Note From Mr. Mosby, Principal . . .

Dear Rock Ridge Community:

I hope this letter finds you well as we approach Thanksgiving and possibly even some snowy weather. Remember to check the district website, call the district weather line (303.387.SNOW) or check with local news for school closures. Also, keep in mind that school begins at 8:30am with doors opening at 8:20am so please do not drop your children off (especially the young ones) before 8:20am. The school does not have supervision for lineup prior to this time and thus, you could be placing your child at unnecessary risk. This is especially true if your children are not dressed properly for inclement weather. Our students go outside for recess when the weather is above 20 degrees so please plan accordingly.

Thank you all for a fun filled night at Monster Mash! Special thanks to RR Student Council for bringing us Scream Street (special thanks to Ms. Shaw and Ms. Shea) and to Rock Ridge PTO for organizing the concessions and the dance. Unfortunately, this was the first time that I had to miss the event due to a family matter so I was disappointed that I missed all the cool costumes. I did see pictures and it looked like another successful event.

November 14th (6-7pm) PTO Meeting
November 16th Chick-fil-A Spirit Day!
November 16th (3:30-4:00pm) – Book Club
November 17th Thanksgiving Lunch
November 20th-24th No School. Thanksgiving Break

Weather Closure
303-387-SNOW

2017-2018 School Calendar

HOURS
First Bell 8:30am
School Begins 8:35am
All Dismiss 3:30pm
AM Kinder 8:30-11:15
PM Kinder 12:45-3:30

We have Smile Generation®-trusted offices in Westminster, Arvada, Lakewood, Littleton, Highlands Ranch, Colorado Springs and many other cities.

We connect you with trusted dentists.
1-800-SmileGen | SmileGeneration.com
In case you have not noticed, we have a really cool fundraising opportunity that gives parents and staff the chance to give a shout out to someone special. The rock in front of the school was made possible by Barbara Berndt who oversees our awesome Pre-school program here at Rock Ridge. Thus, half the proceeds go to Pre-school and the other half goes to Rock Ridge. ALL monies are used towards improving your children’s education. Here is how it works: A collection box and request forms are available on the table just outside the Preschool Classroom inside Rock Ridge. Check for an available date then fill out a request form and attach your check for $25. Requests without money will not be processed. You must pay in advance. Attach your check only (no cash) to your request and put it in the collection box which is located on the table near the entrance to preschool classroom. Each request will be date stamped. It is first come first served. You will receive an email when your date is reserved. There will be no refunds once a date has been accepted. When you receive an email, you will be able to go ahead and paint the rock on the Friday you have reserved. The Rock will remain painted until the following Friday. (If two people request and have paid for the same date you will be asked to share the rock) If you would rather not share, you may choose another available date.

If you have any questions, contact Barbara Berndt@dcsdk12.org

Lastly, Castle Rock Police Department has increased traffic monitoring around our school and began issuing citations for traffic violations and parking in handicap areas. Please remember to follow all traffic laws and respect the parking areas designated for our visitors who have special parking needs. This also includes parking in the Red Lanes on the north side of RRE parking lot. By parking here, you are violating fire regulations as well as blocking those vehicles that are parked properly within the parking lot. Should you have any questions, concerns or celebrations, please feel free to contact me. I look forward to hearing from you.

Be safe as you prepare for the holidays.
Sincerely,
Peter Mosby, Principal
November 13th  (3:30-4:30pm) – SAC Meeting
November 14th  (7:30-8:20am) – Archery Club (5th and 6th grades only)
November 14th  (6-7pm) – PTO Meeting
November 16th  Chick-fil-A Spirit Day!
November 16th  (3:30-4:00pm) – Book Club
November 17th  Thanksgiving Lunch
November 20th-24th  No School. Thanksgiving Break
November 27th  (7:30-8:15am) Minecraft Club (4th-6th grades)
November 28th  (7:30-8:20am)  Archery Club (5th & 6th grades)
November 30th  (7:45-8:20am)  Guitar Club
December 4th  (7:30-8:15am)  Minecraft Club (4th-6th grades)
December 5th  (7:30-8:20am)  Archery Club (5th & 6th grades)
December 7th  (7:30-8:15am)  Guardians Meeting (1st-3rd grades only)
December 7th  (7:45-8:20am)  Guitar Club
December 7th  (3:30-4pm)  Book Club
December 7th  (3:45-4:15pm)  Spanish Club
December 7th  (4-9pm)  RRE Rink at the Rock
December 11th-15th  STUCO Candy Cane Sales
December 12th  STUCO Caroling
December 12th  (7:30-8:20am)  Archery Club (5th & 6th grades)
Celebrating our Students!

