Dear Rodgers Forge Families,

October was a very KIND month! We watched the letters in “KIND” fill with notes of Kindness to others and our students proudly being recognized as the “I”. #kindnessmatters

Many thanks to our families that donated socks for “Sockober”. All socks will all be donated to a homeless shelter, courtesy of our SGA.

American Education Week, November 18-21, is right around the corner. During this week parents are invited to visit classrooms to see their students hard at work. Thank you, in advance for taking time to celebrate the importance of your child’s education.

The children are delighted to show their loved ones how much progress they have made in one short term.

Report Cards: Students in grades one through five will receive their first report card of the school year on Thursday, November 21st. Please note that accordance with the BCPS Grading and Reporting Policy, 1st quarter and 4th quarter report cards will NOT have comments and special area grades will only be reported 2nd and 4th quarter. Student grades in art, music, physical education, and music will be a culmination of two marking periods, before being calculated for a final grade.

Friday, November 22nd is Elementary Conference Day. Schools will be closed to provide an opportunity for parents to meet with teachers to discuss your children’s progress, strengths, and needs. Kindergarten students do not receive report cards. Information from the Kindergarten Progress Report is shared with parents during parent conferences in the fall and spring.

As we approach the Thanksgiving holiday, it is the perfect time to stop and reflect on what we are thankful for at Rodgers Forge. I am so thankful for our dedicated teachers, your KIND children, and the amazing Rodgers Forge Community! Enjoy the time with your family this Thanksgiving season.

For more exciting RFES news and events at RFES, like our Facebook page or follow us @missyfanshaw or @RodgersForgeES!!
Important Steps when Entering and Exiting RFES

The safety of our students, staff, and visitors is a top priority for all of us at Rodgers Forge. You can help us!

Please be sure to follow these important steps when entering and exiting our school:

- Each visitor to schools must be screened at the entry door individually.
- Do not open or hold open a door for anyone else. You are not being rude!
- Pull/Push the front door closed upon entry or exit.
- Report directly to the main office upon entry and show your identification.
- Check out in the main office before exiting the building.
- Please remind your children not to open the door for anyone.

Dogs

Although we love FIDO, there are many students who are very scared of your family pet! If you are walking your dog as you walk your student to school, please stop at the edge of the school property with your dog. We have several students who get very anxious with the presence of dogs. Additionally, we have had a few situations where dogs have become aggressive when in the presence of another dog. We do not want students to be fearful of coming to school because of the dogs that are outside. We appreciate your understanding with this matter!
American Education Week– November 18-21
9:15-11:30

This visitation week is a special opportunity for parents to see their children “hard at work”! In order to accommodate all of the visitors to our building, each grade level has been assigned a visitation day.

Monday, November 18th: 4th Grade
Tuesday, November 19th: Kindergarten AND 1st Grade
Wednesday, November 20th: 2nd and 3rd Grade
Thursday, November 21st: 5th Grade

With the safety procedures in place in all BCPS schools, we are asking that you report to the office on the day of your visit ONLY if you have not had your ID previously scanned.

If you will be visiting during American Education Week and you have already had your ID scanned, we will have a visitor’s badge pre-printed for your visit ONLY if you RSVP in advance. To avoid any back-ups, please be sure to register prior to your visit. Pre-printed badges can be picked up the day of your visit in the main lobby.

Please RSVP prior to your visit!

FULL LEGAL name of the visitor
(as it appears on the Driver’s License/ID)  Grade level you will be visiting
____________________________________  _______________________________
____________________________________  _______________________________
____________________________________  _______________________________
____________________________________  _______________________________
____________________________________  _______________________________
The Spooky Reading (and Writing) Corner

Thank you to ALL of the students who submitted spooky stories for our October writing contest. There were over 75 entries! Word Woman enjoyed reading each one and was impressed by the incredible word choice that brought the stories to life. The lucky winners were announced on the morning announcements and enjoyed a day with Witchy Poo’s dog, Spook.

