

RIDGEWAY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

RIDING HIGH TO EXCELLENCE

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 1, 2019

MISSION STATEMENT

The Ridgeway family encourages community involvement, values learning, and promotes character.

VISION STATEMENT VALUES

Every student at Ridgeway will be productive members of our world by displaying:

- ❖ *Competence* toward rigorous standards assessed through ongoing state and school-based assessments.
- ❖ *Compassion* as students develop values and demonstrate a caring affect.
- ❖ *Confidence* as they develop and demonstrate the ability to persevere through complex tasks and to accept challenges.

Principal's Message

September was a busy month (Book Fair, PTA Family Fun Night, Grandparents & Grand Friends Day 😊) and now we are ready for October. There are lots of fun thing planned for students and families for October as well. National Walk to School Day will be celebrated on October 2nd. The PTA is once again bringing us the Boosterthon Fun Run on October 25th. Details from the PTA will be forthcoming. We end the month with a Halloween Parade on October 31st.

Interims for students go home on October 7th with Parent Teacher Conferences on October 15th and 16th. Teachers will be reaching out to schedule with each student's family.

In order to help you plan for childcare- please remember that there will be a 2-hour early dismissal on Tuesday, October 8th so that teachers are able to participate in a district wide professional development. All school and offices will be closed on Wednesday, October 9 in observance of Yom Kippur.

Please know that Mrs. Elliot and I will always try to be available to speak with parents if needs arise. We enjoy an open-door policy that we hope makes you feel a part of the team here at Ridgeway Elementary.
Happy Fall Y'all!

Dr. Prater, Principal
Mrs. Elliott, Assistant Principal



Federal Impact Aid Survey Forms

On Tuesday, October 1, your child received a Federal Impact Aid Survey form. Please assist us by filling out the information requested on the form and return it to Ridgeway Elementary School.

The U.S. Department of Education is now allowing a multiple child form. Therefore, AACPS has designated a form that will allow two children's names for your convenience. Should you have more than two children, please utilize a second form that you can either obtain from the school or download from the AACPS website at www.aacps.org/students. Also, please note that the **complete address of the Parent/Guardian's Employer if they work on Federal Property, the complete address of the Federal Property on which they work, and each survey form must be signed and dated by the Parent/Guardian.** We will also be using our Connect-Ed Automated Telephone Notification System to remind everyone about the significance of completing and returning this survey. The school system receives approximately \$2 million in funding from the Federal government in support of our children after the forms are processed.

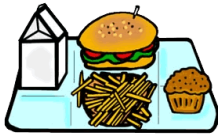


Event Parking at Ridgeway

We would like to remind all parents and visitors to Ridgeway Elementary to please respect the property of our neighbors and do not park in any driveway, in front of any driveway or mailbox. Our neighbors have been instructed by the Anne Arundel County Policy Department to contact them and they will ticket and/or tow vehicles who are in violation.

Food items are not allowed to be brought into the school. If parents would like to give all students in their child's classroom a special "treat," it is recommended that the "treat" be something small.

Students can always use a fresh pencil, eraser or bookmark



From the Lunch Room... Student Meal Prices for the 2019- 2020 school year are as follows:

Breakfast (Full Price) \$1.50
 Breakfast (Reduced-Price) FREE
 Lunch (Full Price) \$2.75
 Lunch (Reduced-Price) \$.40
 Milk - ½ pint (A la Carte) \$.55
Adult meal prices:
 Breakfast \$1.90
 Lunch \$3.65

All students may apply to receive free or reduced-price meals at AACPS.

Apply online any time during the school year. Go to:

<http://aacpsschools.org/nutrition/apply-for-free-or-reduced-price-meals/>



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Entrance into the School and School Security

Ridgeway Elementary School is equipped with a video camera system. It covers selected interior and exterior public portions of the building and grounds. It is NOT monitored constantly, but it is monitored during emergency situations. During certain events, when the safety or security of students may be in question, authorized personnel from local, state, or federal police or fire emergency units may be given access to view images projected on the camera system. If you have any questions about the system, you should call the Supervisor of School Security at 410-222-5083.

