

ARENA ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

FEBRUARY 2025

THE BEACON

20 School Street/PO Box 45, Point Arena, CA 95468

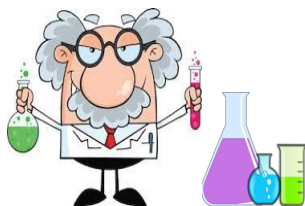
TEL: 707 882-2131

Science and Engineering Fair! February 14, 2025 Arena Multipurpose Room

Judging will take place in person on February 14, 2025. The Public may browse projects on **Friday after school (3:15-6:00 p.m.)** and **Saturday, February 15 10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.)**

There will be six sections:

- 3rd-5th Demonstration
- 3rd-5th Experiment
- 6th-8th Demonstration
- 6th-8th Experiment
- 6th-8th Engineering
- 3rd-5th Engineering



Each entry will be judged on: Originality, Comprehension, Organization, Student Effort/Motivation, and Clarity.

For more information: Call, text, or email Cristin Allen at 707-495-4669 callen@avesfamily.org

Scan the QR code for more science fair information.



Mark Your Calendar!

FEBRUARY 14
VALENTINE'S DAY

FEBRUARY 14
Science/Engineering Fair

FEBRUARY 17-21
NO SCHOOL - President's Week

March 21- NO SCHOOL-Certificated staff Development

March 24- SCHOOL IS OPEN (used storm day)

March 27
TK/Kindergarten Registration

April 14-18
NO SCHOOL - SPRING BREAK

Quote of the Month

"Empathy is walking a mile in someone else's moccasins. Sympathy is being sorry for their feet".

Rebecca O'Donnell

Lost and Found

Is your child missing a jacket, a lunchbox, or backpack? Please remind them to check the "lost and found" in the main building hallway as soon as possible for lost items.

For smaller items (jewelry, glasses, keys and wallets) please come to the office to describe your lost item. All items not claimed by the end of the month will be graciously donated to a local charity.



Principal's Letter

February 2025

Dear Parents, Guardians and Students:

Welcome February, 2025. I am so looking forward to the daffodils blooming and the days starting to get a little longer. Even though February is the shortest month of the year, and right in the middle of winter, it is filled with many things to celebrate.

First, Groundhog Day on Sunday, February 2nd. Did the groundhog see his shadow or not??? Did you know that Groundhog Day is actually rooted in astronomy—and the movement of the Earth around the Sun? In the Northern Hemisphere, this date marks the midpoint between the [winter solstice](#) in December and the [spring equinox](#) in March. This means that Spring will be here before we know it!! Then on Friday, the 14th, we will be enjoying our Valentines and the Science/STEM Fair. Finally, Monday, February 17th, happens to be National Random Acts of Kindness Day so do something awesome for someone.

The week of the 17th - 21st there will be no school.

Grades 3 - 8th taking their Winter MAP the first two weeks of the month. These assessments track students' progress in English Language Arts, Reading, and Math Common Core Standards. Additionally, 5th through 8th graders were assessed in Science to see how they are meeting the Next Generation Science Standards. These assessments are very important in driving our instruction. We use the student data to provide appropriate instructional services to your children. Likewise, Point Arena High School uses the MAP scores to place incoming Freshmen into their academic courses. Needless to say, it is very important that our students attend school every day and take these assessments very seriously. Thank you for your support.

Michelle Egger
Principal
Arena Elementary



Order your Yearbook before the Price Increases!

Last chance to order online or in the office with a student ID for the last discount! Price increases to \$35.00 on February 16th! Go to the Entourage Yearbook link below:

https://link.entourageyearbooks.com/YBStore/YearbookStoreMain.asp?yearbook_id=57845

Prices through February 14, 2025

\$30.00 Online purchase

\$30.00 with student ID (in office only)

February 16- May 24, 2025, the cost increases to \$35.00 and no other discount will apply.





ARENA UNION ELEMENTARY
3RD GRADE CLASS

**BAKE
SALE**

@ The Sea Ranch Lodge
60 Sea Walk Drive,
Sea Ranch, CA

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 15TH
12:30-2:30PM
raising funds for field trips

Arena Elementary Basketball Last Home Game of the Season!

Point Arena vs Mendocino

Tuesday, February 11

GIRLS 4:00/6:00p.m.

BOYS 5:00/7:00 p.m.

BOYS Krebs Classic

Fri. & Sat., February 14-15

AWAY Time -TBA



California law requires all students to be fully immunized

Students entering 7th grade in the 2025-2026 school year, need the following required vaccines:

- 1 dose of whooping cough booster Tdap (tetanus, diphtheria, pertussis)
- 2 doses of MMR (Measles, Mumps, and Rubella)
- 2 doses of Varicella (Chicken Pox) for all children entering the 7th grade who have not already received it.

