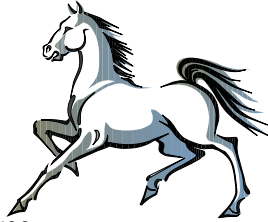


# MUSTANG MESSENGER

October 2021

Robert Moton Elementary  
1413 Washington Road  
Westminster, MD 21157  
Phone: 410-751-3610  
Fax: 410-751-3927  
International Line: 410-386-1699



Justin Watts, Principal  
Jennifer Shipley, Assistant Principal  
Kimberly DeShong, Acting Assistant Principal

## School Hours:

8:00 a.m. - School doors open  
8:25 a.m. - Parent Drop-off doors close  
8:30 - Instructional day begins  
3:00 p.m. - Dismissal

**Office Hours:** 8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

## Internet Address:

[www.carrollk12.org/rme](http://www.carrollk12.org/rme)

## Absence and Dismissal email:

[RMEAttendance@carrollk12.org](mailto:RMEAttendance@carrollk12.org)

## It Makes Our Day

When We Hear From You!

Let us know when your student is absent or has an early dismissal at [RMEAttendance@carrollk12.org](mailto:RMEAttendance@carrollk12.org) or call 410-751-3610. **Please be sure to report dismissal changes in writing or email by 1:00!**



## Greetings from the Ranch

Dear Parents and Guardians,

The 2022-2023 school year has begun, and we are grateful to have been able to have our students with us each school day as they have settled into their new classrooms and schedules. We are excited to see what our Fun Run totals will be for this year. There is still time to donate for this one big fundraiser for our PTO. Thank you to all who have set up an account and received donations for our PTO.

Parent-Teacher conferences begin this month. On October 13, the conferences are by teacher invitation only. Teachers will notify you if a conference is needed. Our second conference night of the school year is on Tuesday, October 20 and is by parent and guardian request. Parents and Guardians may start scheduling with the school on Monday, October 10. Please call the school office at 410.751.3610 or email Mrs. Custance at [mjcusta@carrollk12.org](mailto:mjcusta@carrollk12.org) on October 10 or following, if you would like to schedule a conference for October 20.

If at any times you have questions or concerns, please feel free to call the school.



## Interim Reports

Paper interims for grades K-2 will be sent home with students on October 7, 2022, as well as updated grades will be available online in HAC for students in grades 3 - 5.

The remaining interim dates are currently:

December 16, 2022

March 3, 2023

May 12, 2023

## Report Cards

Report Cards distribution dates are currently:

- November 18, 2022
- February 3, 2023
- April 18, 2023
- June 15, 2023

## Calendar Information

### OCTOBER

- 7 The Judy Center's Pre-K Breakfast with your child:  
8:05 – 8:45 AM
- 7 Paper Interims for Grades K-2
- 7 Online Interims for Grades 3-5
- 9 Ending date for Project ACES; Physical Activity  
Challenge for Students
- 13 Parent Conferences *by Teacher Invitation*  
(3:30 – 7:00 PM)
- 14 Fall Picture Day (Classic Photography)
- 20 MPP Flu Vaccination Clinic (Students and Staff)
- 20 Parent Teacher Conferences (3:30–7:00 PM);  
scheduling may start on October 10
- 21 Schools Closed for Students: Teacher Professional  
Development
- 21 Fall Glow Dance Fundraiser
- 31 RME Book Fair in the Media Center

### NOVEMBER

- 1 – 4 RME Book Fair in the Media Center
- 10 Judy Center's Mr. Jon and Friends Concert 5:00 PM
- 11 First Marking Period Ends
- 11 School Closes Two Hours & Forty-Five Minutes Early:  
Dismissal at **12:15 PM**
- 11 School Closed for Pre-Kindergarten Students
- 12 Second Marking Period Begins
- 23 School Closes Two Hours & Forty-Five Minutes Early:  
Dismissal at **12:15 PM**
- 23 School Closed for Pre-Kindergarten Students
- 24 School Closed – Thanksgiving Day
- 25 School Closed – Thanksgiving Holiday
- 28 School Reopens

