

# Champions Newsletter

Richland Elementary School  
March 2021

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



## A Message From Our Principal

Greetings Richland Champions,

We are now in the final nine-weeks of the 2020-2021 school year! Time sure does fly when you are having fun being a Champion and battling a pandemic!

Our third nine-weeks behavior celebration was an awesome event. We had a dance party, games, and other fun activities!

### Important Dates:

#### March-

25<sup>th</sup> – 3<sup>rd</sup> Nine Weeks  
Report Cards go home

#### April-

16<sup>th</sup> – April Holiday  
(School Closed)

22<sup>nd</sup> – PTO Meeting  
and Art Show at 5:30  
pm

#### May-

14<sup>th</sup> – 4<sup>th</sup> q Weeks  
Behavior Celebration  
(tentative)

20<sup>th</sup> – Last day for  
students



The next couple of weeks will be very busy. Starting the week of April 22<sup>nd</sup>, we will, again, administer the STAR Reading and Math assessments. These tests, coupled with teacher observations over this past school year, help give us an idea of how our students have grown academically.

### Registration

Starting March 22, 2021, **new students** may enroll at [www.auburnschools.org](http://www.auburnschools.org). Be sure to use the 2021-22 link and not 2020-21! You will need proof of residency (lease or mortgage statement) and utility bill. **Returning students** will not be able to register until the summer.

### Celebrations

Richland received the honor of being ranked #6 for the Best Public Schools in Alabama according to Niche. <https://www.niche.com/k12/richland-elementary-school-auburn-al/>

### Carline Procedures

I want to remind you all of the expectations for carline. The rear entrance bus loop will be open to car riders that are traveling from Shug Jordan from **7:30-7:50**. Drop-off in the back loop will begin **after** the buses and daycare vans have dropped off. All cars exiting the rear entrance bus loop will have to make a right turn out of the exit. Cars will not be permitted to make a left turn back on to Richland Road. This will be strictly enforced.

In addition, note the following for safety and efficiency purposes:

1. Parking at the tennis center, on Richland Road between us and the tennis center, and at the AU Club is strictly prohibited. There is a detailed video on our car line procedures located on our website.
2. Please have your child(ren) prepared to get out of the car when our staff opens the car door, it will help the carline move more efficiently. For pick-up, we encourage all students to be buckled before exiting our campus. Please pull forward pass the first spot by our flagpole if you need extra time to buckle and the carline has started moving.
3. We will not allow any driver in the carline to pick up a student in the afternoons if they do not have a hangtag. Drivers will be asked to park and show ID in the main office and the student will be released **after** the carline is complete.
4. If your child is a walker, you should have your hangtag to pick them up as well, if not, you will be asked to walk to the main office and show your ID. Then your child will not be released until dismissal is complete. Parking on campus, or at the tennis center, is strictly prohibited if your child is a walker.

The last day of school will be Thursday, May 20<sup>th</sup>. Checklists will go home the last day of school. Students will return to school on Tuesday, August 10<sup>th</sup>.

Go Champions!  
Jeff Johnson  
Principal

“Families with summer food assistance needs may call the Hunger Hotline at 1-866-3-Hungry and will be referred to facilities to assist with food needs in our community.”

## HEALTHY SMILES, HAPPY KIDS



### FREE DENTAL SERVICES AT AUBURN CITY SCHOOLS!

All students (grades K-12) receiving free/reduced lunch benefits, having no private dental insurance, qualify for free dental services at Auburn City Schools. (Medicaid is also accepted.) Just print and complete the attached pink application then return it to your child's school. We will take care of everything and transportation is provided. For additional information or questions, call 334-887-1948.

# SPIRIT NIGHTS

Mark your calendar for these upcoming Spirit Nights!

