

RAIDER NEWS

W.D. RICHARDS ELEMENTARY



October 2015

The Principal's Corner

Dear Richards Families:

Fall will soon be in the air! Cooler temperatures will be here before you know it. Remember that we go out to recess each day unless there is rain or the temperature is below 20 degrees. Please send students dressed appropriately. Fall is also the time of year for students to misplace jackets and coats. Our lost in found is located in the back lobby. Please encourage your child to look at lost and found if they have missing items.

Our teachers and staff have worked very hard this first grading period to provide your children with the best possible opportunity to learn to their potential. They continue to implement new, research based interventions and teaching strategies in order to improve student learning. I would like to recognize their efforts. I would also like to thank you for having your children here on time and ready to do their best everyday. Having students here every day on time and ready to learn is very much appreciated! Congratulations to Richards for excellent attendance thus far this year. Our attendance rate through the first eight weeks of school is near our goal of 98%. Hopefully our excellent attendance will continue. We have wonderful students, parents and staff at Richards!

We will not be having traditional parent-teacher conferences this year. However, many parent-teacher conferences have already occurred and I know many more are planned in the coming weeks. Every parent who would like to conference concerning their child will have the opportunity to do so. Communication with classroom teachers is vital to the success of every student. If you have concerns about your child's needs and progress please feel free to contact your child's teacher or the school.

October is a very busy month with the start of basketball and cheerleading as well as many other activities. I hope students, parents and staff enjoy fall break. Hopefully families will be able to enjoy the break from school and come back rested and ready on October 12. Please check the calendar for upcoming events. We look forward to seeing you at upcoming school events this year.

Please feel free to call me at 376-4311 or stop by the office if you have comments or concerns. I enjoy talking with you and care about your kids.

Mr. Sprong

Fall Break October 5-9

No School

Volunteers Needed!!

Our Fall Festival is coming up quickly!

If you would like to help out please contact Shelley Walker walk-err@bcsc.k12.in.us

Dates to Remember:

Basketball Tryouts

October 12, 13, 14, 15

K Field Trip

October 14

1st Field Trip

October 20

Student Council

October 15

FCA Dates—Mark Your Calendars!

Aug. 27

Sept. 24th

Oct. 29th

Nov. 19th

Dec. 10th

Jan. 28th

Feb. 25th

No meeting in March with ISTEP and Spring Break

April 28th

May 19th

*FCA stands for Fellowship of Christian Athletes. You do not need to play a sport or be an athlete. Our group comes together once a month to study the word of God and have fellowship as a group of Christians that pray for one another and study His word. We hope you join us each month and start your day off following God's word! Bring a bible, friend and an open heart! See you there!

RISE AND SHINE WITH BREAKFAST! WHY EAT BREAKFAST AT SCHOOL?

School breakfasts provide whole grains, low fat dairy, fruits and protein to get young brains going for the day! School breakfast is served in all BCSC schools daily.

Students who eat school breakfast:

- Have better concentration
- Are more alert and ready to learn
- Remember more of what they learn
- Participate in class
- Have higher standardized test scores
- Make healthier food choices throughout the day
- Have healthier body weights



JUMP START YOUR DAY WITH SCHOOL BREAKFAST!

“WHY DOES MY APPLE LOOK FUNNY?”

Nancy Millspaugh, RD,CD
BCSC Director of Food Service

As children head back to school this fall, they may notice something different about their apples...they may not be so perfect looking! The reason for the change is simple. BCSC Schools will be featuring locally grown produce on its menu when available! As part of a farm-to-school project, students can choose from locally grown apples, watermelon, and tomatoes picked at their peak, and bursting with flavor!

The aim of this project is to grow healthy children and a healthy community. The typical food item in the U.S. travels 1500 to 2400 miles from farm to plate. Currently 1/3 of U.S. children are obese and or overweight. By providing locally grown produce on the BCSC school menus, we help support our local economy, help to reduce our carbon footprint by using less gasoline, serve fresh, great tasting produce with less nutrients lost in transit, as well as encourage students to eat more fresh fruits & vegetables to reduce their risk of obesity and other health related disorders.

It takes a whole community to put nutritious foods from local farms on the menu in schools and we need your help:

- Talk to your children about this exciting new program and encourage them to try the locally grown produce offered in their school cafeteria.
 - Help your child understand where their food comes from and how their food choices affect their bodies, environment & community.
 - Plan education opportunities such as farm tours, trips to farm markets, etc.
- Offer more locally grown fruits & vegetables at home to role model a healthy lifestyle for life!



