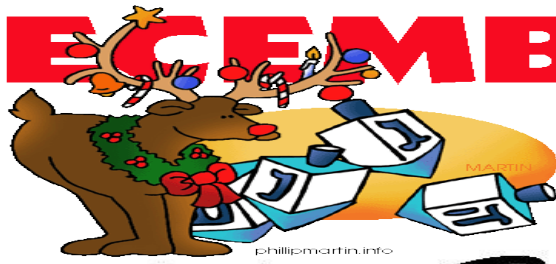


DECEMBER



Ridgedale Reporter

Ridgedale Elementary School

Volume 5, Issue 3
December 2018

Yes, it is December already! Our students have been working hard to be the best learners possible. We are learning to be good students and follow the rules. The students are fantastic each and every day. We are so proud of all they are doing in the classroom and all around the school.

Our food drive will continue through December 5. If you would like to donate, please send your donations to school before that day. You may send cash and the coordinator will be using the donations to purchase food for the competition. Mrs. Aurelio will be keeping you updated with our progress on the PTO Facebook site.

Our Winter Musical will be December 18. We are encouraging the parents of students in PreK to 1 to come to the 10 AM performance. We would like for the parents of students in grades 2-5 to come to the 2 PM performance. This is because of the parking situation here at Ridgedale. Hopefully, doing this we will alleviate some of the headaches that day.

Our children are so excited as we get closer to the Winter Break! Please remember that they need to be in school every day and ON TIME! Our learning will continue until the end of the school day on December 20. The excitement is contagious this time of the year so your children need to be here to experience every single

moment of the next three weeks!

We would like to take this opportunity to let you know how very much we appreciate each and every one of you. Whether you work in the building, doing a myriad of duties, are a part of the safety committee, work with your child each night or just send us your most precious gift to educate, we could never do it without you! Have a wonderful holiday season. Enjoy your families and send them back next year ready to learn. We wish you and yours a blessed holiday season!

IMPORTANT RIDGEDALE WEBSITES

☺ This is the address for the school website:

<http://res.mono.k12.wv.us/>

IMPORTANT DATES

- Food Drive End 12/5
- Choir Field Trip 12/7
- Math Night 12/7
- Early Dismissal 12/10**
- LSIC 4:00 PM 12/12
- Winter Music Program 12/18
- Early Dismissal 12/20**
- Winter Break 12/22 -1/3**
- STUDENTS 1/3 return to School**



Happy Holidays!



From the Principal's Pen

The temperatures have dropped and snow is falling. Evidence of the holiday season surrounds us everywhere we go. This is an exciting time for students. They wait in joyful anticipation for the winter break and a visit from St. Nick. It is tough to stay focused on spelling words, keep track of library books, and recall the details of the weekly reading story, even with the classroom elf keeping watch. A six-year-old's capacity for logical thinking begins to blossom, but at this time of year, excitement overrides logic. So what does a six-year-old look like at school and at home?

“But now I am six, I'm as clever as clever. So I think I'll be six now for ever and ever.”

“The End,” Now We Are Six ~ by A. A. Milne

6-year-olds ...

- * Like to take on more responsibilities and enjoy chores
- * Thrive on encouragement and don't do well with criticism
- * Are sometimes strongly affected by events at school so take time talk about their day, bedtime is a great time for “pillow talk”
- * Enjoy being active both inside and outside
- * Care about friends and may have best friends
- * Enjoy working and playing in groups
- * Like doing things without help and sometime choose projects are too hard
- * Are growing taller and developing fine motor skills
- * Love to paint, read, color, and write
- * Have a better understanding of past and present, long ago and far away
- * Enjoy sharing and explaining about things they like

*Abstracted from Chip Wood, Yardsticks

News from Kindergarten

Kindergarten is moving right along. We have been busy bees! In Language Arts we will continue working on word work skills and learning new sight words. We will begin a Gingerbread Unit that will allow us to learn different versions of the same story, comparing stories, identifying characters, setting and the main idea. The children are focusing on using sounds to make words and using words we know to create sentences in writing.

