



Ridgedale Reporter

How can this be the end?

May 1, how is it possible we have come to this point of the year? One thing is certain, this year has been one of circumstances. We opened the year with many unknowns and each day brought a new set of concerns and questions. The staff and the children persevered through all of the difficulties and waded through the waters of indecision. Then the new calendar year began and we were able to look forward to the complete return of all of our students to the classroom. Since the return on March 1, the students and staff have worked hard to grasp all they can get to be the best they can be this school year. The relationships in the classroom have blossomed and bloomed at an amazing rate. We have been pleased to watch as our students have taken on their new covid life in the building.

As May rounds the corner, please remember that grades 3, 4 and 5 will be taking the West Virginia Summative Assessment the week of May 10th. Your children should come to school ready to begin the assessment. Make sure they have a good breakfast and have plenty of rest that week. Please make sure your child is on time in the morning when they arrive at the school. If you have appointments to schedule, we ask you do this some other time since we need to complete the tests. The results for the assessment will be sent home when they are available for your family.

This year field day will look a bit different. We will have a parachute/field day. On May 21, all of the related arts classes will go outside and have their time with the parachute and the related arts teachers. They will be given a popsicle to enjoy afterward. This will provide them some time to have fun and relax afterward.

Just like the beginning of the school year, the end of the year will be somewhat different as well. Our fifth grade recognition will be held virtually for parents and families. We will live stream the activities beginning at 2:00 PM on Tuesday, May 25. The teachers will be reaching out to the parents with the finalized plans for the celebrations for their grade levels. They will also be done virtually for the families.

We are including some information about a Math site for families. This is the address of the site for you to use with your children:

<https://familymath.stanford.edu/>. Enjoy the activities with your children.

It is hard to believe that the year is coming to a close. We have persevered on so many levels. Our children have done a great job keeping on track and getting the learning done. They have shown that they can be resilient in the face of adversity. THANK YOU for the support you have provided your children and the teachers as they have navigated the times we were pushed into last March. We could not have done this without your understanding and support. We HOPE that next year we will have a "normal" start and will continue on to face the next year with health and hope.

HAVE A GREAT SUMMER!

Ridgedale Elementary
School

Volume 7, Issue 7
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IMPORTANT RIDGEDALE WEBSITE

© This is the address for the
school website:

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

IMPORTANT DATES

Teacher Appreciation Week	5/3-5/7
Nurses Day	5/6
West Virginia Summative Assessment	5/10-5/14
WV Summative Assessment for Distance Learners	5/17-5/21
Parachute Field Day	5/21
Virtual Fifth Grade Recognition 2:00 PM	5/25
Last Day of School	5/28
Report Card Day	5/28



WEST VIRGINIA
SUMMATIVE
ASSESSMENT
MAY 10-14

News from Pre-K

We are sad, yet excited, for the end of the school year. Sad because the year is wrapping up, and our classrooms will be empty for the summer, and those smiling faces we've gotten used to seeing will be many places other than Ridgedale. Excited because our kiddos are now well prepared for kindergarten, have made many new friendships, learned, laughed, and progressed in independence, communication, and many other areas. Also, we all need a little break to recoup from this wild ride of a school year. For those moving up, we cannot wait to see you getting off the bus or out of a car on the first day of school next year to say "hello" and "we miss you"! For the kiddos staying in pre-k with us another year, we will be just as excited to have you in our classroom again to continue to learn and grow with us.

Final Early Learning Scale Parent Reports will be coming home in May. We hope you take the time to look at the Summer Avalanche programs to keep learning going through the summer! Have a wonderful summer and see you in the fall for the 2021-2022 school year!

Love, Miss Lucy, Miss Kim, Miss Joy, Miss Erica, and Miss Krista

News from Kindergarten

Our Kindergarten year is coming to an end! We have been through a lot with our academic school year-remote learning, hybrid, and in-person instruction. Our kindergartners are so glad to be back at school and making academic gains! We are so proud of them! During the months of April and May, we have been working on a butterfly unit watching our caterpillars become butterflies-just like our Kindergartners are growing! We have been doing a West Virginia history unit which includes our state symbols and facts about our state. We are also working on a unit about plants and learning about the different parts of the plant. From July 6-29, students will have the opportunity to attend summer programs called Summer Avalanche. Registration is from Wednesday, April 28-Friday, April 30. Students getting ready to enter Kindergarten can enroll in Ready Freddy, Summer Math and Reading for 1st-2nd grades, working on STEM lessons, Library time, FIT Kids and Rhythm and Reading (Music) will all be available! We hope to see our soon to be 1st graders, attend one of these programs. During the summer months we hope you will enjoy a vacation and summer fun, but also have students practice: sight words, reading, addition and subtraction, writing about summer activities. Have a safe and fun-filled summer break! We appreciate all of your patience and understanding during this school year! Thank You, The Kindergarten Team!

