



# MARYVALE PREPARATORY ACADEMY

## A GREAT HEARTS ACADEMY

### ARCHWAY NEWSLETTER

APRIL 17, 2025

#### KEY DATES:

**APRIL 18TH-21ST**

NO SCHOOL - Family Days

**APRIL 23RD**

Spring Concert for  
K-2nd Grade

**APRIL 25TH**

NEON Dance for  
5-8th Grade  
& Great Hearts at Chase Field

**MAY 7TH**

Academic Olympics

**MAY 14TH**

6th Grade Pathway  
to Prep Ceremony

**MAY 21ST**

Kinder Promotion

**MAY 22ND**

Virtue Assemblies  
1st-5th Grade



#### ***A message from Headmaster Cruz...***

*We are nearing the end of testing with next week being our last few test days followed by make-up days. Please make sure your children are present to close out the testing season well. Thank you for all of the ways you encouraged them and helped them be ready each day.*

*By the end of this week teachers will be reaching out to you if your child is earning deficient grades in any subject areas. If you receive this, we encourage two-way communication so that between home and school we can help these scholars improve their end of quarter grades. We will also begin making retention/promotion decisions and communicating those soon if your child is impacted.*

*If your child has been invited to Summer School or if they are deficient or up for retention, this indicates that they could really use the extra help to prevent the summer slide. The summer slide refers to learning loss students experience during summer break and primarily impacts math and reading skills. We were so fortunate to receive a grant for the past three summers allowing us to offer summer school at no cost. Unfortunately, that grant has expired and we now have to return to charging. We have seen low enrollment and have heard an outcry that the cost is too much. From these funds we do have to pay faculty to guide it and all other costs associated with remaining in session for another month of school. We will lower the cost to \$200 for this school year and will make adjustments to run a smaller program. If cost is still a barrier, our office is happy to assist with a payment plan.*



[www.maryvaleprep.org](http://www.maryvaleprep.org)



March/April 2025						
<div style="float: right;"> AASA:  AM: 8:15-10:15  PM: After Lunch </div>						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
March 23	24	25	26	March 27 ✓ 5 <sup>th</sup> Grade AzSci AM: Part 1 PM: Part 2	March 28 ✓ 5 <sup>th</sup> Grade AzSci AM: Part 3	29
March 30	March 31 ✓ AM: 3 <sup>rd</sup> Grade Writing PM: 3A ORF	✓ April 1 AM: 4 <sup>th</sup> Grade Writing PM: 3A ORF	✓ 2 AM: 5 <sup>th</sup> Grade Writing	3 ✓ AM: 6 <sup>th</sup> Grade Writing PM: 3B ORF	4 ✓ AM: 3 <sup>rd</sup> ELA Pt 1 PM: 3C ORF	5
April 6	7 ✓ AM: 3 <sup>rd</sup> ELA Pt 1 PM: 3D ORF	8 ✓ AM: 4 <sup>th</sup> ELA Pt 1 PM: Writing Make-Ups ORF Make-Ups	9 ✓ AM: 5 <sup>th</sup> ELA Pt 1	10 ✓ AM: 3 <sup>rd</sup> ELA Pt 2 5 <sup>th</sup> ELA Pt 2	11 ✓ AM: 4 <sup>th</sup> ELA Pt 2 PM: 4 <sup>th</sup> ELA Pt 2	12
13	14 ✓ AM: 3 <sup>rd</sup> Math Pt. 1 PM: 4 <sup>th</sup> ELA Make-Ups	15 ✓ AM: 4 <sup>th</sup> Math Pt 1 PM: 3 <sup>rd</sup> Math Pt 1	16 ✓ AM: 5 <sup>th</sup> Math Pt 1	17 ✓ AM: 3 <sup>rd</sup> Math Pt 2 PM: 4 <sup>th</sup> Math Pt 2	18 No School	19
20	21 No School	22 AM: 5 <sup>th</sup> Math Pt 2 PM: 6 <sup>th</sup> Math Pt 2	23 AM: AASA Make-Ups	24 AM: AASA Make-Ups	25 Slam Dunk Celebration!	26

A FEW  
MORE DAYS

YOU GOT  
THIS!

