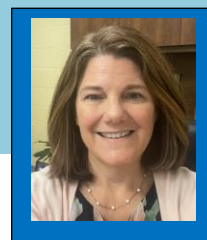




# Royce-Williams Elementary School

## October 2022



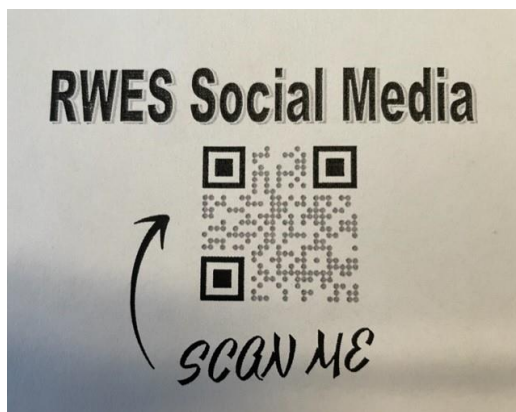
### A Message from Principal Martino

Welcome to the 22-23 School Year! Welcome back to all our returning students and families! It is so good to have you all back and ready for a new school year. To all our new students and families – Welcome to Royce-Williams Elementary School! I know you will love our school! I am including contact information for both myself ([RoseMarie.Martino@hcps.org](mailto:RoseMarie.Martino@hcps.org)) and Mr. Single ([Paul.Single@hcps.org](mailto:Paul.Single@hcps.org)). We both feel communication between home and school is so important and the cornerstone for our scholars' success.

Please make sure you have created a Home Access Center (HAC) account. The link can be found at [www.hcps.org](http://www.hcps.org). The link is on the landing page, right next to the calendar icon. Report cards for Kindergarten through Grade 5 will be posted on Home Access Center (HAC) and you must have an account to view the report cards. Also, parents in grades 3-5 will be able to view their child's grades during each quarter as there are scheduled uploads of grades throughout the quarter.

Harford County Public Schools will be returning to "Learn with Me" for the 2022-2023 school year. Learn with Me is an opportunity designed for families to become immersed in the culture of our schools and become a part of the teaching and learning experience. Through these experiences, we will showcase the great work done by our teachers and the amazing accomplishments of our students. Throughout the course of the year, grade levels will share "Learn with Me" dates and times and we look forward to sharing pictures and stories from each experience on our social media sites as well as with the rest of the county on the HCPS website and through HCPS social media.

Please make sure you scan the QR code below, which will take you to multiple links where you can join our social media pages and bookmark or school website.



**Wednesday, October 5<sup>th</sup> – Schools and offices closed for students and staff**  
**Thursday, October 20<sup>th</sup> – 12:30pm early dismissal; students only**  
**Friday, October 21<sup>st</sup> – Schools closed for students**  
**Friday, October 28<sup>th</sup> – HAC update 5:00pm**





- **Parts of a book** (front/back cover, spine, pages, title vs. picture)
- **Letters** Ll, Tt, Ii, Hh (identify, construct, tell sound)
- Scissor Control
- Pencil Grip
- Identify environmental sounds (same/different)



- Identify colors
- **Numbers** 1, 2, 3 (Identify, make sets, sequence)
- Positional words and concepts
- **Types of lines** (zig-zag, curved, diagonal, intersecting, vertical, horizontal)
- Compare groups to tell same or different

- School Closed 10-5-22, 10-21-22
- Early Dismissal (12:30pm) 10-20-22 Wear House Team color.



September:  
3<sup>rd</sup> Maya H.  
3<sup>rd</sup> Matais P.  
8<sup>th</sup> Mia W.  
13<sup>th</sup> Anne-Louise N.  
21<sup>st</sup> Travis K.

October:  
7<sup>th</sup> Emmanuel P.  
12<sup>th</sup> Madison S.



