

**REECEVILLE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL**

**248 REECEVILLE ROAD**

**COATESVILLE, PA 19320**

**610-383-3785**

**MRS. CATHERINE VAN VOOREN, PRINCIPAL**



***REECEVILLE REPORTER      MARCH 2015***

March	4 <sup>th</sup>	PTA Meeting (7:00 PM)
	18 <sup>th</sup>	Early Dismissal (11:40 AM)
	24 <sup>th</sup> – 26 <sup>th</sup>	Kindergarten Registration
	27 <sup>th</sup>	Family Pizza Bingo (6:30 PM)
	30 <sup>th</sup>	Kindergarten Field Trip to Zoo
April	2 <sup>nd</sup>	Parent Teacher Conferences
	3 <sup>rd</sup> – 6 <sup>th</sup>	Spring Break – No School
	8 <sup>th</sup>	PTA Meeting (7:00 PM)
	9 <sup>th</sup>	Spring Pictures

Welcome to March Reeceville families!

With all of the brisk temperatures outside, there is nothing better than snuggling under a warm blanket and spending time with your child reading a book. What better way to build their reading skills and help them learn to love books? Here are three suggestions when doing so to better assist your child:

- Read regularly- Try to read to your child every day. You might want to aim for 10-15 minutes at bedtime for a peaceful end to the day.
- Take turns choosing books- Your child may want to hear old favorites again. Use your turn to create a variety of new titles.
- Let them participate- Ask your child to turn the pages as you read. Also, he or she can fill in words or finish sentences that rhyme. Go slowly so he/she has time to understand and enjoy the illustrations.
- Be playful- Be sure to use different voices for different characters. Maybe substitute your child's name for the main character's name and use other family members' names as well.

Remember, you don't have to be an expert reader. Your child will love it when you read aloud because it's you.

Catherine Van Vooren



### **DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME**

**Don't forget to move your clocks**

**Ahead one hour on March 7<sup>th</sup>**

**Spring Break is April 3rd to  
6<sup>th</sup>. Class will resume on  
Tuesday, April 7<sup>th</sup>!**

## **2015-2016 KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION**

Appointments for the Kindergarten registration have started. Your child must be five years old on or before September 1, 2015.

If you missed our March Registration, we have make up day on May 28<sup>th</sup>.

Please call the main office at (610) 383-3785, ext. 27510 and ask for Ms. McDonald to make your appointment.



## **KINDERGARTEN NEWS**

We continue to be very busy in Kindergarten...especially during the month of February. In between the snowy and cold weather, we celebrated Ground Hog's Day, Valentine's Day, and of course the 100th day of School (which we celebrated on February 4th). We hope you can check out our 100 objects in the Main Lobby showcases and on the Bulletin Board straight across from the showcases. We have some creative Kindergarteners!

We are finishing our Language Arts theme "Let's Play", and we are learning about time and money in Math. Did you know that we are using "meatball spaces" in Kid Writing?

We are all looking forward to spring, warmer weather and our Field Trip to the Philadelphia Zoo and March 30th!



It's hard to believe that "Spring" is just around the corner! Reeeville students are keeping busy and learning as much as they can! Remember the spring wind blows cold up here so don't forget to continue to wear that warm coat for recess.

We all enjoyed the musical “Annie” at Scott Middle School and the first grade teachers are sure we have many aspiring actors and actresses in our classrooms!

Please continue to have your student practice telling time on an analog clock. (We only learned the hours and to the half hour.) Also, continue to practice addition and subtraction facts! The chapter we are finishing in math is on numbers to 100. Our next chapter will cover place value, writing numbers in expanded form and ordering three numbers. We will also focus on Tally marks and bar graphs to display data. Looking ahead Chapter 9...MONEY!!! Please start helping your student learn the names and value coins. This is very hard for many first graders and is a concept where the family really is a big help working together with the teacher. Our students will have to learn how to add coins too! Remember to start with the coin that has the greatest value when adding and finish with the pennies. All the teachers say thank you in advance for helping your children be the best they can be!

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### **Second Grade News**

**Math:** We just finished a unit on multiplication and division. This month we are jumping into measurement and graphing. It is also important to continue to practice our basic facts at home to increase our speed. They can use Mobymax or first in math at home if a computer is available.

