

# RAIDER NEWS

## W.D. RICHARDS ELEMENTARY



February 2016

### The Principal's Corner

Dear Richards Families:

The first few weeks of the new year have been very exciting and busy. We have had a fairly smooth start to the second semester even with a few snow days and two hour delays. Hopefully the month of February will be kind us. Reminder: Our sixth snow day would be an e learning day. In the case of bad weather in the remainder of winter, we encourage parents to use the media (television, radio, BCSC web page) to know of altered school schedules. Also, please remember to have arrangements made in advance in case of emergency closing.

Thank you parents for making sure you have your children at school and ready to learn everyday. The staff of Richards continues to implement new things in order to better serve our kids and parents. We have many wonderful people at Richards that make every day special for all of our kids! I would like to thank our PTO for their willingness to support our students.

I would like to thank the many parents, coaches, and staff members who have made our basketball season such a huge success. It takes a wonderful group of volunteers in order for home basketball games to run so smoothly. All of your help has been appreciated. It has also been exciting to watch our kids grow as students and athletes. We had many very exciting games this year and would like congratulate our cheerleaders are their Cheer Championship and our girls basketball team for their undefeated championship season.

It is very important that children arrive on time at school everyday ready to learn. Our school goal for attendance this year is 98%. Richards had the best attendance in BCSC for the month of December and our overall attendance has been excellent this year. We can reach our goal for the year by having excellent attendance during the upcoming months. Winter is particularly bad for colds, flu, and related seasonal illness. We need to continue our efforts to get students in school everyday possible. Parents can help us by: not letting small aches and pains become the reason for missing school; encouraging healthy habits, including getting plenty of rest and eating healthy foods; not scheduling vacations during the school year, including snow make up days added to the end of the year, and talking with your child about the importance of good school attendance and the impact it can have on them as a working adult. Attendance is particularly important this spring because of spring ISTEP testing. Students in grades 3-6 will be participating in ISTEP testing from February 29 through March 11 and again from April 18 through May 6. Please make every effort to avoid appointments during the mornings of testing dates.

Please feel free to call me at 376-4311 or stop by the office if you have comments, questions, or concerns. Go Raiders!

Mr. Sprong



### Math Bowl

February 25 at 5:00 at  
Southside Elementary

Fourth grade field trip  
KidsCommons on February 9

### Dates to Remember:

Student Council

February 11

FCA

February 25

PTO Meeting

February 6 (7pm)

PYO Movie Night

February 19

### Car Rider Safety –

Please remind your children to always enter vehicles using the car door on the curb side of the back circle drive. It is also helpful to pull forward around the circle drive so more students can be picked up in a safe manner. Also, it is important to remember that students should not be dropped off before school in front of the building.

### Outdoor Recess Reminder –

Fresh air and outdoor play activities are beneficial to students. We do go outside for recess whenever the weather permits. In the winter a combination of the wind chill factor and temperature is used to determine the possibility of going outside for play. Twenty degrees is used as the cut off for outside recess. All students should have appropriate clothing for outside play. Contact our school nurse if you need assistance in obtaining warm clothing. **Students with health conditions that don't allow outside play must provide a doctor's statement. All students must participate in outdoor recess, unless a doctor's statement is on file.**

## Volunteer Opportunities

### Minds on Math:

Help ignite a passion for math in 4<sup>th</sup> graders in the Bartholomew Consolidated School Corporation.

Mentors donate one hour per week to work with a small group of students on problem-solving and activities that reinforce math concepts, 3:00-4:00 Mondays through Thursdays.

A one-hour training session will be scheduled with interested volunteers.

To volunteer, contact [mindsonmath@bcsc.k12.in.us](mailto:mindsonmath@bcsc.k12.in.us) or call Donna Fehribach at 812-378-4759.

### Book Buddies:

Volunteer with 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> grade students in a way that will impact their lives for years to come. Book Buddies volunteer one hour a week to read one-on-one with two children. Book Buddies meets Monday through Thursday during the school day in all county public elementary schools. Choose the school site that works best for you. A one-hour training session will be scheduled with volunteers.

