

Live to Learn, Learn to Live

Riverside Elementary School

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(609) 806-4260



January 28, 2022

Dear Riverside Families,

"Children are likely to live up to what you believe of them." ~Lady Bird Johnson

This week at Riverside we believe our students are kind, persuasive, and safe.

- We successfully celebrated Kindness Awareness Week.
- Ms. Varadarajan's fourth grade class showcased how persuasive they are through their Writing Celebration. Some of the topics we learned about from the students were: Dogs Are Important to People, There Should be More Electives in Elementary School, Global Warming is Real, Disciplining Children is Good, and Everyone Needs Someone To Love. Well done Ms. Varadarajan's class!
- We are quickly approaching our 100th day of school!
- We are looking forward to viewing *African-American Firsts* from Museums in Motion, on February 8, 9 &10.

Please take note of the updates and reminders:

Updates:

• New Princeton COVID-19 Testing Site: Ridgewood Diagnostic Center will be opening a testing facility on Monday, Jan. 4th at 237 N. Harrison Street (the old Princeton First Aid & Rescue Squad building). The testing center will be open Monday through Friday from 9:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m. and Saturdays from 10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. The site will take both walk-ins and appointments. Appointments can be made here: https://testnj.online/reg.aspx. The appointment registration page is available in English and Spanish.

- We are strongly encouraging all families that are able to upgrade the masks children are wearing to KN95 or the disposable surgical masks. These masks are recommended for better protection against COVID-19 transmission.
- On Thursday, January 27, 2022, Riverside conducted a Fire Drill. Notification of the drill was sent to all families.
- Valentine's Day will be celebrated at Riverside. Students may bring in Valentine's Day cards to share. If food items are brought in they will not be eaten in the building, but will be sent home with students provided they are:
- Store bought.
- Individually packaged and sealed.
- The ingredients list is legible and firmly attached to the package.

Reminders:

- Car line: Please remember to follow safety protocols for the car line. Following these protocols keeps us all safe and the car line moving along efficiently.
- Please park in the parking lot or on Riverside Dr. to walk students into the building. Please do not leave your car unattended in the car line.
- Please have students exit and enter vehicles on the sidewalk side.
- Please be patient while students are getting out of/into vehicles. Please do not attempt to get out of the car line and go around another vehicle.
- Please pull up to the pull forward sign and then let your student exit the vehicle.
- With the winter weather upon us, please send students to school appropriately dressed. We like to have students experience some outdoor time daily, even if it is only briefly.
- If your child is having symptoms of COVID-19, OR has a pending PCR test, regardless of vaccination status, please keep them home and report the absence by doing the following:
- Calling (609) 806-4266 and select Option 4
- OR email Nurse Sarah <u>sarahgooen-chen@princetonk12.org</u> AND Rosanna Duran at <u>rosannaduran@princetonk12.org</u>
- Provide the following information:
- The first name and last name of your student(s)
- The grade of your student(s)
- The reason for the absence
- A phone number for a follow-up call if necessary
- If you are interested in getting tested for COVID-19, please use this link to find a testing site near you https://www.princetonni.gov/999/COVID-19-Testing

Vaccination Card Upload Instructions

To keep students safe and to facilitate contact tracing, we ask that parents **upload their student's vaccination card** into our existing Student Information System, PowerSchool after the student's second shot.

- Contact tracing requires PPS nurses to inquire about each student's vaccination status.
- If a student is named a "close contact," the student will not need to quarantine or miss school if they are in fact vaccinated.

PPS will maintain student confidentiality. Only staff directly involved in contact tracing will have access to vaccination status.

Please see the directions below which are provided in both English and Spanish.

English Instructions

En Español

We are looking forward to an awesome week at Riverside! Kindly,

Ebony Lattimer, Principal