Entry to Kindergarten or TK in the 2025-2026 school year, the following vaccines are required:

- 4 doses of polio
- 5 doses of DTP or DTaP
- 2 doses of MMR
- 3 doses of Hepatitis B vaccine
- 2 doses of Varicella or Physician-documented Varicella

Please contact your child's health care provider if your child needs additional vaccines before the 2025-2026 school year. Please provide a copy of your child's updated immunization (shot) record to the school office to update their school health record.





Student of the Week Recognition

These students are being recognized for showing great respect, responsibility, and safety at school during the month of January 2025. Congratulations! A Round of Applause for the following students:

TK & Kindergarten: Claro Pacheco Alavardo, Jordyn Esquivel, Emmanuel Ramirez, Jaylynn Gonzalez, Cesar Aguilar, Armani Rodriguez, Lupita Fuentes, Renata Tapia

First Grade: Kasen Merbs, Eliam Marquez, Grace Avila, Santiago Delgado

Second Grade: Vanessa Stultz, Silvia Pacheco, Brody Frey, Emmanuel Rodriguez, Dakota Brosseau, Adrian Mandujano, Sienna Kelly, Mercedes Arellano

Third Grade: Jack Jones, Koah Avilez, Ase Stornetta, Alain Bernal Coria

Fourth Grade: Tiana Aguilar Villagomez, Nathan Rodriguez, Camila Rodriguez, Ezra Medina

Fifth Grade: Angie Bermudez Fuentes, Rafa Valencia Razo, Joyce Gitchell,

Sixth Grade: Paloma Manriquez Tapia, Sophia Rivera, Becca Gonzalez, Isabella Coria

Seventh Grade: Joseph Frank, Leon Avalos Gaona, Alauna Gonzalez, Scarlett Carbajal

Eighth Grade: Kayley Medina, Raul Villagomez, Jimena Santillan, Lucas Owens

Each student is honored on the Pirate Pride Wall at the Office. We are so Proud! Go Pirates!

Student Wellness Nutritional Guidelines

Snacks: Our school does not provide a snack program during school hours. At this time, snacks donated by community or staff are depleted. We encourage children to bring nutritious snacks from home to eat at school.

Here are examples of nutritious snacks they may bring from home: fruit, raw vegetables, sandwich, nuts, raisins, popcorn, cheese & crackers, trail mix, rice cakes with peanut butter, etc.

Snacks may be consumed at recess break times and locations as determined by the classroom teacher, yard duty, or the school principal.

Class Parties: We encourage parents/guardians or other volunteers to support the district's nutrition education program.

Please consider nutritional quality when selecting snacks, which may be donated for occasional class parties. Limit foods or beverages that do not meet nutritional standards to no more than one food or beverage per party.

Class parties or celebrations shall be held after the lunch period when possible. Please contact the classroom teacher for approval before making a class snack donation.

Food Service

National School Lunch and Breakfast Program - The State of California has implemented the Universal Meals Program that will allow all students to eat both breakfast and lunch at no cost.





Random Acts of Kindness – February 17th

What is the meaning of “Kindness”? Kindness means being considerate, courteous, helpful, and understanding of others. Showing care, compassion, friendship, and generosity to others is a wonderful way to express kindness. We all feel good when we do something nice for someone when it is unexpected, and brings happiness and joy to another person.

Although there is one week in the year dedicated to random acts of kindness, it should be an everyday event. Acts can be informal and simple. Share a smile, say hello, open a door for someone, and paying it forward. Acts can benefit one person, a larger group like your peers, neighbors, family or the whole community.

Look and find opportunities to share kindness, care and compassion. **NO ACT OF KINDNESS IS TOO SMALL!**

Daily Math Practice

Dear Parents,

We recommend **30 minutes of daily practice** using our digital math apps: [IXL](#), [Reflex](#), [Prodigy](#) or [Mathia](#) at home. These apps align with what students are learning in the classroom, reinforcing key math concepts and helping them build essential skills.

To encourage consistent practice, consider **making phone time, video games, or TV available only after** they have completed their daily math session.

If you need any help with login information, please let us know—we’re happy to assist. Together, we can support your child’s success in math!

[Why does my child need to do this, don't they do math at school?](#)

Yes, students do math at school, but regular practice outside of class is key to mastering skills and reinforcing what they learn. **Just like reading at home improves literacy, daily math practice strengthens problem-solving abilities and builds confidence.** The **CAASPP test** helps measure whether students are on track, and data shows that many students need extra support to meet grade-level expectations. **Using Reflex, Prodigy, Mathia and IXL for just 30 minutes a day** provides valuable extra practice in a fun, engaging way that aligns with classroom instruction. Think of it like practicing a sport or an instrument—consistent effort leads to stronger skills and better performance!