To sign-up or to request more information call 812-376-4461

Make a  
Difference  
Today



## FOOD IS NOT TRASH

An estimated 1 billion pounds of uneaten, unopened food items are discarded annually in American Schools. We can do better than feeding landfills while 1 in 6 children go hungry. Students deserve the right to make a better choice-FOOD IS NOT TRASH.

BCSC hopes to end the destructive practice of waste by providing **NO THANK YOU TABLES** in all our cafeterias. Each cafeteria has a table designated for unopened, uneaten food items that students do not want. Examples would be an unopened carton of milk, a sealed packaged of string cheese, etc. The tables are able to keep temperature sensitive items cooled safely. Students that are still hungry during the lunch period may visit the No Thank You table to choose extra items to eat at no additional cost. At the end of the lunch period, the items are collected by café staff, are stored in separate containers marked for donation, and once a week the items are sent to Love Chapel or BCSC Food Pantries for distribution to the public.

August through December, our stats show that we have kept 1,697 pounds of uneaten food from entering the landfill and 1,697 pounds of food have been donated to the community.

BCSC Kids + No Thank You Tables= No Kid Hungry  
BCSC Food Service....What are YOU having for lunch today?

## Richards café news!

A few highlights Richards café!

Coming up this month for entrees are Chili, Crunchy Tacos, Mozzarella Sticks, walking taco, and much more! Go to the BCSC website under Parents to see our menus for breakfast and lunch! Remember that breakfast is free to reduced and free students and only a \$1.25 if you are a paid student. If your student hasn't checked out our delicious breakfasts, we invite them to come and try it out and start their day off right!! J Breakfast begins at 7:45 and goes til 8:05

On February 4<sup>th</sup> it is 4<sup>th</sup> Grade Choice and the winner from all the votes is Bacon Cheeseburger!!!

Also, on February 8<sup>th</sup>, we are celebrating Chinese New Year with Orange Popcorn Chicken Stir-Fry and a fortune cookie for dessert! All are welcome to come and join us in this celebration. Fun worksheets will be provided on how to write Happy New Year in Chinese!!

Each meal costs \$2.45 for paid students and \$.40 for reduced and comes with an entrée choice, up to 4 sides, milk, and dessert on Tuesdays and Thursdays. PB&J is offered daily as well as a chicken patty sandwich. Box lunches are offered Monday, Wednesdays and Fridays and delicious Big Salads are offered on Tuesdays and Thursdays!

Thank you all for being such great parents to work with and being so nice on the phone when some of you call! J Thank you for your support of the Richards Café. You are always welcome to come and join your child for lunch for a cost of only \$3.10!

As always, if you have any questions or anything I can do for you in regards to the cafeteria, please e-mail me or call me!

Janealis Brandsma  
Cafeteria Manager  
812-376-4328 or e-mail [brandsmaj@bcsc.k12.in.us](mailto:brandsmaj@bcsc.k12.in.us)

# Growth Mindset

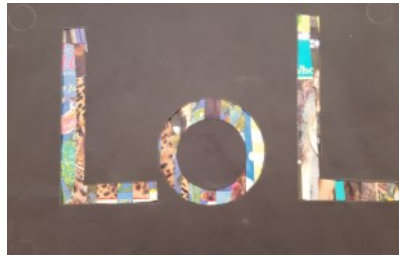
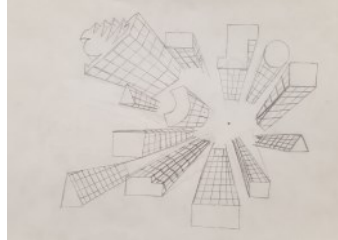
**STOP SAYING**  
**"You are so smart"**  
**AND START SAYING...**

