



January 21, 2022

Dear Riverside Families,

“Remember there’s no such thing as a small act of kindness. Every act creates a ripple with no logical end.”

~Scott Adams

This week at Riverside we are creating great ripples !

- We will be celebrating Kindness Week, beginning Monday, January 24. Please encourage your student to participate in the Spirit Week activities listed below:
 - **Monday, January 24 – Use Your Head and Be Kind!** Wear your silliest, craziest hat to school.
 - **Tuesday, January 25 – Show Kindness in a Flash!** Wear your flashiest and brightest colors to school! Mismatching is encouraged!
 - **Wednesday, January 26 – Dreaming of a Kinder World.** Wear your pajamas today!
 - **Thursday, January 27 – Being Kind Is No Sweat!** Wear your most comfortable sweatshirt and/or sweatpants
 - **Friday, January 28 – Stand Together For Kindness At Riverside!** To end our week, show school unity by wearing your favorite Riverside clothing!

We are also celebrating wonderful things!

- Our Student Council has begun under the direction of Mr. Ben Samara, Riverside’s School Counselor. Please stay tuned for updates on our student leadership activities.
- PTO After-school Clubs are now underway! Thank you to our PTO!

Please take note of the updates and reminders:

Updates:

- **New Princeton COVID-19 Testing Site:** Ridgewood Diagnostic Center will be opening a testing facility on Monday, Jan. 4th at 237 N. Harrison Street (the old Princeton First Aid & Rescue Squad building). The testing center will be open Monday through Friday from 9:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m. and Saturdays from 10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. The site will take both walk-ins and appointments. Appointments can be made here: <https://testnj.online/reg.aspx>. The appointment registration page is available in English and Spanish.

- We are strongly encouraging all families that are able to upgrade the masks children are wearing to KN95 or the disposable surgical masks. These masks are recommended for better protection against COVID-19 transmission.

- To help become a little more transparent about the safety of Riverside. We will be sending a monthly email to all families after we have completed a security drill. Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:41-1 (“Drill Law”), **each public and nonpublic school must conduct at least one fire drill and one security drill each month during school hours.**

Gov. Murphy recently signed into law more school age-appropriate drill requirements. You can find the information about the legislation here:

<https://nj.gov/governor/news/news/562022/approved/20220110a.shtml>

One of those key components is to alert students that the security event is a drill and to help them understand why we may be doing said drill. Riverside will be implementing this as part of its Security Drill procedures.

- Valentine’s Day will be celebrated at Riverside. Students may bring in Valentine’s Day cards to share. If food items are brought in they will not be eaten in the building, but will be sent home with students provided they are:

- Store bought.
- Individually packaged and sealed.
- The ingredients list is legible and firmly attached to the package.

Reminders:

- If your child is having symptoms of COVID-19, OR has a pending PCR test, regardless of vaccination status, please keep them home and report the absence by doing the following:
 - Calling (609) 806-4266 and select Option 4
 - **OR** email Nurse Sarah sarahgooen-chen@princetonk12.org **AND** Rosanna Duran at rosannaduran@princetonk12.org
 - Provide the following information:
 - The first name and last name of your student(s)
 - The grade of your student(s)
 - The reason for the absence
 - A phone number for a follow-up call if necessary
- If you are interested in getting tested for COVID-19, please use this link to find a testing site near you <https://www.princetonnj.gov/999/COVID-19-Testing>

Vaccination Card Upload Instructions

To keep students safe and to facilitate contact tracing, we ask that parents **upload their student's vaccination card** into our existing Student Information System, PowerSchool after the student's second shot.

- Contact tracing requires PPS nurses to inquire about each student's vaccination status.
- If a student is named a "close contact," the student will not need to quarantine or miss school if they are in fact vaccinated.

PPS will maintain student confidentiality. Only staff directly involved in contact tracing will have access to vaccination status.

Please see the directions below which are provided in both English and Spanish.

[English Instructions](#)

[En Español](#)

We are looking forward to an awesome week at Riverside!

Kindly,

Ebony Lattimer, Principal