

"The Howling Wolf"

Red House Run Elementary School

A National Blue Ribbon School



Drue K. Whitney, Principal
Christina J. Davis, Assistant Principal
Amanda B. McKinney, PTA President

THOUGHT FOR THE MONTH

"Develop a passion for learning. If you do, you will never cease to grow."
~Anthony J. D'Angelo

November and December 2018
Volume 2

Calendar of Events

November	6	Schools and Offices Closed – Election Day
	9	12:20 p.m. Early Dismissal – 3 Hr. Early Dismissal Elementary and Middle Schools (Only) - First Marking Period Ends
	12-16	American Education Week Visitation
	12	Grade 1 and Grade 5 Visitation
	13	Grades Pre-K, Kindergarten, and Grade 3 Visitation
	14	Grade 2 Visitation
	15	Grade 4 Visitation
	16	Grandparent/Special Person's Visitation Day & VIP Pictures
	19	Make-Up Picture Day
	22-23	Schools and Offices Closed – Thanksgiving Holiday
	26	Report Cards Distributed
	29	PreK Conference Day – No School for PreK Students
	30	Schools Closed for Elementary Students – Elementary School Conference Day
December	11	6:30 p.m. Band/Orchestra Concert
	13	6:30 p.m. Chorus Concert
	22 - 31	Schools Closed – Winter Break/Christmas Holiday
January	2	Schools Reopen
	21	Schools and Offices Closed – Martin Luther King, Jr. Birthday
	22 - 31	Vision and Hearing Screening
	25	12:20 p.m. Early Dismissal – 3 Hr. Early Dismissal Elementary and Middle Schools (Only) Second Marking Period Ends

FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK



Every day, throughout our entire schoolhouse, students in classrooms meet in Response Circles to gather their thoughts, express their concerns, and come to a peaceful resolution regarding issues that may arise. For the past two years, in concert with those circles, we encourage the use of Virtues Language when communicating our thoughts.

It is widely known that language shapes character. The way we speak and the words we use, no matter what the situation, have great power to discourage or to inspire.

Our language has great power to influence the lives of others. Whether telling a child how patient she has been, waiting to be fed, encouraging a teen to tap into his compassion, giving performance feedback to an employee, or telling someone what we love about them, language is a mirror of how we value others.

Language is also the vehicle of thought. Peace Pilgrim, a woman who walked across America for the cause of peace, said, "If we knew how powerful our thoughts were, we would never again have another negative thought."

When our words are weighty, we need to weigh our words. And they always are. The language of virtues helps us to replace shaming and blaming with personal responsibility and respect. We teach our children that special words can be used as a frame of reference for bringing out the best in each other. It helps us to become the kind of people we want to be.

There are usually three elements of a virtues statement: an opening phrase; a virtue, and how the virtue is being shown or needs to be shown. Two examples would be: It was *kind* of you to help us out. How can we show *courtesy* when our visitor arrives?

As we continue to model this mode of communication to our youngsters, it would be wonderful if this same practice was carried on outside of school hours. It is our hope that the virtues way of speaking will become second nature to our youngsters. In this Parent Bulletin we have included virtues words and a document which explains how to speak the Language of Virtues.

In this light, on behalf of the entire Red House Run family, Mrs. Davis and I wish you a Thanksgiving, full of joyfulness.

All the Best,

Ms. Whitney

Ms. Whitney



Parking Lot

While we are all anxious to pick up our children in a timely fashion, we must ensure the safety and well-being of our entire school family.

The parking lot is congested in the afternoons, especially during inclement weather. When picking up their children, parents must park either on Weyburn Road or in a valid spot in the parking lot.

Under no circumstances can parents leave their cars randomly unattended, even with their blinkers flashing. This presents a huge safety hazard and prohibits buses from securely moving through the bus loop.

Please be mindful and courteous of staff's requests. They are always acting in the best interests of children.

Giant A+ Reward Program

Our total as of September 30th from parents participating in the A+ Rewards Program for the 2018-2019 school year, is \$48.71. This year the program runs through March 16, 2019. Please register your Giant Rewards Card at any time during the promotional period. The school number for Red House Run Elementary is 01651.

Volunteering

In order to volunteer at Red House Run Elementary, you need to complete volunteer training and a volunteer application. This can easily be done from home as you access the training and the application online. Please see the attached paper that describes this process. All completed applications and certificates that verify you have finished the online training need to be returned to school so that your request to volunteer can be processed.