News from First Grade

The First Grade Team would like to thank parents and caregivers for their tremendous support through an incredibly challenging year! We couldn't have done it without you! As 2020-21 ends, we would like to encourage students to keep practicing their skills over the summer as they prepare for second grade. Here are some ideas:

- Keep reading 15-20 min daily
- Read aloud to your child daily
- Practice sight words
- Keep a summer journal and write 2-3 sentences each day
- Make a book including a story/pictures
- Write letters/cards to friends and family
- Engage in learning through computer games (abcya, MyOn, Literacy Footprints, starfall.com, iknowit etc.)
- Practice fact fluency (addition/subtraction facts within 10)
- Choose an area of interest to study
- Take a trip to the library
- Go on a nature hike and write your observations
- Create a wildflower book
- Visit a zoo in person or virtually and pick an animal to read and write about

The possibilities for learning are endless! Involve your student in making some of the choices. They will be more engaged if they are a part of the decision-making process. Have a great summer and keep on learning!!

News from Second Grade

Wow! It's hard to believe that we are beginning our last month of school. It sure has been an interesting and eventful school year. After returning to in-person learning, we have been able to establish some more consistent routines and work hard to learn the second grade standards. In Math, we have been working on telling time and counting money. We will be starting a unit on Geometry next. In this unit, we will explore 2D/3D shapes and their attributes and fractions. We will also be doing a unit on West Virginia history. We will learn many fun facts about our state. We are also excited to observe the stages of a butterfly's life cycle right in our very own classroom! We will continue to work hard throughout this last month to be sure to prepare the students for third grade. We want to thank all of you for your patience and support throughout this difficult school year. It will definitely be one we will not forget! Have a fun and safe summer



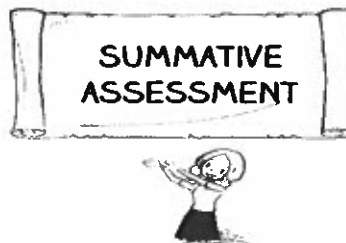
News from Third Grade

Third grade will continue "The Mouse and Motorcycle" book study. Students will also continue writing opinion and informational writing pieces.

In math, students will continue to work on area and perimeter. We will be doing a room transformation to help them to gain understanding. They will also cover graphing, geometry, and mass and volume.

The West Virginia Summative Assessment will begin the week of May 10th. Please make sure your child has headphones/ for the test. Please let your child's teacher know if they need a pair.

Please continue to send your child in weather appropriate clothing! We all love flip flops, but they are not the best choice for an active school day. :)



News from Fourth Grade

The finish line is in sight, and this has definitely been a year to remember! With that being said, fourth grade teachers would like to take a moment and express our appreciation towards the students, parents, and community for being so patient and understanding. This year was definitely a learning experience for all of us.

Fourth grade students adjusted to changes and continued to be shiny knights.

In recent weeks, we've been reading and discussing various novels as well as reviewing content previously taught throughout the year. Over the next couple of weeks, we will continue reviewing in preparation of the end-of-the-year test. Testing will be during the week of May 10 through May 14. Please check with your child to ensure they have working headphones. If they do not, they will need to tell their teacher. After testing, we will continue learning through various hands-on activities and projects.

The fourth-grade teachers would like to congratulate those students who participated in the Invention Convention project! Students did a great job creating their inventions and completing their Flipgrid videos. The video can be accessed at flipgrid.com using the join code - 7f3ecab8 and password - Invention. We have all enjoyed viewing them!

The fourth grade would like to thank everyone who has helped support our entrepreneurial project through selling pencils. Students have enjoyed learning about profits, supply and demand, and advertising through this hands-on, interactive project. Have a safe and enjoyable summer!



News from Fifth Grade

We are nearing the end of our 2020-2021 school year. While we are sad to be closing in on this time of year, we are excited for the 5th graders to move on to middle school to represent our Chargers! They have been working extremely hard this year.

We have finished working on our science unit of Living Systems and the students worked endlessly with the digestive, respiratory, and circulatory systems as well as parts of plants.

For social studies we have focused on exploring content revolving around the Civil War and the rebuilding of our nation and immigration. We have moved into westward expansion and are currently learning about the Oregon Trail. The 5th graders are very excited about this.

We are just trekking right along in our Journey's textbook and continue to focus on grammar, vocabulary and spelling. While we read and study a piece of literature across many different genres, students continue to work on mastering skills and concepts such as setting, theme, compare and contrast, author's purpose, etc. Students are also working hard to continue to become better writers. Students have written several opinion, informational, and narrative pieces, as well as different types of poetry throughout the year. The 5th graders are working on a cross-curricular presentation using google slides. Students chose a person to research and write about and the 5th grade teachers are looking forward to watching these presentations!

We have been working very hard in mathematics. Students are currently working with volumes of rectangular prisms and moving into the coordinate plane.

As we bring this year closer to an end we are working on skills learned throughout the year and reviewing. As we start to close in on the end of the school year we are so very proud of the successes each and every one of our students have displayed throughout the year. We know they will be prepared for their middle school career and we wish them all the best!



