



Raccoon Dispatch

John H. Russell Elementary School
3301 Purvis Road
Quantico, VA 22134



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PARENT NEWSLETTER

Math Matters at Russell Elementary School

Principal's Corner

The new school year is off to a great start at Russell Elementary School. Our students have been busy learning their classroom rules and routines. Our staff has high expectations for all our students and it is our responsibility to create a challenging educational program in which all students gain the knowledge and skills necessary to succeed in our global, multi-cultural society. Your involvement in our school is always welcomed. Please come in and sign up to volunteer in some capacity. Thank you for your continued support and cooperation.

Principal

Important Dates



September

- | | |
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| 11 - School Newsletter | 18-26 - Red Ribbon Week |
| 11 - Pre-K & K Parent Orientation—6:30 PM | 23 - PEA Science Night |
| 18 - Individual Fall Pictures taken | 24 - End of Grading Period |
| 30 - Important Dates Flyer Sent Home | 27 - Teacher Work Day—No school for students |

October

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| 1 - PTO Meeting—3:00 PM in Auditorium | 28 - Fall Hike |
| 6-10 - Fire Prevention Week | 31 - Principal's Coffee—2:00 PM |
| 9 - School Newsletter | 31 - Important Dates Flyer Sent Home |
| 13 - Columbus Day—No school | |

RES MISSION STATEMENT

Our school community provides quality opportunities and experiences that inspire the children of our military families to become creative problem solvers, life-long learners and productive members of a diverse technological world.

RES WORD OF THE MONTH

RESPECT

This month we are focusing on the meaning of RESPECT. Respect is showing regard and appreciation for friends, teachers, parents, nature and yourself. Please take time to talk with your children about how to show respect to others as well as themselves.

What is School Improvement?

The staff of Russell Elementary School (RES) is dedicated to continuous school improvement. We follow the DoDEA Vision as we invest our time and effort in the success of ALL students. Through the direction of the DoDEA Community Strategic Plan (CSP), our goal is that all of our students will achieve or exceed proficiency levels. This school improvement process is a data-driven, teacher led and research-based process so that all students can achieve according to the DoDEA academic standards.

After much analysis and research, RES has focused on two goals for our students:

Goal 1 states that “all students will improve their writing skills across the curriculum.” The essence and purpose of this goal is to improve the ability of our students to communicate in written form.

Goal 2 states that “all students will improve their math problem solving skills across the curriculum.” We hope to developmentally facilitate the problem solving process in all areas using the method of “Understand-Plan-Do-Review.”

Through the course of this year, we will be asking for your assistance as we make this school improvement process a true partnership. This may involve requests for team memberships, volunteering in the classroom, participation in special projects and/or assisting your child at home to promote further success. We thank you in advance for your support.

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Counselor’s Corner

Let’s **Learn** at Russell!

The children have had such a positive start at Russell. Here are a few hints for a wonderful school year. Please feel free to contact us at anytime during the school year if you ever have any questions or concerns.

Learn with a CAN DO ATTITUDE!

Every night get 10 to 11 hours of sleep.

Always eat a good breakfast at home or at school.

Respect yourself and others around you.

Need a minimum of four hugs a day!

Nurse's News

Parents,



If your child needs medication while at school we must have two (2) pieces of information before we can give the medication.

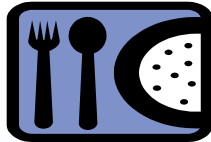
1. Medication Permission form signed by the doctor and parent (available on our school website under Registration Information).
2. Prescription label from the pharmacy attached to the medication.

All medications must be brought to school by an adult and cannot be sent back and forth from home to school.

A BIG THANK YOU to all the parents for submitting the immunizations and physicals for your children on time. If your child has had only one of the Hepatitis A vaccines, you will receive a reminder when the next one is due in six (6) months.

If you have any questions, please call me at 703-221-4161.

From our Cafeteria Manager



You can now put money on your child's account using your credit card. This can only be done online at www.prepay.com

This company has a 5% fee for the service. As always, you can send cash or a check with your child to be put in their account.

Please be sure to put your child's first and last name on the envelope so it can be placed in the proper account. Please remember it is not necessary to send cash every day for ice cream as the student may use their account money to pay for it unless you have already told me NO.

In addition, please join your child any day for lunch. Adults pay \$3.00. Please call ahead.

Just a Reminder

The arrival time is 8:20-8:30 AM for students who are driven to school in private vehicles or who walk with their parents. **There is no supervision prior to 8:20 AM.** Breakfast is served from 8:20-8:45 each morning. Late arrivals require a tardy slip and must be signed in by a parent in the school office. Early departures for appointments, etc., require children to be signed out by a parent as well.

Office Information

Please continue to update your records during the year, i.e., new telephone numbers (home, duty, cell phone and emergency contact), email address and new mailing address. **IT IS VERY IMPORTANT** in order to ensure that the parent/emergency contact is notified in a timely manner in the event your child is sick or injured. Your help in this matter is greatly appreciated.

IF WE DON'T KNOW, WE CAN'T FIX IT!

In order to be proactive and responsive to the community and concerns of our parents, we are asking parents to contact the school with their concerns immediately. When you have a concern, please contact the teacher as soon as possible. In most cases, this will be sufficient to solve the problem. If not, elevate the concern to the school administration. If your concern is about a school-wide policy, you will want to discuss it with the principal.

Our mission is to care for children in their education and development. We must all endeavor to see that the needs of each child are appropriately addressed. Prompt attention to perceived problems will minimize difficulty and eliminate misinformation or misunderstanding in our school community. Please join us in our effort to provide the best possible education for your child.

CONCERNS PROCEDURE FOR PARENTS

As in the military, Russell Elementary School has a chain of command. If you have a concern, please start at the lowest level of the chain to find a solution. The chain of command is:

- Classroom Teacher
- Guidance Counselor (if appropriate)
- Principal
- Assistant Superintendent
- Superintendent

PRINCIPAL'S COFFEE

A coffee with the principal will be held on Friday, October 31st at 2:00 PM in Room 12. All parents are welcome to come and share their ideas, successes and concerns. See you there!

HEALTHY CHOICE OF THE MONTH AT RUSSELL

Choose to Move

Parents,

Please check out <http://www.nflrush.com/health> for some cool ways to get your family moving! This month at Russell we are encouraging our students to ***Choose to Move*** as the first part of our Healthy Choices of the Month. Encourage your child to get out there and move/play every day for 30-60 minutes at home. By being active with your kids, you are role modeling healthy behaviors and spending precious time together.

School Nurse