Volume 11, Issue 1 September 1, 2023



Roddrunner Express

Shannon Haire Principal Melissa Sumner Assistant Principal

Reaching Every Student– All Day, Every Day, Every Way!

From Ms. Haire and Mrs. Sumner

Dear Parents,

Welcome back for another great year for our *Ruediger Rockstars*! This year, we are celebrating learning with our new theme ... LEARNING ROCKS! The first few weeks of school have been extremely smooth, with lots of learning taking place as we all get to know one another. You can rest assured that our staff is outstanding, and those who have joined us this year bring a wealth of experience and talent to our children.

With safety continuing as our top priority, we are fortunate to once again have our Classroom Behavior Specialist and Guardian on campus. In addition, we will continue to receive support from law enforcement officers to ensure maximum safety and security for our students and staff. With this in mind, please remember that <u>parents must drop children off at the front gate instead of walking them to class.</u> Remember too, <u>that students may not be on campus before</u> <u>7:45 as supervision is not available</u>. We appreciate your cooperation in keeping our school safe for everyone.

To help us get off to a great start, all parents need to register in the FOCUS PARENT PORTAL. It will also help if you:

Check your student's grades every week in Focus.
Discuss grades and progress with your student - if it's important to you, it will be important to them too!

Check on homework assignments and make sure they complete it nightly.
Encourage them to read every night.
Please get them to school on time so they can be ready for learning at 8:30.

Please get them to school on time so they can be ready for learning at 8:30.
 Please do not pick students up early except for emergencies. <u>Early pick up ends at 2:15.</u>

Important September Dates

- August 31 Book Fair Family Night
- September 4 NO SCHOOL—Labor Day
- September 7 SAC & PTO (5:30)
- Sept 11--Sept. 15 BOOK FAIR
- September 13 Progress Reports
- September 21 OPEN HOUSE 5:30-7:00
- September 25 NO SCHOOL– Fall Holiday
- September 27 All Pro Dads

Like us on Facebook!

www.fb.com/ruedigerroadrunners

Suspicious Activity Reporting - https://getfortifyfl.com/#home

FortifyFL is a suspicious activity reporting tool that allows you to instantly relay information to appropriate law enforcement agencies and school officials.

GRADE LEVEL FIELD TRIP TEE SHIRTS ON SALE NOW THROUGH SEPTEMBER 1st!

Shirts are \$13.00 Small-XL \$15.00 2x & 3x (cash or money orders only) Order forms went home with kids.

Also available in the office! ORDER YOURS NOW!



Pre-K News	1st Grade
Wowl What an amazing first few weeks of school we have hadl The children are beginning to demonstrate understanding of the class- room rules and routines. We are jumping in with both feet, build- ing relationships, being kind, and learning each other's names.	Welcome to the first month of first grade! Students are off to a great start learning their rules and procedures. First grade has very high expectations for learning, and it is quite a big academic leap from kindergarten. Our class sizes are large, so we need students on their BEST behavior each day!
We also went on a tour around the school to see our Media Center, Media Specialist, Mrs. Bodiford, the cafeteria staff and met Mrs. Vickie, and visited the office and met, Ms. Haire, Mrs. Sumner, Ms. Cole, Mrs. Woodson, Mrs. Christie, and Ms. Welsh.	We have begun our reading, math and science curriculums. In reading, we are working on middle vowel sounds and decoding three letter words. Students need to be able to describe char- acters, settings and events in stories. Every week, we will be working on at least FIVE sight words. These sight words are a part of the spelling homework as well.
Our students are proving to be resilient! They are following guide- lines and doing it with a positive attitude! We appreciate you all working with us and getting your child to school on time!	In math, we are working on number patterns and numbers in a chart to 120.
Remember to send in a change of clothes for your child, Here's to a WONDERFOL school year!	The students are very excited about science! Currently, they are learning what it means to be a scientist and how to use their senses and science tools.
Thanks, The Pre-K Team	Please make sure you check your child's backpack for their homework , and provide them with one-on-one help if need- ed. Reading is a BIG part of first grade, so make sure to read with OR to your child every night. If you have any questions, please reach out to your child's teacher!
September	Thank you, The First Grade Team
Kindergarten	

Kindergarten

The kindergarten students are off to a great start here at Ruediger Elementary! They are adjusting well to the new environment, teachers, and school/classroom rules and procedures. Here are a few reminders that will help the beginning of kindergarten move smoothly:

•When students arrive at school, they are to go directly to the lunchroom for breakfast. They will remain in the lunchroom and one of the kindergarten teachers will be supervising them until the teachers come pick them up.

Please check your child's backpack every night for their folder. It will contain important messages from the teacher or school, class papers, and homework.