Ridgedale Shining Knights

Kindergarten

Madelynn Bryan
Ethan Fleming
Gabriel Mallow
Lilliana Thomas
Alexa Pyles

First Grade

Madilyn Dalton
Lillyanna Wolfe
Rowan Schneider
Natalya Muzichuck

Second Grade

Carter Keplinger
Claire Peters
Braydon Stoddart
Nevaeh Albarran

Third Grade

Lucas Lancaster
Landon Thorne
Lucia Cost

Fourth Grade

Mackenzie Gribble
Maria Luzader
Caymon Jackson
Tyler Davis

Fifth Grade

Justin Thompson
Cohen Lipscomb
Ethan Terneus
Lucy Ice

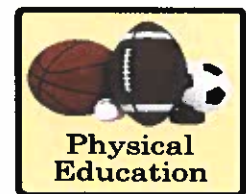


May Tech News

I cannot believe that we are down to the last month of school! For a year that has been so strange, it has really started to come to an end quickly. Just a few notes about technology and chromebooks for the month of May and Summer.

- Students in grades 3-5 will need to bring their chromebooks and chargers to school on Thursday, May 6th. The chromebooks/chargers will be left at school until after state testing is finished the following week. We want to make sure all of the devices are at school, updated, and in good working order for the start of testing on May 10th. Along with the chromebooks and chargers, students need to make sure that they have a working pair of ear-buds headphones at school for testing as well.
- All students in grades Kindergarten through fifth grade will be keeping their devices over the summer (It has not been decided about PRE-K tablets). These devices will be going home with students so that they can continue doing educational activities such as Iready reading and math, I know It Math, Myon, etc, as well as having them available for use during the Summer Avalanche in July.
- Students will need to make sure that they take care of the devices throughout the summer and periodically remember to shut them down completely so that they are updated. Without getting the current updates, the devices become glitchy and do not work properly.
- Over the summer, if a chromebook becomes broken or has issues, there will be designated times throughout summer that they can be dropped off and repaired. However, there will not be any loaners given during this time. These drop off days will be announced via remind, be on the PTO facebook page, and Ridgedale's website.
- If you have questions or issues about the chromebooks before June 1st, you can email Ms. Tennant at wendy.tennant@k12.wv.us

After June 1st, you can still email, but know that email will only be checked occasionally, due to not actually being contracted to work during the summer months, and that the days that are designated as drop off/pick up are the only days and times that will be guaranteed to be available.



May Related Arts News

The Related Arts would like to thank all the families for hanging in there with us this year. We have enjoyed our time with your Ridgedale artists, musicians and fitness champs!

We are hoping to have parachutes and popsicles type of field day during the month of May. Students will also be bringing home art portfolios during the month of May.

SUMMER
• ENJOY EVERY MOMENT •

All About Positive Math Attitudes

Positive math attitudes are beliefs and feelings about math that can support lifelong math learning. Here are some specific positive attitudes that can inspire families to be excited about math.

Believing That Everyone Can Do Math

It is common in some cultures for boys to be seen as being better at math, and some girls start to conform to gender stereotypes around math as early as the beginning of elementary school! But research has shown that girls perform as well as boys in math. Believing that everyone can do math can help children believe that *they* can do math, regardless of whether they're a boy or a girl, or even if they are struggling with a math skill. In fact, our next two positive attitudes are about embracing practice to learn math, even when it's difficult.

Having a Growth Mindset

Often, we hear people referred to as “math people” or not being a “math person,” meaning that being able to do or not do math is something built into the person. But really, with practice, everyone can improve their math skills. If children believe they can change their abilities, they will have an easier time persisting on tricky problems and trying again after a failure.

Embracing Mistakes Along the Way

Sometimes we get caught up in trying to find the right answer to math problems, but we can learn so much from making mistakes along the way. Even when children make mistakes, we can learn a lot about what children *do* know! For example, even if your child miscounted, did they point while they counted? Did they get the number words in the right order? Pointing out the things your child got right, even though they made a mistake, can be helpful for learning. Also, using mistakes as learning opportunities can help reduce some anxiety about math.

Believing That Math is Useful

Children are motivated to do math when they see how it can help them reach a goal, whether it's baking a batch of cookies, setting the table with the right number of plates and cups, or counting the number of bus stops until they reach their destination. It can also be helpful to see how they need to learn math for career aspirations, such as becoming a chef, veterinarian, teacher, architect, engineer, or fashion designer.

Suggestions of How Families Can Support Positive Math Attitudes

One of the best ways for parents and caregivers to support positive math attitudes is to actually do math! When families do math together, parents and caregivers can talk about math in a way that highlights the positive math attitudes we mentioned earlier.

For example, parents and caregivers can:

- Point out the math in activities their child likes.
- Praise success and effort by talking about how hard children worked (“You worked so hard!”) or the process they took (“You figured it out!”), rather than just saying “You’re so smart!”
- Talk out loud about their own mistakes.
- Allow children opportunities to make mistakes and recognize their own mistakes. After they make a mistake, encourage your child to try again or provide a hint that helps them think about the problem in a different way!
- Provide lots of opportunities for both girls and boys to engage in math activities, including the spatial thinking involved in activities like blocks or puzzles.
- Point out how adults use math in different types of jobs.

Incorporating these little messages into everyday conversations and interactions can go a long way toward helping children feel excited and confident about learning math and practicing their math skills!

Article Authors

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