



Calendar of Events



- 1-12 Kindergarten Teacher - Parent Tele-Conference Days
- 5 Virtual Sports Day
- 10 Virtual SIT Meeting 5:15 PM
- 10 Virtual PTA Meeting 6:00 PM
- 17 5th Grade Farewell
- 18 Schools Close 3-Hours Early
- 19 Last Day of Remote Learning / Schools Closing 3-Hours Early

Rodgers Forge Chronicles

Rodgers Forge Elementary School empowers students to be lifelong learners.

From the Principal's Desk

June 2020

Dear Rodgers Forge Families,

It is difficult to believe that another school year is coming to a close and not in the way we would have ever imagined. These have been challenging times for our students, teachers, and parents. Home-schooling your child took on a whole different meaning, as remote learning began with the closing of schools on March 13th. We have learned through all of this that school is more than a building, it's the people and social interactions that enhance all aspects of learning. These times have also shown us how resilient and supportive the RFES community has been during such unusual circumstances. Despite the unprecedented circumstances it really was a great year! Students learned so many important academic skills that will move them forward into next year. I am so proud of how they demonstrated respectful, responsible, safe, and prepared behaviors. But even more importantly, kindness as they become good friends and Peacemakers! Our students have demonstrated determination and perseverance particularly during our Remote Learning days at home due to Covid-19. Hopefully the summer months will provide sunshine and opportunities to read, write, reflect and discover many new and exciting things!

We hope you can drop in during our **Virtual PTA meeting** on Wednesday, June 10th at 6:00pm through meet.google.com. Sign in as your child and use the nickname **rfespta**.

We will be virtually recognizing our outstanding 5th graders who will be transitioning to middle school next year. We understand that our students were looking forward to Stoneleigh Lanes, Sports Day, Spring Music Concert, and spending the last few months with classmates, but hopefully we are able to make a memory for them with our **Virtual 5th Grade Farewell Plan!**

Students are encouraged to participate from home on **June 5th for Sports Day!!** We are asking students to show off their Peacemaker House color pride by wearing that color t-shirt when participating in our 1st Family Virtual Sports Day. Parents please share your pictures with Mrs. Celenza at bcelenza@bcps.org.

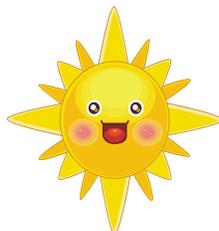
The last day of remote learning will be Friday, June 19th. Reports Cards can be accessed through Schoology. Homeroom class assignments for next year will be shared in the "Back to School" summer mailing.

There have been many questions in the community surrounding **Kindergarten Registration for the 2020-2021** school year. As soon as there is a plan for schools to collect this information from new families, we will share this on our school sign and website.

YEARBOOKS: The 2019-2020 Yearbook will be distributed in the fall. The yearbook will be a total composite of the entire school year, including remote learning! Many thanks to our students, Ms. Rossi and Jenni Mumford, PTA, for putting the yearbook together and coordinating sales. 5th graders moving on to middle school next year will be invited back to RFES in the fall to receive their books at a special autograph session after school with teachers and fellow classmates. More details to follow.

We have missed the students tremendously and can't wait to see them back in brick and mortar. Enjoy the warm summer months ahead!

Missy Fanshaw
Principal



PS...Special Note from Mr. Holden:

"To say I'm overwhelmed is an understatement. Your cards, letters, messages, videos, and words have made this the best birthday ever. From the bottom of my heart, thank you for making my birthday special, and thank you for all the hard work you've put in to make remote learning successful. It is true that it takes a village to make something like this happen, and this is about the best village to be a part of that I could imagine." Mr. Holden

News from the Counselor's Corner

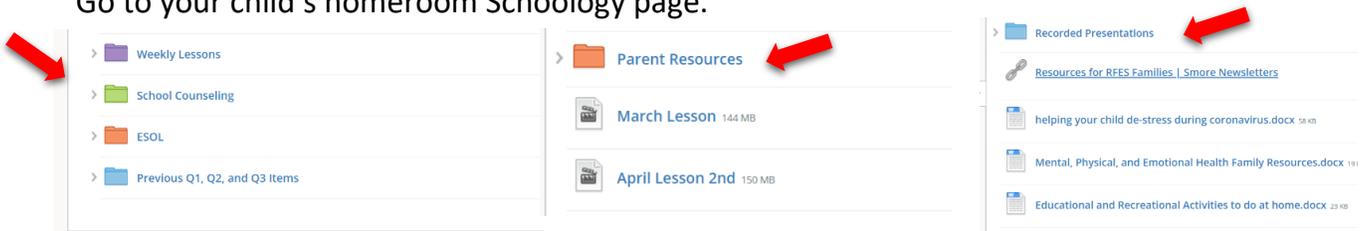


We are rapidly approaching the end of the most unusual year. Although we have all had to make some major and at times difficult adjustments, I am very proud of our families and how you have come together and persevered through the challenges.