In Math we are working on building teen numbers using various strategies. We are working with tens frames, number partners, and the beginning stages of addition to make a number. Continue to practice number identification, formation and correspondence. Practice counting to 100! We are already up to 50+ days in school!

Please check the school calendar for upcoming events! December is a very busy month. Thank you for all of your support and helping your child have a positive learning experience in Kindergarten!

News from PreK

We can't believe how fast the school year is flying by! The excitement of upcoming holidays is in the air. We will be beginning play plans soon to continue to extend literacy, writing, and math skills. Arctic Academy packets will be coming home soon and should be kept in your child's folder until needed on the designated days. As always, continue to dress your child appropriately as weather gets colder.

News from First Grade

The first grade team would like to thank parents at this holiday time for their support and involvement with their child's education. It makes a difference to partner together!

Here are some important reminders:

- * Please sign and return your student's report card envelope
- * Continue to donate to our non-perishable food drive
- * Make sure your child is dressed warm for cold weather for recess (you may want to send extra hats and gloves for students to keep at school)
- * Encourage your child to show off their reading skills and have them read to relatives over the holidays!

Have a happy and safe holiday season!!

News from Second Grade

Second grade is thankful for our time with our families over Thanksgiving. We learned about the first Thanksgiving and enjoyed many different creative writing activities. We have completed two step word problems and will be beginning 2 digit addition. We had a great lesson with owl pellets from the WVU Extension Office. We had a great time attending the WV Girls basketball game. We also enjoyed another great science lesson from the WV Agriculture Bureau involving colorful beans. We will be traveling around the world during December. We will be learning about Christmas customs and traditions from various cultures.

News from Third Grade

Here we are into our 2nd trimester of 3rd grade. This fall has gone by quickly. By now we have hopefully conferred with you about your child's progress, and we are all on the same page as to what is the best direction for your student. If your child's teacher has not spoken with you, please contact the school or email her to make arrangements.

Math finds us digging deep into multiplication. Please have your child practice his/her facts for the weekly multiplication test. There was a note sent home with report cards explaining this process. There are math fluency games on ABCYA and Math Playground that the kiddos love. Who knew learning could be so much fun! Also when you are out shopping with your child a good math lesson is to have them help you figure out approximately how much money you will be spending. This is a good estimating skill and a real life lesson. Of course, the next step would be to have your child figure out the difference between what was spent and the amount paid - even if you have to pretend since many of us use our bank cards.

With Old Man Winter on his way, please be on the lookout for Arctic Days. Your child has been instructed on how to use his/her Chromebook on Arctic Days. It is important that your child completes any and all assignments - Arctic Days do count as instructional days and students are expected to do their work. Along those lines, ABCYA does have a typing game that teaches young fingers how to use the keyboard. This is a good tutorial as many 3rd graders are still "hunters" and "peckers".

With the holidays upon us, we would like to take this opportunity to wish your family the simple joys of the season. Sharing those magic moments with your child and family are memories to cherish always.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

News from Fourth Grade

November was a very busy month for Ridgedale 4th grade! We participated in several events including but not limited to WVU women's basketball game, Mobile Science lab and star lab. Thank you to the students and families for your participation and making all of this possible. December is going to be just as busy and exciting! In math, we will continue to develop their multiplication and division skills through multi-digit multiplication, multiples, and factors. We will also be leading into fractions and patterns. As for reading, we will continue promoting a joy for reading as well as increasing students' reading comprehension through target strategies and skills. We will primarily focus on using reading sources to state evidence. For writing, we will be focusing on informative writing and research. We will begin new topics in science and social studies such as: Interdependent relationships and weather/climate for science and global communities and government for social studies. Please continue to monitor your child's planner and work and promote reading for enjoyment at home.