Anne Arundel County Policy **requires all parents and visitors to enter through the main entrance (the entrance with Ridgeway Elementary School signage) at all times** and check in at the Main Office. You will need to ring the bell located at the left side/front door and present your photo ID. A school staff member will signal for you to enter the building. You **MUST** report to the Main Office.



Background Checks

*Before you volunteer, **you must** watch the *Anne Arundel County Sexual Harassment and Child Abuse PowerPoint* and complete the form for us to keep on file (not required if we have your form on file).

*Background checks can now be done online and are required for all school field trips but are not required to volunteer at the school.

To begin the background check process, please go to the following link:

<http://www.aacps.org/chaperone/>.



Everyone must scan their ID this year!! Please remember to **ALWAYS** bring your ID when picking up students, visiting, volunteering/ chaperoning, and when attending conferences.



Be on the lookout for More information coming home about our Veteran's Day Wall and Flagpole Ceremony...

Communicating with your School Nurse

Parents/Guardians - Keep Your School Nurse Up to Date:

1. *Be sure to inform your school nurse about your child's health conditions or other special health needs to plan for safe management at school. Chronic health conditions including but not limited to asthma, seizures, diabetes or life threatening allergies.*
2. *Remember to provide your school nurse with current emergency contact information.*
3. *Tell your school nurse if your child's health condition interferes with school attendance.*
4. *Make sure to tell your school nurse about medications and medical treatments your child requires during the school day.*
5. *Tell your school nurse about any changes in your child's health or mobility status, or about any infectious disease.*
6. *Speak to the school nurse if you need to obtain information about health insurance for your child.*

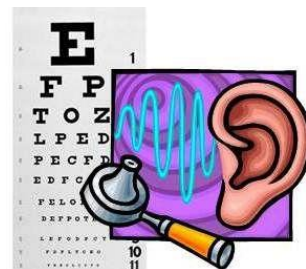
Any questions or health related concerns?

Please contact your school nurse, Krista Martin RN at 410-672-3346.

Working Together for a Safe and Healthy School Year!

Vision/Hearing Screening dates

Initial vision/hearing for students will be held on 11/4/19. A recheck will be held 11/18/19.



WHAT'S HAPPENING AT RIDGEWAY?

ACC I AND II -

Our theme this month revolves around knowing and apply the scientific method to have our own science fair. We will explore how to form a hypothesis, conduct an experiment, collect data, analyze results, and interpret outcomes through leveled readers. Our core content stories are: *Will it Stick, Science Fair Day, Using the Scientific Method, and How to Make A Science Fair Project.*

For written expression, we will be working on using high frequency words and our themed vocabulary. Students will learn how to form/build/read sentences addressing who, what, and where while retaining comprehension of these new vocabulary words.

(Dolch/Fry Words- it, on, put, will, do water, the did, write, your show, good, had, world, learn, time which, next

Vocabulary- chart, conclusion, data, experiment, guess, organize, poster, project, question, science fair, scientific method, and scientist.

In math, we will be exploring pick up clip fractions by matching visual representations and building/writing them respectively. Students will also continue to work on individualized skills such as adding, subtracting, multiplying, dividing, measuring, rounding, telling time, counting coins, and solving word problems related to our science fair theme.

During our Science and S.S block students will be using the scientific method in practice by performing experiment and collecting data. We will practice measurement/ sequencing skills to create delicious fall themed recipes. We will also cover unit 2 literature based social skills lessons revolving around EMPATHY and FEELINGS.

(Literature Based Stories Include: *The Way I Feel, Glad monster Sad Monster, Little Big Feelings, and I am Human.*

Supplemental Social Stories Include: *How I Can Calm, Coping Wheel, Behaviors That hurt, and I Feel*

KINDERGARTEN We have gotten off to a fun start in **Kindergarten!** Homework will be starting the second week of October. Thanks to our PTA, Kindergarten received agenda books. Homework will be glued in their agenda books every Monday but completed in pencil in their Homework composition book. In language arts this month we will introduce sight words, identify beginning sounds in words, recognize rhyming words, and practice blending sounds into words. In math we will work on shapes, counting 0-10 and identifying "How many?" in a group. Science and Social Studies incorporates social skills, fire safety, the season of Fall and how to be a good friend. Our Field Trip is October 23rd to Downs Park for Trees are Terrific.