March Spirit Night @ Panda + Yummy Villa (S. College Location ONLY)  
\*March 25th

April Spirit Night @ Taco Mama  
\*April 28th



# Summer Reading Skills

## PROGRAMS

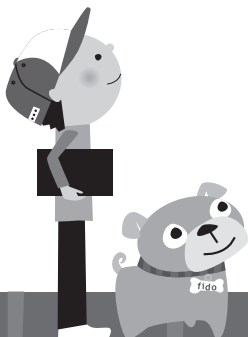


OFFICE OF PROFESSIONAL AND  
CONTINUING EDUCATION



**Phonics**  
**Fluency**

**Comprehension**  
**Love of Reading**  
**Textbook Skills**  
**Reading Speed**



### **Program for 4-Year-Olds and Entering Kindergartners**

In this fun summer program, your child will learn to read. Children learn letter recognition, beginning phonics and easy sight words. Your child will learn to read simple words and short sentences and will be excited about books and reading.

### **Program for Entering 1st Graders**

In this fun summer program, your child will learn to read independently. Children learn phonics and sight words, build fluency and comprehension and develop a love of books and reading. Your child will be excited about reading and get off to a great start in 1st grade.

### **Program for Entering 2nd Graders**

In this fun summer program, your child will become a fluent, confident reader. Children build solid phonics and word-attack skills and develop reading fluency and strong comprehension. Your child will gain confidence, be excited about books and reading and get off to a great start in 2nd grade.

### **Program for Entering 3rd Graders**

In this fun summer program, your child will become a strong, enthusiastic reader. Children improve reading fluency and develop excellent comprehension. They build long-word decoding skills and expand their vocabulary. Your child will gain confidence, develop a lifelong love of books and reading and get off to a great start in 3rd grade.

### **Programs for Entering 4th and 5th Graders**

In these fun and effective programs, your child will become a skilled, enthusiastic reader and a better writer. Students develop strong comprehension skills in fiction, non-fiction and textbooks. They expand their vocabulary, and learn to read more fluently and rapidly.

Students learn effective techniques that will improve their writing skills and build their confidence as writers. Your child will complete homework and writing assignments more quickly and easily, get better grades and enjoy reading more.

### **Programs for Entering 6th, 7th, 8th, 9th, 10th and 11th Graders**

In these effective and enjoyable programs, your son or daughter will make substantial gains in comprehension in fiction and nonfiction, learn to read twice as fast and become a better writer. Students expand their vocabulary and learn the best way to take notes and study for tests.

Students will improve their writing skills by learning effective techniques that also build their confidence as writers. Your child will complete homework and writing assignments more quickly and easily, get better grades and enjoy reading more.

FOR MORE INFORMATION OR TO REGISTER

**Call 1-800-715-2808**

### PTO Post

Thank you SO much to everyone who donated and participated in our Teacher Appreciation Week this year! Our RES teachers and staff are SUPERHEROES and we made sure they knew how much we appreciate them! Monday we kicked-off the week with a Superhero Snack Station that stayed stocked all week with delicious fresh produce donated by Parkway Farmers Market and an array of snacks, treats, and drinks. The station was beautifully decorated and themed with a balloon arch and "HEROS" marquee donated by Alpha-Lit Auburn. Tuesday we gave our teachers a break from the kitchen and provided a Lulu's Bakery & Market casserole to take home for a family dinner. Wednesday the school staff enjoyed coffee and pastries from Ross House to start their morning, courtesy of Mathnasium, because YOU voted and said RES is the BEST! Then they were showered with gifts and supplies from the students and families all day. Thursday we knew they'd be needing a little extra energy and focus to last them through the remaining days until spring break, so we treated them to a loaded tea of their choice from Burn Nutrition. As a finale and great way to end the week, we treated the school to a delicious barbeque boxed lunch from Bow & Arrow and the most adorable superhero cookies you've ever seen from JAM Cakery. It was a great week! Thank you again to all the businesses that helped and the families that donated through MSB to make it happen.



## Assistant Principal Highlights

Happy Final 9 Weeks! Our March Behavior Celebration was an amazing success! Over 98% of our students were invited to attend, and we had a great time partying. The RES is truly amazing, and the support from parents is so important to the success of students. Thank you for all you do!

