

ROCKETS NEWS

Riverdale School

325 W. 142ND Street
Riverdale, IL 60827



Principal's Message



Calendar of Events

- **March 1** - School Improvement Day Early Dismissal
- **March 4** – NO SCHOOL, Casimir Pulaski Day
- **March 6** - ISC Scripps Regional Spelling Bee, 7:00 pm
- **March 6-14** - IAR testing window
- **March 11** – Early Dismissal, 12:00 pm
- **March 15** - 3rd Quarter Ends
- **March 26** – Board of Education Meeting, 5:00 pm
- **March 28** – Parent Teacher Conference
- **March 29** – No School

We are all very happy with the behavior and wonderful manners the children have shown during in person learning. While it is evident that the students and teachers have spent time discussing classroom routines and school-wide virtual procedures, I commend parents for teaching their student the connection between appropriate behavior and academic success during these unprecedented times.

I am impressed by how engaged the students have been in their classroom setting and by all the teaching and learning that is ongoing at Riverdale School. Should you ever have questions, concerns, or suggestions during the school year, please do not hesitate to call me at **708-849-7153**.

Our purpose is to help each child become the very best he or she can be. Effective communication between home and school is extremely important in achieving this goal. Research shows that strong parental involvement and interest in education is a crucial factor in student success in school. I encourage you to keep informed with up-to-date information about your child's class and about our school. If you wish to discuss a matter that directly affects your child in the classroom, please speak with your child's teacher first. He/she is the person who interacts with your child daily and is the person to address your initial concerns. Also, your child's teacher is the best person to help you in the areas concerning your child's academic progress, behavioral issues, classroom discipline matters, questions on classroom routines or procedures, and homework. Additionally, the classroom teacher can share ideas to help you reinforce skills and concepts taught at school. If your concern centers on a school wide practice, please direct your call to me and I will contact you as soon as possible to address those concerns. For your advance planning purposes, our **IAR state testing window is March 5, 2024-March 27, 2024, for students.** More details will be shared with parents regarding specific test days the once the time approaches. Thank you in advance for all your support in preparation for what we know will be a success! We appreciate your continued efforts to work collaboratively in supporting students! Your partnership is important to Riverdale School students and staff!

Striving for Academic Excellence for all Children

Dr. Shinora Montgomery, Principal

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Kindergarten

Ms. Smith and Ms. Williams

March Newsletter

Happy March to all of our Kindergarten families!

This month we are close to parent/teacher conference time. You will be receiving a notice regarding your appointment for a conference. Please make sure you make a note of the time and date you selected. We have a tight schedule and want to respect each other's time, all conferences will be 15 minutes apart. If you are unable to attend the upcoming parent/teacher conference, please let me know and we can make other arrangements. This month we will be testing students for progress. We have a lot going on in this month, so please make sure you are checking your child's folder for homework, skills that you can review with your child, important dates and information. We are at that time in the year where school supplies need to be replenished. If you would like to donate supplies to our Kindergarten class you can message me for what is needed. Thank you for all you do!

Sincerely,

Mrs. Williams-Stewart and Ms. Smith

First Grade

Ms. Thomas, Mrs. Wells and Mrs. Drake, Dr. Driskel

Welcome to our 1st grade Spring newsletter! We have had a busy and exciting start to the season, filled with lots of learning and fun activities.

In **Language Arts**, we have been working on building our reading and writing skills. We have been practicing reading short stories and writing our own sentences using sight words and phonics. We have also been learning about different types of writing, such as narrative and informational texts. In reading we are finishing up Unit 4 Magnetic decoding skills of cvc/ silent e patterns, Long o, (o_e), long i (i_e) long u (u_e), soft c and g. Long a, ai, ay, Long e, ee, and ea.

In **Math**, we have been focusing on addition and subtraction. We have been using manipulatives and visual aids to help us understand the concepts and solving simple word problems. We have also been learning about shapes and patterns.

In **Science**, we have been exploring the wonders of nature. We have been learning about plants, animals, and the environment around us. Volcano, Deadly Life savers; Blood simulation. We have also been conducting simple experiments to learn about the scientific method.

