Unit A

Friday, September 6, from 1:50-2:20, is our first Munch-n-Read of the school year. Unit A invites parents, grandparents, or special adult friends to come celebrate reading with their students. Younger siblings who enjoy books are welcome to join us as well. We ask visitors to leave promptly at 2:20 so that teachers can focus on making sure all students get to the right spot at dismissal. Please bring a healthy, non-messy snack and good books to share. Check the Ridgeway calendar for all of the Munch-n-Read dates for the school year.

Friday Folders are coming home for the first time today. Please be sure to look through the papers and keep them at home. Please sign and return the Friday Folders on the next school day.

We look forward to seeing you for Unit A Curriculum Night on September 19 from 6:00-7:30. This is an adult-only event.

Unit B

Unit B students have multiple papers for families in Friday Folders today. Please be on the look out for Book Order forms with directions for ordering; volunteer sign-up form; party/T-shirt money request form; and a letter explaining math homework. We are hoping you can join us in the media center at 5:30 next Thursday as we discuss changes to our Friday folder form.

Unit C

Thursday, September 5, is Back to School Night from 5:30-6:30. Unit C will have a slide presentation from 6:00-6:30 in the Media Center regarding specific curriculum. Please join us!

Attention Unit C Girls!
ONLY 3 spots remaining!

If you are interested in participating in Junior Girl Scouts, please email Martha Trammell, wndnsail@aol.com. Parent help welcome and needed.

Hello from the Art room at RWE!

This year the entire school is starting out learning about fonts and the four types of pictures. Every student created a unique name plate using different kinds of lettering. Our next project was a sort of “Pre-Test”. We learned what the four types of pictures were: portrait, landscape, still life, and non-objective. We drew examples of each type of artwork with minimal instruction. At the end of the school year we will revisit this assignment and do another version of it. It will show what skills and techniques we learned over the course of the year. Both the pre-test drawing and the end-of-the-year drawing will be compared and contrasted to look for growth in our artistic abilities.

Don’t forget to check out Art Happenings on Twitter by following Ms. Lakatos at twitter.com/LakatosArt

Library

Starting next week, the Media Center will be open most mornings as an option for students. During this time, students can work on homework, read, checkout books, or work on makerspace activities. Doors open at 7:20 and students go to class when the bell rings at 7:40.
Meet our new Ridgeway Faculty & Staff

Nurse Taylor

Hello! I am excited to be the school nurse at Ridgeway this year! This is my first year working for CPS. Last year, I was a school nurse in northwest Missouri. Before school nursing, I worked in pediatrics in the hospital and clinic setting. I have always loved working with kids! My husband, Luke, and I have a son, Beau, who is 1 year old. With the little one, we don’t really have time for hobbies but we love spending our free time taking Beau to the park or zoo. We love to get out and be active. I am looking forward to helping the students have a healthy year!

Ms. Meeds ♪♪

I am so excited to begin my third year of teaching elementary music and my first year as a Ridgeway Ram! The last two years I taught elementary vocal music in the Wichita Public School district and discovered my love and passion for elementary music. I am originally from Columbia, graduated from Mizzou and am very happy to be home. I am already so impressed with how welcoming and joyful Ridgeway is and am excited to be joining such an amazing building. I am at Ridgeway every morning until 10:30 when I go to my second school, Two Mile Prairie. I am so excited to begin a joyful, enriching and creative year with your students.

Mr. Morgan, Media Instructional Aide

Hello! I am the new Media Center Instructional Aide. I am from Kansas City and just moved to Columbia this year after finishing college at the University of Missouri at Kansas City. I enjoy camping, hiking, exploring, spending time with my dog, and of course reading! I am very excited for this school year and to get to teach the kids about computers and libraries!

Mrs. Pagoada, Instructional Mentor/Columbia College Liaison

Hello! I am thrilled to be a member of the Ridgeway team this year. I am originally from Milwaukee, Wisconsin and have been teaching for 14 years. A fun fact about me as that I speak Spanish and used to live in the Dominican Republic. I currently live in Ashland and have children ages 6, 12, and 15. In our free time we love to play soccer, try new foods, and garden. I am honored to be part of your school community!

Mrs. Shafer, Intervention Specialist

Hi! I am so excited to be teaching Reading Intervention at Ridgeway Elementary this year! This is my 10th year teaching. I have taught K-6 Title I Reading, 5th grade, kindergarten and preschool. My husband and I have twin boys who will be turning 16 in September! We also have 2 dogs (Lola and Gunner) and 3 cats (Shadow, Stripe and Stevie). I love to spend my time sewing, painting, reading and taking my dogs for long walks. I look forward to working with the teachers and students at Ridgeway this year!

Mrs. Sirna, Unit B Teacher

Hello! I am excited to be teaching in Unit B this year, where I had the privilege of student teaching last fall. I’ve been a Ridgeway parent for the last 6 years and volunteered in various capacities, so Ridgeway feels like home. Before coming here, I taught preschool while completing my Masters in Education, worked as an Instructional Aide with 2nd graders at the CPS Gifted Center, worked as a summer instructional aide with 1st graders at Ridgeway, and taught 5th grade at Blue Ridge for 3 months, covering a long-term leave. Before moving to Columbia, I was an education project manager in Kansas City (Go Royals!) I’ve enjoyed getting to know your Unit B students the last two weeks and I look forward to getting to know all of you, as well. We are going to have a great year! ☺
Principal’s Pen....

- Unit B and C Parents - Please make plans to attend our Back to School Night on Thursday, September 5. Doors will open at 5:20. Unit B parents will meet with teachers in the media center from 5:30-6:00, and then visit classrooms. Unit C parents will visit classrooms first and then meet with teachers in the media center from 6:00-6:30.

- Unit A Parents – Please plan to join us for Munch-n-Read on Friday, September 6. All visitors for the event will read in the classroom with their student from 1:50-2:20. We begin dismissal shortly after that, so we ask all visitors to leave promptly so that teachers can focus on making sure that all students get to the right spot for dismissal.

- Club confirmation forms will go home on Tuesday, September 3. Many of you know that the process of signing up for clubs has been different this year. Each student may sign up for only one club per day of the week. We set a limit on the number of students that may participate to make the clubs manageable for the teachers. There will be another club sign up after Winter Break.

My name is Rachel Blades. I’m a student teacher in Unit A this fall. I recently graduated from Columbia College and I am currently pursuing my MAT, also at Columbia College. Throughout my various field experience courses, I’ve spent a lot of time at Ridgeway. I was so excited to get my student-teaching placement here! I’m from Holliday, MO, a tiny town an hour northeast of Columbia. I currently live in Columbia. I love working with children and watching them grow and explore the world around them. I’m looking forward to a fantastic semester at Ridgeway Elementary, and to starting my career as an educator.

ABCD Calendar

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Please have your child wear tennis shoes to school the day they have PE.