1. You tried really hard on that.
2. You never gave up, even when it was hard.
3. You have such a positive attitude.
4. You have really improved on \_\_\_\_\_
5. What a creative solution to that problem!
6. You work very well with your classmates.
7. What a great friend you are!
8. I love how you took ownership of that!
9. That was a very responsible thing you did.
10. I like the way you are doing \_\_\_\_\_
11. I admire the way you \_\_\_\_\_
12. You really handled that situation well because \_\_\_\_\_
13. It was brave of you to \_\_\_\_\_
14. I love that you are always prepared for class.
15. You did a great job of helping \_\_\_\_\_ with her assignment.
16. You have taken great care of your desk/locker/book.
17. You remembered to bring \_\_\_\_\_ to class! Great job!
18. I know I can trust you because \_\_\_\_\_
19. I can tell you studied very hard!
20. I appreciate how helpful you were when you \_\_\_\_\_
21. You did a great job of participating today!
22. I could tell you worked well with your group because \_\_\_\_\_
23. It is so nice that you value other people's opinions.
24. I can tell you tried your very best because \_\_\_\_\_
25. You really encouraged your classmates today when you \_\_\_\_\_
26. What a creative way to solve that problem!
27. You are not afraid of a challenge! I like that!
28. You thought of that all by yourself!
29. You remembered to \_\_\_\_\_ (specific skill)! Great thinking!
30. I am so proud that you made that choice.



# Art Room News

Despite the delays and snow days, we have been making lots of art this quarter! Students have been learning about perspective, collage, positive/negative space, as well as other concepts. We have been exploring mask making techniques from Venice, Italy, and our younger students have been getting to know some famous artists including Vincent Van Gogh, Henri Rousseau, and Paul Klee.



## Richards Music News

Congratulations to the following students who will represent Richards at 2 different Honor Chords in 2016. I'm excited to see these enthusiastic groups growing each year!

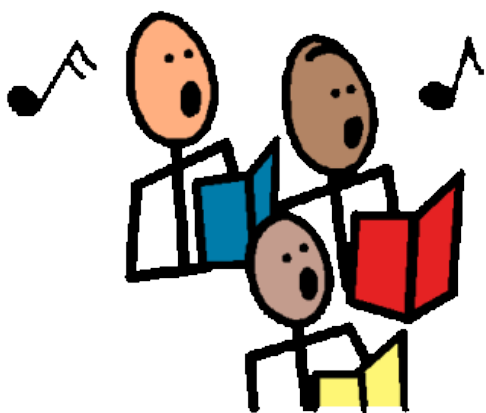


### All State Honor Choir - auditioned choir held in Fort Wayne January 14 & 15

Sam Ferrenburg  
Xandra Ellegood  
Anna Henrichsen  
Gavin Foley

### Circle the State with Song statewide choral festival, held in Columbus February 13

Sam Ferrenburg  
Xandra Ellegood  
Anna Henrichsen  
Gavin Foley  
Kathryn Gilliland  
Catherine Miller  
Messiah Trapp  
Kade Kikendall  
Cameron Barr  
Alaney Parker  
Katelynn Stetter  
Madison Valentine  
Aislinn Tian  
Morgan Humphrey





## Scholastic Great Bedtime Story Pajama Drive



Before Winter Break, Fifth grade students at Richards Elementary collected 28 sets of pajamas as part of the Scholastic Great Bedtime Story Pajama Drive.

These pajamas were donated to a local shelter and Scholastic matched the donation with a free book.

# Run Jump & Play Day



**ATTENTION!**

**ATTENTION!!**

**ATTENTION!!!**

More information, along with the REQUIRED permission slip will be sent home with your student as we get closer to the event. It is a FUN time ~ I hope to see you there!

*Mr. Martin*

Richards' 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual RUN JUMP & PLAY activity nights will be coming soon!

Beginning immediately after school until 5:00 p.m. each day:

Kdg & 1<sup>st</sup> Grds - Tues., Mar. 01  
2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Grds - Wed., Mar. 02  
4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup>, 6<sup>th</sup> Grds - Thurs., Mar.  
03



# Deadline February 10

**Planning on buying gift cards as Christmas presents?? Why not purchase them through the SCRIP Program? Each gift card purchased donates a percentage back to Richards Elementary!**

**For more information please contact  
Michelle Cochran at [mcochran08@gmail.com](mailto:mcochran08@gmail.com)  
Or Julia Stetter at [stetterj@bcsc.k12.in.us](mailto:stetterj@bcsc.k12.in.us)  
Or order online at: [www.shopwithscrip.com](http://www.shopwithscrip.com)  
Richards Enrollment code: F978ADA224888**



# Big Brothers Big Sisters of Bartholomew County

## School-Based Program

Big Brothers Big Sisters operates in all **11** BCSC elementary and the **2** BCSC middle schools.

