We are Learning and Growing together!!!

Dear Roadrunner families,
We are ending second quarter and beginning 2nd semester. We are prepping for testing to show off our skills.

**Items to remember**

1. Students should be in school everyday. If they are not in school please provide a note or documentation of their absence. If they are absent **3 days in a row**, the note needs to come from their doctor.
2. Please remember to put $$$ on their lunch account. You can visit the school cafeteria at 8:30 am daily or load it in Myschoolbucks.
3. We are a uniform school and students should be in full uniform unless told otherwise.
4. All students need to read **20 minutes** a night. PLEASE DO THIS WITH THEM!
5. Drop off is at 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.

**TESTING**

Upcoming Testing:

- **WIDA ACCESS (All ESOL Students)**
  Jan. 8 - Feb. 23
  Your child's ESOL teacher will be sending home a note with more specific information.

- **5th Grade Science FAST 2**
  Jan. 30 - 31

Please avoid appointments and ensure your child(ren) are on time for school.

**Literacy partners in Education**

- A GAME GRANT form 7/11 Community Partners.

6315 BALTIMORE AVE Riverdale, MD 20737

**Parents as Partners: Teamwork Makes the Dream Work**

As we began a new year, it is important to keep in mind the contributions our parents can make towards student achievement at school and at home. In order to strengthen our partnership, information is key! Parents should be aware of the instructional skills students are learning, activities that allow for practice, websites that can be used to bridge gaps, and important school dates! Please visit to assist in the following ways:

* D.E.A.R. Time Reader  
* College and Career Readiness Speaker
* Field Trip Chaperone  
* Numeracy and Literacy Support Volunteer
Our 4th and 5th Grade classes are competing in a monthly reading and writing challenge sponsored by The Washington Redskins. Encourage your kids to complete the tasks to win a prize!

**Remind Text from RES**

text @g3hk2f to the number 81010 (RES)
text @k64fd7 to the number 81010. (PTO)

**Counselor Corner**

Happy New Year!!! As we begin a new year, please remind your children of appropriate behavior at school. Remind them to use kind words when talking to others and not actions. Practice coping strategies when they are frustrated at home such as deep breathing, and counting slowly to 5.

Additionally, the charter school lottery application deadline is January 26 and the Creative Performing Arts Lottery is now open and the deadline is March 12th. Please check for more details on the county’s website at www.pgcps.org. Any questions please email MS. Jacobs at Jacqueline.jacobs@pgcps.org or call 301-985-1850 ext. 58838

**Parent Night February 8**

*Come and get valuable resources to use at home that will help your student succeed on assessments.*

*Rotations will run from 4-6pm*

*Every student will receive a take home workbook to improve their skills!*

*Technology tips will be shared*

**PTO Updates**

Parents! Help us make Riverdale Elementary School a great place for our kids to learn and grow. Come out to support your children and our school at these PTO events in 2018:

- Jan 25 (4-6 pm) – Fingerprinting and background check clinic at G. James Gholson Middle School. Parents who want to chaperone field trips or volunteer in the classroom must get their fingerprints taken and complete a background check.
- Feb 8 (4-6 pm) – Fingerprinting and background check clinic at Benjamin Tasker Middle School.
- Feb 20 (7-8 pm) – PTO meeting. Get updates, meet parents, talk to the Principal and teachers, discuss concerns, bring ideas.
- Feb 23 (Time TBD) – Family Valentine’s Dance. Sign up in the front office to volunteer for the dance!

All the broken water fountains in the hallways have been fixed!

Thanks to all the parents who donated or cooked food for the December Teacher Appreciation Breakfast. We love to show our teachers and staff how much we love them. The next breakfast will be

- March 2! We are looking for parent volunteers to help address several parent concerns and to plan several community events. Contact us if you are interested:
  1. Join a team working to develop a plan to deal with the rough-housing that takes place outside the building before the school opens
  2. Let us know if you are interested in taking an English language class for parents
  3. Help us host a Family Sweetheart/Valentines Dance on Feb 23
  4. Help us plan other family community events like an Exercise Night, Sip and Paint, Station Rotation, Movie Night, Multicultural Night, etc.

For more information on how to volunteer, please contact PTO President Jenni Pompi at jpompi@gmail.com.