MathMatters and STEAM Expo

On Saturday, March 18th, Coral Academy of Science Las Vegas will host the 13th annual math contest, MathMatters and our annual STEAM Expo. This marks the first year both events will happen concurrently.

Our long-established K-12 STEAM Expo is going to be held at Sandy Ridge Park, Henderson. Students from all five branches of Coral Academy of Science, Las Vegas will come together to make this amazing event more fascinating. Additionally this year there will be art booths as well. This free event will help raise funds for many clubs and groups as well as expose our community to all that our students have to offer.

MathMatters will be held at the Sandy Ridge Campus. The event is free and open to all 4th and 5th grade students throughout the Las Vegas Valley but pre-registration is required. Students will test their skills by solving 15 challenging math questions ranging from fractions to operations and algebraic thinking. All attendees will enjoy the science demonstration on defying gravity by Mad Science of Las Vegas. Winners of the competition will win prizes including:

- 1st place prize: IPAD Mini2
- 2nd place prize: Kindle Fire HD 8
- 3rd place prize: Kindle Fire

MathMatters registration information will be coming soon.

We are now accepting online applications for the 2017-2018 school year. The deadline to apply is February 28th at NOON. The lottery will take place on March 1, 2017. Applications available at www.caslv.org/admission/

The Washington Post

The Washington Post Rated Coral Academy of Science on their list of America’s Most Challenging High Schools. CASLV Ranked #2 in State of Nevada and #148 in the Nation

Congratulations!

Centennial Hills: 7951 Deer Springs Way. Las Vegas, NV 89131  (702) 685-4333
Nellis Air Force Base: 42 Baer Dr., NAFB, Las Vegas, NV 89115 (702) 701-2321
Sandy Ridge: 1051 Sandy Ridge Ave., Henderson, NV 89052 (702) 776-8800
Tamarus: 8185 Tamarus St., Las Vegas, NV 89123 (702) 269-8512
Windmill: 2150 Windmill Pkwy., Henderson, NV 89074 (702) 485-3410

www.CASLV.org  www.FB.com/CASLV
A Message from the Executive Director

Dear CASLV Families,

We successfully started this school year with addition of our two new campuses and already completed the first semester. We welcome all new students, parents, teachers, and staff to our great Coral family.

Our students at all 5 campuses worked hard this semester and they have earned their two week break. They all will be very busy starting January with MAP testing, Science Fair, Science Olympiads, Math Competitions, MathMatters completion, STEM Expo, AP Exams, SBAC testing, ACT, and EOC exams; I wish good luck them on these exams, tests, and competitions.

This year we will have both STEM Expo and MathMatters on March 18th, 2017 at Sandy Ridge campus; you will have more information about these events at this newsletter and at your campus office. These both events will be open to the public. Visitors will get a chance to see our K-12 students demonstrating Science, Technology, Engineering and Math activities at the STEM Expo and 4th/5th graders will compete to get prizes like an IPAD mini2 or Kindle Fires at MathMatters competition. Please mark your calendars and spread the word.

I am also honored to share with you that CASLV 2016 graduation rate has been announced as 95.75% an increase from last year’s rate of 94.85%.

I wish all of our families have a great holiday season and have a joyful, healthy, and successful New Year!

Warm Wishes,
Ercan Aydogdu
Executive Director

At Coral Academy of Science Las Vegas, we let our instructors do what they do best, teach! We work with our instructors to make sure they have all the tools they need to teach our students using the best practices and latest training. If you would like to join our award-winning team, check out www.caslv.org/jobs/
A Message from the Chief Academic Officer

Hello Falcon Families,

With the year already half over, we can look back and see so many accomplishments from our students and staff. As a mother, I am smitten with all the things our children are capable of and their sense of wonderment. As an administrator, I can look objectively and see all the measurable strives we have made forward. We have opened two new campuses and doubled our student population. While there were a couple challenges on the way, I am impressed with how smoothly the transition occurred with the support of our students, staff, and parents. We have also celebrated ongoing student victories in competitions all across the country.

Seeing what we have done thus far, I am excited to see what exciting opportunities this next semester holds for our students. Enjoy your winter break!