## TEST SCHEDULE AND RESOURCES FOR 3-6 FAMILIES

### What will be expected of my student during testing?

- Your student will take a series of tests during the end of March into the month of April:
  - Writing Test
  - ELA Test (2 parts)
  - Math Test (2 parts)
  - Science Test (5th grade only)
  - Reading Fluency Test (3rd grade only)

### How can I help my student prepare for these tests?

- Students can prepare at home using test prep features on MobyMax or IXL.
  - MobyMax (3rd-4th): Log in and click on the icon that says "Test Prep and Review."
  - IXL (5th-6th): Log in and click Learning, then click Skill Plans. Choose skills for your grade level under the Arizona Assessments icon.
- Students can walk through sample tests and practice test features using the Student Readiness Tool by clicking on the "Mic Check and Sample Tests" link at [az.testnav.com](http://az.testnav.com).
  - Here is a direct [link](#) to the student readiness video walkthrough.
- Save the dates for when your student will be testing and make sure they get a good night's sleep (start getting used to the recommended bedtimes below early on), get a good breakfast and maintain proper nutrition (see this [link](#) for best brain foods), and are on time and ready to go (review some of these [fun things](#) you can incorporate at home or on the way to school before and after tests to ease anxiety and have them ready)!
- Have conversations about the importance of doing your best!

### How will we motivate students at school?

- We love a good theme and this year our theme is: This test will be a slam dunk!
  - We will be doing fun things ahead of the tests like pep rallies where we hope to bring the excitement, ensuring they feel confident and ready to persevere (like Michael Jordan)
  - We will be giving Mamba Mentality (Kobe Bryant reference) raffle tickets during testing as we see students taking it seriously, showing their work, focusing and not distracting others, taking their time, etc. Students can turn their earned tickets in at the end of testing to win cool raffle prizes (on theme of course).
- We are taking any donations that would motivate our students and celebrate them. If you would like to donate things such as basketballs, cool sneakers, basketball jerseys, Gatorades, basketball draw string bags, etc. please drop them by the Archway Office.**
  - Thank you to those of you who wrote letters to your child at Family Partnership Night to encourage them. If you need a template to do so, please reach out to your child's teacher.
  - We will end the testing window with an on theme party complete with Dunkin' Donuts and lots of fun and a day to wear their favorite basketball jersey's or team shirts and sneakers!

GreatHearts® How much sleep does your child need?								
Wake-Up Time:								
Age	6:00am	6:15am	6:30am	6:45am	7:00am	7:15am	7:30am	
Bedtime:								
3*	6:30pm	6:45pm	7:00pm	7:15pm	7:30pm	7:45pm	8:00pm	
4*	7:00pm	7:15pm	7:30pm	7:45pm	8:00pm	8:15pm	8:30pm	
5	6:45pm	7:00pm	7:15pm	7:30pm	7:45pm	8:00pm	8:15pm	
6	7:00pm	7:00pm	7:15pm	7:30pm	7:45pm	8:00pm	8:30pm	
7	7:15pm	7:30pm	7:45pm	8:00pm	8:15pm	8:30pm	8:45pm	
8	7:30pm	7:45pm	8:00pm	8:15pm	8:30pm	8:45pm	9:00pm	
9	7:45pm	8:00pm	8:15pm	8:30pm	8:45pm	9:00pm	9:15pm	
10	8:00pm	8:15pm	8:30pm	8:45pm	9:00pm	9:15pm	9:30pm	
11	8:15pm	8:30pm	8:45pm	9:00pm	9:15pm	9:30pm	9:45pm	
12	8:30pm	8:45pm	9:00pm	9:15pm	9:30pm	9:45pm	10:00pm	



## POWERSCHOOL PUBLIC PORTAL FOR EVALUATIONS

We are at the mid-quarter mark. Teachers will begin sending deficiency notices this week via email or by way of a phone call to inform you if your child is receiving a deficient grade (1's and 2's for K-2 and Ds or Fs for 3-6). Please also continue checking the parent portal for student grades every Monday for a more detailed picture of how your child is doing in class.



We will also begin using this data to make final retention decisions. If your child is being retained, you will be informed by the first week of May.

The portal to review progress can be accessed at: <https://greatheartsaz.powerschool.com/public/home.html>.

## MINI MATADORS

The Spring Season ended yesterday; students will be released at normal time on Wednesdays.

## AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS:

Next week is the last week of after school extracurricular clubs for the Spring Season is the week of **April 21st**.

Students will be released as normally through carline or walker gate.

## MESSAGE FROM THE HEALTH OFFICE

Why be kind???

