

North Ridge Review

SPRING 2024 PRINCIPAL'S NEWSLETTER



Dear North Ridge Families,

It's hard to believe, but Spring is upon us! There are so many exciting things blooming at 300 Townline Road. The children are working on their science and art projects for the BIG EXPO! You will get to see their hard work on display throughout the building. They are also practicing for their Spring concerts, which will blow you away! The students are super excited for FUN-FAIR. North Ridge's very own carnival with games and prizes galore!

Please keep an eye on the district calendar for dates and times of all these special events. You won't want to miss a thing!

Lastly, Kindergarten registration and screenings are underway, for our incoming little ones. Please be sure to remind neighbors to be on the lookout for district communication if their children are of school age!

All My Best,

Katherine Rihm

Principal



"It's a Very a Fine Place"

Mission Statement:

The North Ridge learning community is committed to helping all of our students become lifelong learners by building their social, emotional and academic skills. Together we will encourage them to develop self-confidence and promote respect for themselves and others. Through a growing understanding of their rights and responsibilities, our children will become contributing citizens of the world in which we live!

2023-2024 NORTH RIDGE SITE - BASED MANAGEMENT MEMBERS

- Katherine Rihm—Principal
- Jen LombardoLianne Conroy - Support Staff Rep.
- Lisa Mariani - Kindergarten Teacher Rep.
- Natalie Meyers - 1st Grade Teacher Rep.
- Tara Chiaino - 2nd Grade Teacher Rep.
- Jody Mazur/Christine Schultz -CTA Rep.
- Marissa Bivona, Leana Visalli, Jessica Hayes - Parent Rep.



2023-2024 NORTH RIDGE PTA EXEC BOARD

- Katherine Rihm—Principal
- Marisa Bivona & Natalia Metzger— Co-Presidents
- Victoria Cardinale, Tara Fore Elaine Rojas— Vice Presidents
- Grace Wigdzinski— Recording Secretary
- Emily Meyer— Corresponding Secretary
- Christine Napolitano— Treasurer
- Leana Visalli— Past President

Parents, as a reminder, ALL visitors must present a valid ID to enter the building, and MUST sign in to be issued a visitors pass. If a valid ID is not presented, you will not be permitted to be in the building.

Be sure to visit the Commack School District Website at:
www.commack.k12.ny.us



NORTH RIDGE KINDERGARTEN



Throughout the next few months, our Character Education focus will be Accountability and Attaining Pride. The children will learn about these traits in their classroom and at our Town Meetings.

In Reader's Workshop, kindergarten students will be reading non-fiction texts and then we will be working on character studies. During Writers' Workshop, the children will be writing informational books, known as an "All-About" Book and finishing the year with Personal Narratives.

We are looking forward to our visit from Sweetbriar Nature Center in April. We will be learning about many different animals. The children will be able to see them and pet some of them. In Science, we will be finishing the year studying weather and climate.

In math we are working on teen numbers to 20, more addition and subtraction to 20, counting numbers to 100 and identifying and creating solid and flat shapes.

Our kindergarteners are learning and growing every day!



March and April begin to bring all the signs of spring and our first graders begin enjoying the warm weather and all the benefits of the sunshine. In March, we will discuss maintaining a healthy environment during Nutrition Week, and we will focus on the character trait endurance, as well as responsibility and accountability in April.

In Math, we continue to work on addition and subtraction strategies, as well as measurement and money. Reading and writing continue to be the driving force in our classrooms. The children continue to learn new strategies to improve their reading and writing skills.

It is important for families to read together. Reading opens many doors for our children. Reading every night will help your young reader build his/her skills. Please remember to send the reading calendar at the end of each month. This is a wonderful way to contribute to our school community.

As always, your support and cooperation have helped our programs flourish!

Warm Wishes, The First Grade Teachers



Second graders are studying economics in their social studies curriculum. Students are learning how good citizens participate in their government and community. We are exploring supply and demand, goods and services, and the economic cycle through various texts and literature.

Our spelling continues to grow with our students listening, speaking, writing, and making words. Each week we build upon key principles to helping us to become better spellers and writers. Don't forget to study those trick words.

Math instruction involves learning to use appropriate tools to estimate, measure, and compare length. We will also be investigating attributes of shapes, and learning how line plots, bar graphs, and picture graphs are used to show data and answer questions. Please continue to practice math facts at home.

Science carries on with our study of Earth's Systems. We are using information from several sources to provide evidence that Earth events can occur quickly or slowly. We are also developing models to represent the shapes and kinds of land and bodies of water in an area. In addition, we will be learning how animals adapt to their environment to survive and meet their needs. Each class will be observing the life cycle of ladybugs with our very own ladybug habitat.

In April we spring forward delving into the characteristics and elements of poetry. Students are exposed to poetry that exemplifies beats, alliteration, rhymes, and repetition. We are reading poetry with expression and paying attention to meaning. We are also applying poetic craft to our writing to creatively express our ideas and feelings. Next, we jump into persuasive writing where we will learn about different points of view of characters, identify supporting persuasive evidence within a given text, and write persuasive letters. Watch out! We will be better persuaders this summer.

Thank you for your continued support throughout the year.
Second Grade Teachers

DAILY PROCEDURES:

WALKER PICK UP:

As a reminder, all walker requests should be emailed to NRWalker@commack.k12.ny.us. Before 11:00am !!Please copy the teacher on the email and be sure to include: student name, teacher name and person picking up! (Anyone picking up should bring valid picture identification)

DISMISSAL PROCEDURES:

Please keep in mind, as the largest primary school in the district, it takes a significant amount of time to dismiss our students safely and efficiently. Below is the afternoon timeline which we follow.

Dismissal Time Frames:

SCOPE: 3:15pm

(and FAST CLUBS when applicable)

WALKERS: 3:20pm

BUS ROW #1: 3:25pm

BUS ROW #2: 3:35pm

FINAL CALL/BUILDING ALL CLEAR :3:45pm



LUNCHROOM REMINDERS:

Please be sure to follow the district policy for ordering lunch.

It is **IMPERATIVE** that every student intending to buy lunch has placed an order the day before. Students who do not have an order will only be offered popcorn chicken and not be eligible for the daily specialty items. Instructions for payment and ordering can be found on the district website.

UPCOMING SCHOOL CLOSURES:

- **March Recess : March 28-April 1st**
- **Staff Conference Day Wednesday, 4/10**
- **Spring Recess April 22-26**
- **Memorial Day May 24-28**
- **June 19th**
- **HALF DAYS June 24-26th**



NO SCHOOL