Unified Basketball game

RRE’s Project Unify students cheered on Mesa MS and DCHS Unified Sports teams during the basketball game on October 25th. ESPN and Special Olympics North America also attended. It was a great event and wonderful to see so much support in our community!

A Big Thanks to RRE’s Student Council, the PTO Monster Mash Committee, staff and parents who helped make this night a big success! It was a really fun night for our students and great to see so many awesome costumes!
Student Wellness

NOVEMBER 2017

Dear Rock Ridge Elementary Families,

As we work towards promoting student wellness in all areas, we want to ensure that every student in Douglas County knows what healthy relationships look like. Children are like sponges and often strive to be mirror images of what is present in the media, reality T.V. and occasionally in unhealthy adults around them. They may witness disagreements between parents, see older siblings model poor choices, or immerse themselves with what Hollywood portrays as truth. Regardless of the circumstances, when youth are not afforded many opportunities to witness healthy relationships, they are more likely to continue negative patterns of behavior. However, when children know and understand what healthy relationships look like, they’re likely to break that cycle that may otherwise lead towards bullying, school violence, substance abuse, and suicide.

Based on students’ development levels, we will explore this topic this month with our students:

- Elementary school students may explore what a healthy relationship looks like by discussing How to be a Good Friend.

We encourage you to support our efforts by discussing this month’s topic of Healthy Relationships with your student. Check us out next month when we introduce the topic of: Building Resiliency & Awareness Around Risky Behavior.

Remember that if your child shares thoughts or behaviors that concern you there are many resources available to you at your student’s school (counselor, mental health provider, teacher) and in the community. Your child’s safety is of the utmost importance, and we at Rock Ridge Elementary will do all we can to support every student’s well-being. Please consider the resources offered on the PREVENTION and SCHOOL CULTURE (https://www.dcsdk12.org/prevention-and-school-culture) website if you want to learn more about this topic.

In Partnership,

The Rock Ridge APP Team
Jacob Clay (Jacob.Jay@dcpsdk12.org)
Laurel Kall (Laurel.Kall@dcpsdk12.org)
Student Wellness Survey

Dear Parents,

We need your input on the Health and Wellness of our students!

Last year, DCSD received a large Planning Grant from Colorado Health Foundation in an effort to assess how the district supports students through the lens of the Whole School Whole Community, Whole Child model (WSCC). The mission of this grant is to review the current state of the district’s student health and wellness program, and then to formulate a 3-5 year plan, based on stakeholders’ needs, latest research and best practices. To meet a requirement of this grant we would like you to complete this survey

DCSD Creating Healthy Schools Planning Grant - Parent Survey.

Our goal is to enhance the amazing health initiatives currently in our schools, and develop more opportunities to improve students’ overall well-being. Districts throughout Colorado are also doing this work, as the link between student health and success in academics and in life is well studied.

What: Parent Survey
When: November 1st-30th
How: Online, anonymous, no individual student or parent data will be collected
Why: Your input will shape the strategic plan for a comprehensive student health and wellness program

If you want to know more, please contact Laurie LaComb, DCSD Healthy Schools Coordinator at: lillacomb@dcsdk12.org or Lisa Kantor, Director, Health, Wellness, and Prevention at lekantor@dcsdk12.org

With Gratitude,
Lisa Kantor, Health, Wellness & Prevention Director
Laurie LaComb, Healthy Schools Coordinator
Child Care available during Thanksgiving Break

Child care will be available here at Rock Ridge on the 20th, 21st, and 22nd. Our B.A.S.E. program provides child care services to children, ages 5 through 13, year round. Register your child for B.A.S.E. while there is space available! Send your child to safe space, with a community of friends and staff that work within RRE.

We will field trip to Elvis Cinema and Holiday Bowling and Billiards!

Tuition: $33 per child, per day (10% sibling discount)
Field Trip Fee: $12 per child, per trip
Registration fee: $75 for one child, $100 for a family (fee waived for families that will only use B.A.S.E. during Thanksgiving break).

To register your child, contact Program Manager, Johnathan Hawkins, for information.
303.358.2916, Jhawkins1@dcsdk12.org

B.A.S.E.

