

BY THE NUMBERS

SPIRIT NIGHT AT CHICK -FIL-A ON 10|1|09

The October Spirit Night was a great success! Keep coming out and supporting the Stingrays!
\$239.00

UNIFORM FREE FRIDAY ON 10|16|09

Thank you to everyone who participated!
\$768.45

ONLINE DONATIONS FOR OCTOBER: \$50.00

FUNDRAISING TOTAL FOR OCTOBER:

\$1,037.45

FUNDRAISING TOTAL THIS SCHOOL YEAR: \$5,246.72

NOVEMBER
2009



CURRENTS

YOUR MONTHLY GUIDE TO RIVERVIEW'S NEWS, INFORMATION AND EVENTS

Gratitude: a note from our Director

November has arrived, and with it comes Thanksgiving. This holiday is a favorite for many as families and friends gather round food-laden tables. It is a day that while steeped in tradition knows no cultural boundaries. Giving thanks, on which this holiday is based, is a universal human act. Without it, we would exist in a world where receiving would be a mindless motion, expected and taken for granted.

Gratitude is one of Riverview's core values. We believe in teaching our children to recognize the simple, less obvious gifts they receive each day and express their thankfulness for them. Reflecting on what you and others do and say is part of the process of learning to value the role of gratitude in making the world a better place.

It is my privilege to experience the growing impact of honoring this value each day at Riverview. Students thank their teachers as they leave the classroom after lessons. They thank each other for acts of kindness that earlier in the year would have gone unnoted. They understand that at their school, the words "thank you" are to be used often and with intent.

During November our Empty Bowls project will provide a special service learning opportunity for our students. (article on p.2) They will come to understand that every individual can make a difference in the life of another. Thank you in advance for your support of this endeavor. I look forward to seeing you on November 19th.

~ Eleanore Bednarsh
Director

ebedarsh@riverviewcharterschool.org



STUDENT BOOK REVIEW

Pecos Bill by Bill Kellogg | 2nd grade | Ms. Henderson's Class

"I like the part where Lightning decided to stay with the guy." ~ Alaina's Rating: 

"I like when he pretended to be a coyote." ~ Stuart's Rating: 

It's that time of the month again...time to send in and count box tops, Tyson labels, and juice pouches. Since the months of November and December are typically shorter for schools and busier for families and teachers, we will only be collecting once. Our next collection day will be Wednesday, November 18th. The class that collects the most will celebrate with a cookie decorating party in December! To make this as fair as possible, the winning grade level will be determined by averaging the grade level totals, accounting for the imbalance of our third Kindergarten class. Also, Denim Tuesday will be a little bit harder to get this time. Every grade must collect at least 500 items (box tops, labels and pouches) in order to wear denim with their Riverview t-shirt on Tuesday, November 24th.

Thanks so much for all your hard work cutting, rinsing and sending in those box tops, Tyson labels, and juice pouches. We hope you were able to take advantage of the specials Food Lion had on their Tyson chicken family packs, 24 cents per label really does add up!!

If you are able to help count and bundle after the collection please e-mail Joan Patterson at jmpatt@islc.net. I know she would appreciate your help.

We are so thankful for our Riverview Families!,

Ty, Joan, Shelley and Debbie

Service-Learning: What is it and why we do it?

At Riverview, we're committed to helping students become personally, socially, and globally responsible citizens and have embraced Service-Learning as a school-wide initiative to create engaged citizenship.

What is Service Learning? It is a teaching and learning strategy that integrates meaningful community service with instruction to enrich the learning experience, teach civic responsibility, and strengthen communities. We feel it is vitally important to educate our children, not only in "core" subjects, but to also become responsible and engaged citizens.

What is the Empty Bowls Project? It's a grassroots effort to raise money and awareness in an effort to end hunger. Dedicated to positive and lasting social change through the arts, education, and projects that build community, the basic idea for Empty Bowls is simple...students create ceramic bowls, then serve a minimal meal of soup and bread. In exchange for a meal, guests are asked to make a donation and encouraged to purchase bowls from a silent auction to keep as a reminder that there are always "Empty Bowls" in the world.

Combining Civics with Instruction.