This week, I will be posting the last guidance lessons for the year. They will be labeled with the month of May, since we have been posting them with a bit of a delay. Grades K-4 will be exploring careers and our 5th graders will be exploring transitioning to middle school.

I continue to post short recorded presentations for parents in the “School Counseling” folder on your child’s homeroom page in Schoology. Below are some screen shots of how to access the recorded presentations.

Go to your child’s homeroom Schoology page.



You will find the following presentations in the Recorded Presentations folder:

- [Dealing With the Grief of Change.mp4](#) 242 MB
- [Morning Routines presentation.mp4](#) 142 MB
- [Disrespect.mp4](#) 182 MB
- [Active and Fidgety Behavior.mp4](#) 112 MB
- [Mindfulness](#) 129 MB
- [Yelling.mp4](#) 112 MB
- [Growth Mindset narrated.mp4](#) 156 MB

Thanks to those parents who have joined me during parent hour on Mondays from 5-6 during the school closure. There will be a few more open meetings before the end of the year, so please feel free to join in if you have any questions.

Please keep checking the **rfescounseling** twitter page for updates. I will be posting some resources over the summer especially as we get closer to the start of the new school year.

As always, I appreciate all of the support you have provided to the counseling program this year. I look forward to your feedback and input as we work together for the best interests of the students at RFES. Have a safe and happy summer!



Lisa Ludwig, NCC

School Counselor

(Lludwig2@bcps.org)

The (Summer) Reading Corner

With only 3 weeks of school remaining, it's time to begin thinking about and planning for summer. Continuing to read during the time away from school has so many benefits that will help to sustain learning until school resumes in the fall. Reading over the summer months helps students view reading as a lifelong habit as they work to keep up the various skills involved in reading. Here are some ways to make reading over the summer more enjoyable and exciting. Happy Reading!



What to read:

- Read an eBook
- Read a comic book
- Read a mystery
- Read a recipe
- Read poems
- Read a biography
- Read an adventure book
- Read a menu
- Read a "how-to" book
- Read song lyrics
- Read a magazine
- Read an email from a friend

How to read:

- Read with a flashlight
- Read to a friend on Zoom
- Read to a parent
- Read to a sibling
- Read to a relative on Facetime
- Read to a pet
- Read outside
- Read to a neighbor
- Whisper read
- Read at the pool
- Read to a stuffed animal



From the Health Suite:

It is hard to believe we are already in June and so close to summer break! This has been such a... *unique* year for all of us. But, it has been such a privilege getting to know you and your children. I look forward to when I get to see them all again! ☺

-If you have an incoming Kindergarten student, I'd be happy to take a look at his/her immunizations to make sure they are up-to-date for next year, and/or try to answer any additional questions you may have. Please email me directly at: lhouse@bcps.org

-Medications currently held in the nurse's office will not be discarded. We will iron out a plan for pick-up once we are permitted back into the school building. I will be in touch with those of you who have medicine in the health suite once a plan is in place.

-Stay safe:

- Wash your hands frequently with soap and water (for at least 20 seconds; don't forget backs of hands, in between fingers, around thumbs, under nails, wrists)
- Cough/sneeze into the crux of elbow
- Don't touch your face
- Wipe frequently touched surfaces often (knobs, computers, remotes)
- Practice social distancing
- Make healthy eating choices
- Exercise (as permitted by your doctor)
- Stay hydrated
- Stay home
- If you feel ill, call your health care provider

-For **COVID updates**, see the CDC or BCPH websites:

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html>

<https://www.baltimorecountymd.gov/News/coronavirus.html>

-Don't forget to practice **water safety** when splashing around this summer:

- Never leave a child unattended near water.
- Make sure your child knows how to swim. This won't prevent children from drowning but it will decrease the risk if they have had some swimming instruction.
- One of the best things for parents to do is learn CPR. If the unthinkable should happen, a quick response could make the difference in the outcome.
- Don't forget sunscreen. Reapply if often, especially if kids are getting wet. Hats and sunglasses also provide needed protection.
- Kids should drink plenty of fluids while out in the sun to prevent dehydration.