Dear families,

Congratulations! You made it through the first month of Kindergarten! This month is a turning point as we teachers have been taking a closer look at your young scholars. Homework begins this month. Please check your child's yellow Take-Home Folder nightly for their task for each weeknight evening (a notebook has been provided for any written responses. There is also a timed letter practice (How many letters can your kinder name in 1 minute). This will change each month as preparation for their Letter Licenses and our DIBELS assessments throughout the year. You will also find a "Reading Log" that your child can color in each night you read together. Completed monthly calendars of homework will be recognized by your child's teacher.

These past few weeks have been focused on being Kindergarten Stars, Numbers 1-5, Reading about the World, and Writing what we know about. Ask your young scholar about Zones of Regulation! If you would like to use this language with your kindergarten star...reach out to your homeroom teacher.

Keep an eye out for PTA events this month...and of course become a member for the inside scoop!

As always, we are here with you and for you!

Your kindergarten teachers,

Mrs. Kalmanovich, Mrs. Docteur (Mrs. Cantwell), Ms. Richardson, and Mrs. White

# Our First Grade Classroom News

October 2022

Ms. Beard, Ms. Haney, and Mrs. Mann

## **Message From Our Team:**

Welcome back! We want to say thank you to each family for being helpful and supportive. We are very proud of each of our students, who arrived ready to learn on their first day.

During September, our students participated in many back-to-school activities! It really built our classroom families with kindness and love. We were able to get to know each other, and dive right into learning new things.



## **Reminders:**

Please make sure that your student arrives to school with a charged computer.

We use these computers for many educational activities. Also, please, make sure your student has an extra set of clothes to keep in their locker for emergencies. Lastly, make sure that you are connected to your child's Class Tag page! We appreciate your support with this!

## **Supporting Your Student at Home:**

Our students are learning about how to build their reading stamina. To encourage this at home, challenge your student to read independently for as long as they can!! Also, when seeing numbers, ask your child to add them together. We have been working hard on addition. Start going over our snap words with your child.

We have been learning more and more snap words each day!

## **What We Are Learning This Month:**

**Reading:** As readers, we are learning how to build good habits while reading and how to be a good reading partner!

**Math:** As mathematicians, we are solving addition and subtraction problems up to 10!

**Writing:** As writers, we will be creating our very own small moment stories!

**Social Studies/Science:** In Science, we will be having in depth conversations and hands-on experiments about the sky!



# Second Grade News

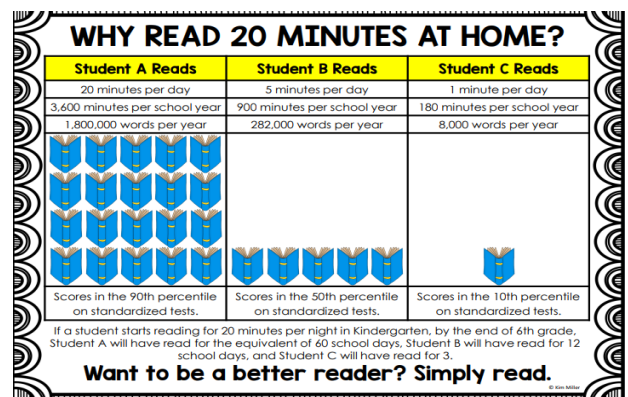


## HELLO FAMILIES AND WELCOME TO SECOND GRADE!

We have been loving getting to know our sweet new second grade students! We have spent the first few weeks of school going over routines and expectations as we move back into school mode and the kids have been doing an amazing job—we are **SO PROUD!**

**MATH:** We have just started Topic 1—Fluently Add and Subtract within 20. Our next unit will be Topic 2—Work with Equal Groups. Please make sure your child is completing their nightly homework. Homework packets are sent home at the beginning of each unit. You may help your child at home by practicing their addition and subtraction skills from 0-20. Also, [CLICK HERE](#) to access **FREE** addition printable games to use at home!

**READING:** We have started our Reader's Workshop by going over routines and expectations in order to prepare for our first unit—Becoming a Big Kid Reader. This unit will help our students learn fundamental skills needed to be a lifelong reader and learner. We also began our fall reading assessments to see what level our students are as readers. Be on the lookout for information about your child's reading level and how you can support them at home to meet their end of year reading goal! Also, your child should have come home with a reading log for the month of September. Please make sure they are reading at least 20 minutes each night and getting their log signed by a grownup.