**Language Arts:** We just finished another reader's theater. Reader's theaters give us a chance to practice our reading fluency. The children always do a great job presenting in front of the class, and they love it. We are moving along to read A Chair for my Mother and Serious Farm. We are continuing to explore the features of fiction while enjoying these stories. Ask us to retell the stories.

**Social Studies:** We just finished studying black history month. We read a lot of biographies and learned all about some amazing accomplishments. We are now moving into a study of plants to prepare for our field trip to Longwood Gardens in May.

**Writing:** We are learning how to write letters this month. It is exciting to receive “mail” from each other, and soon we will be writing to people in our family. Stay tune for some letters that may be coming your way.

Come by the second grade hallway and check out the beautiful work outside of our classrooms that the students have worked so hard on. We are proud of their accomplishments so far this year, and we know the last few months of the school year are going to be wonderful. Keep up the good work at home!



## **THIRD GRADE NEWS**

Third grade is moving along at a fast pace. Hard to believe that we will soon be halfway through the school year. In math, we are beginning to work on regrouping of addition and subtraction of larger numbers; we are also going to be starting work with concepts of time and multiplication. In Reading, we continue to use the UNRAVEL strategy to develop reading comprehension and test taking skills in preparation for the upcoming PSSA. In Social Studies, we are learning about the many different landforms that make up the earth. Who knew there were so many??

During the month of January, the students will be taking the mid-year test for MAP (Mapping Academic Progress) and Grade. Fall testing reports went home with your student's report card in December.

Boy, has it ever gotten cold this first week of January! Remind your children that when they come to school in the morning, they should be dressed appropriately for outside weather with a coat, hat and gloves or mittens. Since the temperature in the classrooms fluctuates, if student want to wear a lightweight and/or short sleeved shirt to school, they should bring along a sweater (uniform colors, please) to keep in their cubby in case they get chilled.

Thank you to all the students who brought in gloves, hats and scarves for our Giving Trees. We were able to donate quite a few items to help other children in the community be a little warmer during the winter months.

This is a good time to check with your child to see what, if any, school supplies need to be replenished. Your child should always have a couple of pencils, an eraser, a box of crayons or colored pencils, and a glue stick in school to use when completing classwork.

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## **FOURTH GRADE NEWS**

As January arrives, the wintry winds begin to blow bringing ice and snow. However, inside the rooms of Reeceville School, we are warm and dry and filling our heads with knowledge. In January, 4<sup>th</sup> grade begins preparation for PSSA testing with vengeance. We are practicing

responding to open-ended questions using the UNRAVEL technique. If you are not familiar with this technique, ask your 4<sup>th</sup> grader to tell you what it stands for.

We continue to enjoy our Story Town Readers and all the supplemental reading we've been able to incorporate. Videos through Discovery Network have added a significant piece to supporting instruction and the building of background knowledge. We're looking forward to venturing into the next few stories in our anthology and the exciting things we're going to be learning.

Our math lessons continue to be a challenge as we concentrate on one and two digit multiplication, geometry and measurement, as well as beginning fractions. Take a minute to check up to see how your child is doing mastering their math facts.

We also continue to diligently prepare for PSSA testing through our CORE groups. The children are having the opportunity on a rotating basis to meet with the other teachers in the grade. The fresh change for all of us is a great thing. New voices, new faces, and new challenges are making our learning more exciting.

## **FIFTH GRADE NEWS**

The fifth grade team hopes that everyone enjoyed a wonderful winter break and has had a fabulous start to the New Year! Since our return to school in early January, we have been hard at work in Reading practicing using text-based strategies to help us prepare for the upcoming PSSA tests. We have also been learning about electricity in Science class and trying out problem solving strategies in Math.

We recently held our grade-level school spelling bee with over 20 participants. Congratulations to our 5<sup>th</sup> grade winners:

1<sup>st</sup> place – Brynn Wolfe

2<sup>nd</sup> place – Aidan Tomsy

3<sup>rd</sup> place – Sadia Trust



Brynn also came in 4<sup>th</sup> place at the district-wide spelling bee held earlier this month and is now preparing for the county-wide spelling bee! Good luck, Brynn! Congratulations to all who participated!