Warm Wishes,
Candy Farthing

A Message from the Chief Operations Officer

Holiday Season is the best time to reflect, appreciate, and celebrate the things we as a school community have been able to accomplish. We always take pride in the rigorous education our staff provides. Our top priority is to create a safe and intellectually challenging environment that will empower students to become high-end thinkers, problem solvers and motivated learners prepared for life.

We are starting a new Semester after the break. Let's value this time to make some changes. Some students were more successful than others in learning a specific subject such as math or science in 1st Semester. This is due to differences in the way they learn. Good learning requires prior knowledge, meaningful tasks and cognitive strategies to relate parts to each other. Good learners read more and engage in deep learning. We need to encourage their ability to sustain their achievement. For deep learning we need inner motivation to learn and use information to achieve our goals instead of memorizing discrete facts to meet a demand. Individual factors such as personality, values, attitudes and general experience were significant elements when they construct their own learning. Personal and situational factors impact what students retain and how they evaluate. Holiday season is the perfect time to review these factors. Asking students to study their academic progress so that they become self-regulated learners.

Our Academic Team continues to work on achieving the following goal as set by the Department of Education: All students graduate career and college ready. Governor declared this month as computer science careers month. Our school partners with PLTW, The College Board and Code.org to offer new computer science courses.

I want to thank you for all you do for our students and wish you a happy and restful holiday season.

M.Gunozu

Meet CASLVs Head of HR, Amanda Ososco:

I was raised in the Central Valley - Bakersfield, CA to be more specific. I moved to Reno where I attended the University of Nevada, Reno where I graduated Summa Cum Laude. I moved to Las Vegas last Summer to be closer to friends and family. I am currently going to school to complete my M.B.A. with an emphasis in Human Resources. Personally, I try to participate in Relay Races like Ragnar or Spartans, climb indoors, or Crossfit competitions for fun with friends. I am very excited to be a part of the Coral family and play an integral role in maintaining Coral’s remarkable academic reputation. I can't wait to get to know and support each and every person at CASLV in any way that I can.
A Message from the Principal

The Sandy Ridge campus has accomplished a great deal in our first semester. Thank you to all who attended our Harvest and Holiday Festivals and helped support our campus clubs. This year we added Character Education Assemblies where we honored 90 students over the course of the first semester. We doubled the number of students participating in our College Mentorship and Leadership Program (CMLP) from 40 to 80 students this year and plan to continue to expand this in the years to come. We also added an additional Project Lead the Way (PLTW) course: Introduction to Engineering and design. We also received a large grant to fund a new Dual Enrollment program in which students can concurrently enroll in college courses at no cost. We look forward to our STEM Expo and Math Matters competition in the spring (March 18). Promotion and graduation dates are as follows: 6/1/17 - 4pm middle school, 6:30pm high school. Thanks again to all of the families and parent volunteers who have helped make this first semester a successful one!

Hello,
I cannot believe it is already end of semester! What a year! Time just flew by in this busy school year but we have also done a lot of things.
CASLV has been the 4th high school in Nevada to be approved for College Board’s AP Capstone program. Our high school students will be ready for college more than ever now thanks to this program. We have administered PSAT and PSAT 9 this year with the participation of all of our junior and freshmen students. They did great at the exam and have received very good scores. Students can check their College Board accounts to check their individual scores.
Our seniors are also doing great in their college applications. The class of 2017 have applied to a total of 110 colleges and counting. They have also been offered almost $1.5 million dollars in scholarships and we are only in December. Our goal is to get this number to over $3 million. Our school hosted several colleges including, UNLV, UNR, Washington University in St Louis, Northeastern University, Embry Riddle, and Service Academies. We have also hosted presenters from Army ROTC to inform our students about this scholarship opportunity.
Our junior students were also busy; they have taken one SAT Practice exam and one ACT practice exam for their actual tests in the second semester. They are having the most challenges courses they have taken so far and doing a great job getting ready for college. We have organized a college trip to California and visited: UCLA, USC, Caltech and Harvey Mudd colleges. It was both informative and fun the students.
Brace for semester two from now as it will be even busier with state exams, AP exams, summer internship/camp applications, etc.
I want to wish everybody happy new year and see you in the second semester!

