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Reaching the Best in Every Student

Running Brook Panther Press

December 15, 2017

A NOTE FROM OUR ADMINISTRATORS

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Hello RBES Families and Friends!

We would like to start with a big **THANK YOU** to all of our families for attending our very first *Penguin Patch Holiday Shop*! We were thrilled with the turn out and delighted to see so many of our students shopping for their families. A special **THANK YOU** goes out to our team of *Patch Volunteers* who helped out at this very special event!



It is hard to believe we are approaching the end of the year! This will be our last newsletter for 2017. We would like to take this time to thank you for your continued support. Thank you for the many volunteer hours and attendance at so many of our school activities and in our classrooms. Your attendance and dedication is an example of the positive energy and spirit that exists in our Running Brook Community!

Thank you for a great start to another fabulous year at Running Brook. We appreciate the way you encourage your child to be **R**espectful, **R**esponsible, and **R**eady to learn each day. We are so appreciative of our caring community, dedicated staff, and **AMAZING** students. In closing, we would like to wish all of our families a safe, happy, and peaceful holiday season!

Mr. Todd and Mrs. Brewrink

UPCOMING EVENTS AND IMPORTANT DATES

12/19 Spirit Day: PJ's and Stuffed Animals	1/2 School Reopens
12/20 Quarter 2 Progress Reports Issued	1/10 FREE Maryland Science Center Night
12/22 Panther Holiday	1/15 Martin Luther King Day: SCHOOL CLOSED
12/25-1/1 Winter Break: SCHOOL CLOSED	1/17 Dental Screening



AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAM: FALL SESSION ENDING

The fall session of our After School Enrichment Program ends on Thursday, December 21st. **There will be a break in our after school program from January 2, 2018 through February 2, 2018.** More information regarding our spring session for third through fifth grade, including club choices, will be sent home in mid-January. Club selection will be first come, first serve.

WINTER CONCERT

Our Band, Strings and Chorus Winter Concert will be held on January 24th at 7:00 pm at Wilde Lake High School. Students participating in the concert should arrive by 6:30 p.m. More information will be sent home after the break. We hope to see you there!

BOOK SWAP

Our next Book Swap will be held on Thursday, December 21st. Students can use Panther Points, 25 cents, or old books to trade for new books at the RBES Book Swap during lunchtime next Thursday. Students and parents are welcome to find a cozy read (or two) for the Winter Break!

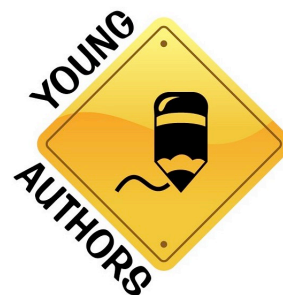
YOUNG AUTHOR'S CONTEST

The Young Authors' Contest is an opportunity for our 2nd, 3rd, 4th and 5th grade students to showcase their creativity by writing a short story or poem. This year we had a record number of students submit short stories and poems!

Congratulations to our RBES Young Authors' Contest Winners!

- 2nd Grade: **Amyah Brackney** (short story)
- 3rd Grade: **Benny Eagan** (short story) and **Brian Linstrom** (poem)
- 4th Grade: **Tiffany Berry** (short story) and **Isabella Rodgers** (poem)
- 5th Grade: **Cameron Reynolds** (short story) and **Savannah Lee** (poem)

Our winning stories and poems will be sent on to the HCPSS Young Authors' Contest. County level winners for each grade level will be notified by February.



TOYS FOR TOTS AT RBES

Once again, Running Brook Elementary School is fortunate to be a *Toys For Tots* distribution site in 2017. If you feel that you are in need of assistance providing toys for your children this holiday season, please call or stop by the front office before December 20th to receive

a pass to our Toys For Tots event. While a pass is not required, it will confirm that you are a member of the RBES community, and allow you to attend the event without your children present. The event will be held on Sunday, December 24th. Please plan to arrive no later than 9:30 a.m.

COLD WEATHER REMINDER

As, the weather turns colder, please be sure to send your child to school prepared for outdoor recess. **Please also label your child's coat, hat, and other belongings with their full name.** We have many belongings that are found by staff or students and these items move to our "lost and found" bin in the cafeteria. If items are labeled, it helps us find the owner quickly.



ESOL TESTING

Attention parents of students in the ESOL program: Yearly ESOL ACCESS 2.0 testing will begin January 8th. All students enrolled in the ESOL program will be tested. Please try to have students at school everyday, well rested, and ready to show their best English language skills! If you would like to view more information about the ACCESS 2.0, or see sample questions, go to this link: <https://www.drctdirect.com/all/eca-portal-ui/welcome/WIDA>. If you have any questions, please contact Karen Brower. (410) 313-6893 or karen_brower@hcpss.org.