It is important to complete and turn in the homework assignments because it gives your child more practice with the skills being covered in class.

Make sure your child attends school regularly and arrives to school on time. When your child is late or absent, they are missing important instructional time.

· Please discuss with your child the importance of obeying school and classroom rules and following teacher directions.



Second Grade

Welcome to Second Grade! We are off to a fantastic start with our routines, procedures, and academies. Please be sure to review your child's homework, and encourage at least 15 minutes of A.R. reading each night. Additionally, daily practice of sight words will improve fluency and enable students to read them with automaticity. It is very important that your child wears closed-toe shoes to school, especially on the days they attend P.C. Please ensure that your child arrives at school on or before 8:30 to receive breakfast and to avoid missing vital instruction.

> Thanks! Second Grade Team

3RD GRADE

Welcome to Third Grade! We are so excited for all the learning and fun that will take place this upcoming school year. Baseline testing in both reading and math have been completed and rigorous instruction has begun. Instruction begins promptly at 8:30, please ensure that your student is in the classroom everyday on time. Students should be reading for 20 minutes and completing their math homework every night. Please continue to encourage your student to do their very best every day all day. Students may want to bring a lightweight jacket because the classrooms may be a little chilly. Also, students can bring a refillable water bottle to school as long as it has a lid that is screwed on tight. We look forward to having a wonderful school year!

Third Grade Team

STEAM-MR. RWITO

STEAM learning is encouraging our students to continue using their knowledge of math and science to engineer different ways of solving real world problems. Our STEM (STEAM) curriculum and materials are fostering critical thinking, problem solving and inspiring our young learners to think like engineers. Engineering is Elementary curriculum is presenting real-world challenges that are encouraging our students to explore multiple ways of solving problems. The students are utilizing the Engineering Design Process and using scientific inquiry to do their investigation. STREAM, (Science/Social Studies, Reading-literacy, Engineering, Arts and Mathematics initiatives enhances the integration of the core areas of our curriculum, with a strong focus on engineering and technology. Our students will be involved in solving CGI Math Word Problems, writing reports, research and hands-on activities with a focus on the five elements of engineering: ask, imagine, plan, create and improve.

ESE

Welcome back Roadrunners! I am so excited for a new year with your student. We will be working in small groups daily. We are learning our group routines and working on math and language arts goals and curriculum. You can help your child at home by reading and practicing multiplication facts nightly. It is going to be a great year!

Mrs. Harvell



We have hit the ground running this year in ESE. We are working on establishing routines and procedures with our students. In September, we will continue with a theme of following rules both here at school and in the community which allows us to focus on social studies as well. We will continue to get to know everyone through updated progress monitoring on IEP goals and academic skills.

Mrs. Whitley and Mrs. Gallegos



4th Grade

We have hit the ground running! After just a couple of weeks, our fourth graders are used to the new rules and procedures in their fourth-grade classrooms.

Please check your child's backpack each day for any news/updates from the school or teacher along with their nightly homework assignment. Make sure your child is prepared for school and arrives on time each day because instruction begins promptly at 8:30 am. Also, don't forget to send in any dismissal changes in writing.

Please take time to review multiplication facts and read with your students nightly. Don't forget to sign up for Remind and Focus. We are looking forward to an exciting year with our new group of fourth graders!

Fourth Grade Team



5th Grade

Fifth grade is off and running! We are very thankful to begin a terrific school year. Our faces may look a little different but our rigorous instruction is still in place.

It is very important for all students to be prepared and organized for each of the classes. We are in the middle of diagnostic testing in IReady and have already taken tests in all of the subjects. We encourage parents to talk with your child each day to find out what they learned in class, what they feel good about, as well as what they are struggling with.

Please encourage your child to complete all of their assignments each day. Homework is crucial because it is a great indication of your child's understanding of the skills being taught in class. We love when parents are able to see how much academic growth is happening with their child.

Fifth Grade Team

Greetings from the Physical Education Department!

Welcome to the 2023-2024 school year!

P.E. is where your child will develop and enhance their motor skills, knowledge, and behaviors for physical activity. In order to make sure all students are safe, please make sure your child:

-wears tennis shoes/sneakers (students can not participate if they are wearing open toe shoes such as *slides, flip-flops,* or *sandals*)

-brings a plastic water bottle to class (students will take multiple water breaks during their P.E. class)

When Leon County is under a heat advisory (as we are currently, according to the National Weather Service) we will take steps to prevent heat exhaustion by:

- Keeping the students in the shade, as much as possible
- Water will be readily available via the water fountain or their personal water bottle numerous times during
- No activity that involves heavy exertion will occur anytime we are under a heat advisory

*During the afternoon classes, if the temperature is excessive, students will stay indoors for their P.E. class.