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



## Insights from the Instructional Coach

Hello to all!

I can't believe that we are in the 4<sup>th</sup> nine weeks of school. Woo Hoo! We are having a few schoolwide reading activities this spring to stimulate your child's reading development. First, we will have our very own March Madness Tournament of Books. Your student's teacher will read a book aloud a day and we will select our champion by April 9. Then, on March 26<sup>th</sup> our school will kick off our annual Read to Them event with another read aloud event for home. All directions and materials will be in your child's take-home folder. If you ever have any questions, please feel free to email me at [akhigginbotham@auburnschools.org](mailto:akhigginbotham@auburnschools.org).

Many thanks,  
Mrs. Higginbotham

## Tidbits from Title I

We continue to be very proud of the progress our students are making in the Lexia Core 5 Reading Program. Each time as student completes a level they will receive a certificate and have their name announced on our morning news. I hope you are also celebrating these certificates at home. Each certificate has some great information at the bottom with specific progress of your child. Thanks so much for your hard work in our fundraising efforts this year! Because of YOU, we were able to purchase Lexia Core 5 to use again next school year.

Happy Reading!  
Mrs. Wynn



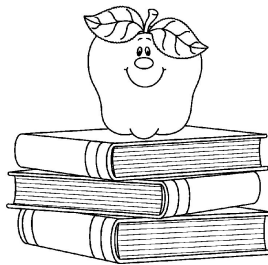
## Counselor's Corner

Happy Spring, Richland Family! In Counseling this past month, we have been learning about different jobs. The students have learned why we need a job, things we have to pay for (needs and wants), and learned about all types of important jobs in our community! We will soon be talking about safe adults, strangers, and what to do in a situation that might scare you or make you feel uncomfortable. Please help your children know who safe adults are, learn their address and phone number! As always, please reach out to me if you have any questions or concerns!

Anne Busbin  
Apple Teacher  
[ajbusbin@auburnschools.org](mailto:ajbusbin@auburnschools.org)

## Kindergarten Column

Kindergarten is ready to kick off the 4<sup>th</sup> nine weeks! We have been working hard to master all of our skills. In shared reading, we have been reviewing book features and story elements with some of our favorite fiction stories. We have also been working on reading words with l blends, s blends, and r blends. We are now focusing on long vowels and are looking forward to our spring author studies. In journal, we have been focusing on writing complete sentences and using capitalization and punctuation. In math, we have been working on addition and subtraction to 5 and 10, writing numbers, and decomposing teen numbers. We are so proud of how smart our kindergarteners are and are so excited to continue learning this spring!



## First Grade Happenings

Wow how time flies when you are learning and growing and having fun in first grade! It's hard to believe that we have completed our third nine weeks. The beginning of the fourth nine weeks means that our content is getting more complex and we are beginning to put it all together to finish strong with our learning! These next nine weeks we will be learning to read all the vowel digraphs and working hard on our fluency and accuracy. One way for that to improve is to read nightly aloud to an adult or a brother or sister. The more you read the better reader you become. Why not make a weekly reading night so that your child can read to you and the family!

Math has been building to numbers to 120. Did you know that most of us can count and write to 120 now and some even beyond that! We are learning place value and how to add and subtract two-digit numbers. We will also be learning about time and geometry! It's amazing all the things we can do with numbers when we understand number sense.

Spring brings about many learning opportunities! These opportunities will be centered around plants, animals, weather, and learning more about the earth around us. Our social science provides opportunities for writing and researching and discovering more about the things around us.

Don't stop yet because the last nine weeks goes in a hurry and is filled with so much to be learned and applied. Let's finish strong and make some memories in the days ahead to finish out our first grade year!

## Nurse's News

Happy Spring everyone!

I hope that everyone had a relaxing, well deserved Spring break. We are ready for our final stretch of the school year.

I would like to take a moment and say **"AWESOME JOB"** to our RES Champions!! Our students have done a fantastic job this year Keeping their masks on while in school. I know it has been a challenge, but our champions have really stepped up the plate and have done an amazing job! We are so proud of you all!

