



# Riverside Elementary School

58 Riverside Drive, Princeton, New Jersey 08540



(609) 806-4260

Ms. Ebony Lattimer, Principal

March 21, 2022

Dear Riverside Families,

*"It's not the physical appearance of the person, but the kind of human that person is, that will make a difference in life."*

- J Varsha.

This week at Riverside we are making a difference in a number of ways!

- The Third Grade actors and actresses showed us their award winning acting skills through their collaboration with McCarter Theater in their Greek mythology weather presentations.
- Students in Ms. Nichols' class of innovative, ingenious and creative students displayed their amazing creations made from items we would normally throw away with the Upcycle Celebration.
- Ms. Varadarajan's class showed us their great writing skills with their "Bringing History to Life" writing celebration.
- We are happy to work collaboratively with our PTO to meet our classroom needs while also meeting our sustainability goals with "Buy Nothing Riverside."

Please take note of the updates and reminders:

**Updates:**

Calling All Riverside Scientists!

We are now recruiting parents and other family members from the Riverside community who are scientists to participate as presenters for Science Day 2022! The big day is Tuesday May 17th (with the rain date of Thursday May 19th). If you think that you may want to volunteer as a presenter please reach out to Kelly Bennett via **email: bennettkelly44@gmail.com** by March 31st.

For those of you who are new to Riverside this is an awesome day where scientists from our Riverside Community (Parents & Teachers and often Princeton University Faculty) bring their scientific expertise to school for a day of hands-on learning. It is a great way to encourage the scientific minds of our students! Standing inside a giant bubble, learning about human health, playing with the DNA of a strawberry, testing architecture designs through giant Jenga, learning about lasers, rockets, Oobleck, jet engines, outer space and so much more!

If you are interested in volunteering but NOT as a presenter - put the date on your calendar and stay tuned because we will be recruiting you later!

**Reminders:**

- **MONDAY IS AN EARLY DISMISSAL DAY!**
- **Monday is Down Syndrome Awareness day–ROCK YOUR SOCKS!**
- **Playground Safety:**
  - Please encourage your children to engage in safe play on the playground.
  - Please stay off of the mulch mound it is taped off with caution tape.
  - Please use the handicap accessible swing appropriately.
  - Please refrain from climbing on top of the storage containers.
- If you are sending in birthday treats for your student please remember, food items 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.
- **Morning Arrival, Car Line and Parking:** Please be mindful of the morning arrival procedures for parking and the carline to ensure the safety of all at Riverside. These items include but are not limited to:

- Please stay with your car while in the car line. Leaving the car unattended in the car line stops the flow and backs up traffic. This includes at the end of the car line near the garden.
- Please park on Riverside Dr. and walk your students to the school, this includes the PreK and Kindergarten doors. Please do not use the staff parking lot.
- Please be mindful of driving speed.
- Please pull all the way up to the green cones before letting your student out the car.
- Please do not park between the signs on Prospect Ave. This is the designated bus area.
- 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](mailto:sarahgooen-chen@princetonk12.org) **AND** Rosanna Duran at [rosannaduran@princetonk12.org](mailto: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
    - **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](#)

### **SAVE THE DATES:**

- March 25--Cerebral Palsy Awareness Day: Wear green
- March 28--April 4--Autism Awareness Week
- Friday, April 1: Wear Blue
- April 25--April 29: Book Fair
- *April 28--Heritage Night--5 p.m.-8 p.m. \*This date has been revised from last week.*

- May 13–Spring Fling– 5 p.m.-8 p.m.
- Science Day Activities:
- Monday, May 16–Assembly
- Tuesday May 17–Science Day (*May 19 rain date*)
- June 14 at 11 a.m.–Grade 5 Moving Up Ceremony
- June 15 Field Day (*June 16 rain date*)

We are looking forward to an awesome week at Riverside!  
Kindly,  
Ebony Lattimer, Principal