



Ridge Elementary School
 8910 Three Chopt Road
 Henrico, VA 23229

Office: (804) 673-3745

Ridge Elementary Website:
<http://www.henrico.k12.va.us/es/ridge/>

January 31, 2012

Ridge Roadrunner



Newsletter



*We're Sailing
 the S.E.A.S. of
 Success!*



*Successfully
 Educating
 All
 Students*

February is
 Black History Month

"Black History Month is an opportunity for everyone to learn and think about the contributions that African Americans have made to our culture and heritage, from the struggle for equal rights to contributions in sciences, the arts, and every part of our daily lives."
 – Mrs. Otey



FEBRUARY

Parent / Teacher Conferences in the Evening	Thurs, Feb. 2 nd
Report Cards come home	Mon, Feb. 13 th
♥ Valentine's Day ♥	Tues, Feb. 14 th
General PTA Meeting, 5 th Grade Performs, Technology Night	Thurs, Feb. 16 th
Nine Weeks' Assemblies	Fri, Feb. 17 th
Student Holiday	Mon, Feb. 20 th
Arby's Family Night	Tues, Feb. 21 st
R.E.B. Nominations are due	Thurs, Feb. 23 rd
5 th Grade Water Safety Field Trip to YMCA	Wed, Feb. 29 th
"Ridge Night" at Tuckahoe Public Library (6:30-7:30pm)	Wed, Feb. 29 th

What the PTA has done this month:

- Treated all Teachers with "New Year: New Supplies" - \$270.62
- Organizing International Night
- Purchased Math manipulatives for all grade levels
- Purchased Spirit Wear
- Organized and ordered the Student Directories
- Compiled all pictures and organized information for the Yearbook

Dear Ridge Families:

Happy New Year! Welcome to a brand new 2012 year! This is a time to set goals and to focus on how to achieve those goals. We have started this year off right, with teachers and students working hard in the classrooms, and I see lots of great teaching and learning going on!

Did You Know?



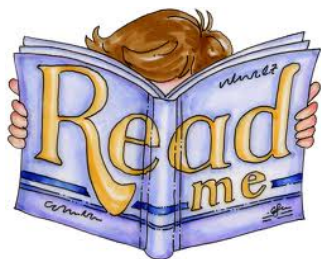
February is Black History Month – Celebrate!

Black History Month is observed every February in the United States! This special month commemorates the significant events and achievements of the African-American population of the United States. Black History Month is an opportunity for everyone to learn and think about the contributions that African Americans have made to our culture and heritage, from the struggle for equal rights to contributions in sciences, the arts, and every part of our daily lives.

Some Black History Month ideas for you and your family are listed below:

- Read some books by and about African Americans –

There are great books available to you in public libraries to read with your children. A few are listed below!



- *Amazing Grace*, by Mary Hoffman
- *I Am Rosa Parks*, by Rosa Parks & James Haskins
- *Martin's Big Words: The Life of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.*, by Doreen Rappaport
- *Sweet Clara and the Freedom Quilt*, by Deborah Hopkinson
- *Through My Eyes*, by Ruby Bridges

- Read up on traditions such as food and dance, and share this information with a friend.
- Research inventions by famous Black Americans.
- Listen to some jazz or blues or even Negro spirituals to learn about Black History.

Taking a moment to visit museums, do some research, and share what you learn about famous Black Americans are great ways to celebrate Black History Month. You would be amazed at what you would find out if you took the time to check out the great resources at your fingertips! There's so much to learn!

It's R.E.B. nomination time!

R.E.B. nominations are a great way for parents and students to recognize the outstanding teachers in the Ridge classrooms! Ask in the office about the nomination forms so that we can continue to have Ridge shine by highlighting the great teaching practices taking place each and every day at Ridge! Nominations are due by February 23, 2012, so move quickly!



Safety at Ridge!

We had a **SUPER** Safety Audit on January 20th! As safety is always first at Ridge, it was easy to share what practices we have in place to keep kids safe. We plan to continue to do all that we can to ensure that children can come to school feeling safe so that they can focus on their learning each and every day! Thank you for all you do to help us in this very important endeavor!

Mrs. Otey

WHERE IN THE WORLD ARE OUR ROADRUNNERS?



OUR TEACHERS AND STUDENTS HERE AT RIDGE ELEMENTARY HAVE BEEN LOGGING THEIR DAILY ACTIVITY AND CHARTING THEIR PROGRESS WITH A GOAL OF RIDING THE CIRCUMFERENCE OF THE WORLD.