The act itself is its own reward, however we as humans benefit from more than just that. Engaging in or even witnessing acts of kindness will cause the body to release oxytocin, which promotes social bonding, trust, empathy, reduces stress, reduces pain, decreases inflammation, and promotes growth and healing. Oxytocin also causes a release of nitric oxide, which reduces blood pressure and improves heart health.

Studies show that kindness also boosts serotonin, Dopamine, and endorphins, chemicals in your brain responsible for feelings of well-being, happiness, and pain reduction. As this school year comes to an end, please help us promote health and carry positive memories into the summer by spreading acts of kindness.

## CONFIGIO ACCOUNTS

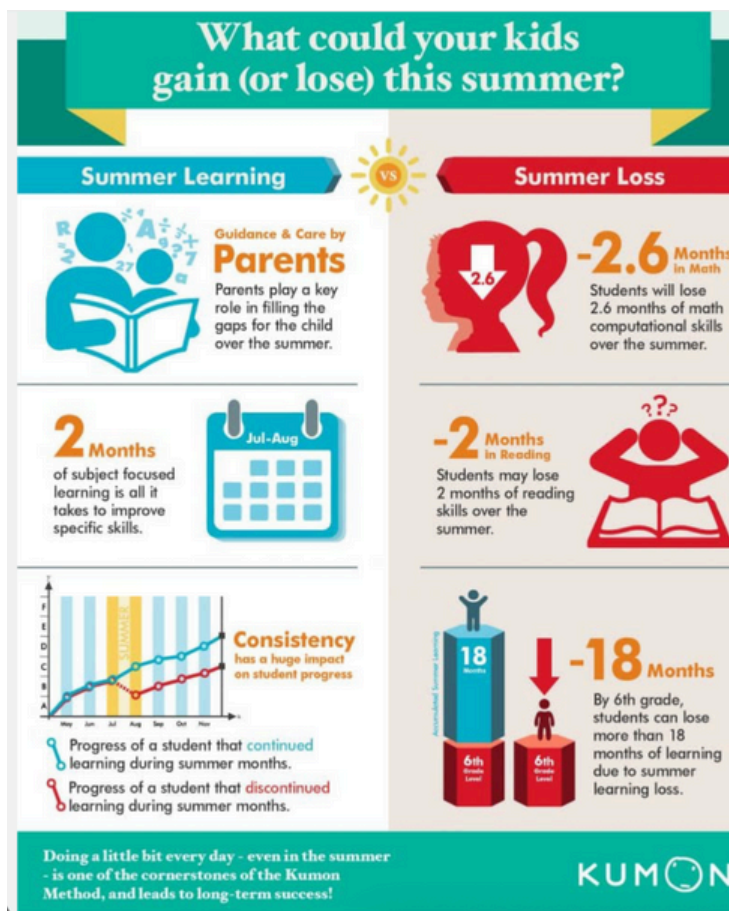
Parents if you have a pending balance on Configio for clubs, sports, field trips or any other school event that required payment, please log in to your account to make your payment. Configio will start sending invoices for those that have a balance due.

## THEMATIC GOAL UPDATE: TURNING PAGES TOGETHER

Testing season and the end of the school year can cause increased stress in students.

Did you know that reading reduces stress more than most activities students and adults rely on?

Next time you or your child is stressed, try finding a quiet space with a great book!

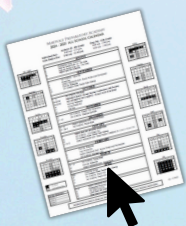


# NO SCHOOL THIS FRIDAY AND MONDAY

No school tomorrow Friday and Monday, April 21<sup>st</sup>

Wishing everyone an exciting and fun family weekend

We return Tuesday, April 22<sup>nd</sup>.



## SPRING CONCERT NEXT WEEK

Our K-2 Students will grace us with their sweet voices next **Wednesday, April 23rd.**

### Times:

- **Kinder:** Concert at 1:45 pm (parents arrive at 1:30 for seating. Teachers will take students there)
- **1st Grade:** 2:25 pm (Students arrive at 2:10 pm)
- **2nd Grade:** 3:10 pm (students arrive at 2:55 pm)

### Logistics:

- Students will wear uniforms.
- Parents enter through Event Gates 6 & 7 and exit Gate 15 (near playground)
- Please do not arrive before student arrival times to accommodate parking for all



**PSO PRESENTS**  
**FEATURING: DJ HERCULES**

**NEON DANCE**

**\$12** **25** **5th-8th**  
**6-9 PM** **APR** **SPORTS FIELD**

Purchase tickets on Configo. Prices increase at the door. \*Student ID required  
\*\*Students must be picked up by 9:15pm or late charges will apply.\*\*



## ATHLETIC PHYSICALS

If your upcoming 5th and 6th graders want to play sports next year, please sign up!

