



# RICHMOND SCHOOL WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

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RCS PTA

## Dates to Remember!!

3/13/20 — Jennifer Daily  
Lecture—5:30-7:00 —  
CANCELLED

3/17/20—Spring Pic-  
tures— CANCELLED

3/27/20 — Half Day of  
School— PD Day for  
teachers

4/3/20 — Ping Pong  
Tournament—  
CANCELLED

## Important Reminders

- Kiss & Ride — Pre-k & K—Be in line ready at 2:45 Grades 1-8—Be in line no earlier than 2:55
- Birthday Celebration Date— March 27

## Richmond Consolidated School

1831 State Road  
Richmond, MA 01254-5100  
(413) 698-2207  
(413) 698-3199 *facsimile*

March 13, 2020

RCS Families:

This week's newsletter has a different format than usual, but I would like to take this time to address some of the many questions regarding COVID-19 and possible extended closure. At this moment a decision has not been made to close school. As we see other schools close due to COVID -19, parents and teachers have a growing concern about the loss of learning time. Many public schools, including RCS, are not designed for online or distance learning. While Blizzard Bags can be an effective way to make up time lost during snow days, they may not be most effective for a prolonged school closure.

At RCS our mission is to create a "...community of learners, we are committed to creating a school climate that encourages positive self-esteem, critical thinking, responsibility, mutual respect, citizenship, and a lifelong love of learning." **If an extended time away from school is necessary**, rather than send home individual activities and worksheets for students to complete during their time at home, we will ask for students to embrace the time away to gain knowledge through:

- Promoting individual interest led reading: Teachers will be reaching out with book suggestions and follow up activities.
- Learning disguised as fun: Explore the outdoors around your home —your kids can enjoy the outdoors by journaling about observations they make in nature or researching plants and animals they see outside. Students can use this time to practice mindfulness and journal their feelings.
- Encouraging self-guided research: Assist your child in researching about an artist, scientist or topic of interest. Have your child share their learning with you.
- Encouraging students to try something new in hopes that it turns into a passion: Your child may love to draw, paint, play an instrument, cook, or kick a soccer ball past a goalie. This is also a perfect time to introduce or extend your child's learning of topics that motivate them.

By guiding your child in any of the above activities you will subtly be sharpening many skills, including: research, reading, organizational, oral and written presentational skills etc. through this activity.

As stated earlier, teachers will provide guidance as to what your child can do to enrich their learning if there is an extended time away from school. Teacher suggestions may include, but are not limited to, recommended book lists, writing activities, online math and science work and more. We will not be asking students to return to school with papers due to potentially continuing the spread of the virus; however, we may ask for pictures or videos of work completed during time away from school. Activities will not be graded, but will allow for learning to continue to ensure your child returns to school without a slide in skills. The activities will also provide for rich discussion when the teachers and students reunite!

Thank you for your continued support and understanding during these unprecedented times.

Jill Pompei, Principal

Richmond Consolidated School does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, sex, gender identity, religion, national origin, sexual orientation, disability or homelessness

**Monday March 16**

Baked Potato Bar  
With tons of top-  
pings  
Broccoli  
Corn Bread  
Celery w/PB  
Fruit - Salad bar  
Sandwiches: PBJ or  
Roast Beef

**Tuesday March 17**

Farmhouse Break-  
fast Burrito  
(ground beef, egg,  
potato and cheese)  
Caesar Salad  
Fruit - Salad bar  
Sandwiches: PBJ or  
Ham and Cheese  
Wrap

**Wednesday March 18**

No Hot Lunch  
PBF  
Sandwich #1  
Grilled Cheese  
Sandwich #2 Tuna  
Boat  
Fruit — Salad Bar  
— Tomato Soup

**Thursday March 19**

Hot Dogs on a roll  
Baked Beans  
BBQ Fries  
Spinach Salad  
Fruit - Salad bar  
Sandwiches: PBJ or  
Bologna

**Friday March 20**

Mac and Cheese  
Peas  
Housemade Bread  
Fruit - Salad bar  
Sandwiches: PBJ or  
Salami and Cheese

*This institution is an  
equal opportunity  
provider*



**Richmond  
Consolidated  
School**

1831 State Road  
Richmond, MA 01254  
413-698-2207  
413-698-3199(fax)  
JILL POMPI,  
PRINCIPAL  
Richmondconsolidated.org

**Town of Richmond** If you suspect your child may have special needs and is three years old or older, please call the Special Education Director, Jenevra A. Strock, at 413-698-4001 to schedule an evaluation.

In an effort to be mindful of our **Health and Wellness Policy**, we are requesting that we celebrate all birthdays within a month all on one day. Not only will this cut down on sweets in classes, it will also increase time on learning. Please remember that every sweet you send in should be accompanied by a healthy alternative. Please contact the classroom teacher with coordination of sweet and healthy snacks. Upcoming celebration day is March 27. In regard to parties outside of school: Invitations should not be handed out in school unless you plan on inviting the entire class/ all boys/ all girls. Please plan on distributing the invitations elsewhere if you aren't planning on including all students .

Warm Greetings,

We are reaching out to ask for your support in improving and expanding the Richmond School Garden. The garden is not only a beautiful addition to the school, but also an important teaching tool and resource for the school community. For the last two years, we have worked with talented educators at Berkshire Botanical Garden to integrate the garden into the 3rd and 7th grade science curriculum and the school cafeteria.

Students engage in meaningful work as they care for the garden. They become witnesses to, and participants in the natural cycles that bring food from the soil to their tables. Students leave the garden empowered by how capable they are, with dirty hands, and perhaps a little less wary of vegetables on their plates. School Gardens have been proven to make meaningful impacts on student academic outcomes, daily health, and social emotional well-being. They are low cost and effective tools for nurturing bodies and communities. We hope to expand our garden program school wide and make much needed repairs to the aging beds, but we need your help. Years of weathering have led to the loss of soil and the degradation of the beds. As well as repairing beds we hope to add two more that are accessible for people with physical limitations.

