

Riverside Report

December 2, 2011



School Mascot:

Bruno

School colors:

Blue & White

School Motto

“Put Your Best Foot Forward”

The Riverside Report is published and distributed to inform interested individuals about the education of our youth.

Riverside Phone Extensions:

Main #: 359-2417

- 5322 Mrs. LesStrang, Principal
- 5321, Joan Erdman, Secretary
- 5323, Gloria Degner, Student Health Assist.
- 5308, Stefanie Teske, Psychologist
- 5326, Dianna Reinardy, Guidance Counselor
- 355-4118, School Cancellation Hotline

Staff phone extension numbers and email addresses are available on the D.C. Everest District website (www.dce.k12.wi.us).

Dates To Remember

December 5 – January 13	Gifted & Talented Nomination Period
Tuesday, December 6	Popcorn Day Winter Concerts: Kindergarten, 5:30 pm 1 st Grade, 6:45 pm
Thursday, December 8	Winter Concerts: 2 nd Grade, 5:30 pm 3 rd Grade, 6:45 pm
Tuesday, December 13	Homework Club, 3:45-4:45 pm
Thursday, December 15	Chess Club, 3:35-5:00 pm Homework Club, 3:45-4:45 pm
Tuesday, December 20	Homework Club, 3:45-4:45 pm
Wednesday, December 21	School Board Meeting, 6:30 pm
Thursday, December 22	Last Day of School before Winter Break
December 23-January 2	No School, Winter Break
**Tuesday, January 3	1st Day of School after Winter Break ** (Please note date change)

THANK YOU PARENTS!

Thank you to all our parents who attended Parent-Teacher Conferences. We had an excellent turnout which is always great to see! Parent involvement truly makes a difference in a child's education. Thanks also to the parents who organized and all those who donated food for the meals for the staff on conference days—it was fantastic and very much appreciated.



WINTER CONCERT SCHEDULE

The kindergarten through 3rd grade students at Riverside are looking forward to sharing their musical skills with family and friends at their annual winter concert. Following are the dates and times for the performances. (Students should arrive **no later than 15 minutes before** the concert.)

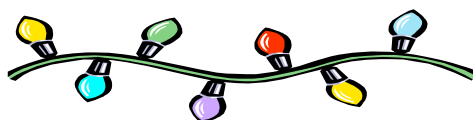
Tuesday, December 6th

- ❄ Kindergarten, 5:30 PM
- ❄ 1st Grade, 6:45 PM

Thursday, December 8th

- ❄ 2nd Grade, 5:30 PM
- ❄ 3rd Grade, 6:45 PM

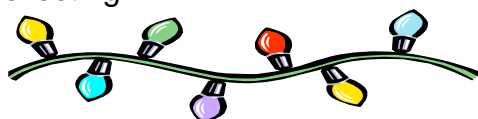
(The 4th and 5th grade students will present a spring program to be held on April 19th at the Middle School.)



“Giving a Little Makes a Big Difference!!!”

This year, the fifth graders at Riverside Elementary School are organizing a loose change collection to donate gifts to less fortunate children during the Holiday season. We will be buying gifts for girls and boys of all ages. School-wide, we will be collecting

everyone’s small change from the 1st to the 8th of December. We would appreciate it if each class would collect loose change for these children. So please help brighten a child’s Christmas. Remember, “Giving a little makes a big difference.” Thank you.



NEWS FROM YOUR IMC...

December, 2011

by: Mrs. Dembowski/Media Specialist

BOOK FAIR UPDATE

Thank you to all parents, students and teachers who purchased items during this year’s book fair. This year’s book fair was a big success, with the library making a profit of over \$1,300. That money will be used to support the library collection and its programs, including prizes for our reading incentive program and Library Crew, new books for our collection and supplies including laminating film.

Thanks also to all the 5th grade Library Crew helpers who assisted with book sales during conference nights and to the students and staff who helped set up the book fair and assisted with taking it down and packing it up Wednesday afternoon.

A special thanks to Marie Becker for calling and organizing the volunteers for this year’s book fair. Her efforts helped to secure a great group of parent and grandparent volunteers. They are: Marie Becker, Chris Mergen, Amy Dettman, Joy Frystak, Angie Burgoyne, Willie Becker, Deb Watz, Angie Witt, Mary Hagedorn, Sharon Belton, Katie Gilles, Shara Allen, Amy Stack, Tammy Bydnkowski, Denise Sousa and Becky Ouimette.

Thank you to everyone who made purchases and helped support the Riverside IMC program. It was a pleasure to meet and visit with you during conferences. We couldn’t have done it without the support of all of you! Thanks again!

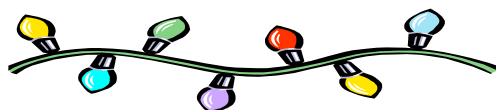
COLLABORATION SUCCESS STORIES

Please check out our Library Blog on Riverside’s web page to see all of the latest developments happening in our school library! Go to our home page: www.dce.k12.wi.us/riverside/ and click



on the button. Under the Collaboration Success Stories tab you will find a list of projects I have been working with classroom teachers and students on this year.