Best Wishes,
Ismail Kocabiyik

2016 Fall Sports Update

High School
New Sports introduced: Tennis Co-ed, Varsity Boy’s Soccer Successful Boy’s and Girl’s Cross Country season Current Varsity Boy’s Basketball record 4-2

Middle School
New sport introduced: 6th grade Boy’s Flag Football Current Co-ed Soccer team, undefeated and playing for the championship

Charles Hetzer
Asst. Principal St Services
Athletic Director
## Upcoming Events

### All Campuses

- **Dec 19 - Jan 2** - Winter Break
- **Jan 19** - Martin Luther King Day - No School
- **Feb 20** - Presidents Day - No School
- **Mar 10** - Professional Development Day - No School
- **Mar 17** - Quarter Ends - Half Day
- **Mar 18** - STEAM Expo & MathMatters
- **Apr 10 - Apr 14** - Spring Break - No School
- **Apr 28** - Professional Development Day - No School
- **May 29** - Memorial Day - No School
- **Jun 1** - Last Day of School - Half Day
- **Jun 1** - MS & HS Graduation

### Calendar

**FEBRUARY 2017**
- 20TH Presidents’ Day

**MARCH 2017**
- 10TH PD #3
- 17TH End of Quarter 3

**APRIL 2017**
- 10TH – 14TH Spring Break
- 28TH PD #4

**MAY 2017**
- 29TH Memorial Day

**JUNE 2017**
- 1ST Half Day
- 16TH End of Quarter 4
- 19TH-2ND Winter Break
- 25TH Christmas Day
- 4TH Independence Day

**JULY 2017**
- 4TH Independence Day

### Color Codes:
- **No School**
- **Half Day**

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*2016-2017 Winter, Five-Campus Newsletter*
Winter 2016-2017

Coral Academy

Coral Academy of Science Las Vegas
2017-2018 School Calendar

AUGUST 2017

3rd - 8th Teacher In-service
10th First Day of School

SEPTEMBER 2017

1st PD #1
4th Labor Day
22nd PD #2

OCTOBER 2017

13th End of Q1 (46 days)
27th Nevada Day

NOVEMBER 2017

10th Observation of Veteran’s Day
11th Veteran’s Day
20th – 24th Fall Break
23rd Thanksgiving
24th Family Day

DECEMBER 2017

22nd End of Q2 & Semester 1 (89 days)
25th Christmas Day
25th - 10th Winter Break

JANUARY 2018

1st New Year’s Day
25th - 10th Winter Break
11th - 12th PD #3-4
15th Martin Luther King Jr. Day

FEBRUARY 2018

19th Presidents’ Day

MARCH 2018

16th End of Q3 (134 days)
26th - 30th Spring Break

APRIL 2018

28th Memorial Day
29th Last Day of School
End of Q4 & Semester 2 (180 days)
29th PD #5
30th – 1st Contingency Days

MAY 2018

JUNE 2018

4th Fourth of July
Half Days
No School
PD Days (No School)
Nellis Air Force Base Campus

Noah Stevens, Principal

The 2016-2017 school year is flying by, I can’t believe we are already to the midway point! Up at our Nellis campus, it has been a blast watching our students, staff and parents become more and more accustomed to the Coral way. On top of the great activities and rigorous instruction taking place in our classrooms during the school day, our STEM focused after school clubs such as Lego Robotics and Science Olympiad are also in full swing.

Other awesome events we are proud of include our Veterans Day concert and first annual Nellis Fun Run fundraiser. Our wonderful music teacher Mrs. Burrow and her talented fourth and fifth grade students put on a great performance singing patriotic songs such as God Bless America and the Star Spangled Banner. During our fun run over 300 of our students and their families packed our campus for a fun filled day including carnival games, amazing baskets for our silent auction, and of course, the run itself. We were extremely humbled by the support we received from the school community and proud to announce that $7,500 was raised, all of which went to purchasing 50 chrome book devices for our students! It was an amazing event that is certain to become a staple here at our Nellis campus each year.

While so much has already happened, we still have plenty to be excited for including awesome field trips to the Sea Quest Aquarium, the Hoover Dam and the Valley of Fire. Additionally new programs are in the works for spring semester including Battle of the Books and our Science Fair and Science Olympiad competitions.