FIRST – The first graders have done a great job of getting back into the school routine! They have enjoyed learning about the Monarch caterpillars and butterflies through shared readings, science lessons, and interactive read-alouds. We will be beginning our next unit, Our Natural World Changes, very soon. It includes the sun, weather, seasons, and different holidays.

In Math, the children will continue to learn and use math strategies to add and subtract to 20. The children should continue to become fluent on their facts to 10.

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THIRD - We're off to a great start in third grade! Students are continuing to practice reading skills such as sequencing, drawing conclusions, and identifying main idea and details. In math, we are working on multiplication and division. Please help your child practice their basic multiplication facts at home for quickness and accuracy. Students will continue their study of map skills and begin a study of Anne Arundel County. In Science, students will be studying forces of motion.

FOURTH= In fourth grade Language Arts, we are continuing to work on analyzing characters. We will also be exploring the theme of various texts. We are continuing with narrative writing. In Science, we will explore animal structures. In Social Studies, we will continue to learn about various explorers and their travels. Students will be working on factors and multiples in Math. They will also identify numbers as prime or composite. Thank you for a successful start to the school year!

FIFTH – The first full month has really flown by for our fifth graders! Please make sure that your child is completing daily homework, practicing math facts, and reading each night. Our themes in Language Arts are Communication and Taking a Stand. In Math, we will continue to multiply and divide larger numbers and begin adding and subtracting fractions. We will continue our discussions of colonization in Social Studies. Ecosystems and food webs will be our focus in Science later this month.

CULTURAL ARTS –

ART - 5th grade artists will design an ice sculpture on paper and paint it using metallic watercolor paint. 4th grade artists will create their own myth inspired by the body of water that they identify with the most. They will write their myth using symbolism and metaphor and illustrate it with a watercolor painting. Third grade artists will pick a body of water that they most identify with and create a symbol for it. They will make a print of the symbol, illustrate that body of water and write poem about it. 2nd grade artists will design their own version of a submarine after being inspired by the Beatle's Yellow Submarine. First grade will create a funny falling leaves painting using a wax resist technique. Kindergarten artists will create an action portrait of themselves inspired by the artists Keith Haring.

MEDIA= Ridgeway's book fair was a success. Thank you for everyone who volunteered, we appreciate your dedication. We look forward to having another one in the spring. Remember we will start Chessie this month. Second through 5th grade will start Chessie on Monday, October 21st and 1st grade will start on October 28th. We hope to have everyone from 1st grade through 5th grade participate this year. Thank you for making reading a priority for our children!

MUSIC- We are pleased to welcome back Mrs. Lopata as our part time General Music teacher again this year after her maternity leave last spring. We are also excited to have Mr. Wertz joining our General Music staff this year and Ms. Westermeyer as our new band teacher. Mr. Bosch is only teaching strings this year because of the growth in the instrumental program under his direction and Mr. Fisher has returned for General Music and Chorus full time.

As of this writing, interested students have chosen instruments to play and joined chorus. Preparation has begun in earnest for the Winter concerts. General Music classes have been learning about rhythms, tone color, and melodic contour among many other things and 5th grade General Music students have completed their first project of the year by creating a musical autobiography and performing it. The year looks exciting and full of wonder as the train leaves the station heading toward our new destination in June 2020. Look for concert dates to come home soon.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION – October is an exciting month for us in the Gym. 5th graders will be working on their dance unit and learn to dance the "Thriller". The younger students will be playing Halloween themed games working on teamwork, throwing, and catching skills. Halloween stations will round out the month for everyone as we work on a variety of different skills from hand eye coordination, throwing accuracy, volleying, striking, and catching stations.



