Note from the Principal, Mr. Mosby

Dear Rock Ridge Community:

I hope this letter finds you well before our approaching Thanksgiving holiday. We have many blessings to be thankful for starting with faculty, staff, students, and community and the sense of family that we have here at Rock Ridge. Thank you everyone once again for the support that we have consistently received these past few months. Thank you.

Students and staff were able to recognize our veterans this past Veterans Day with posters, video’s and in class activities. In addition, we created a Rock Ridge Veterans Day video to share with the community. Thank you everyone for your submissions and helping us recognize those that currently or have historically served. (You can access the video here)

An update on our Archery Club here at Rock Ridge. Archery requires multi reference points between the hand, the bow string and the face and because we are still required to wear masks due to COVID we will not be able to start until this requirement has been lifted. Hopefully this occurs sometime in the near future so that we can be prepared for the state competition in February. Thank you for your patience.

Our School Accountability Community (SAC) wants you! We need volunteers and welcome individuals that may be interested in serving on this committee. Please email me directly if you are interested.

Have a great Thanksgiving!

Sincerely,

Peter Mosby, Principal Rock Ridge Elementary
Mark Your Calendar, Important Dates to Remember

**November**

22nd-26th – Thanksgiving Break: No school

29th-December 3rd – Book Fair

**December**

7th – PTO Meeting

17th – Teacher Workday: No School for students

20th- January 4th – Winter Break: No school
Celebrating our Students!

National Guard Red Ribbon Helicopter visit!

The Colorado National Guard flew a Black Hawk helicopter to RRE on October 24th in honor of Red Ribbon Week. Students were taught about the dangers of drug use, pledged to live drug-free, and were given a red bracelet to wear.

Ozobots with 3rd grade

Students check their understanding of using Color Codes to program their bot to move in set directions, change speed, and complete special moves to show a sequence of events and move through a maze.

Colonial American Culture Kits

5th graders had a really cool opportunity for some hands-on learning. They were able to explore items that a typical soldier, woman or slave would carry. They also got to see and talk about the games children played during this time period.
Spanish:
Our recent units have been "el Encierro de San Fermin" (the running of the bulls, with a focus on the verbs corre, camina, and ve), Spanish Math Ognib (bingo), and "el Día de los Muertos" (the day of the dead). After finishing "el Día de los Muertos" the first week of November, we're returning to "el Encierro de San Fermin," including "storyasking" (when students act out stories narrated in Spanish), "movietalk" (when we watch a short video with little or no dialogue and then students hear it described in Spanish with vocabulary supports to make sure they understand), and "matamoscas," or "fly swatters" (a game in which they pick the correct picture to match a phrase). There are lots of resources available for use at home on my webpage: Go to the RRE website => classrooms => specials => Spanish => useful links.

Gym:
K-6th Grade: We are finishing out the semester with our Ninja Warrior Course. Students will navigate 15 different obstacles, and compete for their fastest time possible (3rd-6th).

Music:
In Music class we are exploring musical systems through the IB Transdisciplinary theme, “How We Organize Ourselves”. K-2 is working on rhythms and singing songs, grades 3-4 are working on playing Ukuleles, reading the treble clef and strumming beats and rhythms; 5th grade is learning how to read music and play the guitar; 6th grade is learning how to read the grand staff and play songs on the piano.

New Staff Member Spotlight
Rachael Anderson- Special Education Teacher for Affective Needs

I moved to Colorado from upstate New York 26 years ago and have a 12 year old mini me son, Triton. My favorite things to do are cooking and gardening, spending time outdoors and with my son and better half, and watching Investigation Discovery, Travel Channel, and first responder TV shows. This is my 3rd year working in an affective needs program, and I 100% enjoy working with this population of students.
Counselor’s Corner

School breaks can often create hardships for families who rely on the free breakfast and lunch. As we anticipate a week long Thanksgiving break and more time off for the winter break, I want to remind families of local community resources. Click here for lists of community health, food, employment, child care, and other assistance.

The Colorado legislature has earmarked millions of dollars to provide every kid in the state with a free evaluation and 3 free counseling sessions. Please see this link for details. Any child over 12 can self refer by filling out a survey and all kids under 12, need their parents to do it.

If you would like your child to participate in this Christmas Store event. Please email me by November 18, 2021 at dtmcknight@dcsdk12.org.

Important PTO Information

Hot Cocoa Party
You’re invited! On Wed. December 1 from 4-5:30, get some goodies from the PTO while you check the Book Fair! The PTO will have a table set up outside the library with hot cocoa/craft packets to take home with you. See you there!

Kringle Week
Kringle Week is coming! Kringle Week is a week of staff appreciation held right before Winter Break. The PTO will be looking for some donations and volunteers for this fun week, so watch for those opportunities coming in December!

King Soopers Community Rewards
If you haven’t already, be sure to sign up with King Soopers Community Rewards program! This is the easiest way to support the PTO, without any extra work on your part. See the King Soopers tab on our website for more information!
**B.A.S.E.**

Rock Ridge is proud to present the Rock Ridge Rockets Before and After School program (rocket B.A.S.E. for short). This program provides a fun and relaxing way for your students to start or end their day on site here at Rock Ridge Elementary. Your kids have the opportunity to play gym games, participate in crafts and learn in a safe, professional environment right here in their own elementary school. Hours of operation daily are 6:30-8:30am and 3:30-6:00pm. B.A.S.E. also provides full day care during breaks and school closures from 6:30am-6:00pm.

If you think you may need care for your children or have general questions please visit them at the Rock Ridge B.A.S.E. website or feel free to reach out to the program manager, Amanda Pierce.

Also… Our B.A.S.E. program is growing!! We are looking for enthusiastic, energetic people to join our team. This is a great position for a high school student, or someone just looking for a few hours per week (10-15). If you or someone you know is interested please reach out to:

Amanda Pierce
Rock Ridge BASE Manager
303-549-7283

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**International Baccalaureate**

Each month we focus on an IB Learner Profile and **Communicator** is our focus for the month of **November**.

Students who are Communicators are able to think and communicate in more than one language. They can express their ideas by speaking, drawing and writing. They can also communicate using mathematical language and symbols.

**How can parents help to develop students who are Communicators at home?**

- Encourage your child to stay in touch with relatives and friends who live in other countries by writing letters, using the phone or sending email.
- When working on mathematics homework, encourage your child to explain his/her answer to you orally or by drawing a picture.
- Ask your child thought provoking questions and encourage them to discuss them with you. For example:
  - What would you do if you were scared of someone at school?
  - Is there anything you cannot buy with money?
  - Should you get an allowance? Why or why not?
- Work with your child to improve his/her listening skills. Being a good listener is an important part of communicating with others.

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**Box Tops**

We will not be conducting the Box Tops competition between classes this year, but WILL continue collecting Box Tops. Please remember to scan all of your receipts!

For more information about Box Tops for Education as well as instructions for downloading the app, go to: [https://www.boxtops4education.com/](https://www.boxtops4education.com/)
ROCK RIDGE S.A.C. NEEDS YOU!

Join our school accountability committee today!!

WE APPRECIATE EVERY HELPING HAND WE CAN GET!

WE MEET VIRTUALLY ONLY A FEW TIMES A YEAR TO DISCUSS BUDGET, OUR SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT PLAN, AND OTHER THINGS THAT MAKE ROCK RIDGE A BETTER PLACE!!