



Ridgedale Reporter

FEBRUARY IS FOR FRIENDS

As we enter the month of February, we finally feel a little more secure with the path that Monongalia County Schools has chosen for the remainder of the school year. It was so great to see the smiling faces as they exited their mode of travel and entered the school building. Everyone settled into the classrooms quickly and as I heard one teacher say, "It is like riding a bike. Once you learn, you never forget the way you do it!" That statement really sums up the school year so far. We have your children in the classroom, we teach the expectations and the routines, then they have to have remote learning again and leave us. When they come back, they just pick right up where they left off and move right along.

We know that the past year has been an difficult on all families, however, we want you all to know that we appreciate all that you have done to keep your children active and engaged in their learning. We always say there are NO FAMILIES like our Ridgedale Families!! We also know that some families may have suffered some loss over the past year. If that is the case, and your child, or entire family is struggling, please reach out to the school and let your child's teacher know. We can use the supports put in place for all of us to direct and help your family.

As you get your day going each morning, please remember to do your child's screener on the school website. This IS a requirement for your child. It helps the nurse know if there are illness issues at your home. Also remember, when dropping off and picking up your child, please do NOT get out of the car to help your child get out of the car or hook them up when they get in. This really slows down our car rider line. That in turn causes a traffic head-ache for all who are trying to navigate the drop off/pick up line.

Remember it is STILL winter. If the temperature allows and there is no precipitation, we WILL be going outside for recess. Your child needs the fresh air and the exercise. We need them to be dressed for the potential for cold.

It is great to be back in the building with our students. Please remind your children to keep their mask up, keep their distance and wash their hands. Together we can and will keep the children safe!

Ridgedale Elementary
School

Volume 7 Issue 5
February 2021

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

Friendship Celebration	2/10-2/11
Valentine's Day	2/14
No School	2/15
2 Hour Early Dismissal	2/26



News from Pre-K

We are so happy to have our smiling kiddos back in the classroom ready for learning, fun, and reconnecting friendships! While online learning has still provided a sense of classroom community, it certainly doesn't compare to having all the kiddos in the classroom together. We have been focusing on re-learning the classroom routines and rules, as well as getting back into the swing of playing with multiple children -- which means sharing, taking turns, and communicating your wants and needs! As the month of February moves along, we will soon have a semblance of "normalcy" again. Thank you for all you have done for your kiddos at home to keep them engaged and interested in learning during this wild time! We truly appreciate your support and dedication to your child's education, both in and out of the classroom.



News from Kindergarten

We hope this newsletter finds you and your family healthy and happy.

February 10th is our 100th day of school. We are planning fun activities for this milestone and when the plans are finalized, we will let you know.

We are not sure at this point what Valentine's Day will look like or what we will be permitted or not permitted to do. We will also keep you posted on this event.

Picture day is scheduled for March 29th and 30th. Rain dates will be on April 19th and 30th. Lots of our kiddoes are losing teeth, so we anticipate that some of the pictures will be "toothless wonders".

Unbelievably, February 24th is the end of our 2nd term of the 2020-2021 school year. With all its challenges, this school year is moving right along. Report cards will be going out on the first week in March so you can see how your child is progressing.

As always, thank-you for being such an instrumental part of your child's education. If you have any concerns or questions, please feel free to reach out to your child's teacher.

Happy Valentine's Day.



News from First Grade



The First Grade Team would like to thank parents again for your patience and support as we navigate student learning during these challenging times! Here are the new standards we will be focusing on for Term 2:

Reading

Retelling stories with the main idea and key details (have your child retell their stories orally from books in Literacyfootprints.com or any other stories they are reading)

Describe the characters, setting, problem and solution for fictional stories. (students seem to need extra practice with the setting especially)

Reading words with digraphs (ch, sh, th, wh) and **blends** (br, bl, st, sp are some ex.) As your child is reading, ask them to find these in words

Writing

Capitalize letters at the beginning of sentences, names of people and dates

Write an opinion piece (you can ask your child to share their opinions about assorted topics using "opinion" words: "I like, I prefer, I think, I feel." Ask your child to share reasons and evidence to support their opinion. Always encourage your child to respect those that have different opinions.

Write a strong sentence: A strong sentence includes both a "Who" (subject) and a "Do" (verb). The sentence also includes "where" and "when" and some describing words (adjectives). Capitalization and punctuation are always included of course.

Math

Memorize addition/subtraction facts to 10

Understanding place value (ones/tens)

Comparing two-digit numbers using the <, >, = signs.

Counting, writing numbers to 120

Students thrive when parents and teachers work together! Any extra practice you can include with your child

News from Second Grade

Hello! Once again, thanks for all of your patience and support as we continue to make the best of our second grade learning experience. Last month, we learned about Martin Luther King Jr. and his famous "I Have a Dream" speech. We also wrote about our own dreams for our country. We also practiced our writing skills by writing our personal goals for 2021. With each kind of writing piece we practice, we continue to work on capitalization and punctuation, complete sentences with details, and organization. In Math, we have been learning about addition and subtraction with 3-digit numbers. Please continue to practice basic math fluency each day. Next, we will be learning various strategies for adding several 2-digit numbers. After that we will begin a unit on Measurement. In Reading, we will continue to practice good reading strategies, along with comprehension and fluency. February is another busy month. We will be doing some fun activities to celebrate Groundhog's Day, Valentine's Day, and President's Day. February is also Random Acts of Kindness Month. We will be encouraging our students to do something kind for someone and to throw kindness like confetti!