Students at each grade level are contributing to the Empty Bowls project. Studying the concept "from field to table" in science, they "experienced" planting and harvesting vegetables at the Habersham

Organic Farm. Continuing the life cycle study, students teamed up with community partner, Mother Earth Landscaping, to build and plant edible gardens. In the art studio, ceramic bowls are crafted as symbols of the hunger and scarcity that exists locally and globally, while Language Arts students are creating a marketing campaign. Fostering stewardship (an RCS core value), students will sort, wash, measure and prepare the vegetables for Chefs Lisa and Rachel. The meal shared at the Empty Bowls event will complete the field to table study and culminate in a community outreach experience. Students will choose a local hunger relief and awareness organization and gift the money raised.



Riverview is deeply committed and passionate to what SERVICE and LEARNING offer both our students and the greater community. Please join us in the Empty Bowls Project – supporting active and engaged citizenship through your participation.

AnnMarie Bowden
Academic Excellence Chair

ambowden@riverviewcharterschool.org

A MESSAGE FROM THE BOARD

*"Never doubt that a small group of committed citizens can change the world. Indeed, it is the only thing that ever has."
~ Margaret Mead*

That quote was the closing of our Community Meeting presentation and it seems particularly fitting when we consider the ongoing nominations process for Riverview's first Board elections. Having had the privilege of serving on Riverview's Charter Committee, and consequently serving each of you and your children, I can share that the experience has been daunting, exhilarat-

ing and tremendously rewarding. And now that the School is open, the Board's work is not done ~ rather, it's only begun. If Riverview is going to fulfill it's promise for our children and our community, then we need your help. **We need your time, your talents and your expertise. We need you to serve on the Board of Directors.**

The Nominating Committee has only received a few nomination to date, and as such has **extended the nominating period by one week** in hopes that you will reconsider submitting a nomination for your-

self or someone you know. Please revisit our website and the roles and responsibilities associated with participating on the Board of Directors. Board members do not have to be parents of current students. Any community member (who is not employed by the School) may be a member of the Board.

On behalf of the Charter Committee, we thank you in advance for your willingness to participate.

Alison Thomas
Executive Committee Chair
athomas@riverviewcharterschool.org



THIS MONTH IN WORLD HISTORY | NOVEMBER | 10 | 1509

Land Ho! 4th grade is becoming early European explorers as they trace the hardships and tribulations these men endured to travel to the New World. On November 10, 1509, one of the explorers, **Francisco Pizarro**, set sail from Spain with **Alonzo de Ojeda** where Ojeda founded the city of San Sebastian. He later established the city of Lima, Peru and opened the way for Spanish culture and religion to dominate South America.

Getting Kids Moving at RCS

LISA VANHORN

Physical education significantly contributes to students' well-being; therefore, it is an integral part of our students' educational experience. High-quality physical education instruction contributes to good health, develops fundamental and advanced motor skills, improves students' self-confidence, and provides opportunities for increased levels of physical fitness that are associated with high academic achievement.

At RCS, our program is aimed at developing interest in exercise, basic games, locomotive skills, ball handling skills, dance, tumbling, cooperative games, team and individual sports, as well as individual lifetime activities. Some of the sports that I will teach the students will be: soccer, volleyball, golf, tennis, track and field, basketball, kickball, badminton, cricket, softball, field hockey, archery, and cup stacking. Students will receive instruction on specific sports when it is age appropriate. Riverview students will also learn the importance of good nutrition and regular exercise and to

view these as key components for a life-long commitment to health, happiness and productivity.

ACCORDING TO THE U.S. SURGEON GENERAL REGULAR PHYSICAL ACTIVITY IS ONE OF THE MOST IMPORTANT WAYS TO MAINTAIN AND IMPROVE ONE'S PHYSICAL HEALTH, MENTAL HEALTH AND OVERALL PHYSICAL WELL-BEING.

When children work together in team sports to accomplish a goal, they must cooperate, use teamwork, show responsibility and a willingness to obey the rules. Through cooperative games students will cultivate an attitude of fairness, learn from each other's differences and strengths, understand their limitations and instill a desire to help their classmates to become successful. All of these elements are essential in being a productive citizen in the classroom and in life.

In order for our students to improve their fitness levels and have clear measurable goals, we will be using the FITNESSGRAM program. FITNESSGRAM is a comprehensive assessment battery of youth fitness. It includes a variety of health-related physical fitness tests designed to assess cardiovascular fitness, muscle strength, muscular endurance, flexibility, and body composition.