**WRITING:** We have started our first unit—Lessons from the Masters: Improving Narrative Writing. In this unit, students are choosing small moments in their life and using the Narrative Writing Rubric to improve and enhance their writing. Students are working hard to develop their writing stamina!

**PHONICS:** We have just started our first Phonics unit—Growing into Second-Grade Phonics. We were so impressed to hear all of the amazing phonics skills students remembered learning about from their fantastic first grade teachers and how that has helped them so far in Phonics for second grade. We can't wait to see all the growth they make with words this year! Also, be on the lookout for information on Snap Word Celebrities (COMING SOON)!

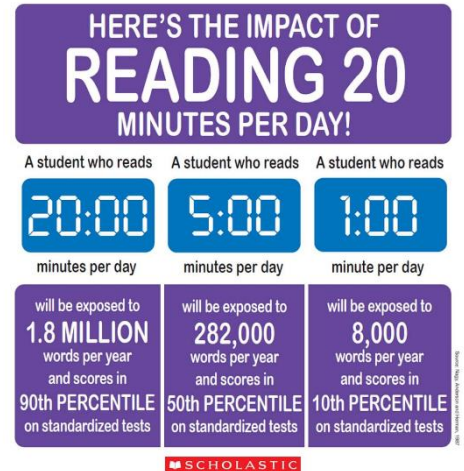
**OTHER IMPORTANT INFORMATION:** Thank you so much to all of the families that have already connected to Class Tag to access weekly updates, important information, and exciting happenings in second grade! If you have not joined Class Tag, please reach out to your child's teacher to get your child's unique login code. Also, we encourage students to bring a reusable water bottle to school to keep in their classroom to stay hydrated along with a zip-up jacket/sweatshirt to keep in their locker in case they get cold as the temperature fluctuates. THANK YOU SO MUCH!

# Welcome to Third Grade!

This year we are so excited to start the 2022-2023 school year with all of our awesome students and families!

In math, we are working on part of topic 1 which is starting to get student ready to work with their math facts. We encourage that students complete any math homework that is sent home, it will help them understand concepts in the future!

In reading, that have a book bag that they will bring home each night beginning next week. They are encouraged to read at home each night for a half hour. Our reading unit is all about how to make your reading 10/10. The students chose their own books to read and use them in class to make stop and jots, summaries, mark parts that are confusing, and find meaningful quotes that they can share with the class. They also have selected "Just for Now" reading partners that they read with to share ideas during quiet reading time.



In writing, we are focusing on personal narrative writing. We can already see that we have very talented writers! With personal narratives the main objective is to tell a compelling story where the reader feels like they were in the event with the writer.

Lastly, we have been teaching daily lessons from the "Zones of Regulation" curriculum to best help your child understand their emotions and provide them with the tools to regulate and cope. We look forward to journeying with your family this year to help your child have a successful year in third grade!

Contact:

[ashleigh.ivaldi@hcps.org](mailto:ashleigh.ivaldi@hcps.org)

[Jessica.sanders@hcps.org](mailto:Jessica.sanders@hcps.org)

[Nicole.kubala@hcps.org](mailto:Nicole.kubala@hcps.org)

[madelynn.dougherty@hcps.org](mailto:madelynn.dougherty@hcps.org)

# 4<sup>th</sup> Grade News!

We are back, back, back again!!!! Your fearless in fourth team would like to welcome everyone to the beginning of a new school year! We are beyond excited to begin this new journey with all of you and we have exciting things planned for the year! We have already jumped right into reading fictional texts, writing realistic fiction stories, and learning all about place value! We are looking forward to a fun-filled year!!

