

# RAIDER NEWS

W. D. RICHARDS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

SEPTEMBER 2014



## The Principal's Corner

Dear Richards' Families:

Thank you to the parents, students, faculty and staff of Richards for a great start to the school year. Richards is a wonderful school thanks to the efforts of all of you. It was a pleasure to see so many of you at Open House. We have certainly had a great start to the school year and I look forward to working with you throughout the remainder of the year. We have many new faces at Richards this year! I would like to welcome all of our new students and parents to the Raider family. We also have many staff members new to Richards this year. We are glad to have many new members to the Richards team!

You may have noticed banners throughout the building highlighting The Raider Way. Our expectations are to be Respectful, Responsible, and Safe. Teachers and staff have been working hard to establish procedures and recognize positive behaviors of students during the first few weeks of school. Our students work every day to live out our vision statement: Big Dreams + Hard Work = Success. We will continue to work throughout the year to recognize students and provide an environment that is conducive to learning. You may help by reviewing procedures located in the student handbook.

Welcome back! One new staff member you may speak to when calling the office is Mrs. Sarah Kushman. Mrs. Kushman replaces Mrs. Michelle Emmert who has accepted a different position within BCSC. Please welcome Mrs. Kushman to our office staff. Please feel free to call me at 376-4311 or stop by the office any time if you have questions or concerns. Also, please contact your child's teacher if you have questions about your child's progress. I am sure we will have a terrific year at Richards. Go Raiders!

Mr. Sprong

## ***New in the Classroom***

*Congratulations to Mrs. Coles' fifth grade class for being awarded a class set of Walking Classroom materials. The Walking Classroom is a national award-winning program that combines academics with physical exercise. This evidence-based program is designed to enrich the knowledge base of curriculum while also improving listening skills and physical health.*

*Students listen to lessons presented in podcast form as they are participating in a brisk walk. The lessons cover a wide variety of topics in the areas of Language Arts, Science and Social Studies, and allow students the opportunity to "get out of the classroom" while still learning standards based material.*

*This grant was made possible through The Walking Classroom and the kids are VERY excited about participating.*



All 3 kindergarten classes will be having Enrichment Programs through the 4-H Purdue Extension Services in Bartholomew County.

Sept. 2nd -Happy Hands

This program is about germs and how they spread.

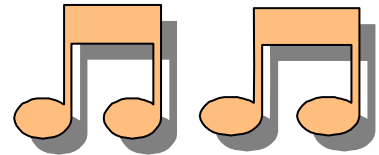
Sept. 23rd-Al The Can Man

The students will be making a man out of a recycled can.

Thank you-K Teachers



## Music Notes



Welcome to a new school year at Richards! I am looking forward to another great year of music making! Be sure to check out the music page on the Richards website for information about upcoming music performances, the content of music class, grades in music class, extra music opportunities for your child, and more. If you ever have any questions or concerns about your child's musical development, please do not hesitate to stop by, call, or email me at [luekenm@bcsc.k12.in.us](mailto:luekenm@bcsc.k12.in.us)!

~Mrs. Lueken, W. D. Richards music teacher

### **2014-2015 Music Performances - Put them on your calendar now!**

Tuesday, November 11; 8:30am Veteran's Day program: Grades 4-6 and choir

Thursday, December 11; 6:00pm Holiday Concert: Choir, Band, & Strings

Tuesday-Thursday, April 14-16; 11:45am-12:35pm Grade 1 Bring-Your-Parent-to-

Music-Class-Day: Tuesday = Voils, Wednesday = Frasier, Thursday = Ingram

Friday, April 17; 6:00pm Talent Show

Tuesday, April 21; 6:00pm Earth Day Concert: Grade 3

Thursday, May 7; 6:00pm "Click, Clack Moo: Cows That Type" Grade 2

# PTO News

The next PTO meeting will be held on September 9th at 7:00 p.m. Meetings are held in Room 305 next to the library. Free childcare is provided.

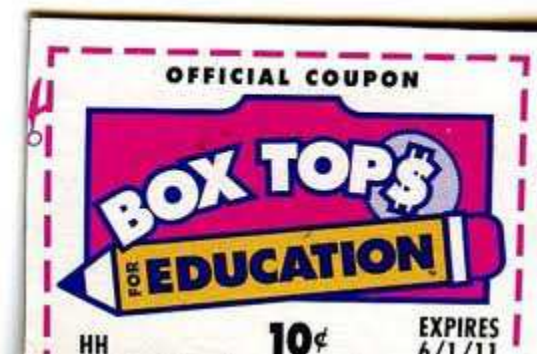
Mark Your  
Calendars



How can I help W. D. Richards this year?