AND THE WINNERS ARE ..........

Kindergarten – Leo Meacham (Mrs. Carney)
1st grade – Hailey Mychailszyn (Mrs. Thomas)
2nd grade – Emon Stein (Mrs. Showalter)
3rd grade – Bijou Blum (Mrs. Lark)
4th grade – Alice Zhu (Ms. Manely)
5th grade – Mirabel Benavides (Mrs. Burgner-Hannum)

Keep Writing Rodgers Forge!!
~ Molly Day, Reading Specialist
Happy fall!! Halloween candy and Thanksgiving feasts can leave all of us with a bellyache! Complaints of stomachaches are very common in school and can have numerous possibilities of the cause. Below is information that may be helpful if your child complains of belly pain:

**Stomachaches**

Stomachaches can be caused by many things, from gas or constipation to stress, overeating, or a contagious stomach bug. Complaints about stomach pain may have nothing to do with the stomach itself; the pain may be coming from another part of the body.

**Signs and Symptoms**

Some common symptoms that may be associated with stomachache:
- vomiting
- nausea
- diarrhea
- constipation
- sore throat
- heartburn
- fever
- bloating
- cramping
- painful urination

**Seek Medical Care if a Stomachache Is Accompanied by:**
- pain that’s frequent, increasing, or severe
- pain that starts near the belly button then moves to the lower right side of the abdomen
- difficulty walking due to pain
- persistent vomiting, especially if it is greenish-yellow
- signs of dehydration
- trouble having a bowel movement
- bloody or black bowel movements (poop)
- loss of appetite for more than a day or two

**Think Prevention!**

Encourage kids to:
- avoid overeating and eating right before going to sleep
- never share utensils, cups, straws, etc.
- get plenty of fluids and fiber-rich foods like fruits and vegetables
- reduce fatty, greasy foods like fries and burgers
- wash hands well, especially before eating and after going to the bathroom
- get lots of sleep and talk about their worries to help deal with stress

Please be reminded of BCPS policy that students should not be in school if vomiting or diarrhea within last 24 hours and must be fever free for 24 hours without use of medications before returning. Germs spread rapidly among young children, so keeping those home that are contagious, will help us keep our school healthy.

Wishing you all a healthy and fun fall season!

Leah House, RN
We had a very successful month recognizing all of our students and staff who demonstrated virtues in the month of October.

MAGNET SCHOOL INFO.

**REMEMBER**: The Magnet School Application deadline is **November 15th, 2019**. All applications must be postmarked by this date. All fifth grade students were given brochures in September. Applications can be found online at the Office of Magnet Programs website [www.bcps.org/offices/omp](http://www.bcps.org/offices/omp). Additionally, if you would like more information about the middle school magnet programs, please visit their website.

**Theme for November Lessons**

The theme for November lessons is conflict resolution. This ties directly into our Peacemaker Program and restorative practices as we continue to work to resolve conflicts peacefully.
other’s point of view, brainstorming possible solutions, and agreeing on a plan for moving forward. To complement this theme, our virtue for November will be peacefulness.

IMPORTANT

PRIVATE SCHOOLS REFERRAL PROCESS

Just a reminder that there is a process that must be adhered to for private school referrals. The process was explained in the October Chronicles but can also be reviewed below.

- Please submit the application and the permission to release information forms to Mrs. Ludwig for processing (do not give the form directly to your child’s teacher). The Common Referral Form is not to be completed by our staff until after December 1st. This referral form is sent with your student’s academic transcript so that the private school receives one complete packet of information.
- After December 1st, your student’s teachers will complete the Common Referral Form, which is a confidential document used by most private schools. This form requests information about academic ability, classroom performance, school behavior, and personal abilities.
- Please include a $5.00 check made payable to Rodgers Forge Elementary. This fee will cover the cost of duplicating records, the large mailing envelope, and postage to mail the completed application (please do not send stamped envelopes). In the interest of your student’s privacy, we do not e-mail or FAX transcripts to private schools.
- Please be patient. Allow at least two weeks for our staff to process your application package.
- In order to ensure that your application is to the private school by the January 15th deadline, please send in your request by December 14th. All requests that are turned in after December 16th cannot be guaranteed to be sent out by the January due date.

