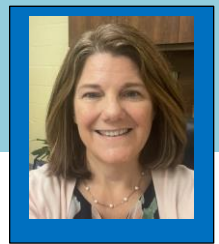




Royce-Williams Elementary School

January 2022



A Message from Mrs. Martino

Happy New Year to all! We hope everyone had a restful Winter Break and time with family. We welcome everyone back for the 2nd semester of school.

REMINDER: HCPS has been granted 3 asynchronous days for inclement weather. In preparation for HCPS to conduct this asynchronous virtual instruction, all students in grades K-5 will bring home their Chromebooks on Monday, January 9, 2023. Students will need to log into their inclement weather tile on Canvas and send a confirmation message to their teacher. Every single student must do this as part of their homework on Monday, January 9, 2023. Additional details are available on the ["Inclement Weather and School Closings" page](#) on hcps.org. This page includes information about where to access asynchronous virtual instruction, what time it will be available, as well as a Parent Academy video for parents and guardians with additional details. Please [Click here](#) to watch the video on our YouTube channel.

Make sure you check the Home Access Center at least bi-weekly if your student is in grades 3-5. Their grades are updated bi-weekly and you can keep track of how they are doing as the quarter progresses. The last day for 2nd quarter grades is January 27, 2023. Also, all parents of students in grades K-5 need to access Home Access Center to see your child's report card. You need to create an account by going to www.hcps.org and clicking the Home Access Center icon. You do need your child's student ID number, which your child should know as it is their PIN number that they have from the time they enter school through high school.

Please make sure you visit Royce-Williams Elementary Facebook page. We post happenings at school and pictures of our students and staff hard at work. Also, please update your phone number with the office if it changes. You can also go on the portal to determine which type of delivery you would like (email or phone call), so please make sure you update phone numbers if needed and choose what mode of delivery you would like: <https://hcpsparentconnect.bbcportal.com/>.

Monday, January 2nd – School's and Offices Closed for the Holiday

Friday, January 13th – HAC Update

Monday, January 16th – School's and Offices Closed for Holiday

Thursday, January 19th – 5:30pm-7pm Family Reading Night

Friday, January 27th – 12:30pm Early Dismissal; HAC Update; End of 2nd Quarter

Monday, January 30th – 3rd Quarter Begins





Pre-K



- Define setting
- **Letters** Jj, Ss, Gg, Dd
(Identify, construct, tell sound)
- **Snap words** play, we
(Read word, build word, copy word)
- Pencil Grip
- Write to tell a story



- Compare rectangles and prisms
- **Number 5,6**
(Identify, make sets, sequence)
- **Create and extend patterns**
- Counting on from a given number
- **Add one more to a set, take away one from a set**

- **Schools are closed** January 2nd and January 16th.
- **Early Dismissal**- January 27th.
- Wear Sneakers Every day.
- Check ClassTag Daily.



January:
Ryan Vincent
M-18th
Alayna H.- 30th



Dear Kindergarten Families,

Happy New Year! Welcome to 2023!

January is full of learning! Watch for details in your weekly updates and reminders on ClassTag.

Here are the unit titles for each subject area.

Math: Understanding Subtraction

Reading: Super Powers

Phonics: Word-Part Power

Writing: Writing for Readers

T.U.B.: Wonders of Winter and Polar Animals

We have a few reminders for the winter weather.

1. **Warm clothes:** As it gets colder, please make sure your child has proper outerwear for recess, such as hats, gloves, coats, and boots as needed. Back up clothes may need to be updated to match the weather as well. (We go outside, even when it is cold, around 40°.)
2. **Water bottles:** It is very helpful for students to have a personal water bottle for the classroom.
3. **Yellow - Take-Home Folders:** This is the primary source of communication for teachers. Please make sure grownups are checking these folders daily.
4. **Tuesday Folders:** This is the primary source of communication for the school. Please make sure these are being emptied and returned as quickly as possible.
5. **Chromebook practice:** Thank you for helping us teach your child how to log in on their own! We are beginning to access and learn online applications that student can be utilizing at home. Headphones help us focus on our own work. Thanks for helping us remember to bring them to school.
6. **Sneakers: Boots keep us warm, but sneakers let us climb the equipment!** Students can pack their sneakers in their backpack for easy access for P.E. and recess. (We go outside, even when it is cold, around 40°.)