CHECK OUT WHERE WE ARE:
WWW.VIRTUALWORLDTRACE.COM

MILES ARE BEING ADDED AS THE STUDENTS AND TEACHERS COMPLETE CYCLING, RUNNING, WALKING AND SWIMMING ACTIVITIES — MORE TIME EQUALS MORE MILES!



OUR STUDENTS AND TEACHERS ARE MAKING PROGRESS DAILY, SO BE SURE TO KEEP CHECKING THE WEBSITE REGULARLY TO SEE WHERE WE TRAVEL.

YOU'LL ALSO SEE SOME OF OUR FABULOUS RIDGE TEACHERS IN THEIR SWEAT SUITS ON "WORKOUT WEDNESDAYS"!

KEEP UP THE GOOD WORK!



B-u-r-r-r!!! It's cold outside!

If it becomes necessary for school to close because of bad weather or for any other reason, announcements will be made using various methods:



- Announcements on the school division's website (henrico.k12.va.us);
- Announcements on radio and TV stations, including Channel 99, Henrico County Public Schools' own TV station;
- A message on NBC Channel 12's school information line. Call 345-1212, choose 9 for school information, then choose the correct option for Henrico; and / or
- A Parent Notification broadcast.



Families should make emergency closing child-care arrangements at the beginning of each school year so that students know what to do and where to go if early dismissals become necessary. In fact, you should have submitted information to us regarding what you wanted your child to do should an emergency closing / situation arise. Please be sure that your information is still accurate and current. You never know when the bad weather will hit.



Our Roadrunners are practicing using their "Inside Voices" in the cafeteria!

Our Ridge students are working together to demonstrate better behavior in the cafeteria! Grade levels are competing each day as they strive to keep a "green cup" at their tables showing that they have used their "inside voices" and did not disturb any fellow classmates while eating lunch. The grades that have all green cups at the end of lunch earn a fish to go in their bucket. The grade with the most fish in their bucket will win a Pizza Party at the end of the 9 weeks! Way to go Roadrunners!

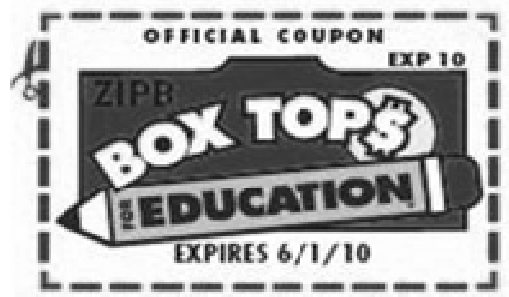


Ridge Elementary School PTA Box Tops for Education Collection Sheet

Teacher _____

Grade _____

Student _____



Use this sheet to collect and submit your Box Tops. While using this sheet is not required, having Box Tops submitted in counted groups of 25 greatly simplifies the redemption process.

Instructions:

1. Clip complete Box Top off product package along the dotted lines.
2. DO NOT cut off the expiration date. Box Tops cannot be redeemed without it.
3. DO NOT submit expired Box Tops.
4. Glue or tape Box Tops, one per square.
5. Only use this sheet for 10¢ Box Top coupons.
6. Submit special or bonus Box Top coupons separately.
7. Fill in Teacher, Grade, and Student information for contest purposes.



Save the Date for Ridge Elementary's Restaurant Nights!

Thank you to everyone for coming out last month to Chuck E Cheese!
All of our Roadrunners had a blast as usual!



Mark your calendars:

Our next Restaurant Night is at Arby's
(8900 Quioccasin Road)
on February 21st from 5:00 - 8:00 p.m.



Ridge Restaurant Nights 2011 – 2012

By Susan Lafoon (804) 270-4770

<u>DATE</u>	<u>PLACE</u>	<u>TIME</u>	<u>AMOUNT EARNED</u>
September 20 th	CiCi's Pizza	5:00 – 8:00 p.m.	\$115.00
October 18 th	Chuck E. Cheese	3:00 – 9:00 p.m.	\$357.04
November 9 th	Chick Fil-A (Parham Rd)	5:30 – 7:00 p.m.	\$133.50
December 7 th	Moe's SW Grill (The Village)	5:00 – 9:00 p.m.	\$60.00
January 10 th	Chuck E. Cheese	3:00 – 9:00 p.m.	\$360.00
February 21st	Arby's (Quioccasin Road)	5:00 – 8:00 p.m.	
March 20 th	Quizno's (Parham Road)	5:00 – 8:00 p.m.	
April 17 th	Chuck E. Cheese	3:00 – 9:00 p.m.	
May 15 th	Qdoba (9460 W. Broad St)	5:00 – 8:00 p.m.	
June 13 th	McCallister's Deli (Gayton Rd)	4:00 – 9:00 p.m.	



