Unit News

Unit A

Unit A has had a wonderful start to our study of Holidays Around the World. Thank you so much to Mrs. Cox, Mrs. Havens, and Mrs. Reddick for sharing with us.

Thank you to everyone who was able to join us for Munch -n- Read today. We love these monthly celebrations of reading.

Our Unit A winter holiday party will be on Thursday, December 20, at 1:25 p.m. If you want to volunteer and did not receive an email with a link to sign up, please email your student’s homeroom teacher.

Unit C

We would like to remind families that Unit C will be visiting day-care centers on Monday, December 17. Please send in day-care donations before that date (Cash is accepted.) On January 9, fifth-graders will attend the Fine Arts Extravaganza and will be away from Ridgeway all day.

Unit B

Unit B is working on poetry. We are learning about descriptive language, where poets find inspiration, and the structure and form of poems. In the past, Unit B has sent a Holiday Wish List in case families choose to purchase items for classrooms during this time of year. This year, we are sending home a wish list and also have collaborated with the Ridgeway PTSA to put together a Unit B Wish List on the Amazon website. The link is https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/1BVXPTOKST25T?&sort=default.

A Message From Mr. Buckner:

Hello Ridgeway family. I hope everyone had a great holiday. I have learned so much with being a Home School Communicator. It has helped me grow more and more into the person I want to become. Each day I enjoy the opportunity to meet with students and build relationships with them. I also love how I have been able to build more relationships with parents.

One of the cool things about my job is when a student is having a rough day, we are able to brainstorm how to fix our mistakes. I always tell my students, “The past is the past, we can’t change it, but how can we fix what we have done moving forward?”

It’s a blessing being in this position, and I won’t take it for granted. Thank you all for your support.

Oh the weather outside is frightful,  
And the playground is so delightful,  
Remember to dress very warm,  
Bring coat, hat, and gloves on cold days.
PTSA Fund-raising for Ridgeway

Ridgeway promotes ONE fund-raiser every year, FUNDAY. However, there are many ways in which participation in various activities can help us to earn a few extra dollars. Below is a list of such opportunities.

1. Amazon SMILE—If you order products from Amazon, consider using the Ridgeway https://smile.amazon.com site instead! It is the exact same as ordering from Amazon, but a portion of the proceeds goes to the school. Log in to the general Amazon Smile page with your usual Amazon account information. When it asks you who you would like to support, choose “PTA Missouri Congress Ridgeway Elementary PTA.” After you do so the first time, the site will remember who you want to support every time you log in. We have earned $1000+ per year this way, so please help support us! During the holidays, we typically get a big bump this way!

2. BoxTops for Education – Twice a year the Box Tops Coordinator submits BoxTops and Ridgeway receives a check based on the number submitted. BoxTops can be sent to school at ANY time during the school year. In addition to cutting out BoxTops you can earn additional points for our school at their website: http://www.boxtops4education.com/ Just this small act earns us on average $1200 each year! That’s no small potatoes. So get Clipping!

3. Shoparoo – This year we are participating in a hassle-free fundraiser called Shoparoo. Nationwide, 7,000+ schools are already fundraising through Shoparoo and we see it as great opportunity for us to make a difference this year. All you need to do is take pictures of your grocery receipts with the Shoparoo app made for your smartphone. It doesn’t matter where you shop or what you buy – every receipt submitted results in a donation to our school! So, what are you waiting for? Downloading the app from this link will earn us BONUS points http://app.shoparoo.com/share/6akgd1z7 and then select our school as your chosen cause. Since there is no limit to how much money we can raise with Shoparoo, be sure to invite your friends and neighbors to join in - every receipt counts, and you get bonus points when your friends sign up. Examples of what you can upload: Target/Walmart/Gerbes – Anything purchased. BreakTime – buy a soda at a convenience store? Upload the receipt. Prescriptions – got some allergy meds from Kilgore’s? This receipt counts, too. Pet Store – does Fluffy need some food? Upload that receipt as well. In general, any grocery, pet store, convenience store, etc., will work. If in doubt, try uploading. For every 500 points Ridgeway earns $1.

   We also periodically find out about online contests to benefit schools in terms of money or supplies (e.g., Target, Lysol, office supply companies). Make sure you are a member of our Facebook group to help us with these opportunities!

   Search “Ridgeway Elementary PTSA Outreach” on FB to find us!

Ridgeway Amazon Wish Lists

In an effort to help Ridgeway teachers and staff garner supplies and fill needs throughout the year, we have created “Wish Lists” for each Unit and for the Staff/Specialists. This is entirely voluntary and just a way that we can support our school in small ways (most items range from $5 - $30). Take a look at the needs being posted, maybe while you are considering holiday gifts for the units—and don’t forget all that our specialists do for our kids! These items are consumable items or those which will stay with Ridgeway even in the event that a specific teacher leaves, and they will be continuously updated throughout the year. The list also allows you to send the items directly to Ridgeway. And don’t forget to use Amazon Smile when you purchase these so Ridgeway gets double the benefit!

   Unit A list: http://a.co/4B8etgB
   Unit B list: http://a.co/cmzoq75
   Unit C list: http://a.co/46i7Zu8
   Staff/Specialists list: http://a.co/62NxCQQ
Kindness Rocks!

To help us prepare for Ridgeway Kindness Week coming up the week of January 7-11, 2019, we would like students to make a "kindness" rock. After collecting the finished rocks, we will place them all over the school for students to find.

When you receive your kindness rock, please decorate it any way you want that illustrates kindness. Here are some guidelines to help you:

- Be creative!
- Use nail polish, acrylic paint or permanent marker.
- Add crafty details using a glue gun if desired (Make sure you have your parents’ permission before using a glue gun.)
- Add a quote or a word that represents kindness.
- Don’t forget to put your name on the bottom of your rock!
- Bring your rock back to school and give it to your teacher any time before January 7.

We will have a “rock decorating” session before school after winter break for any student who didn’t get a chance to finish a rock at home.

Thank you and remember...YOU ROCK!

Label! Label! Label! Your child should be wearing a heavy coat, gloves and hat to school every day during cold weather. Please label the inside of your child’s cold-weather gear with their name.

Looking ahead to School Events ~ please mark your calendars!

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>December 12</td>
<td>Autonomous School Committee Meeting 4:00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>December 20</td>
<td>Unit Parties, times to be posted in the RAP</td>
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<tr>
<td>December 21</td>
<td>No School, Winter Recess</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>January 3</td>
<td>School Resumes 7:40 AM</td>
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<tr>
<td>January 4</td>
<td>Munch-n-Read 2:00-2:30</td>
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<tr>
<td>January 7-11</td>
<td>Kindness Week. Bring your rock!</td>
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<tr>
<td>January 8</td>
<td>Parent Advisory Council 6:00,</td>
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<td></td>
<td>PTSA meeting 6:30</td>
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<tr>
<td>January 21</td>
<td>No School, MLK Day</td>
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<tr>
<td>January 24</td>
<td>Art Fair and Talent Show 5:30 - 7:00</td>
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ABCD Day Calendar

Monday, December 10... A Day
Tuesday, December 11 ... B Day
Wednesday, December 12 ... C Day
Thursday, December 13... D Day
Friday, December 14 ... A Day

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