Phone: 410-273-5536

[Sarah.Baker@hcps.org](mailto:Sarah.Baker@hcps.org)

[Megan.Welsh@hcps.org](mailto:Megan.Welsh@hcps.org)

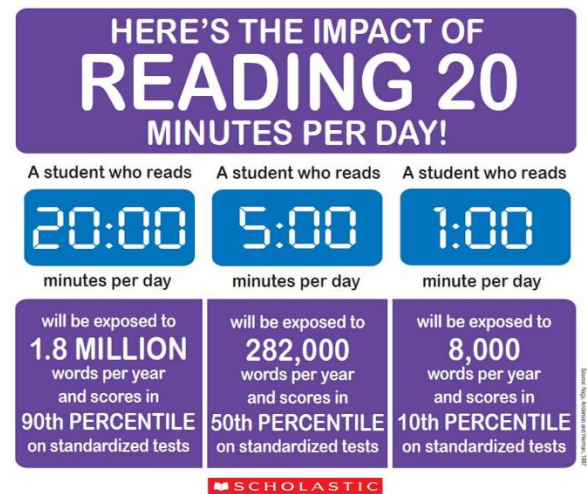
[Mariah.Thomas1@hcps.org](mailto:Mariah.Thomas1@hcps.org)

# Welcome to Fifth Grade!

This year we are so excited to start the 2022-2023 school year with all of our awesome students and families! We welcome Mrs. Kirkendall Ms. Diventi and Mrs. Dixon to the 5<sup>th</sup> grade team.

In math, we are working on part of topic 1 which is place value to get the students ready for topic 3 which is where we cover powers of ten and multidigit multiplication. We encourage that students complete any math homework that is sent home, it will help them understand concepts in the future!

In reading, that have a book bag that they will bring home each night. They are encouraged to read at home each night for a half hour. Our reading unit is all about how to make your reading 10/10. The students chose their own books to read and use them in class to make stop and jots, summaries, mark parts that are confusing, and find meaningful quotes that they can share with the class. They also have selected "Just for Now" reading partners that they read with to share ideas during quiet reading time.



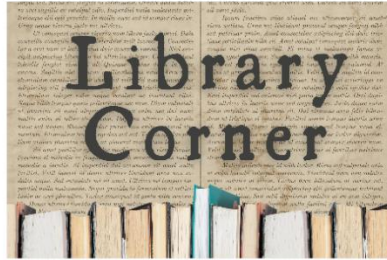
In writing, we are focusing in on personal narrative writing. We can already see that we have very talented writers! With personal narratives the main objective is to tell a compelling story where the reader feels like they were in the event with the writer. Lastly, we have been teaching daily lessons from the "Zones of Regulation" curriculum to best help your child understand their emotions and provide them with the tools to regulate and cope. We look forward to journeying with your family this year to help your child have a successful year in fifth grade!

Lastly, we have been teaching daily lessons from the "Zones of Regulation" curriculum to best help your child understand their emotions and provide them with the tools to regulate and cope. We look forward to journeying with your family this year to help your child have a successful year in fifth grade!



# Cultural Arts Team (CATs)

Media, Music, Physical Education, and Art



Welcome back to the 2022-2023 school year! Ms. Labelle and Ms. Templeton will be your media specialists this year and we are very excited to work with your child!

In Pre-K and Kindergarten, we will be getting to know our library. We will be learning about fiction and non-fiction books and how we can tell the difference between them. We will also be learning about how the sections are arranged.

In First grade we will be learning about the different parts of a book (author, illustrator, title, front cover, spine, spine label and the barcode) and how they help us. We will also be learning about the characteristics of fiction stories.

In Second grade we will be learning how to use Destiny to find our books in the library. We will also be practicing locating a book in the Everybody section using alphabetical order.

In Third and Fourth grade we will be learning about the different sections of the library and how they are organized. We will also be reviewing how to use Destiny to locate our books.

In Fifth grade we will be learning how to place holds on library books along with creating reading lists within Destiny. Students will also be learning about the supports that the Harford County Public library has for them.

# Music Notes

## Welcome Back to RWES!!

The General Music courses are working on reviewing and refining concepts of Rhythm and Pitch through reading, moving, and singing.

