



# Rennie's River Elementary

*...Learning together with love & laughter*

## Monthly Newsletter

### 🌸 March 2024 🌸

#### Important Dates:

- March 4**  
School Council Meeting
- March 8**  
Optis System Opens
- March 10**  
Ramadan begins
- March 12**  
Term 2 Reports released
- March 12 - 20**  
School lunch menu opens for April orders
- March 13**  
Optis system closes at 12:00
- March 14**  
Teacher/Family Conferences - dismissal at 11:05
- March 15**  
PL Day - no school
- March 18 - 22**  
Education week
- March 22**  
KinderStart - no school for Kindergarten
- March 22**  
DARE Assembly
- March 27**  
Recycling Blitz
- March 28 - April 7**  
Spring Holidays
- April 8**  
School reopens



#### School Development Survey

Families are asked and strongly encouraged to complete the annual **School Development Survey**, which enables us to determine how we can target areas of growth as a school. We use this data to respond to our practices and discuss it in great depth. Many activities and teaching practices this year have been centered around last year's data. This is an opportunity to have your voice heard. The family survey is located [here](#). If you have more than one child at Rennie's River Elementary, please complete it in the context of your oldest child. We thank you in advance for your help with this.

#### Parking lot safety

The Kiss N Ride Lane allows for the safe drop off and pick-up of students who are driven to school and it keeps traffic flowing in a safe and orderly fashion. In order for it to work properly, we need to remember a few points. Children are very excited and tend to run without any thought of safety, even when they are accompanied by an adult. Therefore, everyone should assume that a child will run in front of your car as you leave the parking lot. Student safety is everyone's priority and patience is paramount. To the parents who follow all the guidelines and safety measures - thank you. We see you and appreciate all of your efforts to keep our parking lot and students safe. Your cooperation is very appreciated and does not go unnoticed.

**Please note: when the buses are unloading in the mornings and afternoons, you cannot pass the buses.**

#### Easter Holidays

Students will be dismissed for the Easter break on Thursday, March 28 at our regular dismissal time. Classes resume on Monday, April 8. It will be Day 5 on our schedule.

#### Term 2 Reporting Period

Student progress reports will be distributed on Tuesday, March 14. In person Family/Teacher meetings are scheduled for Thursday, March 16, from **1:00 - 7:00 p.m.**

#### Upcoming Awareness Days

Rennie's River Elementary recognizes the value in promoting awareness days. Not only do awareness days provide our school community a chance to learn more about different conditions and various organizations but they also promote understanding, acceptance and support. Many times organizations create a fun challenge for these days as well. If your family has an organization or condition that you would like us to recognize please let us know.

#### April is World Autism Awareness Month

To help foster support and show kindness and acceptance in recognition of people with autism, and other neurodiverse individuals, we will be having Neurodiversity celebration days within the month of April. Further information will be sent home as dates get closer.

#### Ramadan March 10 - April 9

March 10 marks the beginning of the holy season of Ramadan for our Muslim families. During the month of Ramadan, Muslims observe fasting and refrain from eating or drinking from dawn to dusk. They eat one meal before the daybreak and continue their fast till sunset.

Wish Muslims well during this season by saying "Ramadan Kareem," which translates into "Have a generous Ramadan," or "Ramadan Mubarak," which roughly translates into "Happy Ramadan." On the last day of Ramadan, which is Eid-al-fitr, the greeting changes to "Eid Mubarak."

#### Staff Appreciation

Thank you, thank you, thank you! We are always able to feel the appreciation from our school community and staff appreciation week is no exception. Thank you to everyone who recognized Staff Appreciation Week in any way! A special

**Principal**  
Ms. Jennifer  
VokeyTobin

**Assistant Principal**  
Ms. Shannon  
Goldsworthy

**Guidance**  
Ms. Megan Ennis

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[RR Website](#)

Students will be dismissed at 11:05am on this day to facilitate those meetings. We will be using the online OPTIS system for the scheduling of appointments and have included instructions for the Optis system [here](#). The OPTIS system will open to parents/guardians on Monday, March 11 at 9 a.m. and closes on Wednesday, March 13 at noon. If you have difficulty signing up for an interview with the OPTIS system, please contact your child's teacher. We encourage all parents / guardians to make a special effort to schedule an interview with your child's teacher. The website for OPTIS is [here](#).