Before embarking on our journey through second semester it is important we take time over the holiday to break to spend time with our loved ones and recharge our batteries. On behalf of the entire Coral Academy of Science Nellis staff, we wish everyone Happy Holidays and look forward to an amazing rest of the school

Nellis Opening Ceremony

CASLV Nellis Campus proudly held their ribbon cutting ceremony. We had many great speakers meet with our kids to express their support of these students and their CASLV Education. Thank you to the many local dignitaries and community leaders in attendance.
Dear CASLV Centennial Hills Families,

I cannot believe how fast the first semester has gone by. As a new school, we have accomplished much in a short time together. With the support of our staff, parents and admin team, we have overcome many challenges and have begun to establish our school culture.

During the first semester, we had two big events, trunk or treat and winter concerts. The trunk or treat fundraiser allowed our teachers to purchase materials for their classrooms. Winter concerts were also a blast with great student performance and parent attendance. We had 94% parent attendance at the winter concerts. I would like to thank everyone who made these events successful. We offered several clubs for our students and most students took advantage of the opportunity to participate in these clubs. Our robotics club students attended the FLL Robotics Competition with two teams. Our three drama clubs and art club held successful performances for the families. We look forward to offering additional club opportunities in the second semester.

Our PTO was established in October. In their first two months, they have done an incredible job with their fundraising events and volunteer support. The cookie dough fundraiser and book fair were just two of the many events that were very successful. Special thanks to our PTO and the 182 fingerprinted parent volunteers for all their support.

Let’s continue to work together in the second semester to build a collaborative, communicative and supportive school culture.

Best regards,

Emrullah Eraslan
Principal

Centennial Opening Ceremony

CASLV officially opened its brand new Centennial Hills campus with a traditional ribbon-cutting ceremony. Teachers, staff and students attended this momentous occasion. Local dignitaries including Congresswoman Michele Ann Fiore, Bennett Tanner with Congressman Joe Heck’s office, Kent Alexander with Congressman Cresent Hardy’s office, and Greta Beck-Seidman with Las Vegas Metro Chamber of Commerce were also in attendance and bestowed proclamations for this momentous occasion. Thank you to all of the staff, families, and community supporters that made this campus possible. We are excited to offer our Centennial Hills families a stellar, award-winning education.
Dear CASLV Families,

I am happy to say that our first semester was a successful one! We cannot express enough how thankful we are for all our parent support. From technology and classroom donations, to our food and toy drives and the hours of campus volunteering, the generosity that our Coral families show us is truly humbling. In addition, the support you provide your child at home is something we are also so grateful to have, for it shows every day in the classroom as our students strive to be the best they can be!

We are always in need of more parent volunteers. If you would like to volunteer your time and talents, please see our wonderful Ms. Carla at the front desk.

Jill Dodson
Principal

Windmill’s Robotics Club had a few wild visitors this semester

Tule Springs Art Contest
Windmill’s Ms. Lombino, had her students enter in a Tule Springs art contest and here are three of the entries. Our budding artists demonstrate the importance of the art component in STEAM.
Dear Coral Family,

We are about to begin the new year, and Coral Academy has a lot planned for 2017. We will be experiencing various changes this year, changes for the better. As Coral Academy improves, we have the parents, students, and community members to thank for establishing our school as one of the most highly prolific institutions in the Las Vegas valley as well as the state of Nevada. Since Coral Academy’s humble beginnings over nine years ago, I have had the pleasure of seeing our school grow into the successful organization that it is today. I am proud of our school achieving a 5-star status along with the highest level of achievement I have ever witnessed, and I am excited to see how our journey unfolds in the years to come. Thank you for continuing to support our school to be as successful as we are. We truly have a wonderful Coral Academy family.

