Dear Roadrunner families,

We are in the 2nd half of the school year. We are prepping for testing to show off our skills and growth.

**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.

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**Testing**

**Upcoming Testing:**

MISA (Science) 5th Grade
March 13, 14, 15 and 16

PARCC Grades 3, 4 and 5
May 1, 2, 3, 4 - Math
May 8, 9, 10 - Reading/Language Arts

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

**Parents as Partners: How to Beat Spring Fever**

The warmer it gets outside, the harder it is to stay inside and focus on getting school work or homework finished. Check out the following tips for offering support to your student to win against spring fever:

* Plan for time outside to do work and to play
* Keep a consistent sleep schedule
* Change up your schedule and plan adventures
* Set goals and incentives for success
* Get active and spring clean indoors and outdoors
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! March is the last month! Let’s read!

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

RES News sent in a text

Counselor Corner

Career day is fast approaching. Come out and support the students at Riverdale Elementary School by presenting your career. Our career day will be held on Friday, May 18th from 8:30-11:00. Please contact Jacqueline Jacobs at 301-985-1850 ext. 58838 for more information or complete the form at https://goo.gl/forms/cTiqeBWlpRBV5GvC2.

Attention 5th grade parents, a letter was sent home last week for each parent to provide updated proof of residence. This is required for middle school registration. Please stop by the office to update your records.

New RRR shirts are IN!!!

Students that read 25 books are in the “Renowned Roadrunner Reader Club” and can wear this shirt every Friday. Ask your teacher for details. A special thank you to our PTO for their donation that helped make these shirts possible this year!

Parent Corner

- Don’t forget to join us for our Open Parent Library every Tuesday and Thursday between 1pm-2pm.
- No se olvide de unirse a nosotros para nuestra Biblioteca de Padres todos los martes y jueves de 1:00 pm. a 2:00 p.m.
- THE DENTIST IS COMING TO OUR SCHOOL ON 4/11/2018! Our school has joined with Smile Maryland to offer in-school dental care at NO COST to you! Please return the dentist forms to Ms.Camacho by 3/10/2018.
- Registration for the Adult English Learning class is closed. Registered parents will begin the Adult ESL classes on 3/7/2018 with Ms.Camacho.
- La inscripción para clases de aprendizaje de inglés para adultos está cerrada. Los padres registrados comenzarán las clases de ESL para adultos el 3/7/2018 con la Sra. Camacho.
Parents!

The Riverdale Elementary School (RES) Parent Teacher Organization (PTO) is a group of dedicated parents (like you!) and teachers who work together to support our school. We help the school host community events for our families, provide important information about the school to parents through a texting and email service, hold fundraisers to provide equipment and materials for the school, honor our teachers and staff through Teacher Appreciation Breakfasts, and work with the school administration and the County to address parent and teacher concerns. The PTO is committed to making positive change here at Riverdale. And we need YOUR HELP! By joining us and coming to our meetings and events, you can 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:

- **March 1 (4-6 pm)** – Fingerprinting and background check clinic at Greenbelt Elementary School in Greenbelt. Parents who want to chaperone field trips or volunteer in the classroom must get their fingerprints taken and complete a background check.
- **March 2** – Teacher Appreciation Breakfast. Please contact Katy Donovan (kdonovan94@gmail.com) to sign up to make or donate food to honor our teachers and staff.
- **March 15 (3-5 pm)** – Fingerprinting and background check clinic at Dodge Park Elementary School in Landover.
- **April 12 (3-5 pm)** – Fingerprinting and background check clinic at Potomac High School in Oxon Hill.
- **April 17 (7-8 pm)** – PTO meeting in auditorium/cafeteria. Get updates, meet parents, talk to the Principal and teachers, discuss concerns, bring ideas. Food and snacks provided. Children welcome.

At our recent meeting on February 20th we met with two Riverdale Park Town Council members and discussed ways to partner with the Town of Riverdale Park. We also heard from the Parks and Recreation Department about summer camps and other resources available to families. And we talked with parents, teachers and Principal Riley about ideas for school community-building events, before and after school programs, English language classes for parents of RES students, crossing guard concerns, student rough-housing before school, the new school playground, and a potential RES school store. Contact Erika Wilson (erikawilson@hotmail.com) for meeting notes.

Thank you to all the parents who volunteered at the Valentine’s Day Dance on February 23rd. Parents hung decorations, sold tickets at the door, managed the snack table, helped clean up, and even arranged for the local Whole Foods store to donate snacks. Everyone had a blast at the dance and we couldn’t have done it without the amazing parents, teachers and school staff who made it happen.

For more information on how to volunteer or to learn more about what we do, please contact PTO President Jenni Pompi (jpompi@gmail.com).

Stay informed! Receive **texts** about school and PTO events and announcements: sign up at remind.com/join/k64fd7 or text @k64fd7 to the number 81010. To receive information via **email**, sign up at: http://eepurl.com/c8F-39.
**Flu Symptoms- 2018 from CDC (Centers for Disease Control)**

- Parents please take your child to the doctor, urgent care or the Emergency room if your child has symptoms of the flu (see below).
- Please report any diagnosis of the Flu by your Medical Doctor to the front office or to the Nurse.

Influenza (also known as the flu) is a contagious respiratory illness caused by flu viruses.

**Flu Symptoms:**

- Fever* or feeling feverish/chills
- Cough
- Sore throat
- Runny or stuffy nose
- Muscle or body aches
- Headaches
- Fatigue (tiredness)
- Vomiting and diarrhea, more common in children than adults.

* It’s important to note that **not everyone with flu will have a fever**.

**Flu Complications**

Most people who get influenza will recover in a few days to less than two weeks, but some people will develop complications (such as pneumonia) as a result of the flu, some of which can be life-threatening and result in death. Pneumonia, bronchitis, sinus and ear infections are examples of complications from flu.

**Emergency Warning Signs of Flu in Children**

- Fast breathing or trouble breathing
- Bluish skin color
- Not drinking enough fluids
- Not waking up or not interacting
- Being so irritable that the child does not want to be held
- Flu-like symptoms improve but then return with fever and worse cough
- Fever with a rash

*From [https://www.cdc.gov/flu/consumer/symptoms.htm](https://www.cdc.gov/flu/consumer/symptoms.htm)  S Carter RN* 

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**Lice Issue**

Thanks to many parents who are vigilant with regularly searching their children's hair for Lice and Lice Eggs. Thank you for calling the school and reporting that you found Lice and thanks for sending in the proof of that treatment you gave your child. But a few diligent parents is not enough to help bring this problem under better control in our school. ALL parents must be involved, all parents must diligently inspect each of their children’s hair. If one Louse yes just one louse is found then that child must have the **Lice and Egg Killer treatment** and it must be repeated if lice are found again, same applies to clusters of eggs that may be seen near the child’s scalp. The nurse is requesting that all parents please be vigilant to this recurring issue. **Vinegars, oils and other home remedies do not replace Pharmacy bought Lice and Egg Killer Treatment when lice and egg clusters are seen in your child's hair.  S Carter RN.**