**Lost & Found**

Our 'found' table has once been filled again with lost items. As we did last time, we will provide students with the opportunity to look through the items at school. Please have a look through the items when you arrive for your parent teacher conferences. Any unclaimed items will be donated at the end of next week.

**Students in the Spotlight**

We have some students working with Creators of Tomorrow, a group of Gonzaga students in collaboration with Brilliant Labs. These students have been engaged once a month in STEM activities. This is the first group of this kind and we are hoping to expand it in the future.

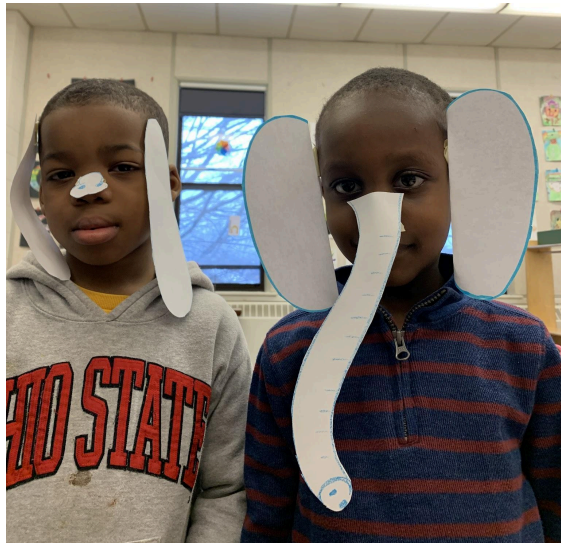


thank you to our School Council for organizing the many gestures of thanks and delicious treats throughout the week. Your acts of kindness and expressions of thanks were appreciated!

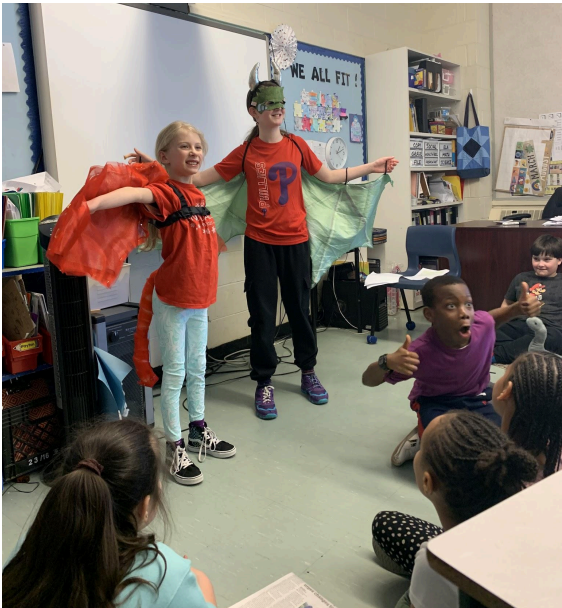
**Clothing Swap**

We are looking forward to our first clothing swap! Thank you to the many families who have sent in their child's outgrown clothing. We are inviting our RRE community to join us on March 24 between 3:00-5:00 pm to go 'shopping' (for free clothes!) in the hopes that you can find gently used clothing for your children. Admission is a donation to our breakfast program (monetary or food). No amount is too big or too small. We look forward to seeing you!

**Some of the Great Things  
Happening Around Rennie's  
River**







**Block the Bin**

Our Block the Bin project (created by our Change it Club) is going fantastically well! So many people have contributed to this. The Winter family has brought in an exceptional number of tabs, contributing 2 huge shopping bags full! Thanks to everybody for your continued support. Let's keep Blocking the Bin . . . the Ronald MacDonald House will be so appreciative!