Please note that on Friday, February 13<sup>th</sup>, we have an early dismissal. We will also be holding our classroom Valentine's parties. Be on the lookout for information about this party from your child's teacher.

## Counselor's Corner

Now that the excitement of the holidays has past and the expectations of students have increased, in many homes the homework battle often becomes more intense. Our students are asked to sit in a classroom for many hours and then asked to complete more work when they get home. Although homework is essential for students to master the skills that are required of them, it still can cause much frustration for not only the children but their parents as well. If you find yourself in this battle, here are some suggestions to try and ease some of the stress caused by daily homework:

1. Determine what time of night works best for your child. Some children do homework best as soon as they get home from school when they are still focused; however, other children need some time to decompress. Determine a set amount of time that your child can play before he/she has to begin his/her homework. If he/she knows what time to expect, there is often a less chance of an argument.
2. Every child has different strengths and weaknesses. Prioritize the subjects in order of difficulty for the child and start with the most difficult subject. This will allow him/her to complete the most challenging homework before he/she gets tired.
3. Some children need frequent breaks. Set a reasonable amount of time for the child to do homework and then allow for a short break. For example, a child may do 15 minutes of homework and then have a 5 minute break. *Use a timer!! Using a timer tells your child exactly when her/she gets his/her breaks and when it is time to get back to work.*
4. Cover up all the problems except the one your child is working on. Some students get overwhelmed by the number of problems. If they just focus on one at a time, this often reduces some of this stress.

Kathy Doherty, School Counselor

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## MUSIC NOTES.....

The children in the Reeceville Band and Chorus had a wonderful performance on December 11<sup>th</sup> at the Winter Concert. Thank you to everyone who helped make our program a success.

If anyone else has pictures or video from the concert, we would be happy to have a copy here at the school. Please send it with your student or contact the school office or one of the music teachers.

And finally, as the saying goes "Spring is just around the corner". Please circle **Thursday, May 14<sup>th</sup>** on your calendar and plan to join us for the Reeceville's Spring Concert.



Mrs. Bernard and Mr. Brackin

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**TWO HOUR DELAY**

Buses will run 2 hours later.

School Doors will open at 10:25 AM

No Breakfast is Served!

Check website at [www.casdk12.org](http://www.casdk12.org) and/or major news stations!

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***SPRING PICTURES***

PLEASE MARK YOUR CALENDER FOR SPRING PICTURES

ON THURSDAY, APRIL 9<sup>TH</sup>.

UNIFORMS ARE NOT REQUIRED FOR THESE PICTURES

**DRESS DOWN DAY**

The last Friday of every month is dress down day at Reeceville. Students are not required to wear their uniforms on this day. Most dress down days will have a theme. This will be announced at the beginning of that week.





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### UPDATE PHONE NUMBERS

Please be sure if your phone number has changed to update it in the office. Also, if your address has changed, you need to come to the office to fill out a change of address form along with your lease or deed.

If your emergency contact information has changed, please let the office know. Thank you!

### **VACATION REQUESTS**

*Education trips and planned vacations may be excused for up to two weeks during the school year. Parents wishing to have their child(ren) excused from school must submit their written request to the principal at least one week in advance. No educational trips or vacations will be excused without prior approval.*

### NEWS FROM THE READING DEPARTMENT

Happy New Year Reeceville Families. We hope you all had a joyful holiday season and are looking forward to the month ahead. January will be a busy month for the Reading Department as we will be administering District Assessments of all of our students.

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Throughout the month of January, students in grades K-5 will be reassessed in Reading and Math. The results of these tests not only help us to monitor student progress but also aide our teachers as they plan their lessons. Please encourage your children to always try their best. A good night's sleep and a healthy breakfast will also keep them alert and focused.

## SCHOOL BOARD RECOGNITION MONTH

Did you know...January is School Director Recognition Month?

You may be ignoring an important segment of your school community; School directors who contribute many volunteer public service hours to school-related duties and responsibilities. You are encouraged to congratulate, support and salute your local school directors throughout the month of January. Such recognition can be a "bright spot" in an otherwise difficult year for board members, who need to feel appreciated.