Until next time....remember to keep reading. Mrs. D. ☺



TURKEYS TAKE OVER KINDERGARTEN

Turkeys have taken over Mrs. Cornish's kindergarten class. During Language Arts, students enjoyed listening to the story Plump and Perky Turkey, by Teresa Bateman. The turkeys in this story are too smart to be caught, so the townspeople devise a clever plan to catch one!

Over 420 minutes per week are spent on Reading and Language Arts activities in Mrs. Cornish's classroom. Language Arts time is used to improve vocabulary and writing skills such as expressing thoughts in writing, grammar, capitalization, and punctuation. For this activity, the kindergarten students spent time creating their own paper plate turkeys and writing stories about their turkeys. All of the students' work will be on display in their classroom through November! Great job kindergarteners!



LEARNING POETIC DEVICES!

*Students are spending their time,
Finding words and phrases that rhyme,
Couplets and Haiku, Concrete, Free Verse,
Their poems are totally sublime!*

Fifth grade students in Mrs. Rosewicz's and Mrs. Lorge's classes are creating all kinds of poetry! They have been exploring and researching poetry and learning the components of different poetry forms. They have read poems written by famous poets such as Shel Silverstein. Students have taken the time to research websites to read silly read-aloud poems, funny poems and to look at how other writers create poems.

During the next few weeks, students will be creating their own poetry book. Students will write many different kinds of poetry including a concrete poem (one that forms a picture of the

topic or follows the contours of a shape that is suggested by the topic), a narrative poem (one that tells a story and can be about anything), and a personification poem (one that gives human qualities to animals or objects. Example: a smiling moon or a laughing hyena).

Students expressed their thoughts on the poetry unit. Ella H. said, "I really like Haikus because they're short and they're kind of sweet." Zoey M. is working on her instruction poem entitled, "How to Drive a Car." She said it is based on watching how her mom drives. Zoey added, "My mom's a pretty good driver!"

And just in case you're wondering, the opening poem to this article is a Quatrain. Did you know that?



Adam P. from Mrs. Lorge's class works in the computer lab creating a poem to add to his poem book project.



Zoey M. from Mrs. Lorge's class types one of her poems for the poem book she is creating.

Mrs. Staff's Writing Wizards

Students in Mrs. Staff's class have been practicing using powerful language to improve their writing. In our Halloween stories, we practiced powerful beginnings. Read on... If you dare!

On a foggy, spooky Halloween night, I decided to get my blood pumping. So I went to the spookiest house on the street.... When I got to the most mysterious house I was completely terrified. When I started up the porch I noticed a broken window and thousands of red eyes, purple eyes, small eyes, big eyes and skinny eyes all looking at me. I went limp and hurried up the stairs.

-Isola O.

On a misty Halloween night the wind was howling and the sky was as black as a vampire's cloak. I thought I heard a faint cackling noise in the distance. I couldn't help thinking that it was a witch. Horrified, but anxious I decided to go on. I walked and walked through the cold and misty night.

-Emily S.

I crept closer toward the house terrified but interested.

-Sophia W.

Is there anything more horrifying than a tall haunted mansion peaking out of the thick mist right below the full moon on Halloween night? I don't think so.

-Shannon P.

It was a dark and terrifying night. The wind howled and the storm boomed! I was in the middle of nowhere when I saw a rickety old house.

-Jackson B.

...the wind was howling. I was cowering in fear as I stepped into the haunted house and I almost fainted because a horrific ghost popped up and said I will be your torture guide and laughed hideously.

-John B.

Booooooom! The lightning hit the house with a powerful strike. What will happen is a mystery.

-Jack J.

It was a very dark night, just a little bit of mist was in the air. We heard a howling noise! HOOOOOOOO!

-Audrey S.

I saw a faint silhouette walking across the street at the old haunted house. I walked toward it, then it turned.

-Quinn S.

I must let you know that what you are going to encounter in this story is like no other. Monsters, fighting, and other tragic events will happen if you read on.

-Payton V.



STUDENTS COMPLETE STATE TESTING

Third, fourth and fifth grade students at Riverside have completed the WKCE (Wisconsin Knowledge & Concepts Examinations) State Testing. Third and fifth grade students took timed tests in Reading and Mathematics. Students in fourth grade took timed tests in Reading, Mathematics, Science, Language Arts, Writing and Social Studies. WKCE tests are administered to all children enrolled in Wisconsin Public Schools during the fall of each school year.

The purpose of WKCE testing is to provide students, parents and teachers with information about a student's proficiency in each subject area tested. The results serve many purposes including helping teachers plan curriculum and to serve as a measure of accountability for schools and districts.

The WKCE tests are given over a period of 4-8 days with various testing times throughout the day. Testing areas are quiet and teachers made sure each student was fully prepared with sharpened pencils, erasers, scratch paper and "tools" that may be used for the testing segment. Students were given a gumball as studies have suggested that chewing gum reduces stress, improves alertness, relieves anxiety, and can improve academic performance. You can read more about WKCE testing on the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction website: <http://dpi.wi.gov/oca/wkce>.