Your friendly neighborhood principal,
Mr. Yutuc (jyutuc@coralacademylv.org)

Kindergarten Visits the Smith Center

On October 27, Coral Academy’s entire Kindergarten class visited the Smith Center to see Daniel Tiger’s Neighborhood. Students were able to witness and interact with the performance through movement and song. They were joined by several other schools as well. Coral Academy will continue to provide field trip opportunities to the Smith Center in the future, as it is important to expose our students to performing arts combined with fun and captivating academic material.
Mr. Hikmet Wins Prestigious
Edyth May Sliffe Mathematics Award

CASLV’s very own Mr. Hikmet Erdogan has won the prestigious Edyth May Sliffe Award for Mathematics teachers. This nation-wide award by the Mathematical Association of America is given annually to approximately 20 mathematics teachers who have done outstanding work in motivating students in mathematics. If you know Mr. Hikmet and his love of teaching mathematics to eager young minds, this recognition is not a surprise as he always exceeds all of this students’ expectations. Congratulations, Mr. Hikmet. We are honored to have you on our team!

CASLV Speech and Debate Team

CASLV Speech and Debate Team had an another amazing season. They took home numerous awards at every event in which they competed. Congratulations! This award-winning team is helmed by Ms. Sloan who spends countless hours helping these kids reach their maximum potential. Thanks to the Speech and Debate Team and Ms. Sloan for all of your hard work and dedication.

College Scholarship and Credit for High School Students

Did you know that UNLV and other state colleges offer college courses to high school students & CASLV can help you pay for tuition and textbooks? The UNLV Early Studies program provides highly motivated Nevada high school students an opportunity to get a head start on their college education and earn HS credit. CASLV has a grant to pay for select courses for both for 2nd semester and summer school courses. Talk to Ms. Mine and Mr. Ismail about this opportunity as soon as possible.
School Beliefs

C – Challenge: Every student is challenged to enhance character and fulfill their academic potential.

A – Acceptance & Achievement: Accepting the diversity of our peers and achieving goals beyond ourselves.

S – Safety: Providing a safe learning environment that sets boundaries to allow students to achieve greatness.

L – Lifelong Learning: Fostering of love of lifelong learning

V – Values: Developing well rounded individuals while promoting integrity and responsibility.

Nellis Campus Fun Run

Nellis Campus held a Fun Run fundraiser and raised over $7500! This fun and event packed day included a silent auction, games, bounce house, potato sack race, tug-o-war, teacher and student basketball, and the most popular, dunk tank where students and their families took their chances at dunking a CASLV faculty member in the frigged waters below. All in all, this great event raised money for the campus while providing families an action packed afternoon. Thank you to all the volunteers who pulled off this event without a hitch!

Sandy Ridge Character Awards

This year Sandy Ridge has implemented Student Character awards for students who go above and beyond just the academic expectations. These students have shown their true colors with their honesty, gratitude, and willingness to help others. These students exemplify what the falcon spirit is all about!
Tamarus 2nd Grade Students Experience Nevada History

The 2nd grade students from the Tamarus Campus were able to take a special field trip to the Clark County museum on Dec. 6 & 7. Students were able to old historical buildings as well as take part in activities revolving around Nevada’s rich history. Thank you to all parents who took time out of their schedule to help chaperone this great trip.

Art Contest Winners

For the 7th year in a row CASLV Students have won The Happy Times Calendar Contest! Daven Sohng has won with his painting of "April Showers". Also, Sophia Ostolaza was chosen to move on to the State Level for The Lion's Club International Poster and, if she wins, she will go to the International Level. If she wins the International level she will win $10,000.

Trunk or Treat

Centennial Hills held their debut Trunk-or-Treat. This successful event brought in hundreds of family members in Halloween costumes to celebrate the holiday with their community and Falcon families. Thank you to all the volunteers and staff who made this day special for all the little ones.
STUDENT Robotics Clubs

CASLV Sandy Ridge FIRST Lego League Robotics teams recently participated in their qualifying tournament on Saturday 12/3/2016. They were recognized as one of the top teams and advanced to the Southern Nevada Championship to be held on Saturday 1/28/2017. The CASLV Windmill Robotics team has been competing, making videos of their projects and experiencing amazing things this semester. They have been working diligently since September engineering and building their robot, programming missions, and completing their research project. They presented their findings to Henderson Mayor Andy Hafen in November and he is working