Safety Tip of the Month:

Internet Safety



How much time will your child spend online this winter? Internet safety is very important to us at Ridge, and we work hard to monitor students' computer usage

while they are at school, and to inform them about how to be safe online. Our recommendations are to monitor your child's Internet activities closely, know their passwords, and talk to them about being safe online. You are probably already taking these important steps to keep your child safe, and for more information about Internet safety, please visit Netsmartz at <http://www.netsmartz.org/Parents>.



A very special THANK YOU to
BJ's Wholesale Club for
donating a \$50 gift certificate to
the Ridge PTA to help out our
Hospitality Committee!

R.E.B. Awards for Teaching Excellence

Nominate one of our exceptional Ridge Teachers!



visit

www.tcrichmond.org

Nominations are due by February 23rd.



School Nurse News

DONATIONS NEEDED

Our Clinic is in great need! You can help by donating used children's clothing. Why? When our children tear, dirty or soil their clothing, and they are ruined and can't be worn, Mrs. Burruss gives them donated clothing to wear from the clinic. Donated used items do not have to be perfect – just clean, ages 4 and up, mostly boys, but girls as well.

MOST URGENT: pants, shirts, underwear and socks – mostly boys. Outerwear such as: coats, sweatshirts and winter wear if you are already giving it away.



Hospitality Highlights By Amy Boyle



Many thanks to all of you who donated school supplies to help the teachers restock their classrooms for second semester. The PTA treated the teachers to "New Year: New Supplies" on Jan. 10; giving the teachers a chance to come "shop" for items like tissues, wipes, pencils, crayons, scissors etc. which are often running low this time of year. We had a lot of support from PTA members for that event. Thank you!

In February, we will give the teachers and staff 2 different treats. We are planning "SOUP-er" Bowl on conference night (Feb. 2nd) so teachers can have a warm dinner while they stay late meeting with parents. Also, on Valentine's Day we will treat them with chocolate...lots and lots of chocolates for our sweet teachers at Ridge!



If you would like to help with either of February's treat days, please contact Amy Boyle at aimandbub@msn.com or 673-2242. Helping PTA Hospitality committee with treats for our teachers is an easy way to give back to our school.



Library News



When you ask your child what they did today in school, do they say, "Oh, nothing." Don't believe it!!

There is so much going on at Ridge, including lots of exciting research projects in the library. For example, thirteen 4th grade students presented their research projects at the Science Museum of Virginia; 2nd grade is creating Animal Riddle E-books; 1st grade is also doing animal research; and Mrs. Biller's 5th grade class collaborated with another 5th grade class in northern Virginia to do state research. To learn more about all the 21st century skills our students are learning, check out my library site

http://blogs.henrico.k12.va.us/ridge_library

and my blog

<http://blogs.henrico.k12.va.us/nnesid/about/>.

Leave a comment and let me know what you think!

Nancy Essid,
School Librarian



On The Road To Water Safety!!!



Our 5th graders will be working on a neat water safety unit that will allow them to go on a field trip to the Tuckahoe YMCA and participate in activities such as survival floating, water

aerobics, emergency assistance, canoeing, and snorkeling. The field trip is scheduled for February 29th and we are all very excited about this wonderful program.

Our Chick-Fil-A student athlete award for the month of January was just announced on January 27th. This award went to a student in grades 3rd through 5th that works hard in P.E. class and also has a great work ethic in the classroom, and around school.

Keep working hard Roadrunners and you could be the lucky winner for the month of February!!

JUST FOR FUN:

WHY WAS THE COMPUTER SICK AT LUNCH??

IT ATE TOO MANY CHIPS!

STAY HEALTHY!

*Truly P.E.,
Coach Atwell*





Recycling Committee
Lindsay Stone



The Ridge Recycling Program would like to take a moment to thank our most long standing and consistent corporate sponsor since the beginning of the recycling program in 2006! Each year, **Trademark Woodworking** has sponsored two months of recycling. **Trademark Woodworking** has been so dependable for support that it has enabled the recycling program to, not only be sustained, but also to grow in our school!

Please extend your thanks to Marc and Karen Cohen for their financial support, as well as for the hours they both have donated volunteering to empty the bins whenever needed over the past 6 years! Thank you!

The Ridge Recycling Program would also like to thank **Studio K, by Kambourian Jewelers** for offering to pay the remainder of the 2011-12 Recycling program! Melissa Kambourian has spent 1 year as a recycling program supervisor at Ridge so she knows firsthand how recycling benefits the school. Please let Melissa Kambourian know how much you appreciate her support this year!