The Band and Orchestra students will be beginning their lessons in mid-September for the advanced groups, and Early October for the beginners. The 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> Grade classroom teachers have sent home all the information for the instrumental groups, and by this time we will be rolling along.

## What's Coming up?

The 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> Grade music students will begin rehearsing with the Chorus, Band, and Orchestra to apply the musical concepts they learn in their lessons and classrooms. Please support the students practice at home.

Through October, the PK-2 students will be doing vocal exploration and learning about how to use their voices in a safe and musical way. Grades 3-5 will be reviewing musical concepts such as beat keeping, rhythm reading, notation, and call and response singing!

## RWES Music Staff

Mrs. Stephanie Harris - General/Vocal Music Teacher. Mrs. Harris is also the Teacher in Charge (TIC) at RWES. Mrs. Harris is in her 11<sup>th</sup> year of teaching and attended Millersville University and Goucher College. [stephanie.harris@hcps.org](mailto:stephanie.harris@hcps.org)

Mrs. Morgan Calhoun - General/Vocal Music Teacher. This is Ms. Calhoun's first year of teaching and we are happy to have her here with us at RWES! She attended Lebanon Valley College. [morgan.calhoun@hcps.org](mailto:morgan.calhoun@hcps.org)

Mr. Tony Domenico, Jr. - Instrumental/General/Vocal Music Teacher. Mr. Domenico is in his 26<sup>th</sup> year of teaching and attended Shepherd College and Shenandoah University. [anthony.domenico@hcps.org](mailto:anthony.domenico@hcps.org)

We look forward to seeing and working with your students this year!

# Physical Education

Mr. Schubert and Mr. Lamartina's Classrooms

October

## Unit 1: Group Initiatives

Pre-K and Kindergarten: Student's will be working on familiarizing themselves with the PE classroom space, transition practice, working with others, and playing games like 'copycat' and 'traffic'.

1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Grades: Students will do transition practice, partner and small group balances, small group challenges, and games like 'caterpillar' and 'Pinch'.

3<sup>rd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> Grades: Students will be participating in a variety of partner and small group-based games and challenges. Including construction games, movement games and larger team challenges like 'Swamp Cross'.

*Reminder!!*

*Please wear appropriate clothing for Physical Education, this includes closed toed and backed shoes, with no heels (sneakers). Shoes should also be able to be tightened (Laces or straps). Be sure to wear loose fitting clothing that is easy to move in as well.*

Thank You!

# Art



## News from **Mrs. Price's** Art Classroom:

The school year is off to a great start! The children have been so excited to come to art class and I have enjoyed getting to know them. Please continue to send in your donations of good "junk". We can always use home and garden type magazines, leftover scrap paper, buttons, etc. Thank you all for your support!

This month **Pre-Kindergarten** students will continue to work on developing their fine motor skills by making marks and experiencing various fun art materials. We will explore printmaking by using daubers to create colorful foliage for a fall tree.

In October, **Kindergarten** students will continue to learn about how artists use the art elements of line, shape, and color. We will finish up our mixed-media collages inspired by the artist Piet Mondrian. Then we will learn how to draw pumpkins and mix yellow and red to paint them orange.

**First Grade** students and **Second Grade** students are going to learn about the artist Yayoi Kusama and her use of the art elements: line, shape, and color. They will make a fall themed artwork that is inspired by her unique style.

**Third Grade** students will draw landscapes and learn a variety of strategies to make a flat piece of paper look like it has depth.

This month, **Fourth Grade** students will learn about perspective and use a variety of strategies to make a flat piece of paper look like it has depth.

**Fifth Graders** will learn about the art element Value. They will use shading to make flat shapes look 3-D. Next, students will use what they learned about Value in the creation of Tim Burton inspired self-portraits.