I hope that you all are safe and well! Tell your children I miss them so much! Please don't hesitate to contact me if there is anything I can help with.

Wishing you a wonderful summer!

Leah House, RN

lhouse@bcps.org

Family Virtual Sports Day

This Friday will be our 1st Family Virtual Sports Day. If Friday is not the best day for your family's sports day, give it a try it over the weekend. The event is setup to be self-paced. I have created a Google slide presentation with a menu of activities, written directions, and video explanations. Families can choose to complete as many activities as they would like to do. Here is a sample of what the Google slide menu and a direction page will respectfully look like.



Most of the equipment for the event can be found around your home. Below is a list for the items needed to complete each event. Also, the events can be changed to fit your family's abilities or needs, for example shorter distances or families of 2 can try to beat their time and/or score by completing multiple rounds of an event.

1. **Defying Gravity**-balloons, timer.
2. **Egg Spoon Race**-egg, spoon, cones
3. **Dizzy Bat Race**- bat or pole, cones
4. **Water Balloon Toss**-water balloons
5. **Splish, Splash, Sploosh**-sponge, water
6. **Sponge Squeeze**-sponge, cup, water, ping pong ball
7. **Plank Challenge**-timer
8. **Jake the Snake**- rope
9. **Sock-Skeeball**- 10 sock balls, 1 big basket, 1 medium basket and 1 small basket
10. **Wall-Sit Challenge**- timer
11. **Wind Bowling**- balloon or paper plate and 10 cups
12. **Burpee Challenge**-Timer
13. **Bottle Flip**- plastic water bottle with a little water in the bottom
14. **Paper Plane Cornhole**-3 Paper planes and bucket
15. **Jump Rope/Hula Hoop Contest**- hula hoop or jump rope
16. **Broad Jump**- a few cones
17. **Javelin Throw**- an object to throw for distance and a cone or item to mark distance
18. **Three-Legged Race**- a rag or old shirt to tie two legs together and objects to mark the course
19. **Popsicles** (*the student's favorite station*)- an icy treat
20. **Bowling Challenge**- items to make pins and a ball to roll

We are asking the students to show off their house color pride by wearing that color t-shirt when participating in our 1st Family Virtual Sports Day. Parents please share picture with Mrs. Celenza at bcelenza@bcps.org. Thanks for your continued support of the PE Program through your child's lesson submission and our Family Virtual Sports Day!!!

Best, Mrs. Celenza



Musical Greetings,

As this extraordinary year is drawing to a close it is good to take a moment for reflection. Students have grown so much this year. Not just in stature and knowledge but also as musicians. I want to thank you! Thank you for all the support that parents, siblings and extended family have given as we continued learning virtually. Thank you for all the pictures and videos of families making, sharing and enjoying music together. I have heard many parent voices raised in song and seen them dancing and playing instruments along with their children. I really appreciate all you have done to keep music learning going forward.

This summer take some time to continue music experiences-singing, dancing, listening and creating. Keep practicing your instrument or learn a new one. I have added some virtual recorder and ukulele sites that you can explore. There are so many people sharing their instrument knowledge online!

Enjoy virtual music concerts. The BSO as well as orchestras worldwide and concert venues like Carnegie Hall are sharing performances online.

RECORDER—

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC38awmElim8px6PJmwx2ng> Mr. Erdogan has great lessons for recorder including playing Star Wars music. He also does some theory and Music Moments which are have music activities.

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCtrtCvRBjJgqZaD17FDg64Q> Sarah Jeffery has some videos called Recorder Basics that are fun. She does some amazing things -check out the video How To Play All The Notes On The Recorder!!

UKULELE—

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCD2q6i-C0ZLJUK-VCp49TJA> Cynthia Lin has all kinds of videos but check out her Ukulele 101 lessons 1-6. She starts with Three Little Birds and three chords which is what many of the 4th and 5th graders did with me in class. She also has play along videos.

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCZjDV_1UEbVsAQA_q9tyTWw The Ukulaliens have many tutorials as well as play along videos.





Box Tops fund our music program!

No more clipping. Download the app and scan receipts for box tops.

Thank you to Pari Ghorbani and Kate McGivern who are our PTA Box Top Coordinators. I appreciate all your support!!

Thank you for downloading the app and scanning!

THE NEXT GENERATION OF BOX TOPS IS HERE.