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

Your kindergarten teachers,

Mrs. Kalmanovich, Mrs. Docteur, Ms. Richardson, and Mrs. White

Our First Grade Classroom News

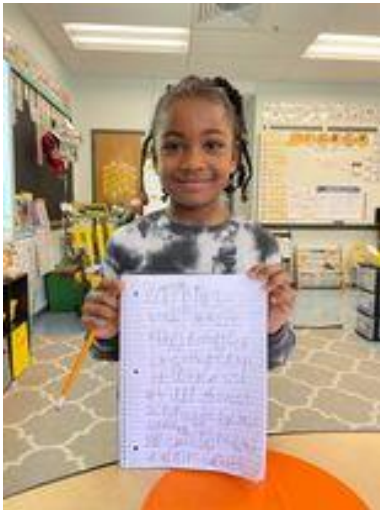
January 2022

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

Message From Our Team:

It is hard to believe that 2022 is over and 2023 has just begun! We are so proud of how far all our first graders have come so far this school year and how hard working, each one of them are.

During December, our students have learned about double constants and all about the silent e. They are continuing to use all their good habits and strategies for reading and are building good teamwork traits.



Reminders:

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

We use these computers for many educational activities daily. Also, please remember to send your child to school with their reading book baggies and math books each day. Also, make sure your child is wearing appropriate winter gear, we can go outside for recess. We appreciate your support with this!

Supporting Your Student at Home:

Please make sure your child is reading every night, even reading snap words. We are continuing our snap word celebrities. Also, help your child practice counting to 100 and pointing out charts when out and about.

What We Are Learning This Month:

Reading: As readers, we are learning how to read nonfiction books and what we learn from those books.

Math: As mathematicians, we will be learning how to interpret data through charts and graphs! We will also be using a 100 chart to count to 100!

Writing: As writers, we will be writing nonfiction chapter books. It will require us to use everything we know about nonfiction topics.

Social Studies/Science: In Science we are learning about communication, and the 3 states of matter.

Second Grade News



HELLO FAMILIES AND WELCOME TO SECOND GRADE!

We have been loving working with our sweet second grade students! The kids have been doing an amazing job—we are **SO PROUD!**

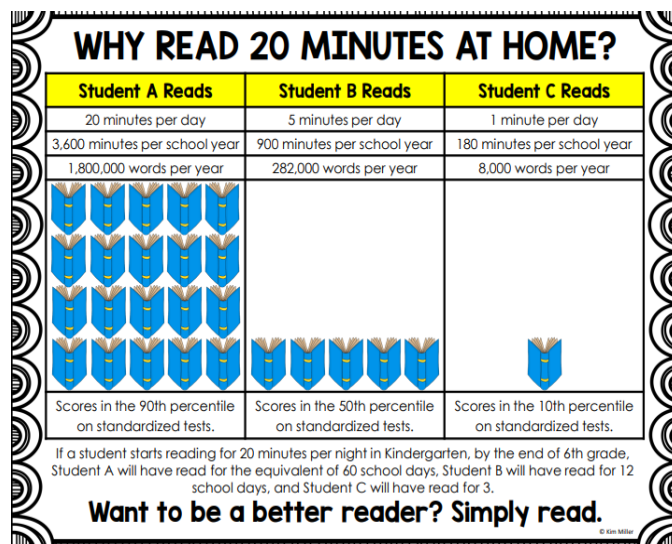
MATH: We have recently completed Topic 5 and are on topic 6. Please make sure your child is completing their nightly homework. Homework packets are sent home at the beginning of each unit. You may also help your child at home by practicing their addition and subtraction skills from 0-100. Students are also encouraged to complete activities on Dream Box, which can be found through the Canvas tile on their computer start pages. Reach out to your child's teacher if you have any questions.

READING: We are currently in our third unit titled Tackling Longer Words and Longer Books. Students have been using a variety of strategies to learn from text, growing knowledge across texts on a common topic, understanding basic text structures, and using that understanding to strategically read. Please make sure your child is reading at least 20 minutes each night and getting their log signed by a grownup.

WRITING: We have started our third unit—Writing about Reading. In this unit, students are writing opinion pieces. Students are working hard to develop their writing stamina!