Bigs and Littles meet once per week to talk and have fun at school during lunch or recess. The match times are coordinated with the school schedule.

Thank you for allowing BBBS to serve the youth of our community through the School Base program.

The impact is of mentoring is observed by parents, teachers, and pupil services seeing an increase of confidence, competence and caring in each Little.

If a "Big" is not able to follow his/her match from elementary to Central Middle School, BBBS will refer the youth to the CYC peer mentoring program through the counselor's office.

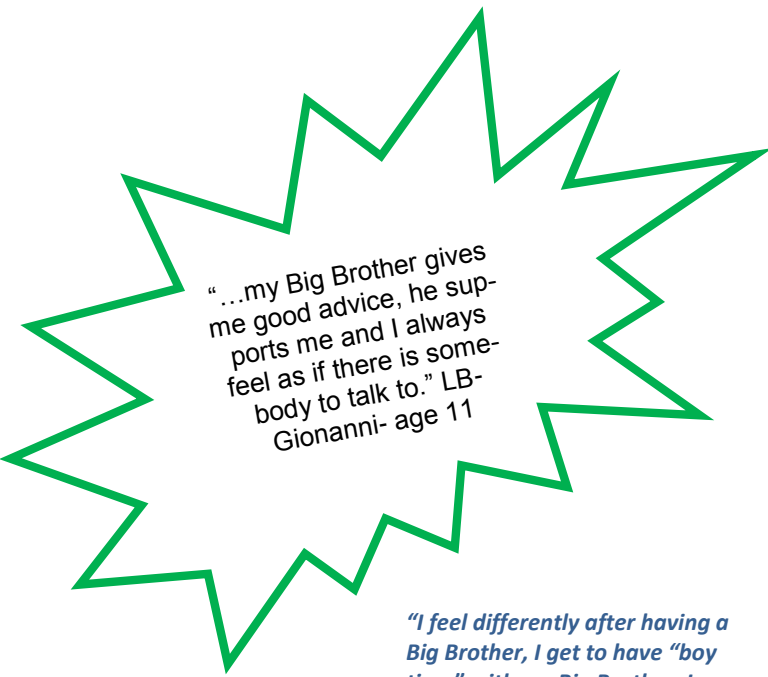
### To Refer a Student

Contact Big Brothers Big Sisters Match Support Specialist for questions and/or applications.

BBBS is a NO Fee base program. Our Revenue comes from **Bowl For Kids' Sake, United Way**, Private and Corporate Contributions and Grants



*"My Big Sister helped me with my school when I was failing."*  
LS-Catrena-age 14



*"...my Big Brother gives me good advice, he supports me and I always feel as if there is somebody to talk to." LB-Gionanni- age 11*

*"I feel differently after having a Big Brother, I get to have "boy time" with my Big Brother. I actually feel like I am cared about, because at home I am invisible". -LS- Madison, age 10*

### Make a "Big" Difference in a Life today!

Volunteering to become a Big Brother or Big Sister is one of the most enjoyable and rewarding things you will ever do.

After expressing an interest, the volunteer goes through a thorough background check and careful interview. We then match based on location, personalities and preferences. We provide full support along the way so matches can grow into lasting friendships.

If you believe you do not have the time to volunteer to be a Big... let a friend or someone you know about our program, maybe he/she has some time to give a child in need.

Big Brothers Big Sisters of Bartholomew County  
A Program Of Foundation For Youth  
405 Hope Ave., Columbus, IN 47201; (812)348-4558  
[www.foundationforyouth.com](http://www.foundationforyouth.com)

#### Staff Contacts:

Laura Moses: Program Director Ext. 217; [laura@foundationforyouth.com](mailto:laura@foundationforyouth.com)  
Barb Breedon: Match Support Specialist-Community Based; Ext. 315; [barb@foundationforyouth.com](mailto:barb@foundationforyouth.com)  
Marion McCorry: Enrollment Match Support Specialist; Ext. 218; [marion@foundationforyouth.com](mailto:marion@foundationforyouth.com)  
Kelly Backmeyer: Match Support Specialist-School Based; Ext. 209; [kelly@foundationforyouth.com](mailto:kelly@foundationforyouth.com)  
Rachel David: Match Support Specialist-School Based; Ext. 210; [rachel@foundationforyouth.com](mailto:rachel@foundationforyouth.com)



Are accepting applications for the Spring 2016 Recruit class

Saturday, February 13<sup>th</sup> - 9am to noon

Tuesday, February 16<sup>th</sup> - 6pm to 8pm

Thursday, February 18<sup>th</sup> - 6pm to 8pm

At

This program is for boys and girls ages 8 through completion of high school.