**SPORTS PHYSICAL DAY**



✓ All MS & HS Athletes  
✓ \$10 per Physical

Register on Signup Genius

Saturday, April 26  
8:00am-12:00pm  
Maryval Prep Gym



**SIGNUP GENIUS**



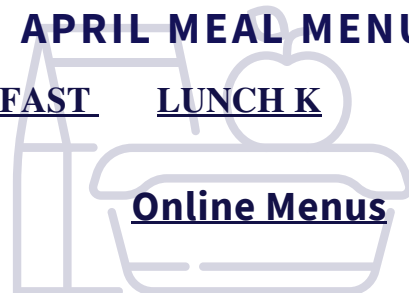
## APRIL MEAL MENUS

BREAKFAST

LUNCH K

LUNCH 1-6

Online Menus



**JOIN US FOR**  
**GREAT HEARTS DAY**



**Dbacks v. Braves**  
**Friday, April 25**  
**SCAN FOR TICKETS**



# We are HIRING

## NOW HIRING SCHOOL NURSES FOR THE 25-26 SCHOOL YEAR

Become a Great Hearts school nurse and align your work schedule with your family's school calendar while enjoying top-tier benefits and a supportive community of professionals. Make a difference in students' lives while taking care of your own!

Openings for the coming school year across several academies in Phoenix! **Apply today!**

<https://careers.greatheartamerica.org/non-teaching-positions/>

**GreatHearts®**



**GreatHearts**  
CLASSICAL EDUCATION. REVOLUTIONARY SCHOOLS.

## NOW HIRING! SCHOOL NURSES

- ACADEMIC CALENDAR**  
Align your work schedule with your family's school calendar!
- WORK ENVIRONMENT**  
Work with highly qualified professionals in a supportive community!
- BENEFITS**  
Our medical, dental and vision benefits are best in class!

[GreatHeartsCareers.org](https://GreatHeartsCareers.org)

## IMPORTANT MAY EVENTS



### ACADEMIC OLYMPICS

On **Wednesday, May 7th**, we will have our annual Academic Olympics for K-6. At this event, our students compete in teams to share all of their knowledge across various games. If you are interested in volunteering for this event, please reach out to [ssidoti@maryvaleprep.com](mailto:ssidoti@maryvaleprep.com) and note your name, your students name, and grade level/section no later than April 30th.

Due to class sizes and competition style games that take up more room, we will not be able to accept all volunteers or have spectators. Spots are limited and volunteers selected must be able to come without additional children/babies as the role is very involved and must be fingerprinted.

### 6TH GRADE PATHWAYS TO PREP CEREMONY

On **Wednesday, May 14th**, we will celebrate our 6th graders and the milestone of finishing up their Archway Experience as they head towards Prep next school year.

Save the date. Logistics and details coming soon.



### KINDER PROMOTION

On **Wednesday, May 21st** we will celebrate our Kindergarten students as they wrap up their first year of this lifelong learning journey. We intentionally call and treat this as promotion ceremony rather than a graduation as we want to instill early on the importance of the long view towards and the importance of graduation and finishing their K-12 journey.

Please save the date and note that logistics and details are coming soon.

### VIRTUE ASSEMBLIES

Each year grade level teachers chose one student who has embodied one of the 9 core virtues throughout the year. We will honor these students in our Virtue Assemblies on **Thursday, May 22nd**.

If your child is selected, you will receive a special invitation to surprise them with your attendance from Ms. Grado.



## SUMMER SCHOOL-SAVE THE DATE

We are excited to announce that we will be once again offering an outstanding Archway Summer School program for your children this summer at Maryvale Prep. The Archway program will focus on developing knowledge and skills in the core subjects of reading and mathematics.

**Enrollment will open on Configio for all families on Monday, April 7th** and the tuition for the Archway program has been reduced to \$200. Our classes will have a capacity of 20 students and will be filled on a first-come, first-served basis. We will be recommending students based on data and student need but all are welcome to sign up.

Summer School will run from Monday, June 2nd – Thursday June 26th.