News from Fifth Grade

Fifth grade was a hive of activity this November--from starting Wax Museum projects to fifth grade leadership clubs for various projects such as the Thanksgiving food drive. We have been busy bees! Students have worked diligently in math, reading, and writing; they are beginning new units in science and social studies with the start of the new trimester as well.

Furthermore, fifth graders are deep into their Wax Museum projects: conducting research, taking notes, writing biographies, preparing speeches, and constructing their poster boards. This project will encompass a large portion of their grade and students should do their very best. Project presentations within the fifth grade homerooms will begin on November 30; school-wide presentations will occur on December 6--please note that this date has been changed from December 7 due to a conflict with scheduling. Parents are encouraged to attend!

As the trimester comes to a close and we prepare for winter, students are reminded to dress for the weather. All students should come to school equipped with a coat, warm proper footwear, hats, and gloves--we will be going outside for recess provided the weather is 32F and above. It is always wise to be prepared for the worst.

News from the Library

Welcome back from Thanksgiving break. I hope everyone had time to relax and enjoy their time off—and found some good books to read! As we go into the holiday season, remember that books make great presents, and that reading to and with your child is the best gift you can give them. Here is a link to some of the brand new holiday books for 2018: <https://www.amazon.com/gp/new-releases/books/3072>

As you are preparing to put decorations up and making space, please take a few minutes and try to find missing library books. We want to make sure our books can be enjoyed by all of our students. Also, please remind your students to try to return their books before their scheduled library check out day (the day before would be super). Here is an updated schedule of when each class has checkout.

Tuesday: Jones, Harki, Riggleman

Wednesday: Malinovich, Himes,

Thursday: Livengood, Hinshaw, Calhoun, Bloom, Stickler, Wolff, Edgell, Doney, Ferguson, Miller, Pride

Friday: Mohan, Hunter, Sickles

****Kindergarten days have changed due to changing related arts schedule for the trimester.****

Ms. Tennant's favorite Christmas books: Olive the Other Reindeer, Olivia Saves Christmas, How the Grinch Stole Christmas, and The Best Christmas Pageant Ever

Ridgedale Shining Knights

Kindergarten

Vance Hewitt
Madysen Bumps
Cora Rogers
Karli Collins

First Grade

Leah DeBarr
Luke Poland
Ava Nestor

Second Grade

Miles Ammons
Aubree Ritenour
Cohen Glass

Third Grade

Hannah Utter
Bradley Paulk
Izabella Duffield

Fourth Grade

Joseph Bast
James Flannagan
Camden Quinlan

Fifth Grade

Camdyn Smith
Jacob Minardi
Sarah Loeffelbein

HAPPY HOLIDAYS!

Dear Parents,

This holiday season, the best gift you can give your child is a good education. And the best place to get that education is in school. Every day. On time.

Every year, absences spike in the weeks before and after the holiday breaks. Just a few missed days here and there, even if they're excused absences, can add up to too much lost learning time and put your child behind in school. So make sure your child is in school every day, right up until vacation starts. Our teachers will be teaching, and our students will be learning. But it's harder to teach and it's harder to learn when too many students are absent.

If missing school is unavoidable, talk to your children's teachers in advance to create a plan for making up missed work. But remember, a homework packet cannot make up for the interaction and learning that goes on in the classroom.

As a reminder, school is closed for winter break December 21-January 2nd and reopens January 3rd.

Sincerely,

Cheryl Skeen, Burlington United Methodist Family Services
Amber Zackery, Assistant Principal and Attendance Designee



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Ronelle Bar, Thirty One Consultant
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Sweet Frog
Talk to the Paw Grooming
Target
Walmart (75 Retail Circle)
West Virginia Black Bears

CAKE WALK COMPLIMENTS OF:

Senator Bob Beach
Stephanie Zucker

RIDGEDALE ELEMENTARY PTO would like to express appreciation to all who participated or provided sponsorship to our Fall Festival. It was a great success and we are so happy to have you be part of our success.

Parents please remember these sponsors when you are in the need of things they may sell or represent.