December Newsletter

We are the Remarkable and Radiant
Riverdale Elementary School
http://www1.pgcps.org/riverdale/

“We ARE LEARNING AND GROWING TOGETHER”

Dear Roadrunner families,

As we are now in 2nd quarter, our amazing scholars are soaring.

Items to remember

1. We are a uniform school and students should be in full uniform unless told otherwise.
2. Students need to dress weather ready.
3. All students need to read 20 minutes a night. PLEASE DO THIS WITH THEM!
4. Drop off is not before 7:45 am. Doors open at 7:50 am and pick up is at 2:20 pm. If your child does not want breakfast, you can arrive at 8:00 am.

December: A Month of Multicultural Holiday Celebrations

Do you and your family celebrate Christmas, Hanukkah, Kwanzaa, or Three Kings Day? Maybe you celebrate St. Lucia Day. December offers great opportunities for teaching about our multicultural world. Parents please take time to visit your child’s classroom to share artifacts, decorations, and stories about your cultural traditions. Thank you in advance for assisting our students in becoming global citizens!

Upcoming Events

[12/7]
Honor Roll assembly

[12/7]
2-HR Early Dismissal for Students
[12/10 - 12/13]

2nd Grade Trip to Riversdale Mansion
[12/12]

1st Grade Trip to Chesapeake Children’s Museum
[12/13]

Winter Concert
[12/17 - 12/21]

4th Grade Trip to Riversdale Mansion
[12/21 - 1/1]

No School - Winter Break

Keep Learning over Break

* Read as a family for fun (reading)
* Use recipes and cook together (math)
* Write thank you notes to friends and family (writing)
* Make observations and explore the changing season (science)
* Have a family game night/share history together (social studies)
Our next round of Book Reports are due on December ?? and the genre is? Check with your teacher for the type of project that is due by grade level.

**Math Minutes**

With so many facts and figures to memorize and apply to math problems, children learn early that math is something that requires work. That doesn’t mean that it can’t be fun; keep the pleasure in math by playing games with your children. Many games, even the ones adults play, rely on math. With countless websites, computer games and phone apps, parents have endless options, but don’t forget about the non-digital games you loved as a child. The classics that require manipulating cards and game pieces, calculating along the way, may have the same appeal for your kids as they did for you. Over winter break, I encourage you to play games that help your child use their math skills, problem solving skills or requires them to strategize. Good examples are Yahtzee, Connect Four, Uno, Trouble, Chutes and Ladders and Monopoly just to name a few.

**Testing**

- OLSAT - 4th and 5th Grade students new to PGCPS

Keep practicing your reading and math skills both at school and home.

**Counselors Corner**

Attention parents:

**Thomas Pullen Creative and Performing Arts Academy**

If your child is interested in the creative performing arts program, the deadline is December 14th. The K-8 Creative and Performing Arts Academy is open to students with talent and interest in the arts located in the northern part of the county (North of Route 214). In grades K through 5, admission to the Program is through the lottery, after an application has been filed. In grades 6 through 8, after the application has been filed, admission is granted through an audition process including assessment of artistic as well as writing skills. Placement in all grade levels is based on space availability.

5th grade only:

- Majors Available
  - Band/Banda/Fanfare
  - Orchestra/Orquesta/Orchestre
  - Vocal Music/Música vocal/Musique vocale
  - Piano/
  - Theater /teatro/ théâtre
  - Media Arts/Artes mediáticas /Arts médiatiques
  - Dance/Baile/Danse
  - Visual Art/Arte visual/Art visuel

See Ms. Jacobs to answer any questions.

**MyOn Reading Contest - Ends Dec. 17th. The joy of reading starts at home!**

Read through our online library at school and at home! Top two winners from each grade level for most minutes read will win a winter prize! Access MyOn through clever.pgcps.org
Areas that we must work on improving are

1. Student Attendance

(Students need to be in school daily 8:15-2:20.)

2. Academic Achievement - Students earning a 4 and 5 on the state test in Reading and in Math.

( Is your student reading and writing for 20 minutes a night? Are they completing their Math HW nightly? Both help your student practice what was taught that day in school) At school we are ensuring to teach a solid foundation of skills.

3. Progress in Achieving English Language proficiency. (Students should be practicing Speaking, Reading, and Writing in English at home to ensure they are able to do it at school.) At school we are provided several opportunities all day for this to be taught and used. Our school has 88% of our students who are classified ELL.