Counselor's Corner

October is National Bully Prevention Month! Please join me in wearing orange on October 23rd to spread awareness. Our goal is to create and enhance mindsets of kindness, acceptance, and inclusion that will carry far beyond the walls of our school. School counseling lessons will be focused on anti-bullying practices. I look forward to being in each classroom to have this important discussion.

We will also be collecting nonperishable items for Harvest for the Hungry food drive. Be on the lookout for a spirit week flyer to make the giving a little more fun. Feel free to drop off items at your convenience. Please bring canned goods and boxed items. The Anne Arundel County Food Bank is asking that students not to bring in any glass items.

I'm so proud of our Character trait of the month winners! During the month of October, we will be looking for the character trait of responsibility. This looks like doing the right thing even when no one is watching! Encourage your students to be in control of their own behavior. We're looking for students who can be trusted with important jobs. Responsibility is shown when work is finished and turned in on time and when homework is remembered. Responsible students also do their part when working together. This is a leadership skill that we are all working towards as it's our goal to see students doing what is expected of them and putting forth 100% effort. We all make mistakes, it's part of learning. The challenge is in righting our wrongs.

Congratulations to the following students for earning Student of the Month by showing **Respect** throughout the school.

Kindergarten

Ms. Corso – Violet K.
Mrs. Durkin- Avery S.
Mrs. Pinckney- Liliana S.
Ms. Schiller – Amara D.
Mrs. Sweitzer- Kehmia D.
Mrs. Webb- Lauren S.

First Grade

Mrs. Choo- Evelyn T.
Mrs. Clark – Andrea B.
Mrs. Ryan – Collin D.
Mrs. Shiffrin- Serenity W.
Mrs. Tran – Brayson D.

Second Grade

Ms. D'Angelo – Julio R.
Ms. Gaunt-Riley S.
Ms. Johnston – Samantha E.
Mrs. Sym-Noelle C.
Mrs. Ward –Dominique L.

Third Grade

Mr. Birus-Reisyn H.
Mrs. Brown– Reya J.
Ms. Downie – Tyler H.
Mrs. Potts – Sherlyn M.
Mrs. Zak – Rainey J.

Fourth Grade

Mrs. Carrigan – Devin H.
Mrs. Heisman –Rylee P.
Mrs. Quarantillo- Caden C.
Ms. Stepien – Chloe S.
Mrs. Sym – Noelle C.

Fifth Grade

Mr. Fox – Nathan Traver
Ms. Harper-Lippert – Gabrielle J.
Ms. Kruszynski-Ryan W.
Ms. Toth- Raven B.
Ms. Stanton-James M.

ACC

Ms. Hallinin – Kimora A.

Please remember that next month's focus is responsibility. Encourage your students to demonstrate responsible behavior at home and at school. Here are some resources you may find helpful:

<https://www.care.com/c/stories/5219/9-tips-for-teaching-kids-responsibility/>

<http://www.scholastic.com/teachers/lesson-plan/teacher-made-activities-teaching-responsibility>

Books:

I Just Forgot by Mercer Mayer

Pigsty by Mark Teague

I Wanna Iguana by Karen Kaufman Orloff

Strega Nona by Tomie de Paola

The Mitten by Jan Brett



October Happenings

DATES TO REMEMBER:

- | | |
|-------------------------------|--|
| Monday, October 2- | October Newsletter available online
Federal Survey Forms distributed |
| Tuesday, October 3- | Parent Yearbook Meeting 6:30pm |
| Monday, October 7- | PTA Meeting – Cafeteria 6:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.
Interims to be sent home |
| Wednesday, October 9- | Yom Kippur-All Schools & Central Office closed |
| Thursday, October 10 - | Ledo Pizza Fundraiser/Millersville Location/ALL DAY 11:00 a.m.-10:00 p.m. |
| Monday, October 14- | Boosterthon Pep Rally |
| Tuesday, October 15- | Schools closed for students/Parent Teacher Conferences
Teacher Appreciation Lunch |
| Wednesday, October 16- | Schools closed for students/Parent Teacher Conferences |
| October 17-24 | Boosterthon Character Building Days |
| Wednesday, October 23 | Kindergarten Field Trip |
| Friday, October 25 | Boosterthon Fun Run |