



# Ridgedale Reporter

## New Year, New Fun

Ridgedale Elementary School

Volume 7 Issue 4  
January 2021

WELCOME to 2021! As we enter a new year, we would like to leave behind the challenges of the previous year. It is the desire of the Ridgedale faculty and staff to begin the year with positivity and aspirations for a normal end to the school year. We have missed our children in the building and know what hard work you are doing to keep your homes and your children's education going. We want all of you to know we are here to help in anyway we can as we all navigate this crazy new way of life.

Please keep your self up to date with what is going on in the county as far as a return to hybrid learning is explored. The county administration and board members have been working with the state board of education and the county health department to make decisions that will keep your children safe. We look forward to the day that full return to learning is permitted.

There are a number of ideas that are being explored here at the school level to try to provide a way for our students to experience the fun and connection to school while being a member of the remote education community. Be on the look out for more announcements in the coming weeks.

When your children work on school work each day, remember to start the day with the completion of their daily screener. The first screener has been revamped and many people have said it is easier than it was previously. Please remember to do the screener everyday. This keeps your child and everyone else safe during these trying times.

We are happy to have turned the corner to a new year. We are looking forward to the day that we can open the doors to Ridgedale for ALL learners to return on a day to day basis. Until then, please keep yourself and your families well and safe.

### IMPORTANT RIDGEDALE WEBSITES

- ☺ This is the address for the school website:  
<http://res.mono.k12.wv.us/>
- ☺ This is the address for the PTO website:  
<http://ridgedalepto.yolasite.com/>

### IMPORTANT DATES

Remote Learning Returns	1/4
MLK Day NO SCHOOL	1/18



## News from Pre-K

We hope everyone has had a wonderful winter break, filled with holiday spirit, love, joy, and all things gleeful! We certainly miss seeing all of the smiling little faces in our classrooms, but knowing that we will see everyone online makes us happier. It may take some time getting back into the "normal" routine of virtual learning, especially after an extended break. Please remember our virtual meet expectations: be prompt with signing in for scheduled meets, no food/drink, keep unneeded materials off to the side to reduce distractions, review mute/unmute buttons, and as an adult, stay somewhat nearby in case your kiddo needs assistance. We appreciate all the work and time you all are putting into your child's at-home education. We truly cannot thank you enough for the thoughtful communication, support on Seesaw activities, and time spent helping with online meets. We are looking forward to 2021 and all the laughter, love, and learning that the year may bring, hopefully at some point, closer than 6 feet apart or through a computer screen.

Happy New Year from Miss Lucy, Miss Kim, Miss Joy, Miss Krista, and Miss Erica



## News from Kindergarten

We have almost made it to the end of 2020!! We would like to continue to thank you for your support and patience as we navigate teaching during this time.

Just to reiterate, these are some concepts that are important to Kindergarten and need to be consistently practiced, especially since we are remote: upper- and lower-case letter recognition, letter sounds, counting by 1s, 2s, 5s, and 10s, and writing numbers to at least 20. Literacy Footprints is a new program that we have been using that you can continue to use for your daily reading. It consists of your child's personal library with books on their personal level! Please also have your child complete iReady math and reading daily as well.

A reminder that we will continue remote learning through January 20. This is the end of our first semester. Picture day will be rescheduled once we return to in person learning.

As the weather is colder, please continue to dress your child accordingly once we return to school. Before coming to school, please also check that your child's mask is fitting and comfortable for them to keep on all day. The students do a fantastic job with keeping the masks on!

We wish your family a blessed holiday season filled with good health, family, love, and joy!