What is the CAASPP test?

The CAASPP (California Assessment of Student Performance and Progress) test measures how well students understand grade-level standards in math and English language arts. By identifying areas where students may need extra support, we can better tailor instruction to help them succeed academically and prepare for future learning. As of our latest data, Arena Elementary has 12.9% students at or above grade level; compare this to 19.79% at the county level and 35.54% at the state level.

Best,
Aaron Allen
Arena Elementary MS Math Teacher
aallen@avesfamily.org





The Difference between Sympathy, Empathy, and Compassion

Recently, a friend and I had a discussion about similarities and differences between Sympathy, Empathy, and Compassion. With this information, the desire is to remind us daily to learn more, teach what we know, and share with our younger population how to help each other on a global emotional scale.

Let's start with the basics.

Sympathy

Sympathy involves understanding and acknowledging another person's emotions and feelings, especially in times of difficulty or suffering. It's about showing concern, support, and care for someone's well-being.

Empathy

Empathy takes things a little deeper; an ability to experience for yourself some of the pain that the other person may be experiencing. You do not need to have experienced exactly the same events as the person who is suffering, but you do need to have the ability to really imagine how they must be feeling in their situation. For example, if your friend is feeling afraid or pain, you too will experience the same emotion from their perspective. Empathy is not always negative. A positive spin is feeling the joy when someone is happy and smiling and you experience that for yourself.

Compassion

Compassion combines both empathy and action. If empathy is the ability to experience the feelings of another, compassion translates that feeling into action. Compassion involves an empathic response, is characterized by feeling empathetic toward someone's struggles and understanding their pain — and then taking action to alleviate that suffering. It moves us emotionally, but it moves us to ACT. Action is the key difference between sympathy, empathy, and compassion.

I hope this information brings you peace of mind, tune your listening skills, and help you step forward to act. Sometimes, a simple hello, or good morning may comfort someone.

With Gratitude,
Bernie Maul
Administrative Assistant II/School Secretary
bmaul@quesfamily.org

The Goal of Compassion/Colleen Patrick-Gourdreau-Joyful Vegan January 2025 Blog
Compassion for Kids-21+ Teaching Activities and Examples/Positive psychology.com
How to Teach Compassion in a me, me, me world/Linda Stade Lourdes Hill College February 23, 2021





2025-2026 Transitional Kindergarten (TK) and Kindergarten



Arena Elementary School Begins TK and Kindergarten Registration
Thursday, March 27th
9:00a.m. – 2:00p.m.
Arena Elementary Shelley Aubrey School library

Your child must meet the age requirement to enroll:

Children turning age 5 **on or before** September 1, 2025 will enroll in kindergarten

Children turning age 4 **by** September 1, 2025 are eligible to enroll in transitional kindergarten

To enroll your child, you will need to provide, at minimum, the following required documentation to the school.

1. **Your child's birth record** (birth certificate, or affidavit of birth)
2. **Your child's immunization records**
 - a. 4 doses of polio (3 doses meet requirements for ages 4-6 years if at least one was on or after the 4th birthday)
 - b. 5 doses of DTP or DTaP (4 doses meet requirement for ages 4-6 years if at least one was on or after the 4th birthday)
 - c. 2 doses of MMR (measles, mumps, and rubella)
 - d. 3 doses of hepatitis B vaccine
 - e. 2 doses of Varicella or Physician documented varicella (chickenpox) immunity.
3. **Proof of Residence** in our school district- current electric or gas utility and a Photo I.D

Other requested documents are:

4. **School Entry Health Examination**
5. **Dental Assessment/Exam**
6. ***Proof of Legal Guardianship*** If in guardian care, please provide an affidavit.

Enrollment Forms are available at school and online. If you have questions regarding enrollment, please contact the school office:

20 School Street, Point Arena, CA 95468

Telephone: (707) 882-2131 ext. 202 or ext. 231

Email: arena@aesfamily.org

School Website: <https://pointarenaschools.org/aes/>

Kindergarten is a full day from 8:20a.m.-2:15p.m. Students in the Arena Union Elementary School District will take priority over out of district registration. Special circumstances may apply.





California Assessment of Student Performance and Progress (CAASPP) Testing in April and May 2025

Dear Arena Families,

All students enrolled in Arena Elementary School are required to take the CAASPP (California Assessment of Student Performance and Progress). Below is the schedule for testing this spring which will begin after Spring Break.

CAASPP Testing will include the following for Spring 2025:

Students in Grades 3 – 8 will each take two ELA tests and two math tests, called (CAASPP) for English Language Arts/Literacy (ELA) and CAASPP for Mathematics. They each include a Computer Adaptive Test (CAT) and a Performance Task (PT).

Students in Grades 5 & 8 will each take the California Science Test (CAST).

