

Rolling Ridge Parent Newsletter • 780-7650

May 1, 2009



Principally Speaking . . .

It's May . . . The last month of school is here. Please note all of the end-of-year activities on the calendar. There are many.

Although the school year is ending, learning does not stop. The summer months can provide lots of enriching experiences for kids. For parents, this might mean helping a child organize their time and providing opportunities for kids to learn and grow. Did you know . . .

Reading achievement is more dependent on learning activities in the home than is math or science. Reading aloud to children is the most important activity that parents can do to increase their child's chance of reading success. Talking to children about books and stories which have been read to them also supports reading achievement.

When children and parents talk regularly about school and learning activities, children perform better academically.

Three kinds of parental involvement at home are consistently associated with higher student achievement: actively organizing and monitoring a child's time, helping with homework and discussing school matters.

A home environment that encourages learning is more important to student achievement than income, education level or cultural background.

Swimming, family trips, and playing outdoors are great summer activities for kids, but don't forget that reading has a definite place in the summer schedule as well. On a different note, the staff and I hope you have a fun-filled, restful summer. Enjoy your kids. They are treasures and we will miss them while school is not in session.

Sincerely,
Lori Fielder, Principal

Information regarding student reading achievement:

FACT: Lower achieving children read less in school and less out of school than higher achieving readers.

CONCLUSION: Kids need to read more in school and outside of school, in order to be successful readers. Read, read, read over the summer. Make it a family affair.

FACT: Students who do not read consistently over the summer lose up to three months of their reading skill by the time they reenter school in late August.

CONCLUSION: Make reading a daily priority in every house for every child and adult.

FACT: Students model what they see.

CONCLUSION: If your children see you reading, enjoying reading, and making it an important part of your daily activities, they will tend to do likewise.

The summer is not "time off" from reading just like it's not "time off" from playing, singing, or eating. Reading is a life activity. Without it, the quality of a person's existence would surely be lessened.

What is your family reading plan?

Talk to your family about it.

Make a list—post it on the 'frig.

But most of all, **follow through**. It can make a powerful difference for your child's success in school . . . and in life. Happy Reading!

Summer Adventures In Learning (S.A.I.L.)

will be held at four schools for students in kindergarten through fifth grades. Students in grades K-5 attending elementary schools North of Santa Fe will go to summer school at Prairie Trail Junior High/Meadow Lane, with Kindergarten housed at Meadow Lane. Students in grades K-5 attending elementary schools South of Santa Fe will go to summer school Chisholm Trail/Sunnyside, with Kindergarten housed at Sunnyside.

Please note classes begin Monday, June 1 and meet MONDAY through THURSDAY only.

Enrollment Day is July 28th

The opportunity to pay fees in advance for next school year will again be available this Summer. Information concerning this early fee payment option will be sent home with your elementary student on the last day of school in an envelope marked "Advance Fee Payment Materials Enclosed". Fees for next school year may be paid online starting Monday, July 8th or in person at Registration Day on July 28th anytime from 8am-7pm.

Don't forget to bring proof of address on enrollment day! A recent bill, such as a gas, water, or electric bill, not over 30 days old is perfect.

Rolling Ridge Young Author's Submissions 2008-2009

Participating classroom students wrote stories or poems which were submitted to the Rolling Ridge Young Authors committee. The committee evaluated and selected the following students' work to be published.

Congrats!!!

6th Grade	Eric Aguirre	A Weird Dream
	James Brown	The Evil Trash Can
5th Grade	Story Jackson and Eduardo Marquez	Abraham Lincoln
	Hannah Staes	Tomorrow Will Be Better
4th Grade	Zach Clay	Mackinac Island
	Jonathan Schmidt	A Day of Being a Pencil
3rd Grade	Kristen Sumter	Cookies
2nd Grade	Kennedy Atterbury	My Dad
1st Grade	Brooklyn Dooley	My Family and Me

Are you moving from the area?

If you know that your family will be moving over the summer to another area, please contact us so we can expedite the release of student records to your new school. You will need to provide us with the name & address of the school, and sign a "Release of Student Records" form. For those of you who are moving, we wish you and your family our best!

PTC Points

PTC Officers for 2009-10 school year were elected for two year terms at the April 14th PTC meeting.

Secretary: Evie Riek

Treasurer: Heather Anderson

Vice President: Chrisann Falk & Amy Vrban

President: Dana Demaree

Congratulations!

We are pleased to inform you that a piece of artwork by **Eilish Simpson**, a sixth grader, has been selected to be on display in the halls of the North Lindenwood Support Center at 315 N. Lindenwood. It will be on display until October 2009 so hundreds of employees, teachers, and district staff will be able to enjoy it!