CASLV Mathletes Compete at the Harvard MIT Math Tournament

CONGRATULATIONS to our mathletes!!! Four Teams from CASLV traveled to Boston last month to participate in the Harvard MIT Math Tournament (HMMT). This rigorous 6 hour tournament, hosted by Harvard, MIT and neighboring schools is one of the largest and most prestigious high school competitions in the world. Our teams placed 19th in the team round and 12th in the overall team sweepstakes, missing the top 10 by only one question. Coral Academy student, Taimur Khalid, placed 46th out of 800 in the general round.
Guide Dog on Campus

High school student, Claire Binfield, decided to train Octave to become a guide dog for the blind for a Girl Scouts project. This year, she set out to get the Girl Scout Gold Award, which is the highest honor for a Girl Scout by training her dog, Octave, for an entire year. Octave has been on campus since the beginning of the year and has become a common fixture in the halls and classroom. He even dressed up for Pajama Day during Homecoming Week.

Claire and Octave were featured in a Review Journal article and on Fox 5. Way to go, Claire!

WordWright Challenge Winner

A student representing the CASLV, Farin Tavacoli, recently won highest national honors in this year’s WordWright Challenge, a competition for American high school students requiring close reading and analysis of many different kinds of prose and poetry.

In the year’s first meet, held in October, freshman Farin was one of only 11 ninth graders in the entire country to earn a perfect score. More than 64,000 high school students from 48 states entered the meet.
Coral Academy Partners with The Shade Tree & Safe Nest

On December 10th, Coral Academy extended its arms out into the community to lend a helping hand. CASLV teachers, staff, parents, and administration came together to help those in need at the Shade Tree facility near Downtown Las Vegas. Those who volunteered were able to witness and experience the true holiday spirit of giving and serving. Several toys were passed out to children, and even more toys were donated to The Shade Tree for use during this holiday season. Overall, CASLV collected close to 500 toys for children and families housed at The Shade Tree. Thank you to all teachers and staff who helped facilitate the collection of these wonderful toys.

After the toy giveaway, CASLV staff also showed their support by helping serve food, cleaning and waiting on tables, and simply mingling with The Shade Tree clients during dinner time. We were utterly impressed by the true selflessness of the CASLV staff who helped make this event possible. We would like to give special thanks to all the wonderful people that helped make this a success. We could not have done this without your support.

Windmill Campus also maintained their long-standing tradition of a Giving Tree to bring in donated gifts and food for Safe Nest. Each and every year, the donation is more bountiful thanks to the generous nature of our Coral Family.

Thank You!
Just a few reminders

Car Line
- Please SLOW DOWN to 5mph for the safety of our children.
- Please do not block traffic or use teacher parking for drop off; pull forward in the car line.
- Please no u-turns or left turns in front of the school; right turns only into the school parking lot
- Please use the crosswalk in the parking lot
- Please BE KIND and respect our carline volunteers; they are out there working hard to keep everyone safe and secure!

Volunteers
We would love to have more volunteers help us in the lunchroom and out at recess! Please call the front office if you would like to volunteer. Also, please note that we do ask parents to have fingerprints completed for the safety of all of our students.

Uniform Policy
Please make sure shoes are plain and all black in color (no boots). Socks/leggings must also be plain in color (navy blue, black, white, or maroon). No leggings as pants. Hair accessories must be minimal (no large bows or flowers) and plain in color (navy blue, black, maroon).

Birthday and Special Deliveries
If you would like to bring special items such as cupcakes or other treats for your child’s celebration, please contact your child’s teacher and the front office, via email, at least one week in advance so that they can verify the ingredients. If approved, your child’s teacher will contact you as to when the celebration can take place.

Academic Concerns
If you have any academic concerns, please correspond with following this order of communication: 1) Teacher, 2) Instructional Coach, 3) Site Director.

Drop-off/Pick-up
Thank you for your help thus far in keeping a smooth flow of traffic in the morning. Please adhere to the directions that our car line volunteers are providing for parents in the morning. In the afternoon, we understand that may wish to say a few words to your child’s teachers. However, we ask that you refrain from

School Lunches
Thanks to parental input, CASLV is thrilled to have partnered with Three Square to offer healthier, delicious lunch options at a lower price for every student. With this partnership, comes the opportunity for our qualified families to take part in the Free and Reduced Lunch Program (FRLP). To view menus, order meals, or learn more about the FRLP, please go to www.caslv.org/lunch