# Math Tips with Mrs. J

## Developing a Math Mindset

*"I am not a math student."*

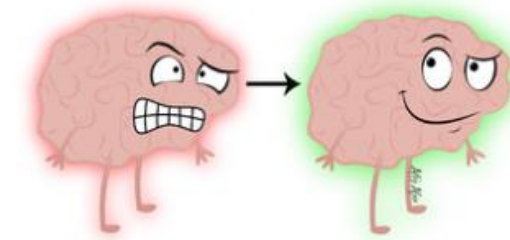
*"I am not good at math."*

*"This is too hard."*

*"I can't do this."*

These phrases are familiar for many students as they work through a subject that may be difficult for them and are phrases you might hear your child say while working on math homework. As parents, it is important that we help our children to feel more confident and successful as they learn math. Every child at some point will probably face a math challenge, so helping our students to develop a growth mindset can help them to persevere and overcome these challenges! Here are some examples that will help your child to develop a positive mindset.

# Mindset Matters



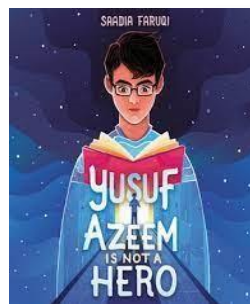
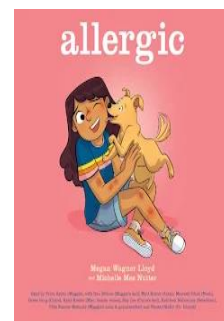
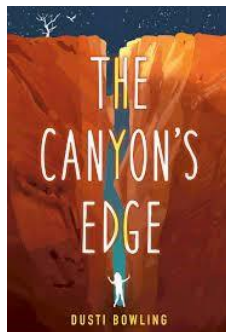
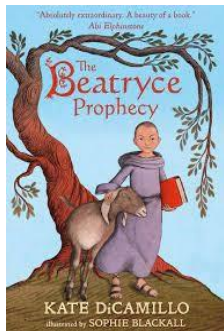
<b>FIXED MINDSET</b> <b>When your child says...</b>	<b>GROWTH MINDSET</b> <b>Respond by saying...</b>
"I can't do this math."	"Let's practice training your brain in math" or "Let's keep trying."
"I'm so stupid." "I don't understand."	"Let's see if we can figure out what you are missing?"
"This is too hard."	"This is challenging and will take some time to learn."
"I made a mistake."	"Let's see what we can learn from this mistake."
"I give up."	"Let's try a different strategy."
"It's good enough."	"Is this really your best work?"
"Plan A didn't work."	"Let's try plan B" or "Good thing there are 25 more letters in the alphabet."
"I already know this."	"What else can we learn?" or "What else can this skill help you with?"

# The Literacy Corner with Mrs. Morris and Mr. Pfeifer

The Literacy Team at Roye-Williams Elementary wants to welcome everyone back to the 22-23 School Year! This year, we are setting a school-wide goal to increase our stamina in reading and writing. For the first quarter, students are competing in a reading stamina challenge that tracks time spent engaged reading in class. The winning classes at each grade level will earn a special visit from Sammy the Shark!

At RWES, we want to help students fall in love with reading. This year, we are excited to share that hundreds of high-interest books were purchased to support reading in all our classrooms. Additionally, we are kicking off the wildly popular Black-Eyed Susan Book Club for our 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grade students on October 28<sup>th</sup>. You can check out this year's titles below!

Contact your literacy team for more information about Black-Eyed Susan Book Club and all your reading and writing needs!



A peek into the RWES Reading Workshop Library (with new books on the left currently being added to class bins)



## RWES Health Suite

Welcome to the 2022-2023 school year. We want our student happy and health to grow and learn, and to exceed in all new challenges. The collaborations between Health Suite (HS) with parents, students, staff, and faculty is an essential component to ensure optimal guidance for our students, because healthy students are better learners.

Immunization status must be current. Grace period of 20 days will expire as of 9/27/22 (K- 5<sup>th</sup>) AND 9/29/22 (PK). Students will **not be allowed** to attend school on this date if they are not current on vaccines.

Physical exam/Dental exam/Lead exam- All students must have a record of these exams on file.