Coffee With the Counselor

Our First Coffee with the Counselor will be Wednesday, November 6 at 5:15 p.m. We will be learning about mindfulness and how it can help with emotional regulation, anxiety, and attention/concentration.
Falling For The RFES Library:

Library Highlights for November

Students are truly "falling" into some great library behaviors! I have been so proud of all the great work students have been doing this year with learning about the organization of the library and ways to be ongoing digital citizens throughout the year.

BCPS Database Spotlight

Looking for a great online resource that can support reading? Well, try on of the FREE BCPS databases—"TumbleBookLibrary" or "TumbleBookCloud Junior".

"TumbleBooks are animated, talking picture books which teach kids the joy of reading in a format they’ll love. TumbleBooks are created by taking existing picture books, adding animation, sound, music and narration to produce an electronic picture book which you can read, or have read to you. TBL also includes National Geographic videos and games."

"TumbleBookCloud Junior is an online collection of ebooks and read-along chapter books, non-fiction books, graphic novels, educational videos, and audio books! This database is a great option for adventurous young readers who wish to read beyond the picture book collection in the TumbleBookLibrary. It is designed specifically for kids in grades three to six."

To visit these sites, just visit the BCPS One Digital Content Link:

and click on the matching link. Don’t forget to have a copy of the BCPS login information to gain access at home. Need another copy? No worries! Just contact me at pholden@bcps.org
2018-2019 Black-Eyed Susan Award
“Your Vote Is Important!”

The Black-Eyed Susan Book Award is given in the Spring to picture books, chapter books, and graphic novels that represent the best in literature, and students from all over the state of Maryland get to vote! As a matter of fact, only students can vote for the books, we adults don’t get to pick!

Students at the RFES Library in 2nd and 3rd Grade get to enjoy some of the 15 finalists for the Picture Book Award during library media time, get to evaluate the books, and even create an interactive online Wixie Scrapbook which gives information about each book.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Author</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Whoosh!</td>
<td>Barton, Chris</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maybe Something Beautiful</td>
<td>Campoy, F. Isabel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mother Bruce</td>
<td>Higgins, Ryan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Land Shark</td>
<td>Ferry, Beth</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ada's Violin: of the Red Orchestra of</td>
<td>Hood, S.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I Dissent</td>
<td>Levy, Debbie</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Bear and the Piano</td>
<td>Litchfield, David</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Miss Mary Reporting: The True Story of Sportswriter Mary Garber</td>
<td>Macy, Sue</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Best Prints in the Whole Universe</td>
<td>Portus, Annette</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A Mix of Concrete Poems</td>
<td>Raczka, Bob</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Are We There Yet?</td>
<td>Santat, Dan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Little Red and the Very Hungry Lion</td>
<td>Smith, Alex</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>They All Say</td>
<td>Wanzol, B.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Courtesy: Baltimore County Public Library’s website!**

4th and 5th Graders get an opportunity to vote for the Black-Eyed Susan Winners in the Chapter Book and Graphic Novel categories, by voluntarily joining the Black-Eyed Susan Reading Team, which will give them the opportunity to evaluate the books, and vote for their favorite.
Here are some links to learn more about the Black-Eyed Susan Award Nominees:

The Maryland Association of School Librarians Website – There is a link for the Black-Eyed Susan Nominees here –

http://maslmd.org/about-bes/

The Baltimore County Public Library’s Black-Eyed Susan Award Page:

http://www.bcpl.info/find-materials/black-eyed-susan-award

As always, thanks for sending your children ready to learn, and with an enthusiasm for reading and learning!

