Greetings Bulldog Families!

And just like that...the 2019-2020 school year is underway! What an amazing first few weeks of school it's been! Thank you for everything that you're doing to support your Bulldogs and helping them get back into the school routine (you know...earlier bedtimes, checking backpacks, completed homework, etc.)

We had a GREAT turnout at this month’s PTO general mtg! We appreciate all who came out to join us, and we look forward to working with you all this year. A special thanks goes out to our guest speaker and local school board member, Holly Hazard, for sharing her time with us, answering questions, and offering insight on school matters pertaining to Stafford County.

Below are a few important upcoming events happening in the next few weeks:

- Sept. 3-11 = Book Fair
- Wed., Sept. 4 = RRES Running Club begins! Check out our website for more details!
- Wed., Sept. 4 = Back To School Night (Kdg, 1st, & 2nd grade families) from 6:00 - 7:30.
- Thurs., Sept. 5 = Back To School Night (3rd, 4th, & 5th grade families) from 6:00 - 7:30.
- Teacher will be conducting classroom presentations for parents at 6:15 and again at 6:45. Please attend either one that best fits your schedule
- Book Fair will be open to families on BOTH nights from 5:30 - 8:00.
- Wed., Sept. 11 = Chick-Fil-A Spirit Night! Say you're from RRES when you order and support our school!
- Tues., Sept. 24 = Fall Picture Day!

This year, students will have access to Dream Box. This is an online digital platform that support learning in Mathematics. On Back To School Night your child’s teacher will distribute an information handout to parents so that they know how to support their child with the use of Dream Box at home. It is also linked above for your convenience.

We invite you to BE INVOLVED as much as you can! Remember to visit our website regularly, like us on Facebook and follow us on Twitter! As always, we appreciate your partnership and thank you for supporting us and our mission to make a difference in the lives of our students!

Sincerely,
Nick Roman

Important Dates:
- August 30th & September 2nd - No School (Labor Day Break)
- Fall Book Fair Sept 3rd-11th.
- Back to School Nights—Sept. 4th & 5th
- September 11th— Chick-fil-A Spirit Night 5-8pm
- Early out—All Grades September 18th
- Fall Pictures are September 24th
**Car Rider Information**

**PROCEDURES FOR REGULAR CAR RIDERS**

To ensure the safety of your child/children when dropping off or picking up, please follow these procedures:

**MORNING DROP OFF**

Students may be dropped off between 8:30 and 8:55.

1. Please use the designated drop off area.
2. Cars will line up five at a time for students to exit their cars.
3. Children exiting from the driver’s side need to cross in front of their own car.
4. After unloading, cars will drive away slowly and the next four/five cars will move forward.
5. Rocky Run staff is not responsible for opening car doors.
6. For safety reasons, please do not pass stopped cars.

**AFTERNOON PICK UP**

1. Students must be picked up between 3:40 – 4:00.
2. If you are late 2 or more times in a 4 week period, you will be subject to dismissal from the car rider program.
3. Always make sure that your assigned number is clearly visible.
4. Form a single line, pulling up to the cones.
5. Children will be brought out to the first five cars in line.
6. When those cars have departed, move forward to the cones.

**IF YOU DO NOT HAVE YOUR NUMBER, YOU MUST REPORT TO THE OFFICE TO HAVE YOUR CHILD SIGNED OUT AND PICKED UP FROM THERE.**

**IF YOU NEED TO PICK YOUR CHILD/CHILDREN UP EARLY FOR AN APPOINTMENT, PLEASE GO INSIDE THE SCHOOL TO SIGN THEM OUT.**

Thank you for your cooperation. If you have any questions, comments, or concerns, please contact the main office at 540-286-1956.
Just a few reminders about Health Services Policies and Procedures:

- Medications can be given at school ONLY if there is a current signed order from the Doctor and Parent renewed every year. This includes over-the-counter medications such as Tylenol, Motrin and even cough drops.
- Forms can be found on the Stafford County Web Site at: http://stafford.schoolfusion.us/modules/cms/pages or picked up in the clinic.
- STUDENTS ARE NOT ALLOWED TO CARRY ANY MEDICATIONS WITH THEM TO SCHOOL. MEDICATIONS MUST BE DROPPED OFF BY AN ADULT.
- GUIDELINES FOR SENDING STUDENTS HOME OR RETURNING TO SCHOOL:
- Nurse Assessment of possible contagious condition or risk to health
- Temperature higher than 100 degrees within 24 hours - NOT on Fever Reducing Medication
- Active vomiting within 24 hours
- Recurring diarrhea within 24 hours
- Swollen or painful joints from injury
- Severe earaches (pain) or chronic cough
- Suspected contagious disease
  - Chicken pox - return 5-7 days after first eruption.
  - Conjunctivitis (Pink Eye)
  - Pediculosis (Head Lice) - return after treatment and no live bugs.
  - Flu - 24 hours after fever gone without the aid of fever reducing medication
  - Scabies (Skin infection due to mites) - return after 24 hours of treatment.