Best Wishes, The Kindergarten Team



## News from First Grade

The First Grade Team hopes you and your family had a safe and happy holiday. We look forward to a wonderful year of learning in 2021! We know you are managing work, family as well as supporting your child with their learning. We appreciate you! As we continue Remote Learning in January, please review these guidelines with your child as they participate in Google Meets:

1. **MATERIALS READY** (dry erase board, marker, resource binder, pencil, and writing paper) It's helpful when Students have the materials in their learning space and do not have to hunt for them And waste learning time.
2. **Keep learning spaces quiet with proper lighting**
3. **Keep Cameras on at all times**
4. **Mics off when listening to others**
5. **Raise hand to talk** (hand icon can be used-located next to the camera icon)
6. **Please eat, drink and use the restroom before or after Google Meets**
7. **Wait for the teacher to say it's time to leave the meeting before hanging up**
8. **Notify your teacher via email or Remind if you can't attend a Google Meet or are having issues**

We are also excited to use "Literacy Footprints" as part of our Reading Curriculum! Students can access book at their level using this digital book platform. The first-grade team can use the books for online instruction in small groups. Please encourage your child to read from Literacy Footprints daily from their digital "bookshelf". After students read a book three times, it will be placed in their "bookbag" (the book can still be accessed).

Let's work together towards a fruitful year in 2021!

## News from Second Grade

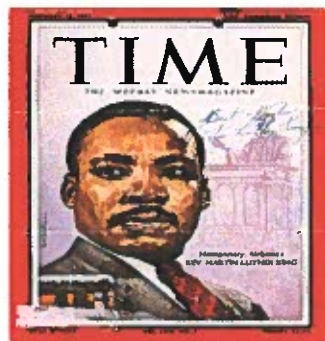
Happy New Year! Sending best wishes for a healthy and happy 2021. We hope everyone had a fun and relaxing holiday break and are now recharged and ready to kick off the New Year with a fresh start. We will start January with an animal research project. Students will study an animal and develop a written report as well as a slide presentation that they will share with their classmates. We will continue working on reading fluency and comprehension skills. In math, we will practice comparing, adding, and subtracting three-digit numbers. Thank you again for your continued support during this unique school year.

## News from Third Grade

We hope you had a wonderful much needed holiday break! We hope everyone is refreshed and ready for some great learning! Just a reminder for Hybrid Learning families we will remain virtual until January 20, 2020.

We will continue to cover new material daily. Students will be reading a variety of genres and will continue to cover standards to enhance their learning. We will also begin interim practice assessments to prepare students for the West Virginia General Summative Assessment in the spring. These practice tests will help ease some anxieties of many students. They will help the students to become with the wording, format, and tools that they may see when taking the assessment.

In math, we will continue to work on place value. We will be using place value to add, subtract, and eventually multiply. Students will continue to enhance multiplication fact fluency throughout January. Everyone is doing a great job learning their multiplication facts! We will also be taking practice interim assessments in math.



## News from Fourth Grade

Over the next past month, fourth graders have been focusing on a variety of skills and strategies to support learning. In reading, we looked into drawing conclusions, synonyms/antonyms, text/graphic features, figurative language review, and author's purpose review. Grammatically, we discussed verb tenses, irregular verb tenses, and helping verbs. We also continued to move right along in math by examining symmetry and reading/writing/elapsed time. Science shifted from examining the Earth to looking at sound, waves, and communication. Towards the end of the last month, we concluded our election and voting unit in social studies with a mock candy bar election where Hershey's chocolate bar took home the win. We continued to look at government throughout the remainder of the month by examining the three branches and how a bill becomes a law. Several of the students had bills that made it all the way to becoming state laws under Governor Petitte!

After returning from our holiday break, fourth grade students will pick right back up with academics. In reading, we will continue to focus on the weekly reading story, vocabulary words, and spelling words. As for grammar, we will begin learning about linking verbs, superlative/comparative adjectives, and conjunctions. Mathematics will consist of multi-digit multiplication and division as well as the different strategies for solving. Science will continue to look at sound and sound waves. Social studies will shift from government to the American Revolution and westward expansion. Please remind students that they should also be completing iReady math lessons, spelling assignments, and reading for twenty minutes daily. Please remember to contact your teacher with any questions.