- Box Tops/Labels for Education
- Paper Recycling
- Richards Rewards Gift Cards (SCRIP)
- Market Day
- Silent Auction Donations
- Family Fun Nights (Restaurant/Movie Nights)

Ask your child's teacher for more details.



Market Day.



# How Can I Help?

## Parents, Grandparents, & Neighbors

**You can help!**

**Volunteer to be a BOOK BUDDY!**

### What is Book Buddies Program?

- 2nd & 3rd graders reading below grade level receive 30 minutes of one-on-one training M-Th

### What is Required of Me?

- Attendance at a training session
- A background check

### What Do Book Buddies Tutors Do?

- Tutor two children once a week, 30 minutes each
- Buddies are needed at all Elementary Schools!



For more information contact:  
Book Buddies Director  
Debbie Lindauer, 376.4461  
[bookbuddies@bcsc.k12.in.us](mailto:bookbuddies@bcsc.k12.in.us)

**An hour a week can change a  
life forever!**

## Minds on Math

One hour a week is all it takes to help ignite a passion for Math in 4<sup>th</sup> graders in the Bartholomew Consolidated School Corp. Minds on Math meets after school in the public elementary schools. Mentors and small groups of students problem-solve and complete activities designed to reinforce math concepts. You choose the school and day of the week, Monday-Thursday, that fits your schedule. Training is ongoing and the program begins September 2. To sign-up or request more information call 812-378-4759 or email [mindsonmath@bcsc.k12.in.us](mailto:mindsonmath@bcsc.k12.in.us).



## Book Buddies

Do you enjoy working with children and volunteering in a way that will impact their lives for years to come? Book Buddies allows you to work one-on-one with struggling readers in second and third grades. You only need to donate one hour a week to read with two children. Book Buddies meets four days a week in all twelve public elementary schools in the county. You may choose the school site that works best for you. A short one-hour training session is required. Training is ongoing. To sign-up or to request more information call 812-376-4461 or email [bookbuddies@bcsc.k12.in.us](mailto:bookbuddies@bcsc.k12.in.us).

# Richards Elementary Skating Party Dates:

## 2014

Monday, September 8  
Monday, October 20  
Monday, November 10  
Monday, December 8

## 2015

Monday, January 12  
Monday, February 9  
Monday, March 9  
Monday, April 13  
Monday, May 11

All of the skating parties fall on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday of the month, except October which is on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday due to Fall Break. The October skating party is our costume contest, prizes are awarded to the Most Creative, Most Colorful & Best Book Character.

The skating parties are for Richards' students, their families and friends. This is a way to help raise funds for the Richards PTO. The PTO uses the proceeds to help with many needs within the school. Attending the skating parties is a great way to support your school and have fun with your friends.

Admission is \$3 and skate rental is \$2 (you may bring your own skates).  
Parents not skating are FREE!!  
Time is 6:00-8:00 p.m.

The class with the most students in attendance will receive a treat party from Mrs. Lambrecht, the skating party coordinator.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact me at 376-7321 or [lambrechte@bcsc.k12.in.us](mailto:lambrechte@bcsc.k12.in.us)

I am looking forward to a GREAT year!!!



## From the Art Room

September 21st is Pinwheels for Peace Day. 4th grade students will participate during their art classes.



***The Foster Grandparent Program*** is currently seeking older adults (55+) who wish to volunteer four hours daily every day school is in session with children in local elementary schools and Head Start Programs in Bartholomew County. The volunteers provide that extra special one-on-one attention tutoring and mentoring children with their work. For their assistance, Foster Grandparents receive a non-taxable, non-reportable stipend of \$106.00 every two weeks which does not affect Social Security benefits, housing subsidies or any other assistance. The Foster Grandparent is part of a very important intergenerational component of a child's education and it is a very valuable part of the volunteer's own day to day life. Anyone wishing information on the program please call toll free [1-866-644-6407](tel:1-866-644-6407).

