OUR MISSION

Reisterstown Elementary School is committed to educating the whole child while providing a safe and nurturing environment that promotes a passion for lifelong learning, respect for self, others, the learning environment, and an appreciation for individual differences.

Pamela Oliver-Jones
Principal

Kaia Stevens
Assistant Principal

October 2019

NOTE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

October already! We have been in school for 20 days and have had a very successful start to the school year. Thank you for sending your children to school well rested and on time. Communication is key – please contact us should you have any concerns, questions, or comments. Research shows what we already know – when schools and families work together children benefit!

Pamela Oliver-Jones, Principal

Important Dates

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday, October 2</td>
<td>PTA Meeting – Library – 6:30 p.m.</td>
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<td>October 7-11</td>
<td>Scholastic Book Fair</td>
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<td>BCPS Innovation Lab</td>
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<td>Wednesday, October 9</td>
<td>SCHOOL CLOSED FOR STUDENTS – YOM KIPPUR</td>
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<td>Friday, October 11</td>
<td>Donuts with Grownups – Gym – 7:30 a.m.</td>
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<td>Wednesday, October 16</td>
<td>Fall Picture Day #1 (Grades KG, 1, 2, 3, and Ms. Vitek’s Pre-school)</td>
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<td>Thursday, October 17</td>
<td>Fall Picture Day #2 (Grades 4, 5, Ms. Minch’s Pre-K and both of Ms. Powell’s classes)</td>
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<td>Friday, October 18</td>
<td>SCHOOL CLOSED FOR STUDENTS – STATE TEACHER’S CONFERENCE</td>
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<td>Thursday, October 24</td>
<td>PUMPKIN RUN (Rain date: Tues., Oct. 29th)</td>
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<td>Tuesday, October 29</td>
<td>4th Grade Fieldtrip to the BSO</td>
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<td>Wednesday, October 30</td>
<td>5th Grade BioBlitz Trip</td>
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<td>Wednesday, November 6</td>
<td>PTA Meeting – Library 6:30</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday, November 8</td>
<td>½ Day for Students – School closes at 11:50</td>
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<td>End of the 1st Marking Period</td>
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General Information

CLASSROOM VISITS

Classroom visits and conferences by parents and other authorized individuals are encouraged. In accordance with Board of Education Policy 1240, such visits and conferences must be arranged in advance with the school principal or with the classroom teacher. Classroom visits and conferences must be conducted in such a manner that the visits and/or conferences do not interfere with the classroom activities of any student in the class.

IF YOU MUST CHANGE YOUR CHILD’S DISMISSAL ON A SPECIFIC DAY...

Please send a note to your child’s homeroom teacher in the morning OR call the school office before 2:15 at 410-887-1133. To help us provide a safe and orderly dismissal for all Reisterstown students, all early dismissals must occur before 2:15 in the afternoon. Thank you!

THE IMPORTANCE OF READING ALOUD TO YOUR CHILD

Reading aloud is one of the most important things parents and teachers can do with children. A recent article in the Washington Post stated, “One of the most important things parents can do, beyond keeping kids healthy and safe, is to read with them. That means starting when they are newborns and not even able to talk; and continuing well beyond the years that they can read by themselves. Study after study shows that early reading with children helps them learn to speak, interact, bond with parents and read early themselves, and reading with kids who already know how to read helps them feel close to caretakers, understand the world around them and be empathetic citizens of the world.”

CELL PHONES

Please remember that students should not have cell phones in school. If your child must bring one to school so that you can communicate with them after school, it must be turned off and in their backpack during the school day. Cell phones that are out during the school day will be brought to the office for a parent to pick up.
ATTENDANCE

Instruction begins at 8:20 AM each day. It is very important for students to be on time for school, so they are not missing out on important lessons. Please be sure to help your children make it here between 8:05 – 8:20 AM. Our goal is always 100% present and 100% on time! 😊

STUDENT ABSENCES

Parents, any time a student is absent they need to bring a note to their homeroom teacher upon their return to school.

**OFFICIAL MSDE ATTENDANCE RULE:
A full-time student must be present for at least four hours to be marked present for a full day.  
A full-time student must be present for at least two hours to be marked half-day present.  
Full-time students present for less than two hours will be recorded as absent.

WALKERS

It is extremely important for our walkers to cross with our crossing guards. Please do not cross in the middle of the block. Passing cars may not see you and we don’t want you to get hurt. If you walk with an adult, it is still best to cross at the crosswalks and with the crossing guards.

OCTOBER COUNSELOR’S CORNER

Dear RES Families,

October is Bullying Prevention Month. A video with a message for 2019 Kindness Matters: Bullying prevention will be provided for students and staff to view the week of October 21st. School-wide announcements will focus on our BCPS theme, “Kindness Matters”. Students in kindergarten will learn how they can fill others buckets to promote positive peer relations. First graders will discuss how to recognize bullying behavior and strategies that can be used to put an end to bullying, including asking for help.  The students in second grade will identify the role of a bystander and what they can do to help someone being bullied. Third grade students will learn the acronym M.O.O. (mean, on purpose, over and over) for bullying to help them identify bullying behavior. Fourth graders will learn strategies on how to respond to teases and put downs in calm manner. In fifth grade students will read and discuss a story about hurtful teasing, a form of bullying, in order to identify strategies to address hurtful teasing.

We look forward to continuing to help all students strive both socially and academically this school year.

Sincerely,

Jessica Chisholm (grades K, 2, 3, & 5) and Megan Loranca (grades 1 & 4)
Pumpkin Run 2019

Thurs., Oct. 24th

K-2nd - directly after announcements at 8:30
approximated start time is 8:35
3rd-5th - will be at 9:30

Rain date- Tues., October 29th

If there are any parents who are able to volunteer from 8:20-10:00 on the days above and have been through the volunteer training, please email Mr. Glasgow and let him know. Thanks!! cglasgow@bcps.org

FROM THE LIBRARY

Fourth and Fifth Grade Students
During the fall, students in 4th and 5th grade will have the opportunity to learn more about the Battle of the Books, a reading competition RES competes in annually. More information can be accessed in the Schoology- “Library” Course after the initial presentation in late October.

Sweep: The Story of a Girl and her Monster by Jonathan Auxier
24 Hours in Nowhere by Dusti Bowling
The Truth as Told by Mason Buttle by Leslie Conner
The Season of Styx Malone by Kekia Magoon
Bob by Wendy Mass & Rebecca Stead
The Real McCoys by Matthew Swanson & Robbi Behr
Front Desk by Kelly Yang
Sparks! by Ian Boothby
Sanity & Tallulah by Molly Brooks
Anne of Green Gables: A Graphic Novel by Mariah Marsden