Box Tops is changing to fit today's families. The new and improved Box Tops mobile app uses state-of-the-art technology to scan your store receipt, find participating products and instantly add Box Tops to your school's earnings online.

BOX TOPS FOR EDUCATION EARN CASH FOR YOUR SCHOOL WHEN YOU...

BUY IN STORE	BUY ONLINE
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> BUY Box Tops Products SCAN your store receipt EARN Box Tops for your school 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1 SIGN UP on the app or at BTFE.com 2 SHOP online 3 FORWARD your digital receipt 4 EARN Box Tops for your school

I found this pic of many of our 5th graders after our third grade recorder performance at Ridge Ruxton. Look how you have grown!!! I will miss you and wish you the best. Keep on singing!!



I hope you have a healthy, happy and music-filled summer!

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

Destiny eBooks

We have exciting news!

Rodgers Forge Elementary has even more eBooks in our library's collection! eBooks are electronic books that students can checkout and read on a variety of devices, such as desktops, laptops, mobile devices, and iPads to name a few. The checkout duration for each eBooks is three weeks. After that time, the system will automatically return the book. There is no need to worry about remembering to bring back eBooks. If you finish reading eBooks before the three week checkout period, you can easily return them early with one click. Students will be introduced to eBooks and learn how to access them in library class before the end of the school year. *Students will need to use their username and password, as assigned earlier in the school year. Directions for accessing eBooks through Destiny Quest/Follett Shelf can be found at the link below. Stay tuned....we expect some changes/improvements over the summer and will update you of these adjustments

when we return in September!

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KccKRCHI2x8&t=14s>

- **How to access eBooks**

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0i00w4z8L_w&t=3s

- Special Ebook tools!

Summer Reading Opportunity:



As summer approaches, we are all looking forward to finding sometime extra time to relax and play. However, did you know that kids who do not read every day over summer vacation have a loss in their reading skills, which can add up to losing over two years' worth of achievement by middle school. This is called the **SUMMER SLIDE** and it is **NOT** cool, so get **READING!**

To help encourage reading, there is a great program available to your child. Check out this opportunity from the Baltimore County Public Library to enjoy some fun summer reading activities! Click the link for more info!

<https://www.bcpl.info/events-and-programs/summer-reading.html>

ONLINE LEARNING WITH SCHOOLOGY AND



Google Meet

GOOGLE MEET

I want to give a big thank you to you and your student(s) for making our class google meets such a success! It's been so much fun sharing and learning with them throughout this remote learning journey, and they have done a fantastic job! (Plus I've gotten a bonus - cool interior decorating ideas! You all are really creative!)

BATTLE OF THE BOOKS TEAM



A big congratulations go out to these wonderful superstars for a job well done. These students became experts on 10 Black-Eyed Susan Award nominees in the chapter book fiction category:

JACKSON LEE

DARA KOBILAROV

PAUL HESTER

MIRABEL BENAVIDES

CATIE GRACE O'CONNOR

ELIOT-ANN HANNUM

They faced off in competition against Hampton and Stoneleigh using Google Meet, Kahoot, and Quizziz, and are participating in a weeklong challenge/celebration where they have to answer questions, and get a chance to submit some of their own for a live q and a with 2 of the authors! Well done, team!

YOUTUBE RFES BEDTIME STORIES

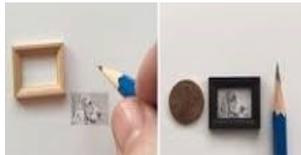
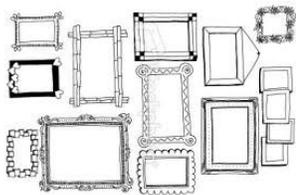
I have truly enjoyed bringing you the bedtime stories on the RFES Youtube Channel. They will be always housed there (I think there are at least 60 of them on there now!) and I will continue to add one per day until the end of the school year - If any of your kiddos need a bedtime story, they are there for you. In addition, the Bedtime Story for the first day of the school week contains the weekly library lesson!

Finally, I want to thank you all for your support of reading and the library media center at Rodgers Forge and of course, at home. It is truly a special place, and I am honored to be a part of it! I have been nothing short of amazed how much you all have supported your child's education through the remote learning experience! If you wish to get in touch with me over the summer - you can email me at pholden@bcps.org and follow me on Twitter at [@rfeslibrary](https://twitter.com/rfeslibrary). Have a great summer full of reading and adventures!