***Donna Vincent***

Foster Grandparent Program Director

1531 13th Street, Suite G900

Columbus, IN 47201-1302

[812-372-6918](tel:812-372-6918) / Toll Free [866-644-6407](tel:866-644-6407)

Fax: [812-372-7846](tel:812-372-7846)

[www.thrive-alliance.org](http://www.thrive-alliance.org)

find us on Facebook under: **Thrive Alliance**



*Aging and Community Services, HPI and First Steps are now a part of **Thrive Alliance***

# VEGETARIAN ITEMS AVAILABLE FOR LUNCH

If you have a child who is a vegetarian, we wanted to let you know of some great non-meat lunch items that we have available for you to purchase as a lunch option. All you need to do is e-mail me ([brandsmaj@bcsc.k12.in.us](mailto:brandsmaj@bcsc.k12.in.us)) the night before or that morning before 9:00 a.m. or call me (376-4328) by 9:00 a.m. and let me know what your child may want and we would be glad to fix that item for them.

Items available are:

Vegetarian Burgers

Baked Potato

Breadsticks & cheese cup

Mozzerella cheese sticks with pizza sauce

PB & J Sandwich (which we offer every Tuesday and Thurs as an option)

Bean Cheese Burrito

Cheese Pizza



Thanks!

Janealis Brandsma, Cafeteria Manager

## HEALTHY HABITS

Nancy Millspaugh, RD,CD  
BCSC Director of Food Service

Going to bed on time; getting up early for school; doing homework and studying. These are all signs that a new school year has started and that means getting into a routine for school.

Try following these healthy tips to get your school year started off on the right foot:

- **Eat Breakfast.** Begin your day with a solid meal whether you choose to eat at home or at school. Eating in the morning wakes up your body and brain to work their best all day.
- **Snack Wisely.** Growing kids need frequent feedings to keep their energy up. Try to choose foods from the fruit, vegetable and/or dairy groups as healthy between meal snacks.
- **Stay Active.** Shoot for an hour of physical activity daily. Get your family exercising together by brainstorming a new physical activity to do each month together. This month could be race-walking through the neighborhood or next month a hula hoop contest!

**Have Family Meals.** Kids who eat regularly scheduled meals together with their families eat more nutritious foods, have higher grades, and less behavior problems. With your parent's permission, invite a friend to dinner once a week. You will enjoy the dinner company, and be proud to share your special family dinnertime with your friend.



# Starting With Chapter One

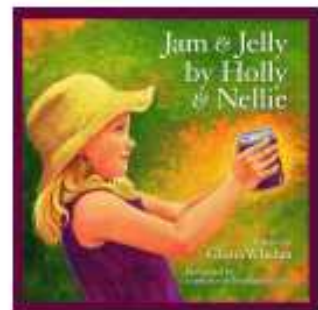
## September's Story:

Jam & Jelly by Holly & Nellie written by Gloria Whelan

Illustrated by Gijbert van Frankenhoyzen

Permission by: Sleeping Bear Press

Read by: Jessica Bissey, Child Psychologist



*Parenting Tips by Lori Erfmeier, BCSC PreK Parent/Child Specialist.*

**Airing every day on the BCSC Cable Channel 3 at  
7:00 a.m., 7:30 a.m., 11:30 a.m., 1:30 p.m., 3:30 p.m.,  
5:30 p.m., and 7:30 p.m.**

Provided by Bartholomew Consolidated School Corporation's Title I Program and  
the TV Production Classes at Columbus East High School

# ¡Chapter One está de regreso!

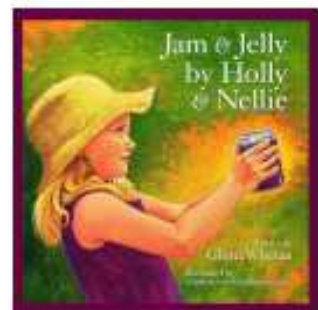
## Calendario de septiembre:

Jam & Jelly by Holly & Nellie written by Gloria Whelan

Illustrated by Gijbert van Frankenhoyzen

Permission by: Sleeping Bear Press

Read by: Jessica Bissey, Child Psychologist



*Consejos para padres de Lori Erfmeier, BCSC PreK Parent/Child  
Specialist.*

**Transmitido todos los días en el canal de cable 3 de BCSC a 7:00  
am, 7:30 am, 11:30 am, 1:30 pm, 3:30 pm, 5:30 p.m. y 7 :30  
p.m.**

Proporcionado por Bartholomew Consolidated School Corporation's Title I Program y las  
clases de producción de televisión en Columbus East High School.