Looking for childcare? How about Douglas County’s very own co-curriculum program B.A.S.E. (Before and After School Enterprise). Throughout the years, B.A.S.E. has provided children with a safe, learning, and friendly environment! B.A.S.E. is offered before school, after school, and all day (on specific days where students do not attend school). Children may pick from several different areas to enjoy their time including: the gym, playground, Tech Lab, and the Craft Club in the cafeteria. Homework Club is also encouraged!

More information can be found online at https://sites.google.com/a/dcsdk12.org/rockridgebase/ or you can contact Johnathan Hawkins (Program Director) at jhawkins1@dcsdk12.org.
Specials Spotlight

Art- Thank you all very much for all your support with the original artworks fundraiser this year! It was a great turnout and we should have new supplies coming our way. Expect all of our orders for original artworks to arrive November 30th 2017.

Physical Education- We are focusing on the concept of unity through competition. To do this we are learning the rules and history of Basketball. The students not only have to demonstrate physical skills, but also about how they are learning to work better with others. Learning to work with others is the main focus. We are also coming up with ways to make our classroom a fun place to be.

Spanish- We are continuing with How we Express Ourselves by focusing on how family heritage plays a part on the way we celebrate holidays.

Music- We are continuing our Inquiry into Musical systems, terms and styles by learning to read music and evaluate its purpose in our communities. As Winter approaches, we will be transitioning from wind instruments and pianos in the upper levels to string instruments and learning instrument sounds and performance techniques in the K-2 music classes.

Choir is going strong with a feeder concert behind us at Mesa Middle School and Veterans Day Salute. We are looking forward to our community outreach in December when we canvas the Rock Ridge area “Caroling for Cans”.

Specials Rotation Calendar

Make a difference, Volunteer!

If you are interested in volunteering in your child’s classroom or would like to help with a school wide event, please contact Brittany Shiner at bshiner@dcSDK12.org. Your precious gift of time provides much needed assistance to our amazing teachers and allows you to actively participate in our children’s academic success. THANK YOU!

Keep in mind, you are always welcome to stop by and have lunch with your student(s)!
**Yarn Donations**

Mrs. Eads (Music teacher) is looking for yarn donations for Recorder Karate. Any color. She can even use old remnants of unused yarn laying around the house. Please bring your donations to the front office. Thank you!

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**Library opens at 8:20am!**

Good news! In conjunction with our students being able to enter the school building at 8:20am in the morning, we will have the library open from that time. Students will be able to check out books and/or return their books before getting to their respective classrooms.

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**International Baccalaureate**

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

These students exercise initiative in applying thinking skills critically and creatively to make sound decisions and to solve complex problems.

Students who are thinkers work to solve problems. They can imagine many solutions to a question or challenge. Thinkers make good decisions and can predict the outcomes of their actions. They think creatively and critically.

Teacher Resources [LINK](#)

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

Encourage your child to try to think of solutions to problems independently. Pose different real-life problems and questions to your child:

- “I’m not sure how to arrange the glasses so they can all fit in the cupboard.”
- “I wonder how much the groceries in the cart will cost… how can we make an estimate?”
- “We need enough cookies for the 20 people in your class. What kind of changes should we make to our recipe?”

Ask your children questions when they are working on a problem:

- “Do you have any ideas about how we might begin?”
- “How can we do this differently?”
- “I had never thought of that. Tell me more about it.”
- “What other ways can we show that?”
- “Why do you think that?”
- “How did you figure that out?”

[More information about International Baccalaureate-Primary Years Programme.](#)
Watch D.O.G.S.

Calling ALL Dads, Stepdads, Granddads, Uncles, Brothers! Ever feel like you want to get involved with your kid's day but not sure how? **Watch D.O.G.S.** is an innovative program focusing on education and safety in schools by using the positive influence of fathers and father-figures.

You can be a positive role model and provide an extra set of eyes and ears for our students' safety by:

- Monitoring the school’s property
- Working one on one in small groups
- Reading
- Flashcards
- Lunch and recess

Or whatever needs to be done to **PLANT SEEDS OF SUCCESS**

Please get in touch with Brittany Shiner at bshiner@dcsdk12.org if you have any questions or would like to volunteer!

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**Download our RRE Mobile APP today!**

The RRE mobile app is an important communication tool that helps us better serve our RRE families.

You get instant information about yellow flag release day, school closures and other important and time-sensitive information.

You also have easy access to pertinent information such as:

- School calendar
- One-touch calling to school numbers
- Staff directory
- School Closures and Delayed start
- Lunch menus
- School newsletter
- Social Hubs

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