There is no school on Fridays during the summer school program, and no school on Thursday, June 19th, in observance of the Juneteenth holiday. Classes will run from 8:00-11:30 am. Students can arrive at 7:30 a.m. for breakfast and stay until 12:00 p.m. for lunch.

Please note that for the last three years we were thankful to be able to operate at no cost due to grant funding. Unfortunately, that was post COVID funding that is no longer available.

***Some families have received an email from Mrs. Kennedy noting that their child was recommended by their teachers to attend. We highly encourage these families to enroll their students early to ensure a spot!"***



## Summer School

June 2nd to June 26th  
Monday-Thursday

8:00-11:30 am

Registration opens on Configio  
on Monday, April 7th.



## GreatHearts® | SummerCamp

CLASSICAL EDUCATION. REVOLUTIONARY SCHOOLS.™ GREAT CAMPS FOR GREAT HEARTS.

Discover our traditional camp  
experience with a classical twist!



**June 2<sup>nd</sup>-27<sup>th</sup>, 2025**

Monday-Friday | 12:00 PM-6:00 PM

**\$100/week**

Includes a t-shirt.

For all students entering Grades K-5 in Fall '25,  
including those on a Great Hearts waitlist.

**Early Bird Special**

Save \$5 per week, per child before May 1<sup>st</sup>.

## Exciting Weekly Themes!

### 1 Exploration Station

Adventure awaits at Exploration Station! From the Arctic to rainforests and every habitat in between, discover how life thrives in diverse and extreme environments.

### 2 DIY Maker's Workshop

Spark your child's creativity with DIY Maker's Workshop! A week of fun crafting, making, and DIY projects awaits.

### 3 Time Trekkers

Travel through time with Time Trekkers! Explore Prehistoric times, the Middle Ages, the Roaring 20s, and even the future with engaging, hands-on activities!

### 4 Circus Spectacular

Step right up to Circus Spectacular! A week of fun awaits as campers explore the vibrant world of the circus.



Register: [MaryvalePrep.org/summer](https://maryvaleprep.org/summer)

Contact us: [Programs@GreatHearts.org](mailto:Programs@GreatHearts.org) | 602.396.7574



## BARÇA Academy

### BARÇA ACADEMY CAMPS ARE BACK IN PHOENIX!

We're excited to announce our Summer Camp!

**When:** June 9-13, 8 AM to 2 PM.

**Where:** Scottsdale Sports Complex, Phoenix.

Led by top Barça coaches, this is a unique chance to learn the FC Barcelona methodology. Plus, players could be selected for an unforgettable trip to Barcelona! We also have a special offer only for you:

- Great Hearts Students: Use code GH25SOCCER for \$50 off.
- Register before March 31st to get an extra \$50 off with our Final Early Bird price.

Sign up here:

<https://barcaresidencyacademyusa.com/summer-camp-phoenix/>

Have questions? Reach out on Instagram or Facebook @barcaacademyphx or email us at [soccer@katapult.es](mailto:soccer@katapult.es)