# Girls on the Run / Trailblazer's Registration Open

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**Season Dates: Sept 8<sup>th</sup> thru Nov. 15<sup>th</sup>**

**Visit [FoundationForYouth.com](http://FoundationForYouth.com) for locations/times**

**Fee: \$40 ~ Register: 812-372-7867**



**Running program for youth ages 8 to 13. Teams meet 2 times a week and train for a 5k while learning the importance of a healthy lifestyle and making positive choices with a focus on confidence building. Kids receive a water bottle, tshirt, running journal and entry to the 5k**

**5K will be held on Saturday, Nov. 15<sup>th</sup> at 3:00 pm**

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Interested in coaching or helping a team, contact  
[jennifer@foundationforyouth.com](mailto:jennifer@foundationforyouth.com).

Girls on the Run and Trailblazers are programs of  
Foundation For Youth ~ 405 Hope Ave ~ Columbus, IN 47201 ~ 812-372-7867



# September 2014



W.D. Richards Website:  
[www.bcsc.k12.in.us/richards](http://www.bcsc.k12.in.us/richards)

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<b>PBIS Focus:</b> Restroom Procedures	<b>1</b> Labor Day (No School)	<b>2</b> Happy Hands– Kindergarten (4H Enrichment) Fall Fund Raiser Ends	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b> Lego Club 2:45-4:00	<b>5</b> FCA 7:30 (Room 114)	<b>6</b>
<b>7</b> <b>PBIS Focus:</b> Cafeteria Procedures	<b>8</b> Put Your Nose in a Book Day! Girls on the Run 3:00-4:15  PTO Skating Party	<b>9</b>  PTO Meeting 7:00 (Room 305)	<b>10</b>  Girls on the Run 3:00-4:15	<b>11</b>  Lego Club 2:45-4:00	<b>12</b>  iCare Family Fun Night	<b>13</b>
<b>14</b> <b>PBIS Focus:</b> Playground Procedures	<b>15</b>  Girls on the Run 3:00-4:15  School Pictures	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>  Girls on the Run 3:00-4:15	<b>18</b>  Lego Club 2:45-4:00	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>
<b>21</b> <b>PBIS Focus:</b> Hallway Procedures	<b>22</b>  Girls on the Run 3:00-4:15	<b>23</b>  Al the Can Man –Kindergarten (4 H Enrichment)	<b>24</b>  Girls on the Run 3:00-4:15	<b>25</b>  Student Council Meeting 7:30 (Room 114)  Lego Club 2:45-4:00	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>
<b>28</b> <b>PBIS Focus:</b> Restroom Procedures	<b>29</b>  Girls on the Run 3:00-4:15	<b>30</b>				



# Home & School

Working Together for School Success

## CONNECTION<sup>®</sup>

W D Richards Elementary School  
Mr Darin Sprong, Principal

### SHORT NOTES

#### Celebrate progress

Suggest that your youngster create a fun reminder of all the things she has accomplished. Let her cover a container with construction paper and label it "I did it!" Then, she can write each success ("I memorized my times tables") on a slip of paper and put it in the container. If she's feeling discouraged, have her read the slips.

#### Excellent attendance

Being in school every day means your child won't miss out on learning. Try to schedule appointments and family trips outside of school hours. If he asks to stay home "just because," remind him of what he'll miss, such as his reading group or art class. Explain that he can be absent only if he's sick or if there's a family emergency.

#### Eat meals together

You may have heard that it's important for families to eat dinner together. But other meals count, too. If you work in the evenings, maybe you could make time for a family breakfast. On a weekend, try a picnic lunch! Research shows that children who regularly eat meals with their families tend to do better in school and avoid risky behavior.

#### Worth quoting

"The best way to cheer yourself up is to try to cheer somebody else up!"  
Mark Twain

### JUST FOR FUN

**Q:** What's yellow and smells just like green paint?

**A:** Yellow paint.



## Homework solutions that work

Like an actor rehearsing his lines or a batter working on his swing, your child does homework to practice what he learns in school. And if he's like most youngsters, homework brings occasional challenges. Here are solutions to common problems he might face.