Free and Reduced Lunches:
All Stafford County Public Schools offer Free and Reduced lunches to qualifying students. Reduced lunches are also available for short-term family hardships.

Mrs Donna Brown, Manager

The following products are used routinely in the clinic. Please notify me if you student is allergic or should not be treated with any of the products.

Nurse Kaley
**Regular Car Rider Registration Form**

This form is to be completed if your child/ children will be picked up by car on a regular basis during the school year. Pick up may occur one day each week, every day, etc.

Once this form has been completed, you will be issued either one or two plastic tag numbers. Please allow 24 hours for the paperwork to be processed. Plastic tags are yours to keep and use while you have students at Rocky Run Elementary. You will need to reregister your child/ children every year for security purposes. You will keep the same number. Should you lose your number you will need to purchase a new tag. The number needs to hang from the rear view mirror of the vehicle. If your tag is not hanging in the windshield you or the person picking up your child/children will be asked to go into the office to show proper identification and sign them out.

A master list of all those persons who are permitted to pick up your child/children will be derived from the information given below, THIS IS A DIFFERENT LIST THAN YOUR EMERGENCY CONTACT LIST. By signing this form, you are giving permission for your child/children to be picked up as designated below without being signed out in the office. Please remember to write first and last names on the form. Please include yourself, spouse, relatives, friends and/or childcare provider who will have permission to pick up your child/children. **Your child/children will not be released to anyone unless their name has been provided to us on this form.**

If your child is not a regular car rider, you will be required to park and come into the office to sign him/her out. Children will be released only to those individuals who have been given written authorization to do so by the child’s/ children’s parent or guardian. Office staff members require identification from any unfamiliar persons seeking to pick up students.

Thank you for your cooperation.

Mr. Nick Roman, Principal  
Mrs. Crystal Estes, Assistant Principal

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**LIST THE PEOPLE WHO HAVE PERMISSION TO PICK UP YOUR CHILD/CHILDREN:**

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

Circle the days that your child will be picked up:

Monday  Tuesday  Wednesday  Thursday  Friday  Varies

____________________________  __________________
Signature of Parent/Guardian    Date
The PE Spot

The school year has started and we have been getting to know each other in P.E. We have reviewed expectations and we now know where our exercise spot is. :)

With grades kindergarten-2nd, we have been working on personal space and stopping with the signal. We have also learned the “Men In Black” dance and have worked on some locomotor movements.

With cooler weather on its way, we expect to be running around the track before too long. Students should bring a jacket if the weather calls for it.

Students, please remember to wear your sneakers to P.E. class each day. If you can’t participate, have your parent write a note, if it is longer than a week, your doctor must send a note in.

With grades 3-5, we have worked on cooperative activities and soon will be starting our state mandated fitness assessment. In the state of VA, we use the Fitnessgram assessments. These tests are comprised of the pacer test (cardiovascular endurance), right-angle push-up test (muscular strength & endurance), curl-ups test (muscular strength & endurance), truck lift test (flexibility) and the sit & reach test (flexibility). These fitness assessments are a snapshot of a student’s fitness levels. They are tested in the fall and again in the spring each school year. Third grade is a practice year where they become familiar with the tests. In fourth and fifth grade, these scores are sent to the state. These assessments continue until the student reaches the tenth grade.

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Security/Access at RRES

All visitors are required to show a Photo I.D. as well as state their reason for visiting. A security camera allows staff to view & verify your information before permitting access into the building. These are the steps which you need to follow to gain entry.

- Push doorbell button.
- Face camera
- Show Photo I.D.
- State reason for visit

- **Arrivals** —> Students/Visitors will not be granted access until AFTER 8:30am. Students must be brought in with a parent if coming through the front office.

- **Dismissals** —> Regular dismissal starts with announcements at 3:35pm. Please arrive by 3:20pm if you will be picking up through the office.

- **Early Pick-ups** —> Parents picking up early should arrive no later than 3:15pm. Anyone arriving after that time will be asked to wait until regular dismissal.

Attendance

Regular ALL DAY, EVERYDAY attendance is important. Tardies/Early Pickups should be limited.

Should your child need to miss school please call the school at 540-286-1956 and press #4 for the attendance line. A note will be expected upon your child’s first day of return to school.

