UNIT A Thank you to everyone who was able to attend our Thanksgiving Feast this year. Also, please be watching for a note regarding our Holidays Around the World tradition.

UNIT B Please check your child’s Friday Folder for the Unit B book order. Orders are due back by Wednesday, December 7. Please let your child’s teacher know if you need your book order set aside for a “secret gift giving” pickup.

UNIT C We continue to accept books, games and puzzles to take to the preschools. Please send any donations on or before Thursday, December 15. In health we’ve wrapped up the Body Systems review and will begin studying nutrition. This week MU Health stroke educators presented to all Unit C students information about stroke prevention.

Principal’s Pen Second and third floor - east end and the chair with an ottoman on my deck

If you are not quite sure what I am talking about, keep reading please!

For the last few weeks, I have been writing about encouraging a love of reading with your child. (Have you been to the public library yet? Does your child have a library card?)

In the November 18 Ridgeway RAP, I promised to share some of my favorite reading spots. At home, I like to read on the deck. We have two chairs with an ottoman, and I really like to prop up my feet while I read. Ideally, I have a glass of iced tea close at hand too. I know, I know, that only works during warmer parts of the year. I also like to read at the public library. My children and I often stay to read for a while when we check out books. When we are feeling quiet, we go to the Quiet Reading Room on the third floor, east end. When we are a little more rambunctious, we go to the east end on the second floor. On the second floor, there are nooks and crannies that overlook the lobby, and they are just right for partner reading. I hope to see you at the library soon!

Can you tell that I am an advocate for reading? I am also an advocate for play. Ridgeway students work hard, and they need time to play as well. Children learn better when they have opportunities to take a break and get outside for fresh air.

We use the following guidelines for outside recess. These are guidelines only and not meant to be a substitute for professional judgement.

- Above 15 degrees: outside recess
- 10-15 degrees: students will go outside for 15 minutes
- Below 10 degrees: inside recess

**Temperatures include temperature/wind chill

Students should come to school with appropriate gear for outside play. A student should not wear a ‘hoodie’ all day, and then expect that it will keep them warm at recess. Students should have a winter coat, gloves/mittens, and headgear to keep them warm while outside for 15-25 minutes. None of these items are available at school to borrow. On days with fluctuating temperatures, students should dress in layers. We will send students to recess with the outerwear that they bring to school.
Looking ahead to School Events ~ please mark your calendars!

December 13 ~ Winter Choir Performance, 6:30
December 15 ~ Drama Club Performance, 6:00 Dress Rehearsal, 7:00 Performance
December 20 ~ Unit Parties

January 6 ~ Munch and Read, 2:00-2:40
Unit A parents are welcome to join in the fun!
January 10 ~ Parent Advisory Committee 6:00, PTSA at 6:30
January 16 ~ MLK Day – No School
January 26 ~ Art Fair and Talent Show 5:30-7:00

ABCD Calendar
Monday, December 5 - D Day
Tuesday, December 6 - A Day
Wednesday, December 7 – B Day
Thursday, December 8 - C Day
Friday, December 9 - D Day

Please remember tennis shoes must be worn the day your child has PE.

The Holidays are fast approaching, and many parents are beginning to think about appreciating the amazing teachers and staff here at Ridgeway. Are you curious about a teacher’s favorite candy...staff members favorite restaurant... the store where they like to splurge... even supplies that your teacher needs for her/his classroom? Ridgeway’s “Our Favorite Things” sheets can help you out! Each staff member filled out one of these sheets at the beginning of the school year. The sheets are all located together in a binder in the office where you can stop in a take a picture or make a copy of it. You can also find the forms on our Ridgeway PTSA Outreach Facebook group page located here: https://www.facebook.com/groups/1826558210897341/files/.

We hope this makes your holiday shopping a little easier! Please contact Kelli Thomas at thomaskla3@gmail.com if you have any questions!

The Ridgeway Choir

The Ridgeway Choir has four upcoming festive Holiday Performances. Our first Holiday program is for residents and staff at Oak Towers and will be next Thursday, December 8, at 10:40 AM. We will sing for families and friends on Tuesday evening, December 13 at 6:30 PM. Choir members should arrive by 6:15 ready to perform. We also will perform for Ridgeway students and faculty on December 14 at 10:30. Our final holiday program will be at the Downtown Optimist Club on Monday, December 19 at 12:30 PM. Choir members will eat lunch early that day. Please be sure choir members wear their choir t-shirt to each of these shows.

There will be a choir pizza party during lunch choir practice on Thursday, December 15. The pizza is provided by the Downtown Optimist Club.

After winter break, choir practices will start again in February.

The Friends of Oak Towers Club

The Friends of Oak Towers Club will go to Oak Towers on Tuesday, December 6 to make holiday crafts and cards for and with the residents and staff there. Dismissal is at 3:45 from the front east doors of Ridgeway.

The second semester dates for the Friends of Oak Towers Club are confirmed. We will go to Oak Towers on the third Tuesday of each month (except intentionally moving the May date earlier): January 17, February 21, March 21, April 18, and May 9. Our dismissal time will remain at 3:45 PM from the front east doors. Parents, please email Mrs. Shull at wshull@cpsk12.org if your student is not currently participating and would like to join the Friends of Oak Towers Club for second semester. No action is required for current members to remain on the roster. Thank you so much!