Art Room News

We have been having tons of fun in the art room so far! See some of the great projects students have created below and around the school!



Richards Music News

The school year is off to a great start in the music room! Please know that parents are always welcome to stop by the music room or contact Mrs. Lueken with any questions or concerns. You can reach me at luekenm@bcsc.k12.in.us.



Check out the Music Classroom page on the Richards website for information about our school's music program!

Veteran's Day:

Richards will be holding its annual Veteran's Day program this year on Wednesday, November 11 at 8:30 a.m. Students in grades 4-6 will present the program, which will be attended by the full school. Family and friends, especially our honored veterans, are welcome to attend the event to join our school in giving thanks to those who have served our country.



Please consider submitting a photo of a special veteran to be part of our Veteran's Day slide show. You may either e-mail the photo to luekenm@bcsc.k12.in.us or send a hard copy in an envelope to Mrs. Lueken. She will scan it and return it to you. Please include the name of the veteran, military branch, years served, and their relationship to any Richards students in your e-mail or envelope.

Recorder Time for 5th Grade!

5th grade classes have started using recorders in music class. If any 5th grade students need to purchase a recorder, please bring \$4 to Mrs. Lueken ASAP.



New Teachers

We have several new teachers this year at Richards Elementary School that we want to introduce you to. Our 6th grade students have been working hard to gather information about and interview all of our new staff members and a different teacher will be featured each month right here!

Mrs. Frazier Interview **by Cam Barker and Tim Moyer**



Mrs. Frazier is a new 6th grade teacher at Richards this year. She just moved to Columbus and is from Dayton, Ohio. Not only is she new to Columbus, but she is also newly married to Ryan, her husband. When she started college, she didn't know what she wanted to be, and then chose elementary education at Olivet Nazarene University. It was a good career choice because she loves kids and enjoys working with them.

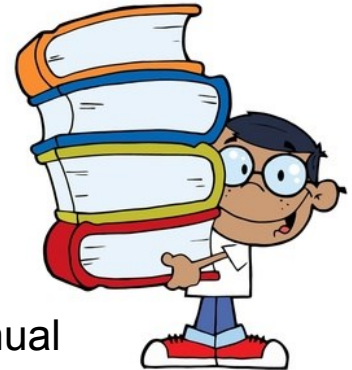
However, there is more to Mrs. Frazier than being a teacher. In her free time, Mrs. Frazier likes to play volleyball and kickball and also cook. One of her favorite TV shows is "Boy Meets World". She also likes to play the board game "Ticket to Ride", a cross-country adventure game. In between all those fun things, Mrs. Frazier enjoys her naps.

Do you want to know more about her? Well, you might find it interesting that her favorite color is yellow and that she named her car Stella. She loves to eat "cheesy, buttery bread". Mrs. Frazier considers her strength to be her positive attitude, while her weakness is that she is messy. When asked what she likes most about teaching, she responded, "I like getting to know my class and watching the students learn". Mrs. Frazier also finds it satisfying when a student overcomes a bad habit or a struggle. Welcome to Richards, Mrs. Frazier!