UPCOMING FAMILY NIGHT

Save the date! Running Brook will be hosting a Maryland Science Center Family Night at RBES on January 10th from 6:00 to 8:00 pm. The Science Center is coming here to do fun science activities with us!

WEATHER DELAYS OR SCHOOL CLOSINGS

When is the decision made? The decision to delay or close schools is made by 5 a.m. By 5:30 a.m., a notice is posted on HCPSS News. On rare occasions when weather conditions worsen or do not improve after a delay has been announced, a second announcement may be made to close schools instead.

Emergency & Weather-related School Closings: If it is necessary for the Superintendent to close or delay the start of schools due to inclement weather or other emergencies, parents may get information by visiting HCPSS News and subscribing to receive email and texts alerts. In addition, HCPSS uses the following sources:

HCPSS-TV: Comcast Channel 95 or Verizon Channel 42

HCPSS Information Hotline: 410-313-6666



SCHOOL SUPPLIES REPLENISHMENT

It's that time of year again! Your child's school supplies may need to be replenished for the second half of the school year. Supplies such as pencils, erasers, glue sticks, and crayons are typically used daily and may need to be restocked more often. Please check in with your child to see if they are in need of new or additional school supplies. Thank you in advance for your support!

FAMILY FIT NIGHT: SAVE THE DATE!

Mark your calendars for a FREE Family Wellness event!

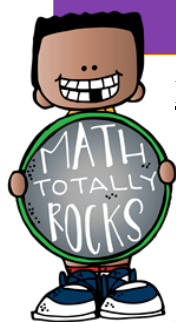
WHEN: February 1, 2018

TIME: 6 - 8 pm

Activities will include a Kid Friendly Boot Camp, Karate, Zumba, Yoga, Wellness Workshops, and much more! **A parent or guardian must accompany children to the event.** Registration opens on January 16th. For more information, please contact Ellen Mackey at Ellen_Mackey@hcpss.org.

COMMUNITY NEWS UPDATE

Please visit the [Community News and Programs Page](http://www.hcpss.org/community-news-and-programs/) (<http://www.hcpss.org/community-news-and-programs/>) on the HCPSS website for announcements of upcoming events and programs sponsored by non-profit organizations.



MATH MINUTES WITH MRS. MANGUS

Did you know that the games you play with your child can influence their interest in learning math? According to educational experts from the *National Science Foundation*, “young children are natural mathematicians and scientists” because of their desire to explore and experiment. When parents encourage their children to ask questions and help

children explore and discover the natural world, they are helping build an interest in math and science. Experts believe that children who have such experiences when they are young develop an enjoyment for and confidence in math and science that pays off later as they grow older.

Include your child in everyday activities that involve math - making purchases, measuring ingredients, counting out plates and utensils for dinner. Play games and do puzzles with your child that involve math. They may focus on direction or time, logic and reasoning, sorting, or estimating. Do math problems with your child for fun. In addition to math tools, such as a ruler or a calculator, use handy household objects, such as timers and thermometers when doing math with your child.

If you are looking for additional opportunities to explore math with your child, check out this month’s family math calendar! **If your child has a problem that interested them from the math calendar, please have them send their work to Mrs. Mangus so that their work can be highlighted at school.** Your child can also logon to Dreambox during the winter break to help keep their math skills sharp.

Panther Problem Solvers



The Running Brook Panther is planning a Panther Holiday for all of the wonderful students at Running Brook. Students have exactly one hour (60 minutes) to participate in the activities below. List the ones that you would choose as your first and second

choice. **Remember, your first and second choices of activities must total exactly one hour.**

Activity	Time In Minutes
Winter Crafts	25
Coding	30
Karaoke	15
Puzzles	20
Yoga	10
Pawmart	5
Football	45



TITLE I SCHOOL

SCHOOL-WIDE TITLE I PROGRAM

Did you know that Running Brook has a school-wide Title I program? Title I is a federally funded program designed to ensure that all children have an opportunity to access a high quality education. The goal of this federal program is to close the achievement gap for all students. The goal of this federal program is to close the achievement gap for all students. As a result we receive additional funds from the federal government that have allowed us to secure additional staff members, funds for family events, and materials of instruction to benefit all of our children. We value input from our parents, community, and staff.

If you have any suggestions, questions, or feedback about our Family Involvement programs or School Improvement Plan, please feel free to contact our Title I contacts Jodi Aikens at (jodi_aikens@hcpss.org) or Kim Filler at (kimberly_filler@hcpss.org).