### DECEMBER

- 2 The Judy Center's Breakfast with your Pre-K Child:  
8:05 - 8:45 a.m.
- 2 Fall Picture Retakes (Classic Photography)
- 5 Judy Center Indoor Story Walk & Gingerbread Houses
- 08-09 Dental Clinic for Students
- 12 Winter Concert, 4<sup>th</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup> Grades; Winters Mill High
- 16 Paper Interims for Grades K-2
- 16 Online Interims for Grades 3-5
- 21 Winter Band and Vocal Concert; 1:50 for RME  
Students & 6:30 PM for RME family & friends
- 23 School Closes Two Hours & Forty-Five Minutes; Early  
Dismissal at **12:15 PM**
- 23 School Closed for Pre-Kindergarten Students
- 26-30 School Closed for Winter Break

## RME UPDATES

### Lunches are no longer free to all students.

To apply for Free and Reduced Meal status, please use the link below. Please remember, families must reapply annually for meals. **Families that have not completed an application for this year will have to begin paying for lunch on October 17.** As a Title I school, a free breakfast will continue to be provided for each of our students daily. Please call the school if you have any questions.

[My School Apps – Free and Reduced Meal Application](#)

### Volunteers

We are so excited to welcome volunteers back into our building on a more regular basis this year! Parents, guardians, extended family, we would love to have you! Volunteer forms went home with students recently. If you would like to volunteer multiple days a week, weekly, monthly or at home, we have an opportunity for you to support our staff and students. Please complete the form and return it to school with your student so we can add you to our schedule.

### Girls on the Run Has Begun – Still Time to Sign-Up!

We are excited to have Girls on the Run back at RME! Girls on the Run® inspires girls in grades 3-5 to be joyful, healthy, and confident by using running to teach valuable life skills. The Robert Moton team will meet on Mondays and Wednesdays from 3:00 - 4:15 pm. The 10-week season concludes with the girls and their running buddies completing a 5K run, scheduled for December 4, 2022, in Westminster, MD. **The participation fee is determined on a sliding scale and no girl is turned away! Register online at [gotrcentralmd.org](http://gotrcentralmd.org) or call the school at 410-751-3610 for a registration form.**

### CCPS Accepting Substitute Teacher Applications

Carroll County Public Schools is currently accepting substitute teacher applications for the 2022-2023 school year. All applicants must have three professional references and a minimum of 30 college credits. More information and details on applying can be found on our [website](#). Interested individuals should click the blue “Apply Here” box on the right side of the web page and complete an application to be fully considered for positions. The CCPS Department of Human Resources manages this process and is the only office authorized to make official employment offers once all required documentation is finalized.

### Conferences

We will have two conference nights this month. Our first night, Thursday, October 13, is by teacher-request only. If your student's teacher has requested a conference please email Mrs. Custance at [mjcusta@carrollk12.org](mailto:mjcusta@carrollk12.org) or call the school at 410-751-3610, as soon as possible to schedule.

Our second conference night is on Thursday, October 20<sup>th</sup>. All families may schedule this night and scheduling will begin on Monday, October 10<sup>th</sup>. If you would like to conference with your student's teacher(s), please email Mrs. Custance at [mjcusta@carrollk12.org](mailto:mjcusta@carrollk12.org) or call the school at 410-751-3610 on or after Monday, October 10<sup>th</sup> to schedule.

All conferences will be offered in-person or virtual this year in order to accommodate family schedules. Please let us know what type of conference you would prefer when scheduling.

### **Author Visit**

We are so excited to have the best selling author/illustrator duo of Mac Barnett and Jon Klassen visiting our school on October 17<sup>th</sup>! This will be an in-school assembly for students to learn about writing and illustration. More information will be coming home with students including an opportunity to purchase a signed copy of their latest book!

### **Family Literacy Night**

Mark your calendar and come out with your family to Camp Read-A-Lot for a night of reading and literacy activities on Wednesday, November 2. Enjoy a camp dinner, read under the stars, play a family game, and more! Each child will also go home with a free book. AND, our book fair will be open for shopping! An invitation and RSVP will be coming home with students soon!

### **Food Pantry**

Our Mustang Market Food Pantry will be open to the public on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of each month from 3:30 – 4:30 beginning October 4<sup>th</sup>. Our pantry is well stocked with a wide variety of non-perishable food and household items. If your family would benefit from the food pantry and you are in need of transportation or unable to visit during our public hours, please contact Mrs. Custance at [mjcusta@carrollk12.org](mailto:mjcusta@carrollk12.org) or 410-751-3610 to arrange a visit during school hours.