As we enter our last few weeks of the school year, here are a few reminders:

Continue to notify the school if your student has been in close contact (within 6 feet for greater than 15 minutes) of a positive person, or if they test positive for COVID-19. I am always here to help and answer any questions that you might have.

Please continue to remind your students of good handwashing techniques. Handwashing is our #1 defense against germs.

As always, please let me know if you have any questions.

Nurse Hope  
887-1980



## Media Center Headlines

Thank you to all who supported our "Virtual Scholastic Book Fair." Though the proceeds from the fair go toward adding new titles to our library collection, the main goal this year was to make books available to students for home collections and reading enjoyment during this time when many are not venturing far from home.

The RES Yearbooks should arrive and be distributed before the last week of school.

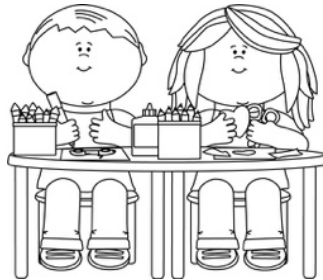


## The P.E. Buzz

Our PE Champions have done the most incredible job raising donations for Kids' Heart Challenge! I could not be more proud of how our students rallied for this great cause and carried that excitement each day. I cannot believe that RES students raised over \$30,000! These kids have also been working very hard learning lacrosse and hockey techniques as well as learning new exercises to get strong. We have plenty more fun to have this year and I cannot wait. I want to say a big thank you to all our Champion families for supporting our fundraiser and helping out each day. Go Champions!

Thank you!

Ryan Milana  
Physical Education  
Richland Elementary School



## Art Room Advisor

We have been very busy in art these past weeks. All students participated in printmaking projects. They loved learning how to create prints and then collaging them to make beautiful artworks. We have also been working with clay!!! I can't wait to send these projects home for everyone to see.

I am happy to announce that I received a Grant from the Alabama Council on the Arts and will use these funds to focus on writing and illustrating. We will have artist/author Shanda McCloskey visit our school (virtually) on March 31<sup>st</sup>. The kiddos will learn all about creating a story book from her and then we will spend the month of April creating our own story books. Students will also have an opportunity to purchase a signed copy of one of her books. The books go on sale March 22-April 2. I will send home info on how to order and post on RES Facebook and Dojo.

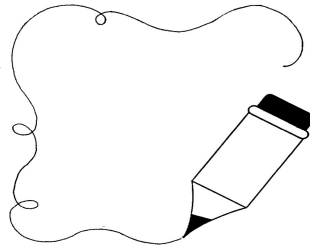
Finally, Richland will have a school-wide art show (virtual) April 19<sup>th</sup>-30<sup>th</sup>! More info to come...

Thank you so much for your support of the RES art program,  
Rebecca Wall

## Computer Lab Update

In computer lab, we have completed the mid-year STAR test. We have finished our unit on input, output devices, and basic computer parts. We will now focus on Coding, using several different programs and learning about the special keys on the keyboard (tab, esc, command, etc.) and how they work.

Kim Moore  
Computer Lab  
RES  
[kbmoore@auburnschools.org](mailto:kbmoore@auburnschools.org)



## Music Notes

Parents/Guardians,

We have made it down to the last nine weeks of a wonderful school year. The scholastic journey has been challenging, but our Richland family has performed her best throughout. To add, music class will continue to be engaging for all of our dear little friends. We will complete the unit on learning about the orchestra instrument families. Next, our students will have an opportunity to cultivate their music skills and perform on virtual instruments using their classroom iPads. Remote students can find the virtual instruments at a super easy website named [www.musicplayonline.com](http://www.musicplayonline.com). After typing the URL address, please look to the left of the screen and click Instruments. You will see four selections of instruments to choose from. Isn't that exciting!!! Again, this will be a lasting musical experience for each student here at Richland.

Goooooo Champions!!!

Musically yours,  
Mr. Joseph S. Rowser, III

