

March Newsletter March 2019

Dismissals and No School Days

There will be no school on Monday, March 11th, for a teacher professional development day.

Mr. Conway's News

Hello Families! Our school is proud to partner with the American Heart Association again this year! It has been three years since we participated in Jump Rope For Heart and this year we're kicking off Kids Heart Challenge! We're excited to continue JUMPING ROPE / SHOOTING HOOPS to help those with special hearts. Over the next few weeks, our students will be having fun learning about their heart with the Heart Heroes while raising money to help fund lifesaving research. Our school goal is to raise \$1,500, and in addition to helping the American Heart Association, our school can earn free PE equipment. Students can earn their own Heart Hero Characters this year by using the new mobile app (download the KIDS HEART CHALLENGE app) or by visiting heart.org/kidsheartchallenge to sign up and raise money online! Just for signing up to save lives, your students will earn a glow in the dark wristband! PLUS this year, the mobile app unlocks even more fun and the Heart Heroes and wristband come to life! An informational letter will be coming home with your student and it is OPTIONAL to donate to this cause. Our "kickoff" is March 5th, and all donations are due on March 19th. Our event day is March 15th. Thank you for helping a great cause!

From the School Counselor

McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act

The McKinney Vento Act addresses the needs and challenges that homeless children and youth face when enrolling, attending, and succeeding in school. Across the United States, this population has nearly doubled since the U.S. Department began collecting information in the school year 2004-05.

Homeless children and youth must have equal access to free, appropriate, public education including preschool. Barriers must be eliminated and local schools must uphold the rights and ensure services are provided for our children and youth.

If you have a concern regarding students and homelessness, we need to work together to support these children and youth. Specific challenges may include:

- Not being identified for services
- Difficulty enrolling in a school without records
- Difficult attending regularly
- Lack of transportation
- Frequent school changes
- Falling behind in school
- Not accruing credits on time
- Lack of basic needs including food, clothing, and adequate housing
- Stress, depression, trauma
- Embarrassment and stigma related to their housing conditions

Local MV Liaison contact is Michelle Dohlman. Contact her directly at the school 912 Woodland Avenue, by email michelle.dohlman@riceville.k12.ia.us or school phone 641-985-2288.

Spring Pictures

Spring Pictures with Lifetouch for Preschool-8th will be on Thursday, March 14th. All students will have their picture taken and a picture sheet will be sent home with each student. You will need to mark the background you would like for pictures and return to your child's teacher by Friday, March 8th. You do not send money at that time.

When the pictures are received back from Lifetouch, they will be sent home with your child. You will then choose the pictures you wish to keep. Return the ones you do not want to keep to the school along with the money for the pictures you are keeping. There is no obligation to purchase any of the pictures, but we do need the pictures back that are not being purchased.

Eagle Bluff Trip

There will be a parent meeting for all 7-8th grade parents regarding the Eagle Bluff Trip on Tuesday, March 5th, at 6:30pm in the Wildcat Den.

Daylight Savings Time

Daylight Savings Time will begin on Sunday, March 10th. Remember to turn your clocks ahead one hour when you go to bed on Saturday, March 9th.

Important Dates

- 1- Read Across American Day PreK-12
- 5- Senior Phone-a-Thon
- 14- Financial Aid Planning meeting for Junior Families
- 21- Mitchell/Howard County Career Fair in Riceville

PTO

Scratch cupcakes delivery is scheduled for Wednesday, March 27th.
Time is to be determined.

PTO Carnival will be held on Friday, March 15th.

PTO Bingo will be held on Saturday, March 16th from 2:00-4:00pm in the lunchroom.

Box Tops and Milk Caps

The school still accepts the Box Tops. Unfortunately, the Milk Cap Program from Kwik Star is ending. Please have your milk caps/bag tops to the school by Friday, March 15th. This is a great and easy way for the school to earn some extra money. Please send these items to school with your children or drop off at the elementary office. We appreciate it!!

The Campbell Soup label program has ended and we can no longer send these in.

Pop Tabs

Here are the current totals per class for pop tabs.

Kind 8.5 pounds

1 1.5 pounds

2 7.2 pounds

3 22.3 pounds

4 .7 pounds

5 2.0 pounds

6 2.7 pounds

Keep bringing them in!

Fireman's Steak Supper

The Fireman Steak Supper will be held on Saturday, March 16th from 4-7pm. Dance will be from 8-12am. Tickets are \$20 and includes entry to the dance. Ask any fireman for a ticket.

NOTICE OF NONDISCRIMINATION

It is the policy of the Riceville Community School District not to discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability, religion, creed, age (for employment), marital status (for programs), sexual orientation, gender identity and socioeconomic status (for programs) in its educational programs and its employment practices. There is a grievance procedure for processing complaints of discrimination. If you have questions or a grievance related to this policy, please contact the district's Equity Coordinator, Michelle Dohlman, School Counselor, 912 Woodland Avenue, Riceville, IA 50466, (641) 985-2288, michelle.dohlman@riceville.k12.ia.us. For further guidance, visit the Iowa Department of Education website.