### **Counselor's Corner**

Happy fall, Mustangs! September has been a whirlwind of learning new routines, meeting new friends, and getting back into the groove of all things school. In the first couple of weeks, I made my rounds throughout all First through Fifth Grade classrooms to introduce myself and tell students about my job as the school counselor. It has been so fun to hear "Hi, Mrs. Napor!" as I walk down the hall or through the cafeteria. Kindergarten students also met me in the cafeteria and will soon get to know me as well.

It has been a pleasure getting to know the families of our students at Open House and Back to School Nights. Some of us have already been in communication, whether it is by email or phone call, and I realized that a good number of us were having similar conversations circling around the theme of separation anxiety and school hesitancy. These concerns can present themselves in a myriad of ways: Tantrums, crying, stomachaches, headaches, refusal, clinging, withdrawal, and the list continues!

I understand how heartbreaking, draining, and frustrating it can be to have a child who does not want to go to school. Onset of such behaviors can occur at the beginning of the school year, a month in, after a long weekend, and/or following an extended absence or break. The reasons behind the worry can also vary: missing family members while they are away at school, feeling isolated after a disagreement with friends, or facing frustration or fatigue due to increased rigor in schoolwork, to name a few.

Believe it or not, regardless of the reason or the timing of anxious symptomology, I have whittled down my advice to an easy Four Steps for families to help their children navigate their worries.

**Validate** – Let your children know that their feelings are real. "I can tell it makes you nervous to think about school." "Saying goodbye to mommy IS sad." Having anxiety is not a bad thing! It's how we react to it that might need some tweaking if it's limiting our daily functions.

**Motivate** – Once we've established how your child feels, what are we going to do about it? Let's give them some verbiage to coach along their inner voice such as, "I am brave," or "I can do this." Share your confidence that they are going to do great (if you're not feeling it, fake it!). Be their cheerleader! Try calming breaths, put

a picture in their bookbag. Let's give them tools to work through their worry.

**Separate** – The *best* thing you can do for your school-hesitant child is to send them to school. Allowing children to miss school only reinforces their fear. If you're doing a drop-off, give a big hug and then GO. Prolonging the separation exacerbates the whole situation. Remember, you are setting the example for their expected behavior.

**Celebrate** – You made it another day! What was their favorite part? What made them laugh? Who did they play with? Typically, I ask students to pick their favorite part of the day so they can tell me at the end before going home. My goal in giving students that "job" is to get them focused on something good associated with school.

It is my hope that these steps help your family if needed. Remember, we are here to support you, and in doing so, your children. Their success in school is a team effort!

*Meagan Naper*

### **Triple R Tidbits**

The Triple R Ranch is in a full swing! During the month of September, students learned about the Triple Rs: Respect, Responsibility, and Ready to Learn, and what these looked like throughout our school. Many students have already spent their hard-earned Triple Rs on incentives provided by their teachers. We also had a specific focus on the character trait of Courtesy. By the time that that you are reading this newsletter, classrooms will have recognized students who have done an exceptional job being courteous with their classmates and the staff at RME.

October's character trait emphasizes the importance of kindness. As we are building relationships with our students here at school, we are also encouraging our students to establish respectful relationships with their peers. It's a part of being a kind human. How we treat others is a reflection of our character and can change the trajectory of someone's day. Challenge your children to reflect on their interactions with their family and friends. What does it look like to be kind? What does it sound like? How would they want to be treated? Let's choose to be kind.



### **Parents Right to Know**

Federal legislation for education entitled, "Every Student Succeeds Act" of 2015 requires all school systems to notify parents of their right to request information regarding the professional qualifications of their child's classroom teacher and any paraprofessional providing services to the child. If you would like information regarding the certification and/or licensure qualifications of your child's teacher(s) and/or paraeducator(s), please write to:

Kelly Keith  
Department of Human Resources  
Carroll County Public Schools  
125 North Court Street  
Westminster, Maryland 2115

### **Robert Moton Elementary School Parent-Teacher Organization (PTO)**

The school year is off to a great start!

Big thanks to Amy Edgington for once again chairing our spirit wear sale. Amy did a great job planning and organizing the sale, and we can't wait to see all that RME gear around The Ranch and out in the community.

Our Fun Run fundraiser kicked off September 23 and the Fun Run will take place during specials time on October 7. Parents and guardians are welcome to cheer on their students during the Fun Run but only if the running takes place outside. If the run must be moved inside due to weather, then parents and guardians are not able to watch. Our goal for this fundraiser is \$5000, and if we meet that goal, we hope that this will be our only fundraiser for the year.