Studio K, by Kambourian Jewelers offers unique handmade jewelry for sale, while you wait jewelry appraisals, while you wait repairs and custom designs. They also buy all precious metals for cash! **Studio K** is a full service jewelry design studio located in the heart of Carytown. (804) 254-GOLD

Again, thank you for a complete year of recycling sponsorship! Please let our sponsors know that you appreciate their support!

- Studio K, by Kambourian Jewelers
- Trademark Woodworking
- Helping Hands Veterinary Dental & Surgical Care
- Home Video Transfer
- Simpson & Schmidt Custom Framing & Photography
- Marc & Karen Cohen

Lindsay Stone, PTA Recycler
270-2691 or Lindsay@codepath.net




Home Video Transfer
Lindsay Stone
Owner

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Attention Parents of MIDDLE SCHOOL STUDENTS and HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS!

Is your child looking for extra Service Hours?

Ridge Elementary can help them out, while they help us out!



Please send in your child's information to Robin Young at youn65@aol.com.



We are always in need of extra hands around the school!

Thank you to ALL of our AWESOME Volunteers!



On behalf of the faculty and staff at Ridge, thank you very much for the wonderful supplies you provided for our students. We needed to restock our supplies and the scissors, glue sticks, pencils, crayons, index cards, markers, Clorex Wipes, and tissues were items that we will all put to use immediately. We appreciate everything you do and feel so fortunate to have such a supportive group of people to work with.



Ridge Elementary thanks our COMMUNITY PARTNERS!



Ridge Baptist Church

Historian Notes

Send us your photos of field trips, Classroom time, parties, and exceptional school experiences!



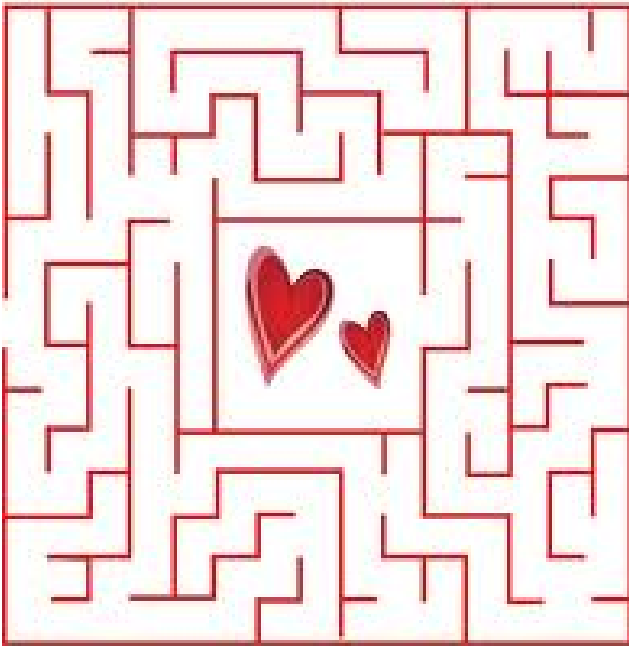
Those pictures will then become part of the PTA slideshow on PTA night, included on the Photo display in the Ridge Office, and then finally to the yearbook staff. Ridge students are not shy... they want to see themselves on the big screen, little screen, and all over the yearbook! Send your photos this year through e-mail, drop a CD in the PTA box, or even send in printed photos. Just don't forget to send them!



Karen Cozens
kcozens@verizon.net
(804) 282-9709

Lindsay Stone
lindsay@codepath.net
(804) 270-2691

Valentine's Day Maze



*Find your way to the hearts
in the center of the maze.*

To:  From: 

The SCA thanks you for purchasing your Candy Grams last week!

The Ridge "Candy Grams" have always been such a success and it makes for an extra special treat for the students and the teachers when they receive a Gram on Valentine's Day.

Thank you to all who participated, to the SCA for working the Candy Grams in the Cafeteria, and to all students and parents who helped spread the "Valentine's Cheer" throughout the school.

Happy Valentine's Day Roadrunners!

Parent/Teacher Conference



Parent-Teacher Conferences will be held at Ridge this Thursday, February 2nd from 3:00pm – 6:30pm.

You should have already filled out a preferred time to meet with your child's teacher, and have received a confirmed time of when you will be meeting. Appointments are scheduled for 15 minutes.

Good home-school communication is closely correlated to successful school performance.

Thank you for scheduling your conference, and we'll see you on Thursday evening.



Your child(ren) will be bringing home their Report Card on Monday, February 13th!