Notes: 82.7% of all Pennsylvania school directors have post-high school education.

34% of all school directors are female.

53.2% of public school funding comes from local support.

The Pennsylvania School Boards Association is the first school board group in the nation founded in 1895.



## **NEWS FROM THE ART ROOM.....**

There has been a lot of intricate and multi layered projects in the art room this month. The fourth grade has just begun an interesting multi step graphic design and sculpture project.

The third grade will be coming home with a value drawing that is very well done. The still life that they rendered uses value and shading skills to create a believable three dimensionality. The

work that they produced borders on a middle school level. If you know one of these students, commend them on their tremendous effort.

Kindergarten is working to study Joseph Albers and the theories behind color mixing. This project will be very interesting as they will be creating a project using primary, secondary and limited tertiary colors.

The portraits created in second grade show some of the dynamic and amazing personality that we have in Reeceville. These students used the study of Rembrandt, facial proportions, and oil pastels to create their art. Some of these made it onto the wall at the Barnes and Nobel book night.

The study of geometric shapes and collage kept our first grade busy. They used triangles, squares, pentagons, hexagons, and octagons to create castles in a beautiful landscape.

Finally, it's that time of year again. The fifth grade students will be working on their project for the yearbook covers. Each student will have an opportunity to create a front cover for the book and the option to create a back cover. Wish these students luck and urge them to give the back cover a try.



### FROM THE NURSE'S OFFICE

#### Frostbite and Hypothermia Prevention:

On a snowy day, many children love to play outside in the snow and cold weather. It can be wonderful exercise, but you need to make sure that you don't have problems if the temperature is too cold. Children have a greater risk than adults for getting frostbite as they lose heat from their skin faster. Children don't seem to be bothered about how cold they may be and would rather keep playing and having fun than going inside to get warmed up.

Frostbite occurs when the skin is not covered and is exposed for an extended period of time. It can occur when skin is exposed to temperature below 28F. Wind also can increase the risk to frostbite. The areas of the body most susceptible are the hands, feet, nose, ears and cheeks of the face.

Frostbite in its early stage is whiten/pale or waxy in appearance. The area may feel cold and numb. As the area warms up, it may become red and painful.

Knowing how to prevent Frostbite is important:

- Pay attention to the weather condition (temperature and wind).
- Wear a hat, mittens/gloves, scarf and boots. Try not exposing any skin if conditions are severe.
- Dress warmly and in layers that will help you from getting cold and wet.
- Change your clothes if you get wet. You need to stay dry and warm.
- Go inside if you can't feel any body part or if it feels tingly and tell an adult.

Resources: [www.chp.edu/besafe/kids/01frostbite.php](http://www.chp.edu/besafe/kids/01frostbite.php)

[www.chp.edu/besafe/adults/02frostbite.php](http://www.chp.edu/besafe/adults/02frostbite.php)

[www.childrens.com/patients\\_families/healthinfo/ondex.cfm](http://www.childrens.com/patients_families/healthinfo/ondex.cfm)

### Flu Season

As we approach the winter flu season, please review the following guidelines as to when your child should stay home from school. Keep your child at home when he/she has the following:

Fever, chills, vomiting diarrhea, unusual skin rash

Sore throat, enlarged glands, abdominal pain,

Runny or inflamed eyes

A child should be free of fever/vomiting/diarrhea for 24 hours before returning to school. Your cooperation will help us control the spread of these conditions in the classroom.



The Pennsylvania Department of Health has issued new immunization requirements that affect your student's entry into school for 2015-2016 school year. The new regulations for student entering ALL GRADES are as follows:

**All immunizations need to be completed by April 1<sup>st</sup>**

Dtap 5 shots,

MMR 2 shots IPV 3 shots, Vaivax 2 shots

Hep B 3 shots

Also, everyone needs to have a physical and dental completed, 3rd grade needs to have an updated dental! If you have any questions, please call the school nurse at 610-383-3785, ext. 27541.

