

TWO RIVERS COMMUNITY NEWS

Two Rivers Community School
A North Carolina Public Charter School

"Home of the Otters" 

AUGUST 26, 2009

FROM THE DIRECTOR:

We had a great start to the year. Many have commented on how smooth things went. All of our classrooms were in place so there was not additional movement. It has been fun to watch the students arrive and head for their old classroom space then remember to go to their new room.

Just a reminder about some procedures: please do not block the driveway waiting to turn in across the traffic. Please travel to the end of the line. If you arrive after 8:30, please come to the office to sign in and receive a tardy slip. Students will not be admitted to class without a tardy slip. If your child is returning from an absence, please send the child with his/her note to the office to receive an absence slip. Again students will not be admitted without a pass from the office.

Anyone interested in getting a license to drive our bus for field trips, please contact the office. There is a training scheduled in Ashe County September 1 -2.

I would like to have a monthly "coffee chat" time so that there is an opportunity to have casual conversations and discuss things that you have questions or comments about. Because space is such an issue here, I will be looking for a location off campus. If you have any suggestions, please let me know. Also, if you have time preferences, let me know. I am thinking of staggering times so that everyone has a chance to attend if the wish to.

Finally, **Wednesday, September 2 will be a full day of school. Friday, September 4 will be a half-day with an 11:30 AM release and Monday, September 7 will be no school for the Labor Day holiday.** Students will return for a full day of school on Tuesday. Wednesday of Labor Day week will be the usual 1:00PM release.

If you have not grown gills yet, enjoy the final days of summer!

~ Ms... Gilch

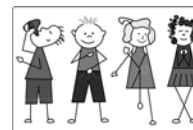
SCHOOL CALENDAR REMINDER

Wednesday, September 2	Full day of school
Friday, September 4	Half-day of school: 11:30am release
Monday, September 7	No School: Labor Day
Wednesday, September 9	Regular 1:00pm Release

MATS FOR BRAIN GYM

Brain Gym is off to a wonderful start this year. I would like to acquire a full size class set of 'pilates/yoga' style mats for the program. If you have a gently used mat that you would like to donate, please contact me. Thanks,

~ Ms. Cyndi.



JUNIOR GREAT BOOKS

The Junior Great Books (JGB) program will begin again this Fall. This literacy enrichment program enhances children's understanding of literature and improves their critical thinking skills as well. For more information about the program, visit <http://www.greatbooks.org> (click on the "Junior Great Books K-12")

Parent volunteers are needed to make the program successful. The commitment is for one hour per week, plus some up front training.

There will be an informational meeting for those interested in volunteering on Thursday, August 27th at 3:15 at TRCS. For more information, contact Beth Jacquot, bethjacquot@bellsouth or 264-3669.

TWO RIVERS MISSION STATEMENT

We will support each student's continuing discovery and development of self and community by providing a learning environment that is relevant, active and project oriented. All aspects of the student's experience at Two Rivers Community School will enhance his/her natural learning power. Our school climate is setup to foster respect, responsibility and a sense of community.

MIDDLE SCHOOL NEWS

The middle school teachers would like to thank everyone who attended last night's Open House. We very much enjoyed seeing you and discussing the fantastic year that lies ahead for your middle school student(s). As a reminder, all middle school students are expected to read outside of school for at least 25 minutes every day. Other homework will vary depending upon grade level and subject area. You are greatly encouraged to have your student work on ALEKS outside of school as well. If you were not able to attend the Open House, or if you have additional questions at any time, please feel free to contact us: Mrs. Cronk – leeannnc@yahoo.com, Mrs. Healy – healyt@skybest.com, Mrs. Rachel – raemae55@hotmail.com . We are looking forward to a great year!

Middle School Math

We are so pleased to be able to offer ALEKS to our middle school students again this year! For those of you who are unfamiliar with ALEKS, it is a web-based, artificially intelligent assessment and learning system that we use to supplement the standard-based math curriculum already taught at each grade level. ALEKS uses adaptive questioning to quickly and accurately determine exactly what a student knows and doesn't know in a course. ALEKS then instructs the student on the topics he or she is most ready to learn. As a student works through a course, ALEKS periodically reassesses the student to ensure that topics learned are also retained.

One of the greatest things about ALEKS is that your student can access it from any computer that is online. Please encourage your student to work on ALEKS outside of regular school hours. If you do not have internet access at home, don't forget that you can utilize your local library's internet access. Student usernames and passwords will be distributed soon!

Middle School Social Studies

All of the middle school classes have been focusing on getting a handle on the projects that will be due this year. A new project this year will involve decorating the class bulletin board in Mrs.. Rachel's room. Students have been assigned a group and two months out of the school year for which they are responsible. The bulletin boards will display information on the unit that the class will be studying. Anyone is welcome to come by periodically to check these boards out!

Community Volunteers needed in Middle School

Mrs. Rachel is looking for a variety of professionals who keep a portfolio and would be willing to come in and share with the 6-8 graders. We are looking to see how portfolios can be used in the 'real world'! So if you keep one, no matter what your job is, please come by and see Mrs. Rachel to schedule a time to come in for 20 minutes or so.

~ Miss Rachel

GREETINGS MIDDLE SCHOOL PARENTS!

We've begun the new school year with "SPARK'Y attitude. Thank you for your generous contributions to the classrooms. Our children are eager to advance in all areas of academia.

In Science class, we have reviewed lab safety, the scientific method and graphing. Next, we'll learn correct measuring techniques for mass and volume, using equipment deliberately. Please read our science safety contract with your child. It can be found on the inside cover of his/her science composition book. We will adhere to its principles in order to ensure a safe learning environment for all.

~ Ms. Healy

BOX TOPS AND INK CARTRIDGES



Welcome back students and parents! Please remember to save & turn in your boxtops as well as old cell phones (no batteries or accessories), used ink cartridges and juice pouches (no straws). This is a great way to earn cash for our school and to recycle! **Thank you!**

MOUNTAINEER SUMMER READING PROGRAM

Friday, August 28, 2009 is the final day students that participated in the third annual Mountaineer Summer reading program to turn in their filled out reading forms. All forms should be returned to Mrs.. Vicki no later than THIS FRIDAY! Thank you!