In **Social Studies**, we have been learning about different communities and cultures. We have been studying Black History in America, different holidays and traditions from around the world and learning about how people live in different parts of the world.

In **Art**, we have been expressing our creativity through drawing, painting, and crafting. We have been learning about different artists and art styles and creating our own masterpieces.

In **Physical Education**, we have been staying active and healthy through various games and exercises. We have been learning about the importance of staying active and taking care of our bodies.

As we continue through the Spring season, we are looking forward to more learning and fun adventures together. We hope you have a wonderful Spring and we can't wait to share more of our learning with you in our next newsletter!

Thank you for all of your support, The 1st Grade Team, Mrs. Drake, Dr. Driskell, Mrs. Thomas, Mrs. Wells

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Second Grade

Ms. Lindsey and Mrs. Ingram

Greetings Parents and Guardians!

In reading, we will be finishing unit 3 and heading into unit 4 of our I-Ready reading series. We will focus on text features, intro to figurative language (alliteration and repetition) and how to demonstrate understanding of non-fiction text. We will also practice reading skills such as story elements and cause and effect. As it pertains to math, we will continue to focus on addition and subtraction with three-digit numbers, with and without regrouping, counting money, telling time, and introducing geometry concepts. Regarding social studies, we will learn a bit about financial literacy. Students will dive into budgeting, debit and credit cards, and how to make a wise financial decision. March will be the start of our Force and Matter Unit.

Just a few reminders: We ask that you please ensure assignments are completed daily and please continue to read with your child each night.

Thank you for your support!

The Second Grade Team
Ms. Lindsey
Mrs. Ingram

Third Grade

Mrs. Roger and Mrs. Cooper

We are practically to the 4th quarter of school the school year! Our very own student Autumn Applewhite is the School District Spelling Bee Winner. Additionally, the students enjoyed celebrating the 100th Day of School. Third grade is working on Unit Four in the iReady Reading program. We are focusing on comparing & contrasting texts, explaining how illustrations contribute to a story, and describing connections between sentences & paragraphs within a text.

In addition, in iReady Math, we are working on understanding how multiplication can be used to find the area of a rectangle. Our Science and Social Studies concepts are imbedded in the iReady Reading program and will be enhanced using Flocabulary, along with NewsOMatic. Please remember to check Class Dojo regularly to see real-time notifications about classroom happenings and check your child's behavior.

Ms. Rogers and Mrs. Cooper

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Fourth Grade
Mr. Chadwell and Ms. Miller

The airing of the 4th grade science fair took place on Wednesday, February 16, 2022. It was shown via Zoom. Our students presented their science fair project boards in class Thursday, February 10th and Monday, February 14th. After presenting their projects in class, students were videotaped for the Zoom science fair.

In ReadyGen Reading our fourth graders are working on a yarn (a story that is so surprising or unusual that it is difficult to believe) titled "Pecos Bill". Currently we are focusing on determining the theme of a story from details in the text, referring to details and examples when explaining what a text says, and drawing inferences from the text.

In i-Ready Math we have completed Unit 1 (Lessons 1-5) and we are working in Unit 2, Lesson 6 which entails understanding multiplication as a comparison, using bar models and number lines to increase student understanding.

We are Champions!!!!

Art

Dr. Simpson



Parents,

As we enjoy the spring season, students in art will begin focusing on nature and its beauty. Students create projects that inspire reflection and connection with nature. Help them explore nature and appreciate its beauty.

Dr. Simpson



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Physical Education

Mr. Moore

From the Coach's Desk

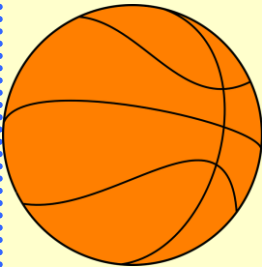
Spring is here and all Riverdale students participated in a health habits mini-lesson last month in P.E. Topics of discussion included the importance of hand washing, coughing into your elbow, healthy choices and general hygiene. We have become master baseball / softball players. Bowling is our next P.E. unit. Our culminating unit activity is a school wide bowling field trip. (Our trip may be postponed based on recommendations from state and district officials). Intramural baseball / softball competition for 2nd - 4th grade students were a big success. If students continue to do things the "Riverdale Way", we will also host an intermural bowling tournament before our school wide bowling field trip.