Any questions? Just email me at pholden@bcps.org

Happy November!
Musical Greetings,

The year is flying by. We have started chorus club on Tuesday mornings. It is a great way to start my day. All the students at RFES have been busy working on many new music skills.

Kindergarteners have been singing and moving to our music. We have practiced steady beat using our rhythm instruments. One of our favorite songs is The Apple Song.

First graders have been exploring opposites found in our music, long and short, forte and piano, presto and largo. We have listened to “In the Hall of the Mountain King,” from the “Peer Gynt Suite”, in order to identify musical characteristics such as tempo, dynamics, and pitch variation.

Second graders have been reviewing note values and have begun to read and perform half notes. We have explored instrument timbres by accompanying our music with sound effect type instruments.

Third graders have begun learning the names of the notes on the treble clef staff. We are learning to follow music sign posts so that we can find our way through repeat signs, first and second endings and our favorite, D.S. al Coda!

Fourth graders have been creating harmony by singing rounds and demonstrating various meters in songs. We have reviewed reading notes on the treble clef staff and have been playing new music on our recorders.

Fifth grade has been focused on rhythms. It will be concert time before we know so we are diving into our program music.

You will have an opportunity to hear the Chorus Club and 5th Grade Chorus sing at the winter concert on Tuesday, December 10, 2019, at 6:30 p.m., in the café, along with the fifth grade instrumentalists, who will be sharing their new talents.

At this time of year it seems appropriate to say thanks to all of you for supporting your students in their personal musical growth. Your encouragement as they explore music, take lessons, practice, listen to music and go to live musical performances is so important in their development.

Sing-cerely,
Mrs. Lisa Tierney ltierney@bcps.org

Save this date for our winter concert: Tuesday, December 10, 2019, at 6:30 p.m.
The “Box Tops Summer Collection” numbers are in!
In all, we collected over 4,600 Box Tops. Wow!!
Congratulations to this summer’s top 3 student collectors:

**Third Place:**
With **118** Box Tops Collected,
Congratulations to **Shane Lark**!

**Second Place:**
With **210** Box Tops Collected,
Congratulations to **Elliot Roberts**!

Our **First Place** Winner:
With **231** Box Tops Collected
Congratulations to **Graham Davis!!!!**

Remember to be saving box tops for our January contest.
Download the new Box Top app and scan your receipts!
Traditional Box Tops clips are being phased out of production, but may continue to be found on many products throughout the store. You can still clip and send them to school.

Every valid Box Tops clip is worth 10¢ for your school. Make sure each one has a clearly visible product acronym and expiration date.

THE NEW BOX TOPS LABELS

Eventually the Box Tops program will become digital-only. Participating brands are starting to change their packaging from a traditional Box Tops clip to the new Box Top label.

If you see this label, use the new Box Tops app to scan your receipt. Box Tops are still worth 10¢ each for your school. The app will find participating products purchased at any store and instantly add cash to your school’s earnings online.

Dear Rodgers Forge School Family,

A warm thank you to all the volunteers who helped count the fall box tops submission, it could not be done without your help! Remember to register at http://www.boxtops4education.com/. Here you will find a list of participating products. This is also where you can get information about downloading the free
In the near future, there will be no more cutting and counting, it will all be done through the app and be automatically added to our school’s earnings.

Just a reminder that during the month of January our students are encouraged to bring in their Box Tops for the **January Box Tops Collection Contest!** Remember to download the free app and look for Box Tops on products. If you haven’t started saving for this contest yet now is the time!

With Gratitude,
PTA coordinators: Pari Ghorbani, Kate McGivern and Mrs. Tierney

### Save these Date: Concert Connections

**Fifth graders** will participate in our Winter and Spring Concerts. The chorus, band and orchestra will be featured at both events. Concert attire will be white shirts and dark pants or skirt. More information will be sent home before the concert dates.