News from Third Grade

Third grade will begin solving word problems using multiplication and division. They will progress into using the four operations to solve two - step word problems. Students will also be introduced to fractions. They will be learning and understanding how to use fractions on a number line, equivalent fractions, and comparing fractions. Please continue to practice multiplication fact fluency.

Students will continue to practice the author's point of view, story structure, and informational text features. Students will work on opinion writing and When I Grow Up essay contest. They will be presenting When I Grow Up research using Google Slides.

Please remember to send your child with hats, coats, and gloves! We will be going outside as long as weather permits!

Don't forget to wear masks, fill out the daily health screener, and bring a clean reusable water bottle!



News from Fourth Grade

Welcome back to school after the break! The fourth grade team hopes every one of our families had an enjoyable and relaxing time. We'd like to take a moment to review some procedures and expectations of our fourth graders. To begin the day, students should be completing the daily health screener each morning before entering the building. Setting an alarm was a suggestion as a way to help them remember in case they were having a difficult time. Students should bring their Chromebooks fully charged and ready for the day as well. Another daily routine is completing academic assignments. Most, if not all of these, are listed in their Google Classroom. Each fourth grade teacher has specific expectations for iReady, Myon, and Spelling City. If you're unsure of these, contact your child's teacher. Now that we've reviewed some daily and weekly routines, let's look more closely at our academics for the month.

In reading, we will continue to use the Journey's reading series for a few more weeks. We will focus on the weekly reading skills, vocabulary words, and spelling words. After that, we will begin reading literature books as a class. As for grammar, we will begin learning about subjects/predicates, subject/verb agreement, and pronouns/antecedents. In math, we will be finishing up our instruction with multiplication and division. Fractions will be the next area of concentration. Science will shift from a focus on sound, waves, and communication to energy, motion, and electricity. We will move from discussing the American Revolution causes and battles to westward expansion, geographic obstacles, and major US physical features in social studies. If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact your child's teacher

News from Fifth Grade

We are off to a great start of our 2021 here in 5th grade at Ridgedale! Students are continuing to work hard as they move closer to making that transition to middle school. Students are continuing to expand their learning and understanding in all subject areas, including Science, Social Studies, math, English Language Arts, Reading, and Writing.

In Science, we are getting very close to wrapping up our FOSS unit on the Earth and Sun. Students have spent the last several months learning about our solar system, outer space, galaxies, stars, planets, and other objects in space. Students have also more recently studied topics regarding Earth's atmosphere, weather, and the water cycle. Moving forward, we will explore topics focused around mixtures and solutions and living systems.

Social Studies has been heavily focused on the constitution and the early beginning of America up to this point. We have also learned about things such as citizenship, duties of an American citizen, government, etc. In the near future, we look forward to venturing into exploring content revolving around the Civil War and the rebuilding of our nation, immigration, and westward expansion.

We have continued to make great progress in our Reading and Language Arts skills. We focus each week on grammar, vocabulary and spelling that is tied to our story from the Journeys textbook. 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 throughout the year. 5th graders are currently working on writing a research paper on a specific animal by gathering information from several different sources.

5th grade has spent much of the year focusing on adding, subtracting, multiplying and dividing whole numbers and decimals. We are now moving forward and beginning to learn about performing mathematical operations with decimals and mixed numbers. In addition to this, students are also learning to find equivalent fractions and common denominators so that they can solve these equations. In all math standards, students expand on their vocabulary and understanding of the topic. Students are asked to recall these learned skills and identify the correct operation to be used in a real life situation.

As always, the 5th grade team is so very proud of all of our students and the hard work that they put forward each and every week. Whatever 2021 brings, we know that our marvelous Ridgedale students are up for the task.



News from Related Arts



The related arts team loved having students in person for painting, music making and getting physical! We would like to welcome Miss Budka as a guest student teacher in the art studio and Miss Liv as a guest student teacher in the café-nasium.

The Virtual Talent Show link is now live and posted on all Google Classrooms. You can share your talents from the comfort of your home. The best part about a flip style talent show is that you can re-record as many takes as you need to nail your talent. We look forward to seeing what talents you have been perfecting during your at home learning time.

Ridgedale Shining Knights

Kindergarten

Camden Halldin
Emma Lindsey
Keaton Gossett
Tanner Avent
Levi Van Essendelft

Third Grade

Elise Esguerra
Brody Kershner
Henry Erdely

First Grade

Daniel Munroe
Caylee Shubert
Maisie Bubb
Alivia Shumacher

Fourth Grade

Parker Noah
Lillian Lytle
Ireland Williams
Helena Fowler

Second Grade

Matthew Mahaney
Jayson Bittner
Khloe Gillespie
Lillian Burns

Fifth Grade

Ryan Shreves
Hayden Wsong
Mila Wrobleki
Ethan Terneus