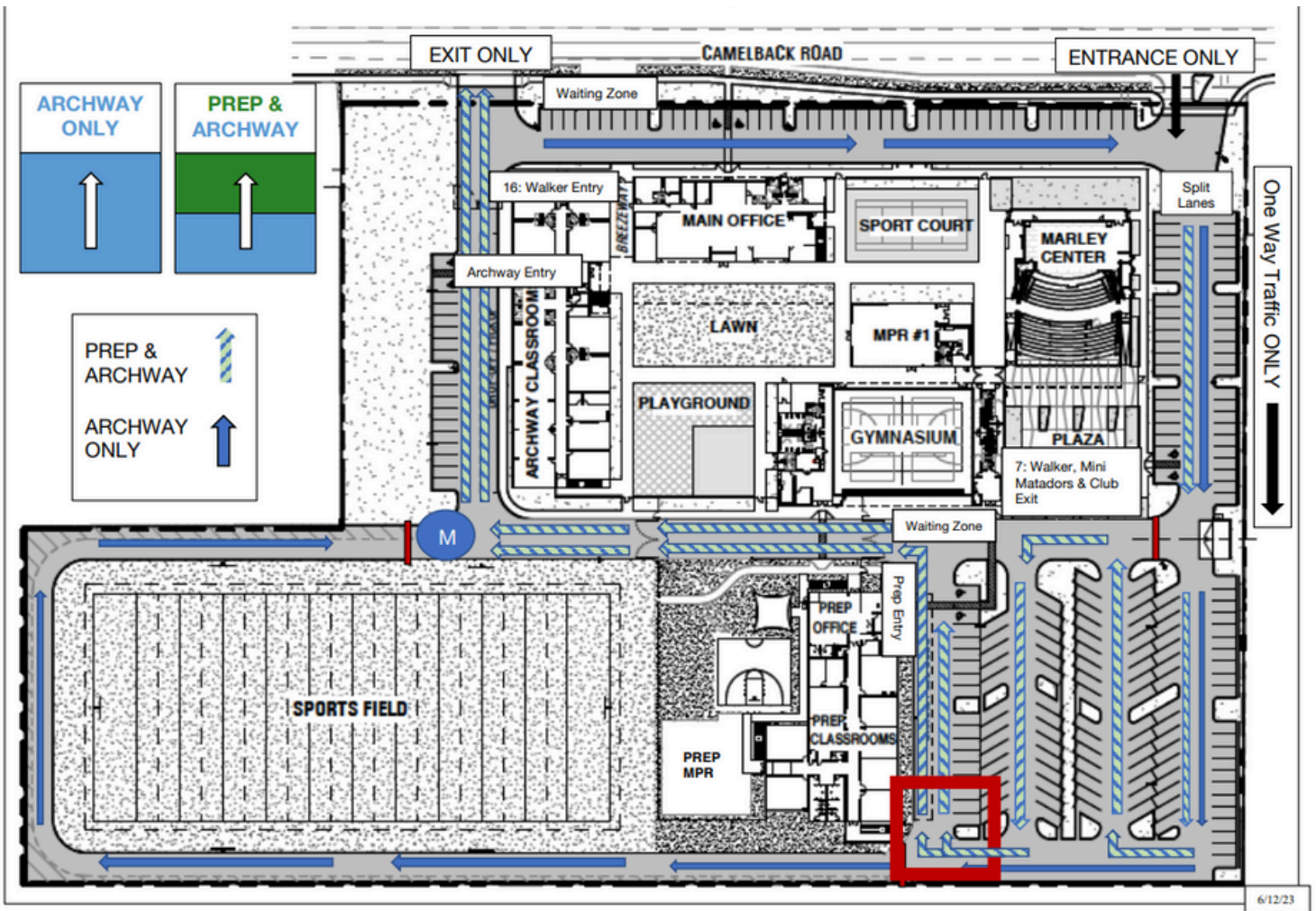


## STUDENT DROPOFF

Students should not be dropped off on the side of Camelback Road near or by the campus. This is extremely unsafe and does not follow our student drop off guidelines. The drop-off guideline is to use carline to safely drop off students or park near the school property and walk to school using the sidewalk. Please refer to our family handbook listed in our website for additional information on our guidelines.

## CARLINE PICKUP

- The earliest you can enter into carline is 2:30pm on Full Days and at 12:15pm on Early Release Days. This will allow our students & faculty to have a cleared parking lot in the event EMS needs access.
- Have your placard ready for scanning; roll down your window when approaching a staff member that can scan your placard, they will not scan if window is up as this causes delays with window barrier.
- Please keep the East Entrance merge point cleared at all times. Wait to enter until all traffic is cleared.
- Maintain safe parking lot speed of 5 mph.
- Merge point will utilize a zipper merge (1 car per lane).
- The use of cell phones while on carline has slowed us down, and its ultimately unsafe.
- DO NOT record or take pictures of students outside your family.



## HANDICAP PARKING SPACES

Do not park in a handicap parking space if you or your passenger do not hold a permit. Parking in a handicap spot without the proper authorization is in violation of [ARS 28-884](#). Even if you are in a rush or your visit to the office will take a few minutes, these spots are reserved for our students, parents and visitors with a disability. Violations should be reported

## CAMPUS SAFETY

Our campus is equipped with security gates that are armed and required to be closed at all times. These gates are for both vehicles and pedestrians. Access is limited to our Front Office only and we ask that all visits are conducted through these doors and at no times should pedestrian gates be used to exit campus. To ensure carline efficiency and safety, please plan to exit campus with Right Turns only. Camelback Road is very dangerous when making left turns.

Students are allowed onto campus at 7am and all of entrance gates will be opened at this time. Student walkers should adjust their time on campus to reflect the timing of the campus gate openings.