#### Getting started

When your child gets home from school or after-school care, he might want to relax for a little while, or he may want to jump right in and work. Have him try each method for one week and keep track of how it goes. He could write notes in each day's calendar square. ("Went great!" or "Hard time getting started.") After two weeks, he can review the notes to see which routine worked best.

#### Staying motivated

Does your youngster ever feel restless when he's doing homework? Suggest that he get up and move to a new spot. For example, he might finish his vocabulary assignment at the kitchen table and then read his science chapter on the



porch. A planned break (say, to have a snack or take a walk) can also give him a second wind.

#### Solving problems

Help your child make a list of strategies he can use when he gets stuck. For a math assignment, he might try tools like a number line or find sample problems in his book. When he's reading, he could look up words in a dictionary or reread a paragraph. *Tip:* If he's still stumped, he might call a friend or write down his question to ask his teacher the next day.♥

### Family teamwork

Whether your youngsters are doing a group project or playing Hacky Sack, a team effort is needed. Everyone's a winner with these games that will show them teamwork in action.

**Lower the yardstick.** Together, hold a yardstick horizontally so that everyone has one finger underneath. Then, lower the yardstick to the ground—but if anyone's finger drops away, you have to start over. See how many tries it takes to get the yardstick to the floor.

**Pass the ball.** Sit in a circle with your feet out toward the center. Pass a ball around the circle—using only your feet. How many times can the ball go around before it drops on the ground?♥





## Good consequences

Behaving well and working hard pay off! Help your child see the results of her efforts—you'll find yourself scolding her less often as she learns self-discipline.

### Tie good behavior to nice outcomes.

If your youngster is quiet when you're on the phone, you might say, "You were so patient while I made that call. Would you like to play a game now?" Or when she goes to bed without a struggle, point out how energetic she seems the next morning.



**Recognize success.** Maybe you'd like your child's room to be neater. Tell her that if she keeps it clean for a month, you'll help her rearrange or redecorate it. By that time, picking up will probably be a habit. And she'll enjoy her room so much that she'll be motivated to keep it that way.

**Tip:** Try not to use rewards like toys or food. You'll train your youngster to expect something in exchange for behaving well. Plus, offering food as a reward can lead to unhealthy eating habits.♥

## Ready, set, pretend!

No matter how old your youngster is, pretending can boost her creativity and teach her to think abstractly. Try these activities:



- Ask your child to close her eyes and imagine she's a person she has studied (explorer, inventor) or that she's visiting a place she has learned about (White House, rain forest). Encourage her to describe what she sees, hears, and smells. In the rain forest, for example, she might see colorful birds, hear monkeys howling, and smell damp leaves.

- Pick a random object (sponge). Have each family member list creative uses for it (pincushion, hamster tumbling mat, ice pack). After three minutes, compare your lists. The person with the most ideas gets to pick the next item.♥

## Q & A

### Respect differences

**Q:** We recently moved to an area where people speak several different languages, and our son has a lot of questions. How should we answer him?

**A:** It's great that your son is being exposed to a variety of cultures. You can use his curiosity to help him learn about respecting differences.

Explain that in many parts of the United States, people speak different languages, eat different foods, and wear different clothing than your family does. At the same time, they do many of the same things (play at the park, watch movies).

To help him understand, ask him to name one classmate who speaks English and one who speaks another language. Have him tell you something he has in common with each child (skateboarding, wearing sneakers) and one thing that they don't share (number of siblings, language spoken at home). He'll discover that language is just one of the many things that makes a person similar to or different from him.♥



## PARENT TO PARENT

### Talking to kids about money

My children were always asking to buy things such as dress-up shoes or new games. They didn't seem to understand that these items weren't in our budget.

I wanted them to learn about how we spend our money—and that it is limited. So I got a spiral notebook and labeled it "Family Spending Journal." I explained that for two weeks, everyone would keep a record of what they spent money on. I listed items like my subway

fare, the electric bill, and the taxes taken out of my paycheck. The children wrote down expenses such as school lunch, soccer cleats, and field trip fees.

After a few days, they were surprised by how many things we needed money for. Our kids had no idea, for example, that we paid for taxes on our income, several types of insurance, and membership in our homeowners' association. Sometimes they still ask to buy too many things at the store, but when I say no, at least they understand why.♥



### OUR PURPOSE

To provide busy parents with practical ideas that promote school success, parent involvement, and more effective parenting.

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