FITNESSGRAM scores will be a part of every student's portfolio in grades 3-5. Students can use FITNESSGRAM to plan their personal fitness programs, PE

instructors can use it to determine students' needs and help guide students in program planning, and parents can use it to help their children plan a program of physical activity.

All children can be successful in FITNESSGRAM which believes that extremely high levels of fitness (while admirable) are not necessary to accomplish objectives associated with good health benefits. With reasonable amounts of physical activity, all children can receive sufficient health benefits. The FITNESSGRAM assessments will take place at the beginning of the year and at the end of the year. Students will use the assessment as a means to improve their fitness, learn to set goals, and to strive for their own personal best.

Most importantly, I structure all of my classes so that they are fun. I want physical education to be the class every child can't wait to be a part of at Riverview Charter School.



SAVE
THE
DATE

NOVEMBER

DECEMBER 3
Chick-fil-A
Spirit Night
5:30 p.m. ~ 7:30 p.m.

DECEMBER 4
Voting Concludes for
Board Members
6:00 p.m.

DECEMBER 7
Tallying, counting and
announcement of Board
results
TBD

DECEMBER 7
RCC Meeting
6:00 p.m. | the Commons

DECEMBER 8
Board Meeting
5:30 p.m. | the Commons

DECEMBER 18
\$5 Uniform Free Friday

DECEMBER 21—
JANUARY 4
No School—Winter Break
Happy Holidays!

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1	2	3 Picture Day!	4 Girl Scouts Informational Meeting 4:30 p.m.	5 Chick-fil-a Spirit Night 5:30 ~ 7:30 p.m.	6	7
SCHOLASTIC BOOK FAIR THIS WEEK						
8	9	10 Volunteer Orientation 11:00 a.m. The Commons Open House for New Applicants 4:30 ~ 5:30 Board Meeting 5:30 p.m. The Commons	11 NO CLASSES VETERAN'S DAY	12	13 Volunteer Orientation 11:00 a.m. The Commons	14 EXTENDED Board Nominations Due
15	16 Volunteer Orientation 11:45 am The Commons	17 Volunteer Orientation 5:30 pm The Commons	18 Open House for New Applicants 11:00 ~ 1:00 Collection Day for box tops, juice pouches and Tyson labels.	19 EMPTY BOWLS PROJECT & PORTFOLIO NIGHT	20 \$5 Uniform Free Friday	21
22	23 Open House for New Applicants 4:30 ~ 5:30 Board Meeting 5:30 p.m. The Commons	24 RCC's Family Night at the Drive-In A Christmas Carol 6:30 p.m.	25	26	27	28
NO SCHOOL — HAPPY THANKSGIVING!						
29	30					



302 Burroughs Avenue
Beaufort, SC 29902



Riverview Community Cooperative

KICKS OFF AT RIVERVIEW

Riverview Community Cooperative is the organization of parents, students, teachers and community members who support the mission and vision of Riverview Charter School. Our goal is to have every family at Riverview in RCC!

This year we have created 4 committees for RCC. They are **Family Events**, **Teacher and Staff Hospitality**, **Volunteer Coordination** and **Events to Support RCC**.

The Family Events Committee (Jackie Ramirez, chair, and Debbie DeBardaben, co-chair) is planning a Family Movie Night in December and a Family Picnic in the spring. They also hope to coordinate a Talent Show towards the end of school.

The Teacher and Staff Hospitality Committee (Ryan Christian, chair, and Melissa Bliley, co-chair) is planning to have volunteers make one cake or pie for each teacher or staff member to take home at Thanksgiving, a gift wrapping service for staff in December, a meal for

staff in the winter and an end of the year staff appreciation luncheon as well.

The Volunteer Coordination Committee is being led by Melina Cunningham and this committee will be responsible for maintaining volunteers databases for RCC volunteers as well as school-wide volunteers.

Finally, the Events to Support RCC Committee (Shelley Kolb, chair, and Barbara Morales, co-chair) has already had their first event with the Scholastic book fair. They plan to offer a Christmas Store in December where students can purchase gifts for family members and will have another book fair next spring. This committee is also hoping to offer a business directory so RCC members who own their own business and would like to advertise to other RCC families will have an opportunity to do so.

If you are interested in helping with any of these committees or have any further questions about RCC, please email rcc@riverviewcharterschool.org.