No one can volunteer for a field trip unless they have completed the volunteer training and have been approved.

If you have any questions, contact Mrs. Neill at 410-887-0506.

Guide to Understanding Your Child's Elementary Report Card

BCPS has posted a guide to help you understand your child's elementary report card. This guide can be found at <http://www.bcps.org/academics/grading/> and may be accessed directly by scanning the QR code.

Raptor Visitor Identification System Reminder

“The safety of all students and staff in Baltimore County Public Schools (BCPS) is of utmost importance to all of us. Our school, as well as all Baltimore County Schools, is utilizing a visitor check-in system. The system is called V-soft by Raptor otherwise known as Raptor. The information collected will not be shared outside of the school and is stored on a secure server. When you visit our school for the first time, you will be asked to present government issued photo identification (ID) or a driver’s license to a staff member in our main office. The ID will be scanned and your photo, name, and date of birth will be extracted. This information will be utilized to log you in and compare your information against the national sexual offender database. Once your ID is scanned and you are cleared, a visitor pass will be printed for you. You must wear your ID in a visible location while in the building. You will need only to show your ID on future visits. You are to check out with the office staff upon completion of your business so that we know you are no longer in the building.

If you do not want your ID scanned, the only alternative to this process is to allow staff to see your ID to verify your name and date of birth so that this information can be manually entered into the system. This method does not store information. Therefore, you must go through this process each time you visit the school. If you refuse to show your ID, you will be denied access to the school.

If you are matched to any of the National Sex Offender Registry, you will be denied access to the school. Only the principal can override this decision and identify conditions under which you may visit.

Your assistance in keeping our students and staff safe is appreciated.”

Parents are always welcomed in the schoolhouse. All parents/guardians must make arrangements with the teacher before lengthy visits are facilitated. Conferences cannot be convened during arrival or dismissal; teachers have classroom and student responsibilities at those times. After school visits to classrooms must only occur following a stop at the front office.

Registering all visitors is necessary so that, in the event of an emergency in a school or office building, a record of all individuals in the building at that time will be available.

♪ *MUSIC NOTES* ♪ *from Mrs. Brown* ♪

♪ *FIFTH and FOURTH GRADE AFTER SCHOOL CHORUS* ♪

♪ **WINTER 2018 Rehearsal Schedule and Concert Dates** ♪

Chorus Rehearsals will end promptly at 4:30pm

December 13, 2018 TUESDAY EVENING WINTER CHORUS CONCERT at RHR

CHORUS MEMBERS ARRIVE at 6:00pm.

CONCERT BEGINS AT 6:30pm.

Please wear something festive.

NOVEMBER	DECEMBER
November 7, 2018 Wednesday <u><i>NO</i></u> <u><i>REHEARSAL</i></u>	December 5, 2018 Wednesday
November 14, 2018 Wednesday	December 11, 2018 Tuesday, DAYTIME CONCERT for RHR Students (EVENING Band and Orchestra Performance)
November 21, 2018 Wednesday	December 12, 2018 Wednesday Final Rehearsal!
November 28, 2018 Wednesday	DECEMBER 13, 2018 THURSDAY DAYTIME CONCERT ♪ EVENING CHORUS ♪ PERFORMANCE FOR ♪ FAMILIES Arrive @ 6pm Concert @ 6:30
Chorus will resume on February 6, 2019!	Happy Holidays! ♪ Mrs. Jane Brown jbrown19@bcps.org



The Scholastic Book Fair will be here again this year during American Education week, November 12th-November 16th. All students will have the opportunity to purchase books during their regular library time.

We need volunteers! If you would like to volunteer to help with the Book fair (must be volunteer trained), please contact the Library Media Specialist, Mrs. Giardini. Contact email- KGiardini@bcps.org

If you would like to donate grocery bags to be used as shopping bags, please send them to the library. We are always in need of a lot!

