

Riverside Review

September 2008
Volume 2, Issue 1

We're on the Web!
www.constps.org

Principal Craig Badman
Phone (269) 435-8950



WELCOME BACK TO SCHOOL!

Welcome to the 2008-2009 school year at Riverside Elementary School. You will find Riverside offers one of the greatest experiences you could ever have in grades 3-5. As a member of the Constantine community, you share an important part in the process of experiencing academic, social, and extra-curricular success.

We are proud of our school and students. Your years at Riverside will be challenging, exciting, and rewarding. Work hard and take pride in attending one of the most wonderful schools in Constantine.

Mark Your Calendars

◆ Fair Day - No School
September 15

◆ Homecoming
September 19
V. Football vs. VS
Parchment 7pm

◆ Picture Day
September 26

◆ Parent/Teacher Conferences
October 13-17

◆ Half Day for Students
October 17

◆ End of 1st Trimester
November 26

◆ No School - Thanksgiving Recess
November 27 - 28

VISITORS

Any visitor to the campus must register in the main office.

We welcome volunteers to our school, and ask that you please stop by the office to obtain the proper papers to do so.

Picking Up Your Child

When picking up your child, make sure that you pull your car into the parking lot. Do not block the crosswalk. We need your help to provide safety to students walking home.

Welcome Riverside Parent Teacher Organization

The Riverside PTO would like to welcome everyone to a new and exciting year! Have you ever wanted to make a difference at your child's school? You have the power! Get involved in the Parent Teacher Organization - it's your chance to have a voice in many decisions that affect your child and your neighborhood. Parents, teachers and staff can work together to address issues like class sizes, technology, school funding, library materials, school events, discipline policies, curriculum and in general working together as a community to educate our children well.

President - Chris Stacey
Secretary - Rachel Bacheller

Vice Presidents - Sandra Dobosiewicz
Treasurer - Michele Coleman

POP into Mondays



Starting Monday, September 22, you do not have to send in a morning snack. Just have your child bring in 50 Cents, and we will provide them with popcorn.

*All proceeds go directly to benefit the Art program here at Riverside.

Thanks for your support,
Riverside PTO



Homework Time

The homework season is upon us again. Try using these simple strategies to help your child find a winning homework routine.

When and where?

Try planning a regular time each day when family members do quiet activities. You'll help your youngster focus by limiting distractions. For example, he/she can do homework in the kitchen after school while you pay bills or cook. Or everyone can read in the living room at night while he/she works in his/her room.

Take a break

Schedule short periods of work to fit your child's attention span. If he/she has an hour of homework, he/she can work for 30 minutes and then take a break (shoot hoops, have a healthy snack) before finishing up. *Tip:* have your child keep track of time- and stay on task - by setting an alarm clock to signal break time.

First things first

Before your child starts homework, help them to put assignments in order. Have you noticed your child gets more done when working on written tasks first? Suggest that they rank homework from hardest to easiest and tackle the more complicated work first.

"No act of kindness, no matter how small is ever wasted."
-AESOP

Third Grade News

Welcome to all Third grade students and families! We are so excited to have you at Riverside!

Third graders and Mrs. Kent's class will be going to the fair next Wednesday for an Ag-citing experience. They will learn about many animals, such as what we call the family members, what they eat, and what products we get from them. They will also learn about crops that are grown in St. Joe County and what products we get from them.

- **Please check your child's red folder and sign their planner every day!**

Exciting New Computer Programs Hit Riverside

Students are coming down to the lab twice a week. The first time they will be practicing their typing skills using the program **Mavis Beacon Teaches Typing**. During this class period they will also be practicing their math skills.

The second time they come to the lab they will be using a courseware called **K to the 8th Power**. This courseware is set up aligning the benchmarks for reading, writing, and math. Students will learn a particular lesson one week in their classroom and the next week they will come to the lab and take a lesson online matching what they did in the classroom. This lesson also includes learning games, an activity on using Word, Excel, Publisher, etc. They will then finish the lesson with an online assessment.

There is a lot to this courseware but it will be a fun and enriching tool for students to learn and incorporate technology into the classroom .



"We are never really happy until we try to brighten the lives of others."

- Helen Keller



A Note from the Fourth Grade

As part of the fourth grade Michigan History curriculum, the classes of Mrs. Niblock, Mr. Hubbard, Mrs. Pettit, and Ms. Potts will be visiting the Capitol Building and the Michigan Historical Museum. This enriching experience will help our students learn more about our great state.

Riverside Elementary students and staff lower the flag to half mast and pause for a moment of silence, honoring the lives lost, in our Countries most devastating terrorist attack, on September 11, 2001.

Staff and teachers at Riverside Elementary coordinate many programs that earn free merchandise and money for our school. Listed below are the programs that we currently are participating in. We need your help in collecting participating labels, caps, and codes. Every penny helps your child's education. If you need more information please contact Ursula Bernhardt at ubernhardt@constps.org, or ask your child's classroom teacher.



**Comments and Suggestions Welcome!!
2008**

September

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