Transportation Changes

All transportation at the school level will need to be done in writing. Please put your student’s first, last name, teacher, bus number they will be riding as well as the address they will be going to. If the change is for car rider or pick up, please state that on the note. Should there be an unexpected change (emergency) please call the office at 540-286-1956 select option #4 and speak to attendance before 2pm. Please be prepared to answer security questions in these situations.

If you need the office of Transportation (bus issues, stop changes, late buses) please call : 540-373-6095.
Focus News

Welcome to a new school year! I look forward to working with you in Focus resource classroom this year. This is my eleventh year at RRES and I am very excited to have the opportunity to work with your child again this year. We have lots of challenging and fun opportunities we will be doing this year.

Focus services at the elementary level include placement within a cluster of identified gifted students with a classroom teacher trained to provide appropriately challenging instruction. Your child will also be pulled for 45 minutes once a week for resource activities. During resource your child will be developing higher level thinking skills, and creative and logical problem-solving skills.

I have lots of wonderful activities and field trips planned to make this an exciting year.

Please contact me if you have any questions or concerns. My email address is stewartcl@staffordschools.net. I am looking forward to a wonderful year!

Reading Corner

Welcome to the 2019-20 school year. Every new year brings many reading adventures and fun challenges. Many parents want to know how they can help their child to either learn to read, or to become a better reader. First of all, I cannot emphasize enough the importance of having your child read every night for 20 minutes or more. The only way to become a better reader is to practice reading!

Secondly, remember these three words: to, with, and by. Let me explain.

- Read to your child. One way that children learn to read is by hearing model readers. By listening to a proficient reader’s fluency and problem solving strategies, your child learns what reading should look, sound and feel like. Let them see you as someone who enjoys reading.

- Read with your child. What is the difference between to and with? When you read with your child, you are sharing the reading task. It’s allowing your child to read and take risks with a book that may be slightly above their reading level. Your role is to help when needed or to take over if the book is too difficult. When your child is feeling confident again, they can take over.

- Allow your child to read by themselves. Make this an important part of your daily routine. Set aside a time and place for this to happen with books that your child can read and will enjoy. Visiting the public library is a great way to ensure that your child has a choice, which is the best way to motivate a child to read.

Please stop by the reading department during open house. We would love to meet you and say “welcome back” to your child.

Bonnie Hall, Reading Specialist
Amy Antholzner, Reading Specialist
Welcome Mrs. Maday!!!  The library is happy to welcome Mrs. Maday as our assistant this year. She was previously a kindergarten para in Prince William County. Mrs. Maday brings lots of energy and enthusiasm to her new position. She always wears a smile and is happy to help everyone with their library needs.

Our first Scholastic Book Fair will be September 3 – 11. We will be open from 8:30am – 3:45pm each day. We’ll also be open for the Sept. 4 and Sept. 5 Back to School Nights. Families can shop together from 5:30- 8:00pm. We will close at 10:30am on Sept. 11th. The lowest priced items are $0.75. Please remember to give students extra money for tax (6%).

Speaking of books, we’ve already received 9 boxes of new books that are ready for student and teacher check out! We’ll be ordering more books, so watch for them in the library. We also buy books from the book fairs. Students are encouraged to recommend titles for consideration. We try our best to have the books that students want to read.

This year we will sponsoring the Virginia Readers’ Choice Book contest for grades 2 - 5. Students will read the state chosen books and take a quiz on them. Those students who complete all of the books will be eligible for the limousine and ice cream trip. More details will be given to students very soon.

We’ll also be sponsoring the Battle of the Books for grades 2-5. Participants will read the designated books and compete in a Jeopardy style contest. The top 6 students in each grade level will receive prizes. The top prize will be a new Kindle Fire. Students will receive details on this very soon.

**Please help us care for our library books by reminding your students:**

1. No writing, drawing, or coloring in library books
2. Keep food and drink away from library books
3. Library books should be in book bags when not being read
4. Never put library books on the floor
5. Keep books out of reach of pets and babies
6. Return books on time
7. Wash your hand before reading your book
8. Report all tears and rips to the librarian – Don’t try to fix tears and rips at home

Make memories with your student by reading together or talking about what they are reading.

Read! Read! Read!

“A library is not a luxury but one of the necessities of life.”

Henry Ward Beecher

Mrs. Jarrells

and

Mrs. Maday
Bulldog Pride

Don’t forget that every Friday is Spirit wear Day! The class with the most Spirit wear winners will win the coveted Paw Spirit trophy for their grade level. So Show your Bulldog Pride! Wear either a RRES Shirt or our school colors, Maroon, Gray and Royal Blue.