CAASPP Testing Dates for Spring 2025:

- 3rd Grade CAASPP: May 12-22
- 4th Grade CAASPP: April 29-May 14
- 5th Grade CAASPP: April 29-May 14
- 5th Grade CAST: May 7
- 6th Grade CAASPP: May 5-28
- 7th Grade CAASPP: May 5-28
- 8th Grade CAASPP: April 29-May 28
- 8th Grade CAST: May 29

For the specific dates of each test, please contact your child's teacher or me at the below contact. The data the CAASPP provides helps us to improve our academic programs. Thank you in advance for your child's participation.

You can help by:

1. Ensuring your child gets enough sleep the night before the test.
2. Helping your child get a nutritious breakfast with protein the morning of each test.
3. Talking to your child about trying their best on the test.

Thank You,

Kristi Hahn

CAASPP Testing Coordinator

khahn@avesfamily.org

(707) 882-2131 Ext: 232



FEBRUARY 2025
LUNCH MENU

M

TU

W

TH

F

| | | | | |
|--|--|--|--|---|
| 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 |
| SALAMI & CHEESE SANDWICH Veggie sticks Kettle Chips Fruit Cup Milk 1c | PASTA MARINARA Garden salad Apple slices Hawaiian rolls Milk 1c | P B & J SANDWICH WW Bread Chips Orange Wedges Carrots sticks Milk 1c | CHICKEN NUGGETS Tator Tots Celery Sticks Banana Milk 1c | CHEESE PIZZA Sliced Veggies Fresh apple Cookie Milk 1c |
| 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 |
| TURKEY & CHEESE WW bread let & tom Garden salad BANANA Milk 1c | CORN DOG Chips Baked Beans Apple Slices Raisins Carrots Low fat milk 1c | PEANUT BUTTER & JELLY SANDWICH Sun Chips Carrots Sticks Fruit Cup Milk 1c | CHICKEN BURGER let & tom French fries Orange Slices Garden Salad MILK 1c | PIZZA STICKS Carrot sticks Sun Chip Fruit cup Fruit Roll up Milk 1c |
| 17 Presidents Day | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 |
| ***** PRESIDENTS WEEK NO SCHOOL February 17-21 ***** | | | | |
| 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 |
| SALAMI & CHEESE ww Bread Chips Carrot Sticks Apple Milk 1c | SPAGHETTI & Meat balls Green Beans Fruit Garlic Bread Milk 1c | CORNDOG Baked Beans Chips Green Salad Fresh Fruit Milk 1c | CHICKEN BURGER WW Bun veggies Chips Fresh Fruit Milk 1c | PIZZA BREAD Caesar salad Apple Slices Pudding Cups Milk 1c |
| ALL MEALS MEET USDA CHILD NUTRITION STANDARDS | <i>This institution is an equal opportunity employer</i> | | | |



FEBRUARY WORD SEARCH

A M D P X D A I S E V B U G R E C E S G
 Q Q A R F Y V V X T L B P A O N I O I N
 U Z H U A U M P J A K A E W F G Y A L I
 Y D N A C C E O C R E Y A E J I S S B D
 A J Q N L R N K D B W W C A H N D C J L
 D K I U I W H K E E N Q E T Y E N I B W
 K A C M E I T D N L E L Y H A E E E F O
 R I E T S A U E L E A R X E D R I N R B
 D N N T W T S X T C O T F R S I R C M R
 T H O D I E L L A B T O O F T N F E K E
 V R L T N S M E O P J O W Q N G N F D P
 Y V A I Q E C H O C O L A T E Y M A O U
 L R H Q J L S Y D N I W M D D M H I W S
 G C Q A Z E Z S P F Q U E N I A R R V F
 O J H Z Q D H I F E N X T E S Q F O D Z
 Q P L O G A N V R R A W H I E J S V T S
 H M U V D K X E G H E F Y K R S O L O S
 R E C O G N I T I O N U S J P X R A H E
 F Q W E N O O M W O N S T H E A R T S Q
 V A L E N T I N E C B V E M R S P M D X

Can you find all of the words hidden in the puzzle above?
 The words might be backwards, forwards, up, down, or written diagonally.

AMETHYST
 CELEBRATE
 ENGINEERING
 FRIENDS
 PEACE
 RAIN
 SHADOW
 VALENTINE

BLACK HISTORY
 CHINESE NEW YEAR
 EXPERIMENT
 GRATITUDE
 PINK
 RECOGNITION
 SNOW MOON
 WEATHER

CANDY
 CHOCOLATE
 FOOTBALL
 HEARTS
 POEMS
 RED
 STORM
 WET

CARD
 COLD
 FREEDOM
 KINDNESS
 PRESIDENTS DAY
 SCIENCE FAIR
 SUPERBOWL
 WINDY