Medications- All medications that are required during the school day must be administered by the school nurse. Medications, along with written doctor's order, should be provided to school nurse by parent or parent representative. Medications must be in original bottle with label and not expired.

Yellow Discretionary Medication Form - Please complete this form, sign and return to provide parental permission for students to receive over the counter (OTC) medications such as Acetaminophen and cough drops(self-carry K-5<sup>th</sup>).

Asthma or Severe Allergy- Students with severe allergies or asthma that require the use of EpiPen or inhalers should have these medications available for them at school in the Health Suite. Each medication requires doctors order.

Fevers- Any student with a fever 100 degrees or greater will be excluded per HCPS policy. Student must be fever 24 hours without medication. Any student sent home should refrain from returning the following day.

I look forward to meeting and working with your students. Feel free to contact the HS for medical questions or concerns.

Amy Piccalo, School  
Nurse  
Roya Williams Elementary School  
201 Oakington Road  
Havre De Grace, MD 21078  
410-273-5536





# Meet the School Counselor

## A Little About ME

My name is Kim Gutierrez, but everyone calls me Mrs. Gootz. This will be my 5<sup>th</sup> year as a school counselor at Royce-Williams, and prior to this I was a classroom teacher for 14 years. I love spending time with my husband, my 5-year-old daughter, Charlotte, and our 6-year-old puppy, Cody. We had a fun summer visiting family and a big trip to Disney World! I am so excited to be back with all of our families!



## Roles

- Support student's social-emotional, academic, and college / career journey
- Core Curriculum Classroom Lessons
  - Group Counseling
  - Individual Counseling
  - Teacher Support and Collaboration
- Serving on the PACE, HCC, SST, 504, attendance, SPA, and the health and safety teams

## Connecting

Kimberly.Gutierrez@hcps.org

RWES - 201 Oakington Road

Room 320

410.273.5536



## BIRTHDAY CELEBRATIONS/PARTY INVITATIONS AT SCHOOL

Birthday Celebrations with food (cupcakes, cake, donuts, etc.) cannot be held at school. HCPS has a Wellness Policy which can be referenced online @ [www.hcps.org](http://www.hcps.org). You are welcome to send in special pencils or stickers that can be handed out on your child's birthday. Please contact your child's teacher to let him/her know.



We also respectfully request that birthday/party invitations not be sent to school for either the child or teacher to distribute to other students. This disrupts the educational environment of our school, and we would appreciate your cooperation with this important policy.

### \*\*\*BUS LOOP REMINDER\*\*\*

Cars are not allowed in the bus loop from 8:00-9:00 a.m. and 3:00-4:00 p.m. daily. Please adhere to the posted signs and guidelines and use the upper parking lot during these times. Also, please do not park on the **RED CURB** in front of the school as this is for emergency vehicles only.

### **Student Pick-Up and/or Changes in Dismissal**

Parents are asked to write a note to your child's teacher if your child's dismissal procedure is going to change on any day. Teachers are instructed to send all students home using their normally dismissal mode, unless there is a note identifying an alternate transportation method. We respectfully ask you not to call the school to change your child dismissal procedures, as we need a note to make any dismissal changes. If you are changing your child from bus rider to car rider status for the day, we prefer a note. However, you may do this by phone, but we will **NOT** make any changes to dismissal procedures **after 3:00 pm and 12:00pm on early dismissal days.**

Additionally, to have a safe and orderly dismissal, we ask if you are picking up your student for an appointment on an early dismissal day, please pick up your student by 12:00 p.m. on the early dismissal days. Please keep in mind on early dismissal days students are considered absent for the entire day if they do not attend more than 2 hours of the ½ day. Additionally, on regular schedule days, if students are picked up early, they will be marked as "early dismissal" on these days. The Maryland Department of Education keeps track of student attendance including tardy and early dismissal. **Please help us to ensure students are present for the entire school day.**

**Vision:** At Roye-Williams, we are a supportive and patriotic community striving to empower one another.

**Mission:** We are . . . Empowered to **Achieve Goals and Learn Everyday**