PHONICS: Our second-grade students love phonics and their classroom's Gus! He has been a wonderful helper. We are currently in our third phonics unit, titled Word Builders, students will turn their attention to word endings in order to spell words. Students have also been reviewing and testing their ability to read and spell Snap Words to become Snap Word Celebrities! We cannot wait to see all the growth they make with words this year!

OTHER IMPORTANT INFORMATION: Please make sure that your student arrives to school with a charged computer. We use these computers for many educational activities daily. As it gets colder, please make sure your child has proper outerwear for recess, such as hats, gloves, coats, and boots as needed. It is very helpful for students to have a personal water bottle for the classroom.





THIRD GRADE

JANUARY 2022

READING AND WRITING UNITS OF STUDY

Students have put on their detective hats and are currently solving mysteries in their texts. They are learning to make predictions, gather evidence and learning more about character traits and feelings.

For writing, students are working on persuasive speeches that focus on an area in the school that they feel needs improvement. They are learning ways to support their opinions with strong evidence and reasoning.

MATH

Students are now Topic 6 where they will be focusing on find the area of various shapes.

Students should also continue working on their math fact fluency! First in Math is a great resource that they can assess at home.


Lastly, students should be spending time at home on Dreambox. This targets your student's specific needs.

SCIENCE & SOCIAL STUDIES

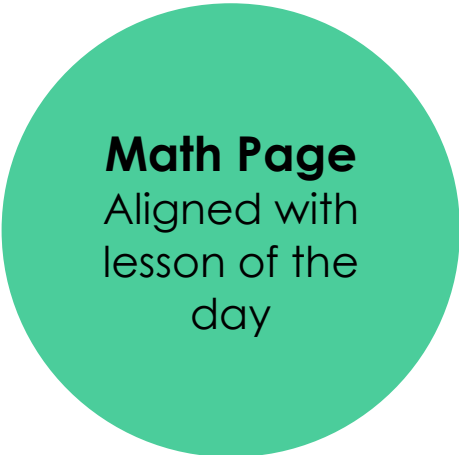
Students are moving into the next unit of science where we focus on learning all about physical science.

We will be finishing their unit all about economics where they have been reading a book about Danny who is becoming a millionaire.

REMINDER OF HOMEWORK EXPECTATIONS



Reading
20 minutes
nightly



Math Page
Aligned with
lesson of the
day



**Math
Support**

Dreambox

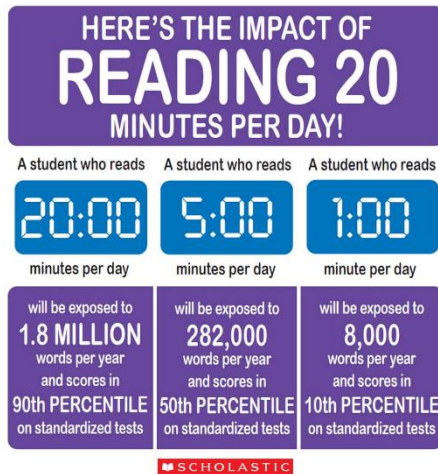
What's Happening in Fourth Grade?

In the new year we are looking forward to writing another essay, but this time focusing on books. Students are diving deep to understand characters motivations and changes to read and write intensely about their books. In math, we will be learning more division strategies and moving into understanding the four operations (addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division) and when to use each operation in word problems and multi-step problems. Please continue having your student practice fact fluency throughout break! Flash cards, color by numbers, and real-life problem solving (estimating, helping with recipe amounts, or even comparing prices of items while shopping) are all fantastic ways to get your student thinking about math outside of school. In social studies, we will be moving from Colonial Region research, to causes of the Revolutionary War.

January - Fifth Grade Newsletter!

HAPPY NEW YEAR! We are nearing the end of the 2nd quarter; the final date is January 31st! Please make sure you are checking HAC and keeping up with your child's grades as we are moving through the 2nd half of the year. If you have any questions about grades, please contact your child's teacher.

In math, we are working on Unit 6: Use Models and Strategies to Divide Decimals which is where we cover using models and strategies to divide into decimals, we encourage students to 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. PLEASE make sure they bring it back and forth. They are encouraged to read at home each night for a half hour. Our reading unit is interpretation book clubs. When your students are at home they can read a book of their choice, it does not have to be their book club book unless they are behind.