Claudia Gilliland is Retiring...

after giving the Olathe School District 27 years of wonderful service as our library clerk!

She will be missed!!!

6th Grade Farewell

Sixth Graders and their parents are invited to a special event to say "farewell".

Tuesday, May 12, 2008

At 6:00 p.m.

In the RR Multi purpose room.

This is a special event just for our 6th graders and their parents.

The program will last approximately one hour.

We hope you and your sixth grader can join us!

Time for Kids – thank you!

Rolling Ridge wants to give a huge "thank you" to students and parents for completing and returning the "Time for Kids" booklets. Because of your effort Rolling Ridge earned \$1000 of free subscriptions for our students to use in the classroom.

Job well done!



Let's Play Ball!

Aubrie Evans, a fifth grader at RR, was asked to throw out the first pitch at the KU baseball game against Oklahoma on April 12th. This opportunity was made possible by the Rolling Ridge PTO and Rolling Ridge School who were given an opportunity to send some of our families to two KU Baseball games this spring. **Way to go Aubrie!!**

OPL Summer Reading Program

The public libraries offer great summer reading programs. In mid-May, your child will bring home a brochure describing summer activities at the Olathe

Public Libraries. Check out your local public library to encourage your child to read all summer. Remember: reading during the summer keeps children's skills strong!

Elementary Spanish Program at RR

As you may have heard, Rolling Ridge school is implementing an elementary Spanish language program next year. Students will be offered Spanish classes twice a week at each grade level during the school day. So that existing instructional time is not impacted, the time parameters for our school day have been adjusted. **The school day will begin at 8:20 and end at 3:40** for our school, adding 10 minutes to the school day.

Why is this program being implemented? District staff have been researching the possibility of an elementary second language instructional program for several years, because of the benefits to students for studying a second language. Recent Community Conversations conducted by the school district have indicated that an elementary language program is a priority for many parents. Our school district is committed to providing a world class education for our students and like most of the rest of the world, this includes the opportunity to be exposed to learning a second language.

Research, highlighted by the Northeast Regional Education Laboratory (December 2000), listed these benefits for early language learning:

- Early-start language learning improves cognitive skills and academic performance. Foreign language study contributes to brain development and overall learning in problem-solving, aptitude, and enhanced skills in English. The research also concludes that "Foreign language study does not detract from progress in other subjects" (NREL, 2000).
- Early-start language learning opens doors to other cultures. Broadening students' global outlook is an important goal for young learners in an increasingly interdependent world.

Early-start language learning contributes to a lifelong ability to communicate. Early language learners see language as a tool for a wide range of educational and career opportunities. Why Spanish? Spanish was selected because of the availability of quality instructional materials at all 7 elementary grade levels (K-6) and the availability of facilitators familiar with the language. Elementary Spanish instruction is viewed as an open door for students to make decisions about continuing to pursue Spanish or other languages at junior high or high school.

Questions? If you have questions about this exciting new program offered at *Rolling Ridge* you may contact the school office, or the Director of Elementary Education at 780-7000.

Community Service Hours

April-May 2009

Michael Gabbert	4A	5
Laurn Anderson	6R	100+
Jenny Ortiz	6L	84.25

Scarlett Lintz	6R	52.5
Andrea DeLaO	3P	76
Manuel Martinez	3A	100+
Jessie Payne	5T	100+
Alexandra Payne	1G	100+
Jessica Delgadillo	2B	20
Victoria Garrett	3P	100+
Delany Pressler	5C	100+
Yocelyn Galvan	6L	19
Caleb Underwood	6L	82.5
Ryan Butenhoff	2S	50
Olivia Johnson	3C	16
Todor Sarenac	6r	9.5
Nolan Neri	3P	100
Audri Watkins	6P	50
Ashton Brawley	6P	27.5
Ally Tinker	3C	23
Hunter Tinker	Kdg Mc	13.5
Brenden Hughes	6L	50
Dana Baker	3P	50
Isabelle Nelson	4M	55.5
Jami Clay	6R	100
Lily Funk	6P	50.5
Zach Clay	4A	21.5
Jacquelyn Knopp	3A	76
Addelyn Knopp	Kdg Mc	56.5
Iseabail Simpson	1B	100+
Eilish Simpson	6P	100+
Megan Eshnaur	6P	50
Derek Gimson	6L	50
Seth Demaree	5C	70



