

Champions Newsletter

Richland Elementary School
September 2020

Mr. Jeff Johnson, Principal
Mrs. Katy Conradson, Assistant Principal



A Message From Our Principal

Greetings Richland Champions!

What a great start this school year!

We have approximately 270 kindergarten students and 67 of them are remote. There are two remote teachers serving kindergarten. We have approximately 260 1st grade students and 82 of them are remote. There are three remote teachers serving first grade.

Currently, we are getting to know our students both personally and academically. Students in 1st grade have started Critical Standards testing. We will then move on to having students getting tested with the Dynamic Indicators of Basic Early Literacy Skills (DIBELS) and STAR Early Literacy, Reading, and Math assessments. These tests, coupled with teacher observations, will help give us an idea of where our students are performing. After collecting this data, we will be ready to start our intervention and enrichment groups, what we call "I/E", just in case you hear some of these terms at home.

If you have any questions, please let me know if I can assist.

Go Champions!

Jeff Johnson

Some dates to remember are:

September –

7th – Labor Day (School Closed)

15th – Fall Pictures

16th – Dot Day

October –

12th – End of 1st nine-weeks

15th – Behavior Celebration/
Dance Party
(tentative)

16th – Report Cards go home

16th – Parent Conference Day (School Closed)

28th-1st – Healthy Living Week

Assistant Principal Highlights

We are off to a great start this school year at RES! Our students have been working hard to learn the 4 traits of Richland Champions: Respectful, Responsible, Prepared, and Safe. Thank you to all the parents that have connected to Class Dojo. Dojo is a wonderful way for our staff to communicate with you through pictures, announcements, assignments, and even Dojo points. If you need help connecting, please contact your child's homeroom teacher. We are so thankful to have all of you as members of the Richland Family. Go Champions!

Katy Conradson
Assistant Principal
Richland Elementary
(334) 887-1980

Counselor's Corner

Welcome back RES Champions! I hope everyone is adjusting well to being back in school, whether in person or online! As the School Counselor, I am here to help students with their social/emotional wellbeing as well as anything else in their lives that may interfere with them being successful at school. I visit each class to provide classroom guidance lessons, I provide small groups, and can meet with students individually as needed. Students can be referred by their classroom teacher, parents, or the RTI Team (school team of teachers). In the month of August we talked about being successful in school as well as classroom procedures during Counseling. During September we will learn about all the feelings we can have and how to manage them.

Please know that you can always reach out to me if you have any questions or concerns! My email address is gjbusbin@auburnschools.org or you can call (344) 887-1980.

Anne Busbin
Richland Elementary Counselor

Tidbits from Title I

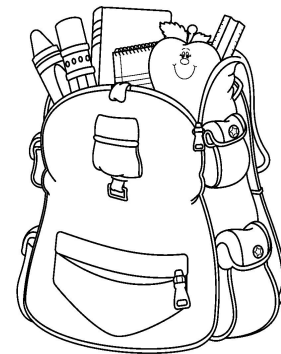
I want to thank you all so much for completing the parent surveys in such a timely manner. We had a great percentage of surveys received for our school. Treats for completing the survey will be distributed to your student soon.

If you have not completed your lunch applications and need assistance, please feel free to contact me and I am more than happy to assist you in that process.

If you have any questions about Title I, I do have an informational video posted to my website and I am always happy to answer any questions you may have.

I look forward to working with you all this year!

Brandy Wynn
Title I Teacher
Richland Elementary
brwynn@auburnschools.org



Insights from the Instructional Coach

Greetings Richland Champions! Since school is in session, it is time to start our Champion Reader Incentive. After Labor Day, your child will receive their first reading log. Directions will be attached to the log with a quick video on Class Dojo. If you have any questions about your child's reading development or our Champion Reader Incentive, please don't hesitate to send me an email at akhigginbotham@auburnschools.org.

Thank you for all you do!
Mrs. Higginbotham

Kindergarten Column

The school year is off to a great start, and we have been very busy in Kindergarten!

All of our kindergarten friends are doing a great job coming to school each day, and we are all starting to get into our routine. We have been learning all about how to be in school- learning procedures, classroom and school rules, and what it means to be respectful, responsible, prepared, and safe! These are the qualities we know make up a RES CHAMPION!!!

Over the past few weeks, we have been learning our names and our friends' names. We have been practicing writing and identifying our names. This is a great thing to practice at home! We have also been learning all about our classmates with our All About Me study. It is so fun to get to know everyone! In math, we have been focusing on one-to-one correspondence and identifying numerals.

Starting next week, we will dive into ABC Bootcamp! ABC Bootcamp is research-based, classroom proven, rigorous introduction to all 26 letters and sounds. ABC Bootcamp allows us to introduce the letters and sounds so that our students can begin to manipulate them to make words. For each letter, we practice forming these letters correctly, and we make a whole group letter chart.

We are looking forward to a GREAT year in Kindergarten!

Thank you for all of your support as we begin to write our champion stories!



First Grade Happenings

First Grade is off to a great start! While we are cleaning, masking up and social distancing we are also enjoying our time back in school. We are enjoying learning about our new friends and our teacher. We have made graphs and learned how to read data to include some great math vocabulary of greater and least. It's been so much fun learning how we are alike and different and how to celebrate each other and our unique qualities.