## News from Fifth Grade

December greeted us with a wintery welcome this year! Hopefully it means we have a beautiful winter. Unfortunately, we haven't gotten to spend much time together this December, but we are determined to make the best of it! While fifth grade enjoyed our first snow storm of the year, we have been hard at work. In math, we are currently working on dividing decimals. It can be challenging, so it is imperative to attend all Google Meets, complete all remote learning assignments. Do extra practice problems, extra i-Ready lessons, and continue practicing those multiplication and division facts. Every bit helps! In reading, we have wrapped up our last story out of our Journeys book for the year and will resume in 2021. In the meantime, we will be reading out of MyOn Reader and other remote learning assignments. For writing, we are concluding our workshop on procedural essays.

Fifth grade would like to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a happy New Year! Despite our circumstances, we will remain positive and continue to claim our education--it is up to each one of us, individually, to do this. Hopefully, we will be seeing each other soon. Until then, enjoy this magical season!

## Ridgedale Shining Knights

### Kindergarten

Owen Miller  
Sadie Steele  
Addison Kovalcin  
Gunner Gillespie  
Carter Davis

### First Grade

Remington Rogers  
Brandon Schmidle  
Kylie Mallon

### Second Grade

Bailey Simpson  
Lauren Ross  
Julianna Bailey  
Emberly Spooner

### Third Grade

Leah DeBarr  
Preston Calvert  
Giana Solomon

### Fourth Grade

Joe DeProspero  
Guizeppe Thorn  
Aiden Skoda  
Brianna Collins

### Fifth Grade

Grace King  
Audrey Kurilchick-Green  
Jax Thomas  
Leon Paiva





## News from Related Arts



We hope you had a wonderful winter break and are ready for a new year that hopes to bring us back to normalcy! The Ridgedale's Got Talent event is going virtual! Look for upcoming sign ups sometime in January. You will be able to participate by recording your performance from the comfort of your home. That means take 2's or 7's and having your family members cheer loudly for you! We will compile the performances for your streaming pleasure. We can't wait to see what talents you are working on during your time at home.



## TECH NEWS

Happy New Year Ridgedale Family! I am so glad to put 2020 behind us and wish for a much better second half of the school year for 2021. As I am writing this, my hope is that we will be able to have in person learning--at least the blended learning model, because some in person is better than none at all. With that being said, we will probably still be doing at least some remote learning using the chromebooks. It is important to make sure that these devices are being taken care of and following the guidelines just like if you were in person in the building. Here are a couple of helpful hints to troubleshoot basic problems:

- If you are having trouble getting on a meet or other google product, completely sign out and shutdown. You may need to do this a couple of times to get in. Also, if you only have one tab open (Meet tab), you will be more likely to connect without issues.
- If the machine is acting "glitchy" or running slow, try clearing out the browsing data and updating the chrome version.
- If the above 2 steps do not work or you get a red triangle or exclamation mark by the login name, you will need to remove the user. Click on the downward arrow beside name and click on remove user (it may remove account). It will then ask again if you want to remove. When you remove it will then have you completely log in with the username and password.
- If the machine doesn't seem to be powering on, but you are sure it is charged, you may need to reset the battery. To do this you will need to hold down the power key and the refresh key (circular arrow above the 4 key) at the same time for about 5 seconds. If the machine doesn't turn on within a minute or two, then try doing it again. You may have to do this process a few times to get it to reset.
- If none of these tips work, please email Ms. Tennant at [wendy.tennant@k12.wv.us](mailto:wendy.tennant@k12.wv.us) for assistance.

**\*\*A New Year's Tip:** As great as technology is, and as much as we need it for life right now, it is not the only thing we need. At this time, we need to make sure that we are having non-screen times, and participating in fun and relaxing activities as much as possible (in a safe manner of course). Read a book, go for a walk, color a picture, just be unplugged!!