Art to Remember

Individualized brochures, with your child's art work depicted will be sent home around the 30th of October. Products that are ordered will have your child's personal artwork printed on the products. This is a very personal and popular fund raiser for the holidays. Orders must be returned to school by November 12th. Products will be shipped to the school around December 7th. Art to Remember has a website where you may look at the products and order online. On line ordering is encouraged. You can pay with credit card or bank card on line. If you must send an order to school in cash it must be for the exact amount. We cannot make change and cannot keep change. If you do not have the exact amount in cash your order will be sent back home. Checks must be made payable to Red House Run Elementary and must also be for the exact amount. Proceeds will be used to purchase supplies for the art program. Thank you for your participation to support the art program.

Mrs. Diana Robinson – Art Teacher



Parents/Guardians,

Red House Run's Lending Library is up and running for the 2018-19 school year. It has been updated with new educational games and resources and is ready for use! ALL students can borrow family engagement games and leveled books from the Lending Library. Our goal is to help students increase their scores in core content areas such as Mathematics and English Language Arts, as well as to help students learn ways to engage in, establish, and maintain healthy relationships with peers and adults to increase family engagement.

What Resources does the Lending Library offer?

- Phonics games and resources
 - Sight word activities
 - Word work activities
 - Leveled texts
 - Math games and resources
- Lending Library Guidelines:
- Students are allowed to borrow games and books for a two-week period.
 - Students must be responsible for the game(s) and make sure they are returned in the condition that it was received.

Attached you will find Lending Library Request Forms. If you would like your child to borrow a game and/or book from our Lending Library, just complete a form and send it back to school with your child.

Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact the Title I Team, Randi Grap and Nicole Pruet, at 410-887-0506.

Sincerely,

Randi Grap and Nicole Pruet
Title I Resource Teachers

Lending Library Request Form

Student Name: _____

Teacher: _____ Grade Level: _____

I would like to borrow a game and/or book focused on... (circle one)

English Language Arts Math

The Title I Team will work with your child's teacher to select an educational resource that is appropriate for your child's instructional level and relevant to what your child is working on in the classroom.

Lending Library Request Form

Student Name: _____

Teacher: _____ Grade Level: _____

I would like to borrow a game and/or book focused on... (circle one)

English Language Arts Math

The Title I Team will work with your child's teacher to select an educational resource that is appropriate for your child's instructional level and relevant to what your child is working on in the classroom.

Lending Library Request Form

Student Name: _____

Teacher: _____ Grade Level: _____

I would like to borrow a game and/or book focused on... (circle one)

English Language Arts Math

The Title I Team will work with your child's teacher to select an educational resource that is appropriate for your child's instructional level and relevant to what your child is working on in the classroom.



Safe Schools Maryland Tip Line – Student Resources

Led by the Maryland Center for School Safety within the Maryland State Department of Education, Safe Schools Maryland is an anonymous tip reporting system that allows students, parents, and community members to easily report anonymous safety concerns anywhere in Maryland. Tips received are routed to local and state education, public safety, health, and/or social services support personnel for follow-up.

How do I report a tip?

There are several ways to anonymously report information to Safe Schools Maryland:

App: SafeSchoolsMD available for download in both the Apple App Store and Google Play

Web: safeschoolsmd.org

Phone: 1-833-MD-B-SAFE (1-833-632-7233)

What sort of information should I report?

A safer school begins with you. You should report any behavior that concerns you, including threats made against you or others, concerns about a friend's safety or well-being, or concerning behavior you see on social media or observe in the community.

What happens to the reported information?

Trained technicians respond to reports to Safe Schools Maryland 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year. In cases of immediate life threats or crimes in progress, local 9-1-1 and law enforcement will be notified immediately. In all cases, designated school system officials are notified for follow-up according to the school system's existing policies.

Does this replace 9-1-1?

No. You should still call 9-1-1 in cases of emergency. Any immediate life threats or crimes in progress that come into Maryland Safe Schools will be handed off to 9-1-1 authorities and designated school recipients will be notified.

How can my school be involved?

You can become a champion for Safe Schools Maryland in your school community. You can help ensure students are aware of the program and look for opportunities to promote Safe Schools Maryland wherever possible throughout the school year, including sporting events, theater productions, and other school functions. Free promotional materials are available at www.safeschoolsmd.org. Each county school system in Maryland has school officials that have been designated to receive tips from Safe Schools Maryland and are responsible for following up on the information according to existing school system policies.

Is it anonymous?

Yes. You do not need to provide your name or contact information to report information. Deliberately false reports made by phone, online, or mobile app may be forwarded to law enforcement for investigation.

Say Something. It Could Save a Life.