PTO always provides dinner to teachers and staff during conference nights throughout the school year. The first conferences are coming up on October 20, and we will need help from RME families to make that meal happen. Please be on the lookout for emails and Facebook posts regarding these conference night dinners.

The music department at RME is hosting a Glow Dance on Friday, October 21. PTO will be providing refreshments during that event.

We are excited to announce the return of the Holiday Shoppe! This is a fantastic opportunity for students to purchase holiday gifts for family, friends, and teachers. Most items are \$5 or less with a few items \$10 or less. Look for more info about Holiday Shoppe in November.

Be sure to follow our Facebook page: Robert Moton Elementary PTO

Check out our website: [robertmotonpto.com](http://robertmotonpto.com)

Email us at: [rmes.pto@gmail.com](mailto:rmes.pto@gmail.com)

See you around The Ranch!

*Rebekah, Brooke, Beth, and Megan*

### **Health Room News**

Our annual flu vaccination clinic will be held this year on October 20. Look for more information and flu forms to come home in early October.

As we enter regular flu season in addition to the ongoing COVID period, please continue to encourage your student to wash their hands frequently, cough into their elbow, eat healthily, and get lots of rest. In order to receive the regular flu vaccine, your child must be fever free for 24 hours, without medication such as Tylenol or Ibuprofen, before returning to school. These medicines will wear off part way through the day. This is a countywide policy. Thank you for helping to keep our students healthy and ready to learn!

If your student has a health condition that you have listed on their emergency card, you will receive a medical questionnaire concerning their condition. Please complete this as soon as you get it and return it promptly to school. We want to be able to keep your student safe and healthy, so the more information we have on their condition the better.



### **Physical Education**

**Project ACES: September 26 – October 09, 2022**  
**“Active Students Excel in School”**

This is a two-week challenge for students to track at least 60 minutes of physical activity each day during the challenge. Students may count activity at home, during sports and recreation programs, and activities such as yard work. Students can win prizes donated by the Baltimore Ravens. Grand prizes include four tickets to see a Baltimore Ravens Game and five tickets to a luncheon with the Baltimore Ravens players.

Teachers and staff members may take the challenge with their students. Students should turn in their forms with whatever amount is completed to get credit for doing the challenge. Please encourage your child to mark the ACES journal each day with the type of activity and total active time.



**Picture Day is Coming – Don’t Miss Out!**

**October 14, 2022**

You may use the paper order forms that will be sent home early in October – just make sure your student brings them to school on the 14<sup>th</sup>. If you use the paper order form, please send payment with your student on picture day. **OR** you may order your pictures online. Please see information below for online ordering.

<https://classicphotographyimaging.simplephoto.com/search/robertmoton21>

**Pre-order access will expire 48 hours after picture day**

*Classic Photography is committed to your student’s safety!*

[Click Here](#) to view Classic’s 2021 COVID Picture Day Process

**Questions? Please call Classic Photography on**

(800)869-9515 x112

# WE'RE HAVING A BOOK FAIR!

We're excited to invite you to our upcoming Scholastic Book Fair. Our Fair will connect your kids to notable books and inspiring characters — helping them become lifelong readers. As always, all purchases will directly support our school! We plan to have a family night. More information will be sent home as the Book Fair gets closer.

## Important information for our Fair, held October 31-November 4:

- **Contactless Checkout:** With Book Fair eWallet, a convenient digital payment account, your child can shop the Fair cash-free. And now grandparents, friends, and others can contribute to the eWallet to help build your home library!
- **Shop Online:** Experience the Book Fair fun by visiting our Book Fair online! You can shop over 6,000 products — and all orders ship direct to your home (with free shipping on book-only orders over \$25\*)! All purchases made during the Fair will bring our school 25% in rewards.

Visit our Book Fair homepage to learn more and get started with eWallet and online shopping:  
<https://www.scholastic.com/bf/robertmotonelemschool>

We look forward to seeing your child at the Fair! Thank you for continuing to support our school.

SAVE THE

## Robert Moton's Book Fair

**Book Fair dates:** October 31-November 4, 2021

**Shopping hours:** Media Class and Family Night

\*Free standard shipping is available on book-only orders of \$25 or more, after all discounts are applied. Free standard shipping (books) must be selected during checkout. Orders containing products other than books are not eligible for this shipping promotion.



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