In writing, we are focusing on Literary Essays. They will be learning how to analyze books and videos. As they progress the students will be writing 5 paragraph essays with a thesis statement.

Harford Glen has been changed. The new dates for the trip will be in MAY. As soon as we know what the dates are we will share. You do not need to send in any more paperwork. Thank you for your understanding during this crazy time of year!

As Always, the grading scale is below. Questions? Please contact your homeroom teacher

All grade levels please note competency guide below:

Primary	Intermediate	
CE	A/B	Consistently completes work independently and applies grade level skills taught independently. Students are on or above grade level.
EV	B/C	With minimal prompting, completes work and applies grade level skills taught. Students are on grade level.
DV	C/D	Teacher support is necessary to complete daily classwork and to apply skills taught. Students are on or approaching grade level.
NE	D/E	Students require adult support and prompting to complete daily tasks. Students are below grade level.

Contact:

Sara.Xakellis@hcps.org

Madison.Diventi1@hcps.org

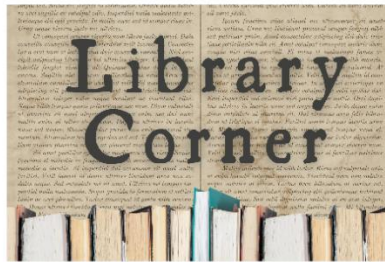
Kersten.Kirkendall@hcps.org

Eileen.Dixon@hcps.org

Alisa.Janiski@hcps.org

Cultural Arts Team (CATs)

Media, Music, Physical Education, and Art



Happy New Year! We hope that you and your family had a wonderful and relaxing winter break. We are looking forward to hearing the wonderful books our students read over the break.

Our next units for all classes will be Digital Citizenship. We are going to be learning about how to be safe online. What information is safe to share and how everything we do leaves behind a digital footprint.

We have been using our devices in media with grades 2 -5 but we will now be starting to use them with kindergarten and 1st grade. It will be very important to have students charge their devices every night so that they will be able to use their device during media.

If you are looking for activities for your child to do, please check out the Harford County Public Library. They have different Leap Kits. These kits include everything kids need to conduct science experiments, learn musical instruments, or just play with American Girl Dolls or Superheroes. The links below will take to public library page so that you can see some of the activities.

[Leap Kits – Music](#)

[Leap Kits - Science](#)

[Little Leapers](#)

Physical Education

Mr. Schubert and Mr. Lamartina's Classrooms

January

Unit: Bowling, Throwing & Catching

Pre-K and Kindergarten: We will be using our newfound underhand throwing skills and transfer them to a modified game of bowling! We will also be getting more practice with our catching & throwing skills in other games like Freeze the Castle, Alligator Alley, Bucket Catch and MORE!

1st and 2nd Grades: We will also be using our underhand throwing practice to help with the skill of rolling and learn about the game of bowling and using some of our math skills to keep track of our score in a modified game of bowling. As well as continuing our practice throwing and catching. We will be working on other games like Alligator Alley, Bucket Catch and more as well!

3rd-5th Grades: Students will be working on a variety of skills including bowling, keeping proper score during a bowling game, catching while moving and throwing to a moving target. Some other games we will be playing include the Step Back Challenge, Alligator Alley, Bucket Catch, Ultimate Ball!

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.

Art



News from Mrs. Price's Art Classroom:

Pre-Kindergarten students just finished up decorating a gingerbread character. We will continue to work on developing their fine motor skills by making marks and experiencing various fun art materials. In January we will use a variety of materials to make a melted snowman.

Kindergarten students have been practicing using scissors. We will finish up our penguin collages.

First Grade students will refine their scissors use and create a winter polar bear mixed-media collage that includes a cut-paper snowflake.

Second Grade students will create a mixed-media winter snow globe.

Third Graders are finishing up painting their landscapes. Next, we will learn about complementary colors and use complementary color pairs in the creation of a hot cocoa inspired mixed-media collage.

Fourth Grade students are finishing up their point of view snowmen. Next, we will learn about the Japanese art of ink-painting and create our own Sumi-e inspired artwork.

Fifth Graders will create a mixed-media artwork inspired by Robert Frost's poem, "Stopping by Woods on a Snowy Evening." They will use the masking method to create birch trees. We will also utilize scientific vocabulary when talking about how watercolor paint reacts to salt.



