Dear Rock Ridge Community:

I hope everyone had a wonderful Thanksgiving this past month, enjoying the record snowfall. With only two weeks of school left prior to winter break there are a lot of fun activities going on at Rock Ridge.

One of the fun activities we just finished was our portion of the Snuggly Read-a-thon, where we get to dress up in our pajamas and read our favorite books. Mrs. Roach, Mrs. Gutierrez, and myself had the privilege of sharing our favorites books to 1st grade. Always a fun, exciting event that we look forward to every year!

One celebration I wanted to share is an example of where Rock Ridge spends money to invest in our students’ futures. Rock Ridge sponsors part of the cost for DC Downbeats, a program that promotes the development of instrumental music education for both Orchestra and Band. Along with the other DCHS feeder schools Rock Ridge helps pay for the instructor of the program. If your child is interested in learning an instrument, please visit the DC Downbeat Elementary Orchestra web page for more information.

With the end of 2019 fast approaching, RRE has acquired a large amount of Lost and Found. Please come in and peruse our vast selection. All non-claimed items will be donated Wednesday, December 18th at the end of school.

As a quick update, the state assessment (CMAS) will take place at Rock Ridge from March 30th, 2020-April 16th, 2020. If you have any questions please check our school website or contact Julie Roach.

Should you have any questions, concerns or celebrations, please feel free to contact me. I look forward to hearing from you and have a Merry Christmas.

Sincerely,
Peter Mosby, Principal
Important Dates/ Mark Your Calendar

December

December 16th – 20th  RRE Kringle Week- PTO
December 16th (3:30-4:30pm)  Archery 6th-12th grades
December 19th (4:00-10:00pm)  Rink at the Rock Spirit Night
December 20th  Teacher Work Day- No students
December 20th – January 6th  No School Winter Break

January

January 9th (3:45-4:30pm)  Spanish Club
January 13th (7:45-8:25am)  Guardians of the Gadgets
January 13th (3:30-4:30pm)  Archery 6th-12th grades
January 14th (6:00-7:00pm)  PTO Meeting
January 16th  Chick-fil-A Spirit Day (all day!)
January 20th  No School
January 22nd (6:00-7:00pm)  Kindie Roundup Registration Day
January 23rd (3:45-4:30pm)  Spanish Club
January 27th (7:45-8:20am)  Minecraft Club
January 27th (3:30-4:30pm)  Archery 6th-12th grades
Celebrating Our Students

Thanksgiving Lunch

Our annual Thanksgiving lunch was a big success again this year! We had a great turnout and the students loved being able to have lunch with their families.

A big thanks to Robin Chadwick for providing another wonderful feast! Thank you also to the DCHS volunteers who helped serve and to the parents who helped with setup and cleanup. We could not have done this without you!
Celebrating Our Students

Book Fair

Thank you for supporting our Winter Book Fair! It was very successful thanks to all of you. For those who voted for either the Polar Bear or Narwhal... the Narwhal won!

Staff Favorites

Are you looking to find something special or that perfect needed gift of appreciation for your student's teacher or one of our wonderful staff members?? Just click the link below to get an idea of all of our teachers and staff's list of favorite items and wish lists!

Please contact a PTO Board member with any questions you might have.

Click here to see RRE Staff Favorites!
**Gym:** 3rd-6th Grade: Beginning the last week of school in December and into January, we will begin our hockey skills week in preparation for a hockey tournament in January/February.
Kindergarten-2nd Grade: Beginning the last week of school in December and into January, we will begin an introduction to hockey as well as team building activities.

**Spanish:** Feliz Navidad! Maligayang Pasko! Wesołych Świąt! Merikurisumasu! Buon Natale! Fröhliche Weihnachten! Joyeux Noël!
Merry Christmas greetings from around the world from students in Spanish class! During December the students will continue to explore the different winter celebrations around the world. They will research the celebrations, traditions, and foods that make these celebrations special.

**Art:** Hello Parents, we have been working on clay for the past month. Each grade is working on a different clay project. As we are wrapping up our projects please make sure you are checking your students bags so they do not get damaged.
The Box Tops Incentive Program

Please be sure to continue to scan your receipts for Box Tops with the new Box Tops app!! You can also send in all paper non-expired Box Tops at any time. With the craziness of schedules and holidays the Box Tops competition will be on hold for December and January BUT we are always collecting. As always, reach out to us at rockridgepto@gmail.com with any questions.
B.A.S.E.

Rock Ridge is proud to present the Rock Ridge Rockets Before and After School program (Rockets 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 6:30am-8:30am and 3:30pm-6:00pm.

B.A.S.E also provides full day care during breaks and school closures, for example we will be here for Fall Break from October 14th through the 18th. We will be visiting Anderson Farms, Adam’s Mystery playhouse and taking your kids to see a movie! Days start as low as $34 a day and they operate 6:30am - 6:00pm all break.

If 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 Josh Schaner. He can be contacted at Jschaner@dcsdk12.org or 303-549-7283 with any inquiries! They look forward to hearing from you and hope you have a wonderful day!

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!**

Upcoming Volunteer Opportunities:

- We can always use an extra hand in the Library!

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

Each month we focus on an IB Learner Profile and *Inquirer* our focus for the month of December.

Students who are Inquirers are curious about the world. They can conduct research independently. They love learning and discovering new things and will carry this love of learning with them throughout life.

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

- Encourage areas of your child’s interest by visiting the library to borrow books that explore these topics.
- Develop an understanding of the Internet. Work with your son or daughter when the Internet is being used and try to instill the understanding that some Internet sites are not reputable.
- Model being an inquirer. Admit when you don’t know the answer to a problem or a question and seek out answers in front of your child.

“We nurture our curiosity, developing skills for inquiry and research. We know how to learn independently and with others. We learn with enthusiasm and sustain our love of learning throughout life.”

Calling ALL Dads, Stepdads, Granddads, Uncles, and 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!