Any funds that you can contribute to the program remain in our community supporting programs that empower youth and lead to a healthier world. We hope you'll consider contributing \$25 to help us reach our goal of \$4000 for the 2020/2021 school year. Thank you so much for your time and consideration. We look forward to growing with you in the years to come! Checks can be made out to RCS Garden Fund. Garden in the memo line and delivered to: RCS. 1831 State Road Richmond, MA 01254

Warmly,

Richmond School Garden Committee

**PLEASE MAKE NOTE IN CHANGE OF PAY TO THE ORDER OF SHOULD BE:  
RCS GARDEN FUND.**



**RCS Yearbook:** It's that time of year to start thinking about ordering your Richmond Consolidated School Yearbook! It's as simple as clicking on this link : [www.JostensYearbooks.com](http://www.JostensYearbooks.com)

5<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL  
**PAWS  
READ-A-THON**



**STUDENT SIGN-UP**

**SIGN UP AND RETURN THE SLIP BELOW BACK  
TO SCHOOL BY: AS SOON AS POSSIBLE!**

March is National Reading month and to celebrate we are holding a Read-A-Thon in honor of Berkshire Humane Society. Children are asked to read as many minutes as possible in the month of March, while being sponsored by family and friends.

All proceeds will go to the homeless animals of Berkshire County.

**Thank you for being a hero to our animals, Berkshire Humane Society wouldn't be able to run without the compassion and generosity of the community and kids like you!**



All participants will receive a Berkshire Humane Society **Goodie Bag** in April as a thank you for participating.

Prizes will also be given out to **Top Readers** in each grade and **Top School Fundraiser**.

**SIGN ME UP FOR THE READ-A-THON!**

**READER'S NAME:** \_\_\_\_\_

**GRADE:** \_\_\_\_\_

**PARENT'S SIGNATURE:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Crane Room  
Berkshire Museum  
29 South Street  
Pittsfield, Massachusetts**

**Reception  
Friday, March 6  
5 pm to 8 pm**

***An exhibit of art  
by county art students from  
Berkshire County public  
schools***



Ten artworks were chosen from grades 1-8 to be exhibited at the 4th Annual Spotlight on the Arts in Berkshire County Schools Art Show at the Berkshire Museum. **The Art will hang in the Crane Room at the Berkshire Museum from March 6 to the 31st.** There will be an opening reception on Friday March 6th from 5-7PM with music and refreshments.

The artists from RCS who's work will be featured are Dylan Conuel, Mathew Fawcett, Luke Naventi, Sophia Peckham, Rosie Rotenberg, Tessa Baldwin, Hannah Roller, Tessa Gamberoni and Camille Kenny.

Thank you,

Anna O'Donnell

Richmond School Visual Art Educator



Hello Richmond School Community:

The School Committee is looking for a capable and willing person who can take (or transcribe) meeting notes. Please let me know if you, or someone you know, can help in this role. Please contact Dewey Wyatt 413.822.3882.

Regular meetings are the second Tuesday of the month and there are occasionally others in between. There will be pay available, pending School Committee approval.

Have a great weekend.

Dewey Wyatt, Richmond School Committee Chairman

# Black Rock FC

in conjunction with  
**LEE YOUTH ASSOCIATION**  
are offering Youth Soccer Clinics  
**THIS SPRING!**



Black Rock FC and the Lee Youth Association are delighted to offer an age specific soccer curriculum to children born in 2016 through 2009. Each session will focus on individual skill development, movement and comfort with a soccer ball. The 6-week program will see players *fall in love with the game of soccer!*

**Clinics start SATURDAY, APRIL 18<sup>TH</sup> and ends SATURDAY, MAY 30<sup>th</sup>**

**All classes to be held at Route 102 Fields**

*379 Pleasant St, Lee, MA 01238*

**Field 1 - 8:30 – 9:15 am - Children born in 2015 and 2016**

**Field 2 - 8:30 - 9:30 am Children born in 2013 through 2014**

**Field 1 - 9:30 – 10:30 am - Children born in 2011 and 2012**

**Field 2 - 9:30 - 10:30am Children born in 2009 through 2010**

**Cost is \$69.00 per player and includes a BRFC T-shirt**

*(Each session is limited to 16 participants)*

To Register contact Sharon Terry at the LYA:

(413) 243 5535 ext. 1 | Sharon.LYA@verizon.net

Any other questions contact Simon, (413) 297 6901 | sborrett@blackrockfc.org

Black Rock and The LYA will hold a registration evening:

**Thursday, March 26<sup>th</sup> 4:30-6:30pm**

*Lee Youth Association, 480 Pleasant Street, Lee, MA 01238*

## **RCS Direct Donation Opportunity**

Do you know what goes with the new school year like peanut butter and jelly? FUNDRAISERS!

If you are not the fundraiser type but want to support the PTA in raising money for our children to do all types of things like field trips and special events throughout the year, there is a way.

A simple **“Direct Donation”** may be what you are looking for! (suggested one-time donation \$120-\$140)

If that sounds like more like it, send in your 2019/2020 by the following methods:



- ♥ Check - made payable to RCS PTA with 'donation' in the memo
- ♥ Cash
- ♥ PayPal – Go to [www.rcscare.org/pta/](http://www.rcscare.org/pta/) and click the link to donate

Thanks to all the RCS families for your continued support!



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Support RCS by starting your shopping at [smile.amazon.com](http://smile.amazon.com)