News from Ms. Benedetto's Art Classroom:

Kindergarten will finish their penguin and snowman mixed media collages by using cutting and gluing skills.

First Grade students will finish their winter self-portraits and penguin collage projects.

Second Grade students will finish their mixed-media winter landscape and then create Mary Blair inspired castles using warm and cool colors.

Third Grade students will finish their complementary mixed-media hot cocoa mug and then learn about symmetry to create snowflakes and a Notan collage.

Fifth Graders will finish their mixed-media winter landscape and then use their knowledge of value to create festive lights or an optical illusion artwork.

Music Notes

What's Coming Next?

In general music, our Pre-K and K students will be using their singing voices, their rhythm skills, and movement to increase their understanding of musical opposites. These are fast/slow, high/low, loud/soft etc.

1st grade general music students will be using their knowledge of solfege syllables to sing and identify patterns of so, mi, and la on the staff.

Our 2nd grade students will be applying their singing and note names skills to identify melodic contour (direction, step notes, skip notes, and leap notes). They will also apply this understanding through learning how to play melodies on the bell sets (xylophones).

Our 3rd grade students will begin reviewing note names on the staff to begin their recorder unit. If you did not receive the recorder letter before winter break, please email your student's music teacher.

Our 4th and 5th grade students will be finishing up their units on musical form. 4th grade will be applying their understanding by creating a theme and variation composition. Our 5th grade students will be composing a Rondo form composition.

Once this unit is completed for our 4th grade students, they will begin their unit on Boom whackers. These are pitched tubes that we will use to read and perform music as groups or whole class. Our 5th graders will then begin their unit on Ukuleles.

Important Info

Roye-Williams Elementary School

Winter Concert

Thank you for attending and supporting our Winter Concert!

The students performed wonderfully, and we are so proud of them!

Our musicians will be back to learning new concepts as we begin to prepare for our Spring concert!

RWES Music Staff

Mrs. Stephanie Harris – General/Vocal Music Teacher
stephanie.harris@hcps.org

Mrs. Morgan Calhoun – General/Vocal Music Teacher
morgan.calhoun@hcps.org

Mr. Tony Domenico, Jr. – Instrumental/General/Vocal Music Teacher
anthony.domenico@hcps.org

Math & Literature

Books are incredibly effective tools for teaching children new concepts, especially as it pertains to subjects like history and science. But, did you know the math and literature connection can be just as powerful?

Why Math and Literature?

There are many reasons math and literature pair so well together:

- Books introduce math concepts in a non-threatening way and build interest.
- Good stories make math come alive and children find that math is not boring or inaccessible.
- Mathematics within stories provides context that illuminates the meaning of otherwise abstract concepts. This is especially helpful for struggling learners.
- Oftentimes, literature connects math to real life. This gives meaning to “why” math is important.
- Some books offer sneaky ways to review math facts.
- Gifted mathematicians can benefit from literature connections, especially when books present concepts in new ways or dive deeper than the student has been before.
- Some books are excellent at presenting math as critical thinking. Introducing these logical thinking skills to young children can help them later in life.

