Note from the Principal, Mr. Mosby

Dear Rock Ridge Families,

Thank you everyone for your generous support of our Run 4 Funds fundraiser this year. What a huge turnout with generous contributions for our school. Our PTO will continue to use their portion of the funds to support staff and instruction at Rock Ridge through their grant program and Rock Ridge will be using funds to further enhance our technology and begin to bring our media center up to date with new books and resources. Your generosity also resulted in meeting our goal and thus, I myself having to eat a Cricket and Coach Lentz taking a pie in the face. (If you have not seen the pictures and video, check out the PTO Newsletter)

On another note, I was speaking with a parent during car loop and he shared how his son participates in the Quarter Midgets youth racing club. I was not familiar with this program and upon finding out more it reminded me of when I use to race my homemade go-cart up in the mountains where I grew up. (Much better organized and safer than my experience of course). He shared that kids of all ages are can participate and the organization that they belong to have opportunities for kids to test drive the Quarter Midget vehicles for $10. I wanted to share this unique opportunity in case your children may be interested in checking it out. You can find out more information at: PPQMA.com

Fall break is just around the corner and believe it or not, winter weather will be hear soon. Be sure to use this link for updates on school closures and late starts due to severe winter weather.

Thank you everyone again for all of your support. Our staff and I greatly appreciate you, our community.

Sincerely,
Peter Mosby, Principal
Mark Your Calendar, Important Dates to Remember

**October**

11th-15th - Digital Citizenship Week
12th - PTO Meeting
14th - Chick-fil-A Spirit Day!
18th-22nd - Fall Break
25th-29th - PTO Contests
28th - Trunk or Treat
29th - RRE Monster Mash (Tentative)

**November**

1st - Teacher workday/ No school for students
9th - PTO Meeting
11th - Chick-fil-A Spirit Day!
19th - RRE Thanksgiving Lunch Celebration
22nd-26th - No School: Thanksgiving Break
Celebrating our Students!

Worm Farm in Mr. Jaques’ 2nd grade class

Mr. Jaques’ class is observing the wiggly world of worms with their own little farm. Students can watch these ecosystem engineers dig tunnels, aerate the soil, and go through the worm life cycle in front of their eyes. A great opportunity to learn more about a worm’s importance in our ecosystem!

Culture Kits with 6th Grade

6th grade is doing research on Western Hemisphere Countries. To aid their understanding, the students came to the Learning Commons to read books and discuss and examine artifacts from many different countries in the Western Hemisphere.
Celebrating our Students, continued...

WATCH D.O.G.S (Dads of Great Students Pizza & Dodgeball Night! We had our biggest turn-out yet for our annual WatchDOGS Pizza & Dodgeball night! It was a fun night for students to spend time with their Dads, Stepdads, Uncles and Grandads. Families enjoyed free pizza while learning about the WatchDOGS volunteer program, and then everyone had a blast playing dodgeball in the gym. Thank you to everyone who attended!
Celebrating our Students, continued...

**Bee-Bots with 1st Grade**

Thanks to Miss Kia (RRE Tech Specialist), First grade students had the opportunity to demonstrate what they learned about Predators and Prey by coding the Bee-Bots to reach a destination. They had a blast with this activity!

**Chicken Project**

Ashlyn (5th grade student) raises chickens at her home and aspires to become a doctor. Miss Kia and Mr. David did a chicken anatomy lesson with her and her younger brother.

Sponsorship space in this newsletter is extremely affordable!
Reach parents in your local community & a significant portion of your investment goes back to the school!
Want to sponsor this school? Please contact Rob Mangelson at Rob@tscacolorado.com or (720) 878-4107.
Specials Spotlight

The Specials team will explore the IB Theme “How We Express Ourselves” this month through a cross-curriculum plan focusing on Meso-American and Latin Culture and Día De Los Muertos.

Various grades will be introduced to Latin Culture through Music performance, Aztec Ball and Skeleton Art.

In Spanish, we will be watching music videos, doing a guided reading, and watching a slideshow presentation exploring the history and customs of el Día de los Muertos. We are also doing a unit on “the running of the bulls“ in Pamplona, Spain (exploring the verbs correr--to run--caminar--to walk--and ver--to see) and Spanish Math Bingo in the weeks leading up to el Día de los Muertos.

**Gym:** 6th-3rd Grade: We will begin two short units. The first is a teambuilding unit where we will focus on TCC (teamwork, cooperation, and communication). During this unit will finally play Mario Kart (it is probably the most popular game we play in PE). The second unit, we will start our badminton tournament in each class. The winning team will have the opportunity to play Coach Lentz 2v1, if the students beat Coach, they win 2 of Coach Lentz's personal badminton racquets.

K-2nd Grade: We will start our throwing and catching unit. Students will learn or review the fundamentals of throwing and catching an object. Students will learn about throwing accuracy and throwing force as well as a few techniques to catch an object.

Counselor’s Corner

October is National Bullying Prevention Month. It is important to recognize the differences between mean moments, normal conflict, teasing, rudeness, and true bullying. According to Stopbullying.Gov, bullying is unwanted, aggressive behavior among school aged children that involves a real or perceived power imbalance. The behavior is repeated, or has the potential to be repeated, over time. Because of the popularity of smartphones, social media, and video games, cyberbullying continues to be a problem. This [video](#) has some great information about cyberbullying. Rock Ridge students will learn more about being a digital citizen October 11-15th. The DCSD Parent University is hosting an online event on October 27 to learn more about how parents can support psychological and physical safety in schools. Use this [link](#) to find the registration page.

If you would like information for support with Christmas gifts, please send me an email at dtmcknight@dcSDK12.org.

If you would like support with Thanksgiving food, please fill out this [form](#).

Important PTO Information

Our Rock Ridge Run was a HUGE success! Thank you so much to every one of you who supported our school by registering and making pledges. Our goal was $24,000 and we raised a total of over $31,000. This number will continue to go up as we receive corporate matching checks. These funds will go towards technology in the school, the school library, and the PTO operating budget.

Mrs. Bortot's class earned a pizza party for being the first class registered, while Mrs. Grider's class raised the most funds, earning the coveted Rocco the Eagle trophy. Our students ran a total of 12,688 laps, which works out to 793 miles, and 6th grade ran more laps than any other grade. Since we beat our school goal, Mr. Mosby ate a cricket!! Coach Lentz was also pied in the face by our top fundraiser, Ragan D. Thanks again for all you do to support Rock Ridge!
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

International Baccalaureate

Each month we focus on an IB Learner Profile and Caring is our focus for the month of October.

These people show empathy, compassion, and respect towards the needs and feelings of others. They have a personal commitment to service and act to make a positive difference in the lives of others and to the environment.

Caring - Book List

More Books & Teacher Resources

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

- Model the caring behavior you would like to see in your child all the time. Your child has big eyes and ears and notices everything you do. Using kind words, helping people without being asked, being an active listener, all show your child that you care about people. Even a simple thing, like holding a door for someone, shows your child that you are aware of others around you and want to help them.
- Think about how your family can get involved with community organizations.
- Reduce, Reuse & Recycle. Make the effort to establish these habits in your home. By developing children who care about the environment, you are helping the future of the globe.
- Smile.
- After reading a book, spend some time considering how the people in the book acted. Was someone in the book caring? All of the time or just some of the time? Were all of the characters in the book caring or just some of them? Some books to consider:
  - Lily’s Purple Plastic Purse, Kevin Henkes
  - The Giving Tree, Shel Silverstein
  - Yertle the Turtle, Dr. Seuss
  - The Grouchy Ladybug, Eric Carle