followed by a two-week fall break with our new calendar this year, October 3-October 17.

Thank you to our families for your continued support. We look forward to working with them and our students this year. We could not be happier about the opportunity to be back on campus beginning on the first day of school. Please stay healthy and safe! Remember to take care of yourself and stay home when you are sick.

## Kinder Corner

Hello from Kindergarten! We are off to a great start. We are so excited to be in class with all these bright sweet students. Thank you for sharing your little ones with us.

Our first few weeks were packed with learning school expectations, getting to know each other and building relationships. We are a PBIS school and believe in a positive learning environment. Students can receive Saguaro Scorpion tickets for displaying respect, safety, responsibility and kindness. We have weekly and monthly prize giveaways, quarterly 2 students per class will be drawn to have lunch with the principal and assistant principal.

We are now working on numbers 0-5. Students need to be able to count and touch each item for the given numbers. We will also start working on what combinations make each number. Students will need to know how to count to at least 25 by the end of September.

In reading we are learning about the parts of a book and how to care for our books. We have been reading stories about how to be kind and treat others. We have also been checking out library books. Please make sure that your child returns the book they checked out in the plastic bag they bring it home in. We have library every other day and when they return their book they will get a new one.

We can't wait to see how much your child grows over the next few weeks. We will be sending progress reports mid September and hold conferences in October. Please reach out if you have any questions or concerns.

Mrs. Thomas, Mrs. Rucker, Mrs. McKaughen, Mrs. Salinas

## Fourth Grade Corner

Fourth grade is blasting off to a great start! The first two weeks of school we learned all about our new classmates, helped save Fred the Worm from drowning, and made the solar system to help us blast off to our best behavior as we learned how to earn Scorpion tickets.

As soon as we are done with our i-Ready assessments, we will begin learning about place value to 999,999 in math and we will begin reading stories about some amazing animals as we learn new strategies to help us be better readers. Mrs. Ullrich, Mrs. McCoy, Mrs. Rouse

See the latest Saguaro news by checking out our facebook page! <https://www.facebook.com/SaguaroCGESD/>

## First Grade Corner

Thank you so much for attending our Back to School Saguaro Family Night. It was wonderful to see so many parents and students. We would also like to thank all the parents for the school supplies and snacks that were contributed to the classrooms.

First graders have been working very hard during the first few weeks of school. It is important that your child gets plenty of rest to be ready for a full day of learning.

Please remember that breakfast is free and available for all students before school between 7:20-7:45 a.m. In math, students are working on concepts of number sense and will begin to work on simple addition facts. In reading, we are reviewing letter names and sounds, identifying high frequency words, and building our listening comprehension skills. Students will also reflect and write about the stories we've read.

Please send your child with a water bottle each day. Thank you so much for your help. You are the key to your child's success in school.

Mrs. Hoffman, Miss Rains, Mrs. Brown

## Third Grade Corner

It is hard to believe that summer vacation is over and your child/children have already begun the process of becoming a third grade scholar. Thank you to all the parents/guardians who attended our Back to School event. It was a great pleasure meeting all of the parents. We appreciate your support! We look forward to teaching your child our reading program, "Wonders." Every ten days, your child will be reading new entertaining stories that require critical thinking skills and expand their vocabulary and comprehension.

In math, we started off with "youcubed." It taught them how to work with their partner or in groups, investigate on how to solve problems, and to be creative thinkers. We watched different videos, which explained that learning math is fun. At the end of the school year we want your child to be confident in their math skills, and walk out of the classroom mathematicians.

We are very proud of our third graders; we look forward to all of the knowledge our scholars are going to absorb.

Mrs. Nagore, Mrs. Whitmer, Ms. Abriani

## Did you miss out on the 2021 Child Tax Credit?

**Our service area has a large percent of the population that has not received all their child tax credit owed to them. Some of the reasons could be:**

- You moved
- Changed bank accounts
- Had another child
- You didn't file taxes in 2020

The IRS is helping us to help our families get those credits they have not received. If you did not receive your 2021 child tax credit, please stop by the office for an informational flyer so you can get your payment.

## Second Grade Corner

In 2nd grade, we are learning that sentences need a naming part and telling part to be complete (subject and predicate). We are asking and answering questions about the stories we are reading, (Who?, What?, When?, Where?, Why?, How?). We're building words with short vowel sounds and long vowel sounds.

In math, place value is our main focus. Working with 10's, 100's and 1's to build numbers and write numbers in different ways.

Mrs. Scarlett, Ms. Miller, Mrs. Gant

## Fifth Grade Corner

5th grade is off to a great start! In August, we learned about topics such as wild weather, decimals, what social studies is all about, and the scientific method. In September, we will learn about topics such as tall tales, person to person relationships, multiplication and division, Native Americans and the scientific method. 5th grade teachers would like to thank all parents/guardians for completing and sending in your student's paperwork in a timely manner. We appreciate all you do to help ensure the best education possible for your student. If you are interested in donating to your student's class, we are always in need of hand sanitizer, Kleenex, and water. Thanks for all you do!

Mrs. Bodenstiener, Mrs. Baker, Mrs. Bradley