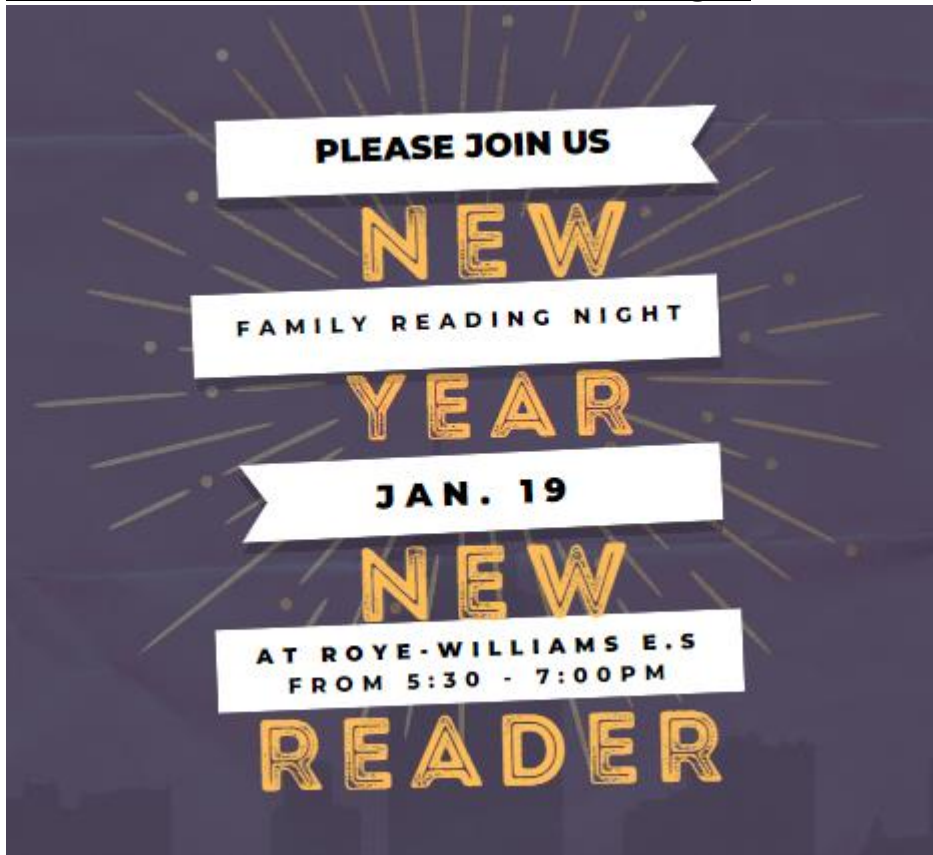
Here is a small sampling of some examples.



This winter curl up with your child and enjoy a good math story!

The Literacy Corner

New Year, New Reader Family Night



Start the new year off strong by joining us for our first Family Reading Night! At this event, you and your reader will leave with new reading strategies and activities to try at home, new book recommendations, and new reading goals! More information about this night, including an invitation to RSVP, will be coming home in Tuesday Folders and on ClassTag.

We can't wait to partner with you and your family.

RWES HEALTH SUITE NEWS

January 2023

RSV in Maryland: Health Site Urges Flu, COVID Vaccines

Across the state, officials are reporting rising case numbers of RSV, flu, COVID-19, and other respiratory illnesses. The symptoms of all these illnesses are very similar-some combination of runny/stuffy nose, sore throat, cough, headache, fever, fatigue, etc. The only way to be sure of what is causing your symptoms, is to be tested. At home testing can rule out COVID-19 but you will need to see a medical provider to determine if your symptoms are caused by RSV, flu, or strep.

In an effort, to provide education to the public, the state of Maryland has created a new website full of information and resources. Please click through the link below to access the site and read the Patch article for more information.



BALTIMORE, MD - A new website has more information about RSV, flu, COVID-19, and other respiratory illnesses spreading in Maryland, state health officials said. Rates of respiratory syncytial virus, or RSV, among children have soared this fall.

<https://patch.com/maryland/baltimore/rsv-maryland-health-site-urges-flu-covid-vaccines>

With all the colds, flu, RSV, COVID-19, and other diseases circulating hospital Emergency Rooms are becoming extremely busy. If you or a loved one is sick or has an injury, do you know how to determine if you need a visit to the ER vs. Urgent Care? Refer to (and save/print) this helpful chart. When in doubt, dial 911.

Amy Piccalo BSN RN
Royce Williams Elementary School
410-273-5536 (P)
410-809-6225 (F)



A Note from the School Counselor

January 2023!

SELF CARE and SELF KINDNESS

- Making New Years Resolutions with a focus on kindness
- Self Care tips - we can't pour from an empty cup
- What do we love about ourselves?
- We are all unique and that's amazing!



Roles

- Support our student's social-emotional, academic, and college / career focused journey
- Core Curriculum Classroom Lessons
 - Group Counseling
 - Individual Counseling
- Teacher Support and Collaboration
 - PACE
- Serving on the Healthy Climate and Culture, SST, 504, attendance, 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.

We 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.

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 prior to 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.**

We are

understanding
inspiring
persevering
supportive
respectful
accepting
creative
caring
positive
reflective
brave
determined
encouraging
whole-child-focused
dedicated
scholars
loving
proud
kind
family
amazing
successful
smart
safe
loyal
resilient
leaders