# SCHOOL POLICIES

## ATTENDANCE

A student that is absent more than ten percent (18 days) of the required number of school days per year is considered to have "excessive absences" whether the absence is excused or unexcused.

This year, we are introducing CUTS LITE Service (Court Unified Truancy Suppression Limited Intervention To Educate). We will follow the following timeline:

- 5 Absences: You will receive the 1st warning letter
- CUTS Lite Conference
- 9-11 Absences: 2nd warning letter
- CUTS Hearing
- Parent Conference/School Intervention



## TARDIES

Any student here beyond 7:57 a.m. is considered tardy and **must be signed in by a parent in the front office**. Please avoid any consequences for multiple tardies by arriving on time.

## EARLY STUDENT PICK UP

Students who need to be picked up early for appointments must be picked up in the main office **no later than 2:45pm on full days and 12:30pm on half days, NO EXCEPTIONS**. The current Placard with student's name or a valid identification with photo is required when picking up through the office. The student must be signed out with a reason for leaving.

## PLACARD FOR CARLINE PICK UP

Placards can be accessed on the Parent Portal at <https://greathearts.schoolaxis.com/> Log in, on main page PICK UP PLACARDS, Select Maryvale Prep Academy, Download and Print, if you cannot locate the placard on your Parent Portal Account, please contact the Front Office. Please note, we will not accept phone images of the placard for student pick up, parents must have the current paper copy of the placard for safety and fast process.

## LATE PICK UP

Students picked up after 3:45pm (1:30pm early release), will incur late pick up fees beginning with the second occurrence of late pick-up, families will be assessed a late pick-up fee according to the following fee schedule:

- Up until 4:00pm (1:30 pm early release) = \$5.00 per student
- 4:01 – 4:30pm (1:46-2:15pm early release) = \$5.00 per student + \$1.00 per student, per minute
- After 4:30pm (2:15pm early release) = same fee structure as above + Department of Child Safety phone call

## STUDENT WALKERS

If you would like to add your child to the walker list, you will need to do so at least 12 hours in advance of when you want them to begin walking. If you do not receive confirmation, they have not been added and will have to wait until then to be dismissed as walkers. Please note, once on the walker list they must walk daily until they are removed. If you want your child to be on the walker list, please email [enrollment@maryvaleprep.org](mailto:enrollment@maryvaleprep.org). The same applies if you want them removed. Parents meeting their student walkers must park off campus.

1. Walkers will be dismissed at 12:50 pm on early release days and at 3:20 pm on full days from Gates 6 and 7.
2. On full days, Prep students can wait for their Archway siblings until they are released at 3:20 pm and they can head out to Gate 4 to walk home or meet families together.
3. On Early Release Days, Archway students can wait for their Prep siblings until they are released at 1:00 pm and they can head out to Gate 4 to walk home or meet families together.
4. Students not waiting for siblings as noted, must exit campus immediately.
5. Kindergarten students without 1st through 12th grade siblings must be met by their parent/guardian or authorized pick up personnel right outside of Gate 4.

Students will walk along the sidewalk adjacent to the Marley Center and out Gate 4 to meet their parents. Please refrain from walking through Gate 4 onto campus or crowding up that area to ensure the flow of traffic continues and students do not get lost amongst waiting families.

Please note that signing your child up as a walker is a liability you are taking as they are not supervised or delivered directly to parents. We ask that as parents, you calculate the best option for your family as you consider safety and convenience. Student walkers will be allowed to take their phones out to connect with parents/guardians once they have exited Gates 6 and 7.

## DISMISSAL

Due to our school day in sessions and safety precautions arrival for end of day pick up will not begin until 2:30 pm. If you arrive prior to that, please note that you will be asked to exit campus and return after 2:30 pm. Emergency and office business vehicles cannot get onto campus if the school is blocked with waiters.

## SCHOOL HOURS

Regular Days:  
8:00 AM - 3:15 PM  
(campus opens at 7AM)

Early Release Days:  
8:00 AM - 12:45 PM  
(campus opens at 7AM)

Main Office Phone Number: (623) 247-6095  
Attendance Line: (623) 247-6095 Option 0  
(leave a detailed voicemail to report absences)

Attendance Email:  
[attendance@maryvaleprep.org](mailto:attendance@maryvaleprep.org)

[www.maryvaleprep.org](http://www.maryvaleprep.org)



## OFFICE HOURS

Regular School Days:  
7:00 AM - 4:00 PM

Early Release Days:  
7:00 AM - 1:30 PM