

Happy New Year!

Ridgedale Reporter

In January...

Now that the tree and tinsel is put away and the winter break is over, we are ready to go forward for the next leg of our journey in the school year. After the month of January, we have a long time until we have another day from the school. With few activities to interrupt the learning in the classroom, the teachers and students will be working to make sure they are getting the necessary work done to meet the standards for this year in their grade level. Our children will be working to be ready for any end of the year assessments they may be a part of for their grade level. One of the biggest problems is attendance at this point. We realize it is also tough on the parents. We would like to reiterate that students should be in school each day. Please try your best to schedule your appointments for before or after school. We would like to have your children here because they need the instruction provided by each teacher.

Midterm for Term 2 is January 15. You will receive progress reports that are warranted on that day. Use this information to help as you and your children prepare for the remainder of the school year. We are headed toward the mid year point and we want all our children on target for the evaluations that may be coming.

Just a reminder too that it will be cold the next few weeks. You need to be SURE your child comes to school with the necessary things for the winter. We want to have the children dressed for the weather, we can only do that with your help.

We will be having a Stem Based Literacy night. Please make plans to join us at the school as we provide some time to work with your child to learn new ways to integrate literacy and stem activities. We are excited to bring this opportunity to you. There will be more information that will be coming in the days ahead.

Finally, our fifth grade leadership team will be beginning their flower sale. The money from this sale will be used to offer a scholarship to one of the former Ridgedale students at Morgantown High. Please support our students as they work to give back to a Ridgedale Alum.

Ridgedale Elementary
School

Volume 6, Issue 4
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IMPORTANT RIDGEDALE WEBSITES

© This is the address for the
school website:

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

IMPORTANT DATES

Happy New Year	1/1
Return to School	1/6
Midterm for term 2	1/15
Ridgedale's Got Talent Auditions	1/17
2 Hour Early Dismissal	1/17
MLK Day/NO SCHOOL	1/20
Begin 5th Grade Flower Sale	1/27





News from Pre-K

Welcome back kiddos! Hopefully everyone had a restful break filled with fun, family, friends, and learning! Even though it is mid-year, after a lengthy break, we will be spending some time getting back into the classroom routines. As January treks on, we hope that snow days will be minimal and we can continue our learning throughout the winter months. A couple activities you can do at home together include baking cookies (talk about measurements, following recipes, and mixing ingredients together) or matching different pairs of gloves, mittens, or socks.

Mrs. Whetzel, Pre-K Aide

Mrs. Whetzel said she became a teacher's aide because she loves working with children. She would like to be part of the process of getting them to where they are successful adults. Mrs. Whetzel said that her teachers would have said she was a hardworking, quiet, shy student. When she has free time, Mrs. Whetzel likes to read, listen to music and spend time with her family. IF she could be a super hero, she would like to be Wonder Woman because she is a strong female. She can also fly in an invisible jet. She is also known as one of the first female superheroes. Mrs. Whetzel says she uses Math in the pre-K room when they teach the children about numbers. She helps the children count, sort and stack one inch cubes in the classroom.

News from Kindergarten

Welcome to Kindergarten 2020! Happy New Year!! We have a busy road ahead. We will be working on understanding addition, tricky teen numbers and counting to 100. In Language Arts we will be working on concept of word, blending and segmenting with guided reading.

Since January can be a snowy cold month, please make sure you keep your Arctic Academy information handy. This was sent home in November. Do not work on activities until an announced Arctic Day. If you receive a county phone call or text, it will specifically say if it is an "Arctic Day." The state website and the local news will also indicate if it is an Arctic Day as well. If you have lost or misplaced your arctic letter it can be found on the Ridgedale website under the parent tab!

Remember to continue reading nightly and practice math facts. Thank you for all that you do!

News from First Grade

As we approach the cold weather, please make sure your student is bundled up. We still go outside for recess in above freezing temperatures.

Arctic Academy papers were sent home at the end of November. Contact your teacher if you don't have them. Students should complete an activity in reading, math, writing, and word work and return it the next day.

In Math, we'll be working on understanding "teen" numbers and sums greater than 10. We'll also be working on the "making ten" strategy to add and subtract.

In Reading, we'll be covering retelling stories with the main idea and key details, as well as story elements (characters, setting, problem and solution). When students read to you, it would be beneficial to practice these skills.

In Writing, we'll be working on opinion pieces. Have your child share their opinion on different subjects, and give reasons to support it. You can also talk about respecting and valuing the opinions of others.

As we enter 2020, you can set achievable goals with your child regarding academics. Some examples might include to read 15 min each day, work on math facts to 10 for 10 min daily, or make two thank you cards for the holiday season.

We look forward to lots of great learning in 2020!!

News from Second Grade

In December, we traveled around the world and learned about celebrations during the holidays. We learned about various countries and their traditions. We planned, constructed, and decorated gingerbread houses. The students applied math skills such as arrays, symmetry, and patterns while designing their houses. We are anxious to welcome in the year 2020 and we will focus our attention on setting goals to become productive learners for the second half of the school year. In math, we will now be applying our addition and subtraction skills to solve word problems. We will begin working on cursive writing. Our students will be learning how to research a topic and present a report.