The Young Marines is a not-for-profit youth education program. The program focuses on character building through a combination of self-discipline, teamwork and leadership, and promotes a healthy, drug-free lifestyle.

The Young Marines of Columbus meet every Saturday from 9:00am to 12:30 pm for 13 weeks.

Cost is \$120 for Spring session. This cost includes complete uniform with boots, guide books, ribbons, and subscription to the Young Marine magazine.

During each 13 week session we do lots of things that are exciting, educational and healthy:

- We learn to drill (march)
  - March in parades
  - Earn ribbons and awards for things such as attendance, academic achievement, musician, CPR, conservation, fire prevention and protection, sportsmanship, and land navigation
  - We have a swim qualification to enhance skill
  - Overnight field training (campout)
  - Hikes on local trails
- Color Guard for local activities

During the summer months, Young Marines have the opportunity to attend the Young Marines National Summer Programs of Adventures, Challenges, Encampments, and Schools. The youths receive instruction and training in a variety of areas such as survival skills, wilderness training, water-based activities, aviation, science, leadership and team-building. Activities are held in various venues across the country.

**For More Information:** Contact Scott Riley @ 812-344-4320 (Text or call) or [Scott.riley@youngmarines.com](mailto:Scott.riley@youngmarines.com)







# FEBRUARY 2016

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

<b>Sun</b>	<b>Mon</b>	<b>Tue</b>	<b>Wed</b>	<b>Thu</b>	<b>Fri</b>	<b>Sat</b>
<b>7</b> PBIS Focus: Restroom Procedures	<b>8</b> Math Bowl Practice 2:45-3:30 PTO Skating Party 6:00-8:00	<b>9</b> KidsCommons Fieldtrip (Grade 4) Girls Open Gym 4:00-5:30 (Grades 4&5)	<b>10</b> Math Bowl Practice 2:45-3:30	<b>11</b> Student Council 2:45-3:30 Lego Club 2:45-4:00 Girls Open Gym	<b>12</b> Math Bowl Practice 7:25-8:00	<b>13</b>
<b>14</b> PBIS Focus: Cafeteria Procedures	<b>15</b> Math Bowl Practice 2:45-3:30	<b>16</b> Girls Open Gym 4:00-5:30 (Grades 4&5)	<b>17</b> Grade 5 ISO Concert Math Bowl Practice 2:45-3:30	<b>18</b> Lego Club 2:45-4:00 Girls Open Gym 4:00-5:30 (Grades 4&5)	<b>19</b> Math Bowl Practice 7:25-8:00 PTO Movie Night	<b>20</b>
<b>21</b> PBIS Focus: Playground Procedures	<b>22</b> Math Bowl Practice 2:45-3:30	<b>23</b> Girls Open Gym 4:00-5:30 (Grades 4&5)	<b>24</b> Math Bowl Practice 2:45-3:30	<b>25</b> FCA 7:30 Lego Club 2:45-4:00 Girls Open Gym 4:00-5:30 (Grades 4&5) Math Bowl at Southside 5:00	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>
<b>28</b> PBIS Focus: Hallway Procedures	<b>29</b>					
<b>1</b> PBIS Focus: Hallway Procedures	<b>1</b> Math Bowl Practice 2:45-3:30	<b>2</b> Girls Open Gym 4:00-5:30 (Grades 4&5)	<b>3</b> Math Bowl Practice 2:45-3:30	<b>4</b> Lego Club 2:45-4:00 Girls Open Gym 4:00-5:30 (Grades 4&5) Athletic Awards Program	<b>5</b> Math Bowl Practice 7:25-8:00	<b>6</b>