News from the Richards Library



**“Monster Book Fair –
Reading is so much fun,
you’ll get GOOSEBUMPS”!**

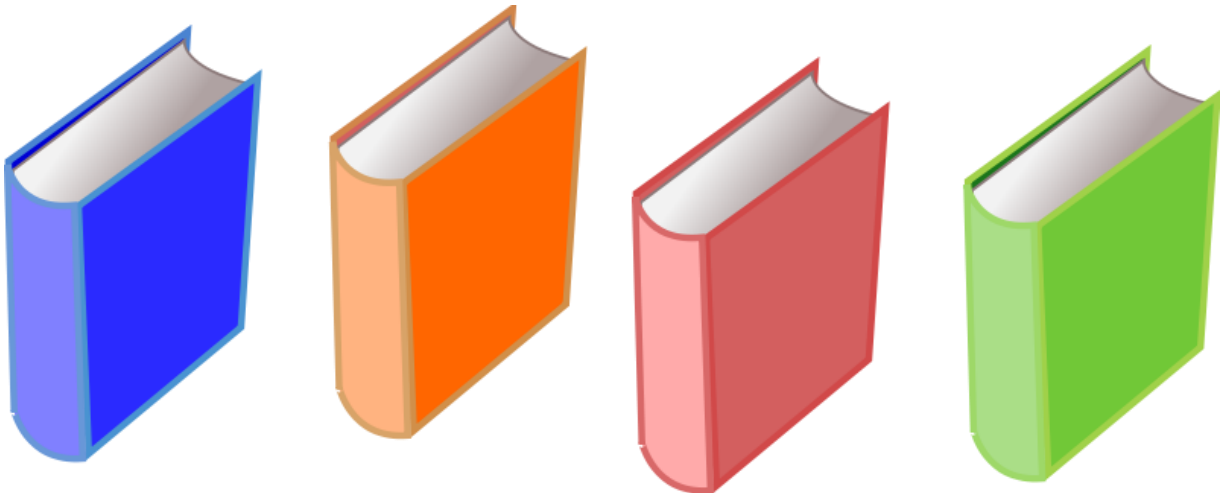


Mark your calendars now for the annual
Richards Book Fair!

Monday, November 2 thru Friday, November 6
Students will be able to shop throughout the week
during their scheduled library time.

We will then wrap up the sale on
Friday night, November 6, with
Family Night during the Fall Festival

The library will be open from 5:30 to 8:00 P.M. that
evening for you and your family to shop for your
favorite titles.



**Congratulations to our new
Richard's Cheerleaders!**



Gwennie Anderson
Olivia Collins
Lexie Mainz
Sydney Wise
Karina Bayer
Morgan Allen
Camry Comstock
Emma Martin
Cami Warren
Azzure Ozaeta
Eden Long
Kenzie Acton
Paige Brown
Izabel Long



Way to Go!



Basketball Try Outs



After Fall Break

5th and 6th Grade Boys and Girls

Monday 10/12, Tuesday 10/13, Wednesday 10/14, and Thursday 10/15

Girls: 4:00-5:30

Boys: 5:30-7:00

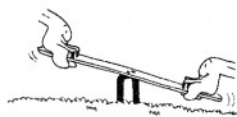


Home & School

Working Together for School Success

CONNECTION®

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.♥

OUR PURPOSE

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

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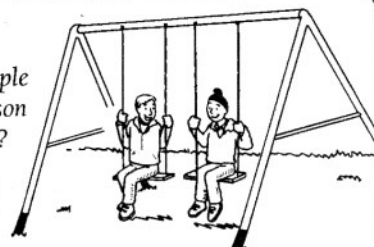
Respect differences

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.♥



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.♥





OCTOBER 2015

W.D. Richards Website:
www.bcsc.k12.in.us/richards

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
PBIS Focus: Restroom Procedures	Strings classes: Intermediate/ Advanced Mondays at 7:25 a.m. Beginning Wednesdays	Choir 7:25 Spell Bowl Practice 2:45-3:30 Girls on the Run 2:45-4:15		1 Spell Bowl Practice 2:45-3:30 Girls on the Run 2:45-4:15	2	3
4	5	6	7 Fall Break	8	9	10
11	12 Basketball Tryouts M, T, W, and Thurs 4:00 -5:30 (Girls) 5:30 - 7:00 (Boys)	13 Choir 7:25 Spell Bowl Practice 2:45-3:30 Girls on the Run 2:45-4:15 PTO at Amazing Joe's 7:00 pm	14 Walk to School Day! Kindergarten fieldtrip (Bush's Market)	15 Student Council 2:45 (Room 112) Girls on the Run 2:45-4:15 Spell Bowl Practice 2:45-3:30 LEGO Club 2:40-4:00	16 Report Cards Go Home!	17
18	19 4H Enrichment (Grade 2)	20 Choir 7:25 4H Enrichment (Grade 2) 1st Grade Fieldtrip (Hackman's) Spell Bowl Practice 2:45-3:30 Girls on the Run 2:45-4:15	21 Convocation (Grades 3-6) 9:15	22 Spell Bowl Practice 2:45-3:30 Girls on the Run 2:45-4:15 LEGO Club 2:40-4:00	23	24 Basketball: Taylorsville at Richards Girls: 9:00 Boys: 10:15
25	26	27 Choir 7:25 Spell Bowl Practice 2:45-3:30 Girls on the Run 2:45-4:15	28 Basketball: at CSA Lincoln Girls 5:30 Boys 6:45	29 FCA 7:30 a.m. (Picture Retakes) Spell Bowl Practice 2:45-3:30 Girls on the Run 2:45-4:15 LEGO Club 2:40-4:00	30	31