Mrs. Briscoe, Third Grade Teacher

Mrs. Briscoe wanted to become a teacher because she struggled in high school and she wants to help other children who are not doing well in school. Mrs. Briscoe said her grandmother helped to bring head start to WV and that inspired her to pursue her career choice. When she is not at school, she enjoys playing with her dog, swimming, kayaking, watching movies, and watching sports, including WVU football. When she was in school her teachers would have said she was a kind student who thought of others before herself. If she could have all the money she needed she would use it to have flexible seating in her classroom. She feels that people work better when they can move around when trying to think. That is the kind of thinker she is too. If she could be anyone she would be Audrey Hepburn because of her great sense of style. If she could be a super hero it would be Wonder Woman who is part of the Justice League. Since Wonder Woman is tall that appeals to Mrs. Briscoe too. She would love to be taller. Mrs. Briscoe uses Math in her classroom when she is counting things like papers, students, etc.

Mrs. Acosta, Third Grade Co-Teacher

Mrs. Acosta said she decided to become a teacher because she enjoys being around children and like to see their excitement when they learn something new or achieve a goal that they have been working to attain. She feels her teachers would say she was a quiet student who did her work (most of the time!). In her free time she likes to play board games, watch tv/movies, bowling, swimming and go shopping. If money were no object she would like to have room in her room to do stations and to have some comfy/alternative types of chairs that the students would love. If she could be a super hero she would be Superman. She would like to be Superman because he can fly. If Mrs. Acosta could be anyone else, she would choose her son. She would like to be her son so she can see what it is like to be someone with autism.

News from Third Grade

Welcome back! We hope everyone had a wonderful holiday break. Students will be welcomed back with goal setting activities to keep them motivated during the long winter months. We will continue to work on multiplication fact fluency, fact families, and begin exploring division. Please encourage your child to study fact cards and practice using Reflex. We will be finishing up our novel study *The Lion, The Witch and The Wardrobe*. Students will continue to work on vocabulary, summarizing, character analysis, and figurative language. Once the novel study is finished, we will resume with the *Journeys* series



Snow is falling
and books are
calling ...



News from Fourth Grade

The past few weeks have been very busy for fourth graders. One of the biggest challenges was operating the schoolwide lemonade stand. Each student completed an application for a job in one of the five departments: advertising, sales, public relations, accounting, and inventory. The students and teachers met weekly to discuss the previous week's sales and look at what may have affected that. Overall, the students stay engaged while learning first hand about economics. Once the students decide on what they would like to do with the profit, we will let everyone know.

Days before the holiday break began, the students learned about the Pillowcase Project from the American Red Cross. This is a program that aims to increase awareness and understanding of natural hazards and teaches safety, coping skills, and preparedness. Students learned the best ways to stay safe and how to create their own emergency supply kits by packing essential items in a pillowcase for easy transport during a disaster.

Once we return from the holiday break, we will be pushing forward with academics. In reading, we will refocus on our Journeys reading stories and skills. Math will shift focus from learning to solve multi-digit multiplication and division to solving multi-step problems and then into fractions. During social studies, the students will learn about the American Revolution through various activities. Science will continue to focus on electrical and sound waves. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact your child's teacher.

News from Fifth Grade

It has been a wonderful 2019 in 5th grade at Ridgedale Elementary School. Students have been very busy and working hard on building skills as they prepare to become middle schoolers in the Fall of 2020.

Although we have accomplished so much already, there is still a lot of work to be done during the remainder of the 5th grade school year. Students will begin working on their Wax Museum projects immediately upon their return from Winter Break. This, along with the Science Fair, are two big projects that students will be completing in 2020. Please note that all work for the Wax Museum project is to be done at school, while all work for the Science Fair is to be done at home, outside of school.

The Monongalia County Math Field Day will be held on January 14, 2020. Collin Ridgeway and Joseph Bast have been chosen to represent the Ridgedale 5th grade class, with Ava Newman being the alternate should one of the participants be unable to attend.

News from Related Arts

Mrs. Roskos would like to thank the many parents and families who joined music class. The students had a wonderful time sharing their music experience with family and friends. We are looking forward to Ridgedale's Got Talent on Friday, February 14th at the MET downtown. We hope you'll spend your Valentines with the talents of Ridgedale! Auditions are on January 17th so be practicing your acts and be sure to sign up - forms are located on the Ridgedale homepage. We would like to thank you for support our annual Creating for a Cause, our Ridgedale artists raised over \$500 for children's hospital.



Ridgedale Shining Knights

Kindergarten

Natalya Muzichuck
Lily Thewlis
McKenzie Ridgeway

First Grade

Robert Bond
Josie Wolfe
Brynlee Ammons
Paxton Anderson

Second Grade

Ava Nestor
Nevaeh Daniel
Caz Roman

Third Grade

Cohen Glass
Luciana Moore
Parker Noah

Fourth Grade

Audrey Kurilchick-Green
Jason Woods
Brody Williams

Fifth Grade

Aidan Petsko
Hudson Blake
Megyn Amsler