### PSSA TESTING



**The time is finally here...PSSA Testing! The third, fourth and fifth grade students will be taking the Reading and Math PSSA's April 14<sup>th</sup> through April 17<sup>th</sup>. The fifth grade students will be taking the Writing PSSA's April 20<sup>th</sup> through April 24<sup>th</sup>. The fourth grade students will be taking the Science portion of the PSSA's April 28<sup>th</sup> and April 29<sup>th</sup>.**

**As guidance counselors, our focus is on the emotional well-being of our students. When students feel comfortable in their environment, their ability to focus and utilize coping strategies will maximize their ability to perform in school with academic tasks. In the upcoming weeks, I will be teaming up with Mrs. Bernard to use music in helping us teach some relaxing techniques to the intermediate grades in preparation for this test. We will also be discussing how they can physically and mentally prepare for this test in hopes of reducing stress levels and therefore maximizing success!**

**As caregivers, there are a few things that you can do to support your child.**

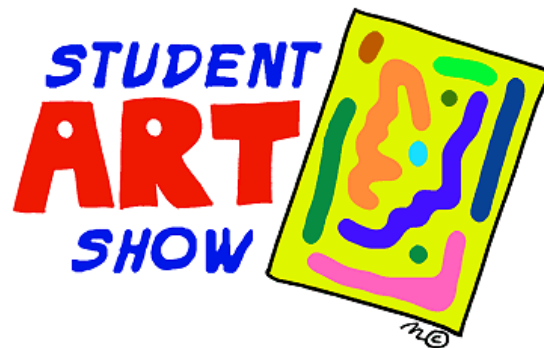
**Use positive words to remind your child of their academic strengths. For example, "You do well in math" or "I know that you always try your best."**

**Remind them to relax during testing time. If they get frustrated, they can take a break and take deep breaths. You can practice with them at home.**

**Attendance during both preparation time and test dates is essential. If you need to schedule a doctor's appointment, please be contentions of test dates. If possible, try to schedule appointments after school hours.**

**It is important that we support our children both at home as well as in school to ensure that they are able to do their best!**

# **DISTRICT ART SHOW**



**March 27, 2015 @ 6:30 PM**

**At the**

**Coatesville Cultural Society**

**(143 E. Lincoln Highway)**

**CASD has selected over 100 artworks from elementary, middle and high school students to display in a district-wide art show!**

# From the Gym

We've been dancing...



We reviewed some classics and learned some new dances! The family dance night was a success as usual and we showed off our skills and got some exercise along the way! Don't miss out on the family dance night next year! It's always at the end of February and we prepare in PE

Back to Basketball...

We had to put basketball on hold to practice our dances, but we get back into and finish up in March!



Keep Field Day in mind...



Field Day is quickly approaching...and thank goodness because we are tired of the cold! Please join us on Friday, May 29<sup>th</sup> and lend a helping hand to make it the best Field Day ever!

Brandywine Valley Association  
1760 Unionville-Wawaset Road, West Chester, PA 19382  
Telephone: 610-793-1090 • Facsimile: 610-793-2813  
water@bva-rcva.org • [www.brandywinewatershed.org](http://www.brandywinewatershed.org)

# 73<sup>rd</sup> Running of the Brandywine Hills Point-to-Point Easter Sunday - April 5, 2015

Fun and exciting horse and pony steeplechase races, a parade of foxhounds, and many children's Easter activities.

Gates open at 10:00 a.m., first race at 11:00, on the grounds of the 318-acre Myrick Conservation Center

## Presenting Sponsor: Radnor Hunt

Visit

[www.brandywinewatershed.org](http://www.brandywinewatershed.org)

for more information about parking, sponsorship opportunities and race day schedule.

*The Oldest Point-to-Point in the Delaware Valley*

**WIN VALUABLE RAFFLE**

**PRIZES!!**

Chances are \$10 each & are available for purchase in advance or on the day of. No need to be present to win.

Admission is by carload and parking costs range from \$20 to \$150.

Sponsorships are available starting at \$300.

Food available on-site for purchase.

## **Yearbook Pictures Needed!!**

**If you have any pictures for the yearbook from Valentine's Day Parties, Family Skate Night, or any other activity, please email Kristy [Frankland@yahoo.com](mailto:Frankland@yahoo.com). Thanks for your help in making this year's yearbook a great one!**