

# THE PRINCIPAL’S CORNER

## Kids go all in for Halloween!



Halloween fell on a Tuesday this year, and in the middle of Spirit Week. Scholars used the opportunity to dress up in record numbers. In addition to the perennial favorites, like witches, superheroes, vampires, and princesses, this year saw a surge of ninjas, wizards, and especially characters from Disney’s *Descendants*. The staff members were fully committed as characters from *Despicable Me*. See more pictures on page ###.

### NOVEMBER 2017

#### Events in November

- 11/2 Chloe Schneider Day – Wear Animal Print Clothing (\$1)
- 11/4 Wiffle Ball Fundraiser @ OI HS
- 11/6 Pajama Day  
Deadline for Bass Drum Raffle
- 11/7 Picture Retakes
- 11/7-9 Scholastic Book Fair
- 11/9 Jamba Juice (order due 11/8)
- 11/10 TOPA Fall Festival @ Apache Site  
(See story)
- 11/17-26 Fall Break & Thanksgiving
- 12/2 Milk & Cookies with Santa  
@ Goodyear Site (See story)

#### IB Learner Profile Student Recognition – Oct 2017

L to R: Karina Miramontes (4); Mia Gonzalez (4); Porter Butler (1); Ian Smith (3); Logan Hempelman for Alexander Sereno (OI)



## How to Know What’s Up at Sienna Hills

Blackboard Connect - We have added Blackboard Connect to our communication plan at TOPA. Blackboard works with our student data system, Synergy. This new feature will allow us to pull information from the system to do quick emergency alerts or other communications more successfully. It will also inform our office about communications that are not connecting so we can update or verify phone numbers more often. During this time, please check your junk

mail for messages or alerts from us. We will announce the date for an emergency alert practice.

Facebook Updates - If haven’t looked at our Facebook page lately—Take a look! We have been adding more pictures and descriptions about what we are doing—And we are doing great things! <https://www.facebook.com/OdysseySiennaHills/>

## Step-Parenting Using Love & Logic

### Help for Blended Families

Blended families are becoming more and more common in today’s world. Consequently, more kids are being raised partially by stepparents. If you don’t have a good idea of the role of a stepparent, you will probably go through difficult times full of power struggles and disrespect.

### Being a Love and Logic Consultant Step-Parent

Love and Logic teaches parents how to be consultant parents. Consultant parents give kids plenty of opportunities to succeed *and to fail* and then, in a loving way, they allow the consequences of their stepchildren’s (and their own

children’s) actions to teach life’s lessons.

For instance, consultant parents are great at applying consequences with empathy and avoid using sarcasm, anger, and frustration. By doing so, their stepchildren tend to see their own mistakes as the cause of their discomfort rather than the parent or stepparent.

Consultant parents take good care of themselves by understanding that their stepchildren are grieving the loss of the family structure that existed when mom and dad were together. Therefore they don’t take personally the disrespectful

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## Love & Logic Classes for Parents (and Step-Parents!)



*Megan Olson, TOPA Founder  
Love & Logic Facilitator*

Please join us for our Love & Logic sessions offered to parents. All sessions are open to the community and will be led by Co-Director and Love & Logic Facilitator, Megan Olson.

All sessions start at 6 pm at the site specified.

11/7 – **Junior High** – How to raise Problem Solvers

11/14 – **High School** – Teaching Kids to Work and Take Pride in their Work

11/28 – **Goodyear** – Putting a Stop to Conflict in Your Home

12/12 – **Apache** – How to Set Reasonable Limits and Expectations

12/19 – **Sienna Hills** – Teaching Responsibility With Love

# HALLOWEEN MEMORIES



# Fall Festival Next Friday!

Place: TOPA Apache Campus  
6500 S. Apache, Buckeye

Date: November 10, 2017

Time: 5:30 to 8:30 pm

In the spirit of this year’s TOPA theme, Culture of Community, the three elementary campuses will each be hosting a district-wide seasonal event to encourage cohesion of the whole TOPA community.

The first of these events, the Fall Festival, will be held at the Apache Campus, on Apache Road near Southern Ave.

There will be bounce houses, food, gift basket raffles, face painting, an obstacle course, a DJ, and lots of good times. A real cow in a marked field will be... selecting the winner of Cow Patty Bingo. Fun fun fun!

Wristbands can be bought before the event from Amy Nunn for \$8.00, or for \$10.00 at the door.



## Step-Parenting Using Love & Logic (continued)

comments that their stepchildren make towards them. Instead they model how to treat people with respect by treating their stepchildren with respect. They may also say something like, “Huh” and then walk away knowing that the more words they use when the child is upset the worse the interaction will be for all involved. Then, when emotions have been calmed, stepparents can use Love and Logic techniques to teach the importance of respect much more effectively.

## Learning to Use Enforceable Statements as a Step-Parent

Another thing that consultant parents do is use enforceable statements. Rather than telling their stepchildren what to do, they tell their stepchildren what they will do. This doesn’t mean that they use threats such as, “if you don’t get this place cleaned up, then your going to stay here until you do!” Instead, consultant parents may say something like, “I’ll be happy to take you to your friends house tonight as soon as this area is clean.”

*Posted In: [Families](#) |  
Tagged: [Choices](#), [Parenting](#), [Parents](#), [Setting Limits With Kids](#), [Step-Parents](#) from [Arizona Family Therapy Group](#)*

## TOPA COMMUNITY SEASONAL EVENTS



### Cookies & Milk with Santa

Friday, December 2

9:00 am – 1:00 pm

Goodyear Campus

Pictures with Santa, bounce houses, snow, train rides, milk & cookies, and more!

100% of proceeds go to Make A Wish Foundation



### Family Fun Color Run

Sat., March 24, 2018

Sienna Hills Campus

Stay tuned for more details!

## Ambassadors selling Jamba Juice Fundraiser Cards

The Sienna Hills Ambassadors are selling Jamba Juice Fundraiser Value Cards. For \$10, you will get a card that will give you up to \$35 in value. Using this card, when you buy one you will get one free up to six times – no expiration!

If you are interested, see Sienna Hills in the morning.



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