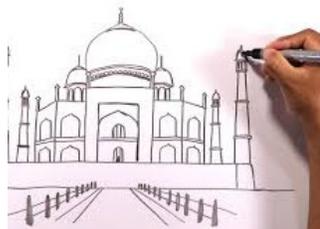
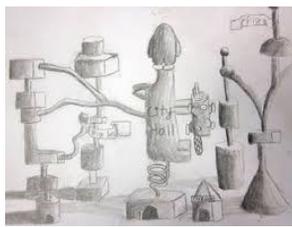
June's Art Lessons!

In grades Kindergarten, first, and second, students will be exploring Museums by taking virtual tours of some museums. Students will be creating drawings and sketches of some famous artwork that they discovered in the museums' websites. Later, students will be designing and creating their very own miniature museum so save those boxes! The last week of school June 15-19 will be a surprise lesson!



<p>June 1, 2020</p>	<p>Artists Share Their Work: EU: Objects, artifacts, and artworks collected and presented by artist and EQ: How does the presentation and sharing of objects, artifacts, and artworks influence and shape ideas, beliefs, and experiences? OBJ: I can connect a collection of art/objects to a time or place. Suggested Performance Assessment: Art Exploration: Museums</p>	<p>MUSEUM EXPERIENCE/SHARE 6.1</p>
<p>June 8, 2020</p>	<p>Artists Share Their Work: EU: Artists and other presenters consider various techniques, methods, venues, and criteria when analyzing, selecting, and curating objects, artifacts, and artworks for preservation and presentation. EQ: How can artists share their work in order to connect with others? OBJ: I can select and arrange artworks that show my experiences in art. Suggested Performance Assessment: Art Exploration: My Museum</p>	<p>PRESENT 4.1 Select artworks for presentation or display, explaining why they were chosen.</p>

In third, fourth, and fifth grades, students will be designing and drawing a monument that commemorates a person, thing, place or event. The students can draw their monument and add color and shading to create a 3D look to their drawing. The second week in June will include a found-object sculpture. Students will be creating a 3-dimensional monumental sculpture using objects staked one upon another. The last week of June 15-19 will be a surprise art lesson!



June 1, 2020	<p>Artists Share Their Work: EU: Objects, artifacts, and artworks collected and presented by artist and museums communicate meaning and record the social, cultural, and political experiences resulting in the cultivation of appreciation and understanding. EQ: How does the presentation and sharing of objects, artifacts, and artworks influence and shape ideas, beliefs, and experiences? OBJ: I can identify and explain how a collection of art/objects can help us understand a time or place Suggested Performance Assessment: Museum Research</p>	<p>MUSEUM EXPERIENCE/SHARE 6.1 Identify and explain how and where different cultures record and illustrate stories and histories through art.</p>
June 8, 2020	<p>Artists Share Their Work: EU: Artists and other presenters consider various techniques, methods, venues, and criteria when analyzing, selecting, and curating objects, artifacts, and artworks for preservation and presentation. EQ: How can artists share their work in order to connect with others? OBJ: I can select and share work that demonstrates what I have learned in art this year. Suggested Performance Assessment: Portfolio Documentation</p>	<p>PRESENT 4.1 Investigate and discuss possibilities of spaces, including digital resources, for exhibiting artworks.</p>

Ms. Kotapish

Thinking about Summer Art Camps?



I would like to let you know that the BCPS Virtual Summer Art Enrichment Camp is on!

It will be July 6 - 17, 2020, and operate **virtually** with live, synchronous instruction in 2-hour sessions. Students enrolled will be scheduled for a small-group daily session and be able to interact with the rest of the campers as they learn and make art. Enrolled students will also receive an age-appropriate art kit of supplies, available for curbside pickup from Plaza Arts in Towson, or in special requests the delivery of materials.

Programs of Focus for camp are:

Grades 3-5

An Exploration of Artists and Their Materials: Experiencing the Artistic Process

Grades 6-8

An Investigation of Media and Technique: Portfolio Development for Magnet Art Programs

Grades 9-12

Painting and Drawing from Observation: Portfolio Development for Advanced Placement Courses and Sequential High School Programs

There will be an exclusive exhibition of camp-created artwork virtually online at the end of the 2 weeks.

For more information or to

register: https://dci.bcps.org/department/academics/career_technical_education_and_fine_arts/visual_arts/summer_art_enrichment_program

Registrants can pay by credit card using the link on the page or in the registration form. If you have any questions, please let us know!

What a Productive 3½ months of Art!
Look for a Final Virtual Showcase of all
the amazing ART Rodgers Forge
students have created!



Have a Great Summer!