



BMPRSS Newsletter

January 2010

Welcome back! Hopefully, you all enjoyed the long holiday break and had a chance to share memorable moments with family and friends. I hope that you all have a healthy, happy, and prosperous 2010.

The New Year is a time for reflecting on the past year and renewing our commitment to the things that are important to us. This is a great time for us to remind the children of how important it is to take care of themselves, how to relate to others, and their continued efforts on their school work. To that end, we will add a pledge to our morning routines. These four simple lines send a powerful reminder:

*I am ready to respect myself.
I am ready to respect others.
I am ready to learn.
I am ready to have a great day.*

We will be honoring Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. this month. Dr. King has had a profound effect on the lives of Americans. He has helped heal the deep wounds that divided our country and taught us that there is a way to confront hatred and prejudice. As we lead up to Dr. King's birthday, we will look for ways for the children to read about and share their thoughts and reflections on the importance of his life's work.

In Memoriam

As you all know we lost a member of our Ridge Street School family, Mrs. Xiomara Rothmann. In late February/early March we will put together a committee to talk about the ways we can memorialize and remember Mrs. Rothmann.

Generosity abounds at BMP-RSS

Thanks to all of you who donated mittens to the "mitten tree". Many hands will be warmer due to your generosity! Kids Who Care not only donated Christmas gifts to brighten up the holiday for children who are in need, but also designed their own festive wrapping paper.

Geography Bee

On Monday December 16th, the Ridge Street School held our third annual National Geographic Geography Bee. Fifth grader, Bryan Weintraub, was the winner this year and will move on to the next level of the competition later this month.

Recess

We are making every effort to get the children outside for recess. We do not go outside unless the temperature has a "feels-like" temperature of 32 degrees. Due to the current conditions on the field and playground, we are not able to use them for recess. We will continue using the blacktop and alternating grades outside.

December Thank You's...

- To Mrs. Handler and her entire team for providing an amazing book fair and a visit from author Tim Greene.
- To Mrs. Winton, Mrs. Vellecca and their team of volunteers for two wonderful holiday school stores.
- To our first grade teachers and students for three amazing Snow Balls.
- To the many families who dropped off goodies to the main office throughout the month.

Safety

Safety and security continues to be a priority for us here at the BMP Ridge Street School. Parents, we need your help and cooperation! If each of us can adhere to the following procedures, our school and school areas will be much safer places for our children:

In the building...

- Visits to the classroom should be set-up/scheduled with the teacher.
- Please remember to use the front entrance and sign in when you come to the building.

In the parking lots...

- Please drive slowly and carefully.
- Please remember to let your children out of your vehicle on the side of the curb.
- Please pick up your child in the assigned area.
- If you are bus eligible, please have your child use the bus. Bus eligible parents who pick their children up at the end of the day must park on the basketball court and walk to the pick-up area.

I am attaching the assignment letter from earlier in the year.

Notes from the Nurse

Our school nurse, Hildie Kalish, reminds us that school policy requires that a child stay home for a full 24 hours after breaking a fever or vomiting and/or diarrhea. Your child should be fever-free without medication for a full 24 hours. If your child is on an antibiotic (i.e. for strep throat) he/she must stay home for a full 48 hours. This will make your child less susceptible to germs and prevent the other children in the room from being exposed to illness. Working together, we can help keep everyone healthy.

Kids Who Care

Please refer to the attached flyer for February activities.

May the New Year offer the resolution of the many conflicts and crisis in our world and bring your family health and happiness.

Stay warm – spring is just around the corner.

Deborah Weisel

Principal