**Winter Concert: December 10, 2019 @ 6:30**

**Spring Concert: May 19, 2020 @ 6:30**

**February 13, 2020** will be our school **STEAM Night.** We will be sharing our talents at the **10th Annual Coffeehouse.**

**Third Graders** will be learning to play the recorder. As part of our **Recorder Karate** program we will celebrate our accomplishments with a concert on **April 21, 2020.** Our concert attire will be casual. School colors, red and or white shirts, with jeans and comfortable shoes.
Physical Education News...

What a great month of October! The students are finishing up our unit on Table Tennis. Kindergarten students have been working with the lollipop paddles to control a balloon through striking and explore basic rules of the game with a variety of table games. 1st and 2nd graders have been focusing on ball control with the paddle in order use forehand and backhand strikes. These students have also explored the tables while demonstrating correct serving posture. 3rd, 4th and 5th graders have been working on individual forehand and backhand records plus partner rally challenges. These students will wrap up the unit by demonstrating the rules of table tennis through a tournament.

It did not rain much during the month of September but during October the rain impacted our after school cross country race schedule. We only had 1 race this year at Riderwood. I would like to congratulate our 4th and 5th grade runners, who participated in the race.

Tennis Shoes for P.E Class and Recess!!

As the winter weather and temperatures approach, many students enjoy wearing boots to school. When outdoor recess is possible and/or P.E. class is scheduled, please send a pair of tennis shoes for your child(ren) to change into for these activities to keep him or her safe while participating.

5th Grade Ballroom Dancing

December 16th-20th

During the week of December 16- December 20th, our 5th grade students will be participating in a very special and exciting program, “5th Grade Ballroom Stars.” Ms. Abby Stone, a professional ballroom dancer, will be at Rodgers Forge to teach our 5th grade students a variety of dances including the Merengue, Tango, Swing, and Cha-Cha. This program aligns with the Physical Education curriculum and will count towards each students Physical Education grade.

All of 5th grade will attend the dance program each day during special area time. Students will receive 4 lessons then on Friday, December 20th there will be a culminating event for parents to attend and participate with the entire 5th grade that will begin approximately at 2:25-3:25 in the R.F.E.S Gym.

Thank You P.T.A for sponsoring this annual program!!

DON'T FORGET!!! Please continue to submit the Coke Rewards Points from product like Dasani Water, POWERADE and other Coke products at https://us.coca-cola.com/give/schools/. These points will allow our Physical Education Department to earn new equipment. Thanks for your support!
Grade 5 students are inspired by the results of Process Art. They have discovered that the Art Principles of Movement and Rhythm can exist in both music as well as visually. They will be creating some Nonobjective works that they will be disassembling and reassembling into an animal collage.

Grade 4 students are learning about the Ojibwe Native American tribe, and their legend of the Dream Catcher as inspiration for the students to create their own Dream Catchers.

Grade 3 students have just finished their unit on Pop Art Adjectives. They have been creating unique 2-dimensional lettering/font styles that visually reflects an adjective that each student thinks best represents themselves. Ask your 3rd-grade artist to explain how adjectives are used. Ask them what a synonym (or even an antonym) is.
Grade 2 artists are inspired by the contemporary artist, Jennifer Barlett and her composition, “Earth Fireworks” to create their own cityscapes with their one-of-a-kind version of fireworks. Second grade artists have created a SILOUETTE of a city, and we are currently creating PRINTS of our windows and doors on our city buildings.

Grade 1 has just finished their Jelly Fish Sculpture using cool or warm colors. They have created a PATTERN as they attach the tentacles on to their jellyfish sculptures.

Kindergarten has just finished their Symmetrical Butterfly paintings. They are exploring how artists create the “look:” of 3-dimensional drawing by using curved lines to create their wonderful Fall-time Pumpkin Paintings. Kindergarten artists are also exploring color mixing to create the color(s) they want for their Pumpkin Paintings.