Always come prepared to P.E. class with gym shoes on your P.E. day so that you don't lose preparation points. If students wear boots to school, please send them with gym shoes so they can change when they arrive at school. Female students should wear pants on gym days or wear blue or black shorts under dresses.

Students in 2nd - 4th grade have been given written extra credit assignments to prepare a one paragraph essay on the history and or the rules of basketball, softball, baseball or on the accomplishments of Kolby Bryant. Essays are two paragraphs for 4th grade students and one paragraph for 2nd - 3rd grade students. Extra credit assignments are issued once a quarter. Finally, Girls on the Run is up and running again this year, we look forward to participating in the 5K downtown this May.

P.E. Rules, class and unit schedules are listed below.

Sincerely,
Coach Moore



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P.E. Rules

Be prepared
Be safe
Follow all direction
Give 100% effort
Be responsible / respectful
Always respect your environment

P.E. 2nd semester Class Days

<u>Monday / Wednesday Classes</u>	<u>Tuesday/ Thursday Classes</u>
110 / K	107 / K
106/ 1 st	105 / 1 st
103/ 2 nd	104 / 2 nd
108 / 3 rd	109 / 3 rd
	101 / 4 th

Unit schedule

Fall sports

Soccer

Physical fitness

Football

Winter sports

Basketball

Floor Hockey

Bowling

Spring/ Summer Sports

Kick baseball

Softball

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Music

Mrs. Davis

Our 2,3rd, and 4th grader did a great job of performing the song for the Black History Month program. It's was great to see the 4th graders step up as the class leaders. I heard the confidence in their sound and the coordination in their movements. The younger students were lucky to be singing with them!

Kindergarten and 1st grade are learning more and more about rhythms, movement, and how they go together daily. They are getting very familiar with note writing as well.



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C.A.R.E
Mrs. Johnson



Mrs. Johnson's CARE Memo:

Suite360:

Grades K-4 are working on social awareness and how to treat other people that guide their behavior. Students are engaged in the Suite360 social emotional curriculum and actively participate each week. Each of their lessons will correspond to a parent lesson to encourage family discussions at home.

Reinforcement Activities:

Students are given opportunities to show how they can accomplish these goals through Restorative Justice, Capturing Kids' Hearts and P.B.I.S. Check out some of these fun activities on ClassDojo.com each Monday and make a family night.

Mrs. Johnson
C.A.R.E. Facilitator
708.849.7153 x2324



P.B.I.S
Mrs. Bivins



Celebrating Women's History Month in the Classroom

March is National Women's History Month. Schools and communities all over the country celebrate and commemorate the amazing things that women have accomplished in our country.

Riverdale School will celebrate Women's History Month. The theme for 2022 which is **"Providing Healing, Promoting Hope."** This theme recognizes the many ways in which women have provided healing and hope to humanity for countless generations. Women's History Month is a dedicated month to reflect on the often-overlooked contributions of women to United States history. From **Abigail Adams** to **Susan B. Anthony**, **Sojourner Truth** to **Rosa Parks**, the timeline of women's history milestones stretches back to the founding of the United States.

MRS. BIVINS
SAFETY FACILITATOR

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M.T.S.S.

10 Things You Can Do to Raise a Reader



1. Start a reading routine in those very first days with a newborn.
2. Read with your child every day, even after he becomes an independent reader.
3. Reread favorite books.
4. Share your own interest and excitement about book.
5. Visit the library early and often.
6. Take the time to show your child ways that adults use reading and writing every day.
7. Select different types of books to check out from the library, and seek out new subjects that give you and your reader something to think and talk about.
8. Talk, talk, talk. A child's vocabulary grows through rich conversations with others.
9. Parents don't need to be reading specialists, but it is important to understand the basics about learning to read.
10. If you have concerns about your child's development, speak with your child's teacher and your pediatrician.

Adapted from:

<https://www.readingrockets.org/pdfs/10%20Things%20to%20Raise%20a%20Reader.pdf>