We have also made great strides in getting to know the features of the Daily 5 and getting ready to begin our reading groups and learning stations. We are making connections and reading and comparing stories to help us to answer questions about who, where, when and all that happened.

September will be a fun month of all things fall. We will continue to learn about our community along with studying apples, and Johnny Appleseed. We will be using activities that connect us to reading, number sense, addition and subtraction as well as writing numbers to 120.

We look forward to a great month of learning!

Nurse's News

Communicable diseases are those diseases that may be transmitted from person to person and are the most common cause of school absenteeism. If your children wake up not feeling well and/or with a temperature, please keep them home. Not only are they not at their best to learn, but they might very well infect their peers, teachers and other staff.

Here are a few guidelines you might want to follow during the school year:

Students should stay home from school if they:

- Fever of 100.4 degrees or more
- Undiagnosed rash
- Vomiting, nausea or abdominal pain
- One or more episodes of diarrhea
- Complaints of severe earache, with or without fever
- Severe sore throat with symptoms indicating possible strep throat
- Conjunctivitis (Pink Eye)
- Persistent cough
- Any sore oozing fluid or pus

Students should remain home:

- For 24 hours after their temperature returns to normal
- For 12 hours after vomiting and diarrhea have ended
- Until a physician has determined the results of a throat culture for strep
- For 24 hours after their first dose of medication with a diagnosis of strep throat or conjunctivitis (Pink Eye)

It is important that these symptoms are recognized quickly and steps are taken to stop them from spreading to safeguard the health of all students and staff.

Media Center Headlines

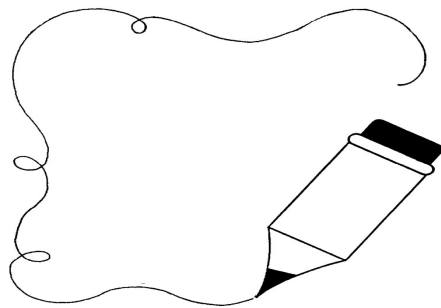
Due to Covid-19 and all of its restrictions, the library looks very different this year! It is our mission to share the love of reading, stories, and information with the children so we are seeing all of the classes each week in their homeroom and bringing along a rolling cart with a rotating selection of books for them to check out. We are following all of the ASLA (Alabama School Library Association) recommended guidelines to maintain a safe environment for the students and the teachers and quarantine all print material upon their return.

Birthday Book Club is available on MySchoolBucks.com for \$15. This is a voluntary program to help sponsor fabulous new Library Bound hardback titles for our school library. Most of these titles retail for over \$25. The sponsoring child gets to select a book from our options and a book plate is placed inside recognizing them as the donor, and that child gets to be the first to check out the new library book. In addition, the sponsor will receive a birthday goodie bag. The selection will take place at the end of each sponsor's birthday month.

Music Notes

Welcome back to Richland Elementary School for the 2020–2021 school year. I am Mr. Joseph Rowser, your very own music teacher. It is truly exciting to be back to make music with each one of our dear friends. With regard to COVID–19 restrictions, we will not have any fall school performances open to the public. I will personally look to organizing music lessons that give each class an opportunity to present in-class performances that build self-confidence through music. Also, Mr. Rowser's class instruments are off limits this year and cannot be used. With that being said, each class will eventually make their own instruments, i.e. hand drums, tambourines, maracas, etc. So far, each class has learned and accumulated knowledge about beat, rhythm, cues, and the fermata. Each class has performed through body movement and body percussion techniques to show their understanding of each of the terms listed below. In spite of the challenges of this school year, our students will receive and be given a great musical experience like never before. Thank you all and welcome back.

Musically yours,
Mr. Joseph Rowser



The P.E. Buzz

Hello Champion families. We have been hard at work in PE for the first month of the school year. Our students have practiced their skipping, galloping, sliding and running. In addition to those locomotor skills, we have gotten very good at catching and throwing. Our Champions are also quite the little dancers! We have been excellent at finding and remaining in personal space in order to have mask breaks and will continue to do so. Thank you all for sending your children with their water bottles and closed-toed shoes. We have much more fun ahead of us in PE this year. GO CHAMPIONS!

Art Room Advisor

We are off to a great start with "Art on a Cart". I have been rolling to each classroom and the students are just loving all the fun things we are doing, even though we are not in the art room. Currently, both grade levels are studying color theory; Kindergarten is focusing on primary and secondary colors and First Grade is learning about complimentary colors.

Square 1 Art Fundraiser

Each year I do a fundraiser to purchase art supplies. This fundraiser is so wonderful because it incorporates your child's artwork. You will have the opportunity to purchase a variety of items such as beach bags, water bottles, jewelry, and more with your child artwork on it. Catalogs will be sent home on October 19th and your orders are due by Nov 3. Online orders only (due to Covid). Remote parents: directions for you to participate will be sent via your teacher. I greatly appreciate your support of the RES art room.

Please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions or concerns. RES is the BEST!

Rebecca Wall
rswall@auburnschools.org

Computer Lab Update

We are off to a great start! We are learning about internet safety with Clicky and all of his friends. In the next couple of weeks, we will be working on the Mac books where we will start practicing on a weekly bases how to login and log off. I will be sending home a practice sheet of the MacBook Keyboard that we are using with their username and password. Their password will also serve as their lunchroom account number.

Kim Moore
Computer Lab
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