A Note From the Principal

Dear Rock Ridge Community:

I hope everyone had a wonderful winter break and ready for the start of 2nd semester. RRE is kicking off the “Rock Star” program where students are recognized for respectful, open-minded, creative, and kind behavior, receiving a raffle ticket for each time they are “caught” modeling these behaviors. At the end of each week a name will be drawn and the student will be recognized during the morning announcements. At the end of each quarter there will be one big drawing for a prize yet to be determined.

If you have any questions please feel free to reach out to our Rock Star ambassadors, Mr. Shenkel and Mr. Lentz.

CELL PHONES and EAR BUDS

With the return to school after Christmas we are seeing an increase in phone and earbud usage during school. The following is school policy regarding Personal Operating Devices (PODS), specifically cell phones:

Cell phones are to remain off during the school day and must stay inside the child’s backpack. If this policy is not followed, the phone may be confiscated.

First offense, the device will be confiscated and the student may pick up the device from the front office after school.

Second offense, device will be confiscated and parent will be required to pick up the device from the front office.

Third offense, device will be confiscated, parent will need to pick up the device from the front office and the student will lose the privilege of having devices at school for the remainder of the semester.

Students should not be using cell phones during the school day to contact or text parents, friends, play games, etc. Students may ask to use classroom or office phones during the day if the need arises. Occasionally grades 4th-6th will be allowed to utilize personal operating devices (PODS) as part of instruction at teacher discretion. Students that have parental permission to use these devices will follow our POD policies.

Please help us by revisiting this policy with your student should they have a phone or earbuds that they bring to school.

The Rock Ridge Archery club will be having the state tournament the week of February 18th through the 21st with makeups on February 24th here at Rock Ridge. The 4th-5th grade tournament will take place starting at 7:30am and the 6th-8th grade tournament will begin at 3:45. All results are submitted to the state who will then recognize those shooters and teams that qualify for nationals. Parents are more than welcome to attend.

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

Sincerely,
Peter Mosby, Principal
## Important Dates/ Mark Your Calendars

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>January 16th</td>
<td>Chick-fil-A Spirit Day (all day!)</td>
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<tr>
<td>January 20th</td>
<td><strong>No School</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>January 21st</td>
<td>Archery 6th-12th grades</td>
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<td>January 22nd</td>
<td>Kindie Roundup</td>
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<td>January 23rd</td>
<td>Spanish Club</td>
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<td>January 27th</td>
<td>Minecraft Club</td>
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<tr>
<td>January 27th</td>
<td>Archery 6th-12th grades</td>
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<td>January 28th</td>
<td>Archery 6th-12th grades</td>
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<tr>
<td>February 3rd</td>
<td>Minecraft Club</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Archery 6th-12th grades</td>
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<tr>
<td>February 4th</td>
<td>Archery 6th-12th grades</td>
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<tr>
<td>February 6th</td>
<td>Spanish Club</td>
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<tr>
<td>February 10th</td>
<td>Guardians of the Gadgets</td>
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<tr>
<td>February 10th</td>
<td>Minecraft Club</td>
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<tr>
<td>February 10th</td>
<td>Archery 6th-12th grades</td>
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<td>February 11th</td>
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<td>February 11th</td>
<td>SAC Quarterly meeting</td>
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<td>PTO meeting</td>
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<td>February 12th</td>
<td>Crave Spirit Night</td>
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<td>February 14th</td>
<td><strong>No School</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>February 17th</td>
<td><strong>No School</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>February 18th</td>
<td>NASP Archery Tournament</td>
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<tr>
<td>February 20th</td>
<td>Spanish Club</td>
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<tr>
<td>February 24th</td>
<td>NASP Archery Tournament makeups</td>
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Celebrating Our Students

6th grade Community Building game with Mrs. Hancock

Last week, 6th-grade classes explored ways to develop coping strategies via a community-building game. Each student had the opportunity to go up to represent their classroom as the three classes worked to see which class would earn the most points. The game included timers and buzzers for students to earn a chance to select a category and point level for each task. The students had a blast and many told Mrs. Hancock it was their favorite counseling lesson!

Guardians of the Gadgets

Drew Sowell from the District IT department came to RRE to show the Guardians how to take apart a Macbook Pro (and how to put it back together) in order to fix hardware problems.
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.

Music:

In Music class we will be working on the creation of music with short individual compositions and performances. Third and Fourth grade will be starting their recorder units while Fifth grade continues with guitars and 6th with pianos. Grades K-2 are continuing with voice, dance and percussion instruments. We will also be exploring *How We Organize Ourselves in Music* by studying the Instrument Families and their roles in the Orchestra.
The Box Tops Incentive Program

The Box Tops competition for the month of January is between 1st and 2nd grades!! Please make sure to send in ALL your paper Box Tops in with your kiddo’s name. Also, please scan your grocery receipts every week. These work for Walmart, King Soopers, Safeway, SAMs and Costco.

In February, we will be hosting a school wide SCAN event. The class that has the most Box Tops scanned will receive a popcorn party!! This will be one last push for our Spring check deadline at the beginning of March.

We are super excited to announce we received the fall Box Tops check for $801.50!! Thank you to everyone for all the scanning and clipping. These little gems of goodness do add up and is worth all the effort.

thankyou
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 Knowledgeable is our focus for the month of January.

Students who are knowledgeable have explored relevant and significant concepts and can remember what they have learned. They can draw on this knowledge and apply it in new situations.

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

- Encourage your child to read books at home that correspond with the topics being covered in school. In particular, books in their mother tongue will help your child make more meaningful, lasting connections to what is being taught in their classroom in English.
- Ask your child about what they are learning in school and engage them in conversations about it:
  - “Why do you think that is an important thing to know about?”
  - “Can you think of anything happening in the world today that might be similar to that aspect of History?”
  - “You’re learning about pulleys and gears at school? This reminds me of your simple machines unit in grade 2... have you noticed any similarities? How is what you’re learning different?”
- Foster any area that your child expresses an interest in with books and activities, but also be sure to encourage them to explore other areas.
- Encourage your child to become familiar with current events and to read the newspaper and watch the news when appropriate.

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!