March 26

Naomi Gray	Addelyn Knopp
Grace Riek	Reagan Henry
Sally Jackson	Jamia Shobe
Jimena Gonzalez	Alejandro Calixto
Kailly Cooksey	Keith Birnbaum
Chloe Coates	Robyn Luckner
Spring Andrews	Jason McConnell
Raven Diduangleuth	Hayleigh Hess
Eduardo Marquez	Jessie Payne
Michael Zager	Demitrius Owens
Britni Roth	

April 3

Kimberly Valdovinos	Katelyn Becker
Alicia Acosta	Ruben Damian
Kenzie Anderson	Brendan Schmidt
Dakota Owens	Danny Flores
Matthew Frank	Maiya Loar
Mario Meraz	Jose Gonzalez
Monica Rivera	Bailey Knudsen
Minerva Beltran	Seth Demaree
Aubrie Evans	Tristan Musick
Bren Schnabel	Andrew Leite
Katie Usdansky	

Oscar Diaz
Deanna Birnbaum
Marco Morales
Lily Craig
Pablo Gonzalez
Andrea DeLaO
Edgar Valdovinos
Lane Custard
Jordan Gartman
Kyle Cooksey
Lauryn Anderson

April 10

Reese Falk
Samantha Reyes
Jonathan Munoz
Roxana Valdovinos
Alex Fowler
Daniela Navarro
Victor Musyoki
Maddie Ames
Poli Carlos
Ashton Brawley

April 16

Aidan Kirsh
Kayla Rogers
Nicole Reyes
Brendan Schmidt
Matthew McDowell
Treyce Stephenson
Rosa Torres
Anthony Cann
Serena Field
Debbie Porter
Marcel Williams

Genesis Gamez
Nayeli Urquieta
Rachel Sandow
Mary Hicks
Mikaela Jackson
Jesarel Torres
Bailey Wilson
Kendra Ryan
Briana Roth
Hannah Hendrix
Jami Clay

April 24

Dameyan Guidry
Kevin Marcos Delgadillo
Christian Frakes
Andrea Guel
Jackson Woolery
Dana Baker
Jake McClure
Grayson Goyer
Jaylene Torres
Cristian Rivera
Lupita Gamez

Karen Gonzalez
Reyna Perez
Brian Rodriguez
Jada Saville
Hailey Brown
Jesus Vazquez
Donavyn Hill
Libby Lander
Bo Stamper
Beverly Brooks

Early Childhood, Pre-K, Kindergarten, 5th, and 6th grades.

Renea Kirby, RN
780-7656



Medications Going Home...

All remaining medications will be sent home with the students on the last day of school in the original bottle. Parents should notify the school nurse if they prefer other arrangements to be made. Thank you.

Are You Ready Sixth Grade Parents?

Junior high school presents new challenges to students and expanded opportunities for extra curricular activities, including sports. Additionally, Olathe students participate in daily physical education class in grades 7 & 8. Based on all of the above, the district **highly recommends** that new 7th graders complete a health exam prior to entry into junior high. Physical examination is **required** annually for students participating in sports. Your 6th grade student will be bringing home the appropriate physical exam form. Please submit the physical to the junior high school nurse during fall enrollment. There are also a number of differences in the secondary school medication policy compared to the elementary school medication policy. The secondary school medication policy is attached to the physical form coming home with your 6th grader. If you have any questions please feel free to contact Mrs. Kirby at 780-7656.

Summer 2009 Operational Guidelines

Designated district facilities will be open and staff will work from 7:00 am to 5:00 pm Monday through Thursday from June 1, 2009 to July 31, 2009. In order to gain maximum efficiencies in reduced energy consumption, all district facilities will be closed on *Fridays between June 1 and July 31, 2009. Occupancy of buildings on Friday, Saturday, and Sunday during summer hours will be restricted to patrons renting district facilities. Thank you.

Site Council Update...

the last meeting of the year was on April 28, 2009. Items discussed were: new membership (applications can still be sent in to the RR office), Watch Dog kickoff in the fall, student assessment information and state expectations, projects for the 2009-10 school year. The next meeting is on September 15, 2009. The public is welcome to attend.



Nurses' Day
Wednesday, May 6th
We appreciate you Mrs. Kirby!

MANY NEW IMMUNIZATION REQUIREMENTS FOR 09-10 SCHOOL YEAR!!



The Kansas Department of Health and Environment has released the 2009-2010 school year immunization requirements. Approximately 25% of the Rolling Ridge students will need booster immunizations prior to enrollment next fall. A letter from Mrs Kirby will be mailed home in early May if your child is in need of an immunization this summer. Parents are encouraged to make an appointment with your family physician or Johnson Count Health Department upon receiving a letter of notification. Documentation of up to date immunizations will be expected at enrollment in July. Grades affected by new requirements are: