



AYARD RUSTIN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

332 West Edmonston Drive Rockville, MD 20852

May 31, 2024

Good morning Bayard Rustin families,

Happy Friday Red Fox family! We've made it to the end of another wonderful week at BRES and it's so hard to believe that it's already the end of May! As we wind down the year, we're gearing up on closing celebrations and events for each grade level so be sure to stay connected on dojo so that you can join in all the grade-specific activities.

Fifth grade promotion is right around the corner so I wanted to share some tentative details with parents for planning purposes. 5th grade promotion will take place on Tuesday, June 11th from 10:00-11:30am on the BRES field. Seating will be concert-style, so bring your blankets and lawn chairs and get comfortable! You are welcome to bring a tent for shade purposes, but will need to set up on the outer perimeter so as not to block anyone's view. All are welcome, so bring the whole family for this special day! Our program will run from 10-11, with cake and photo slideshows on the blacktop and in the gym from 11:00-11:30. If you would like to bring a younger BRES sibling with you, it will be easier to keep them with you until after the event, and then sign them in at the office following promotion. Parking is available in the BRES parking lot, as well as in the car loop and bus loop beginning at 9:35. If members of your party require handicap accessible drop off, we will have a designated cone near the field to allow for easy access to the event. Looking forward to seeing you there for a special day for our 5th graders!

Next week is Bayard Rustin Pride Week! Each and every day, we promote kindness, inclusivity, and diversity as we celebrate "All Are Welcome" at BRES! To quote our school book "All Are Welcome" by Alexandra Penfold, "Our strength is our diversity," and we certainly know that to be true! Check out this short video from Universal Kids about what Pride means to so many:

[Pride to Me](#). We will celebrate Pride with a special Spirit Week hosted by our 5th grade Rainbow Club to show that members of the LGBTQ+ Community are welcome here.

- **Monday** is Love is Love Day, where students are encouraged to wear red and lots of hearts to celebrate the fact that Love is Love and that everyone deserves love and kindness.
- **Tuesday, June 4th** is Trans Day of Acceptance, where students are encouraged to wear pink, light blue, and white to celebrate the bravery of the Trans Community.
- **Wednesday, June 5th** is The Golden Rule Day, where students are encouraged to wear yellow and gold to remind each other that at Bayard Rustin Elementary School, we follow The Golden Rule and treat others the way we want to be treated.

- **Thursday, June 6th** is Redfox Spirit Day, where students are encouraged to wear orange and Redfox Spirit Wear to celebrate our school Pride and everything we stand for!
- **Friday, June 7th** is Rainbow Day, where students are encouraged to wear rainbows, bright colors, and tie dye to celebrate the diversity within our school and within the LGBTQ+ Community. Our Rainbow Club will host a Pride Dance Party at recess.

Have questions about Bayard Rustin Pride Week or about how you can celebrate Pride Month with your children? Contact our Rainbow Club co-sponsors: Heather Sobieralski, Heather Eig, and Rebecca Haviland. Want to read more about how Montgomery County Public Schools supports the LGBTQ+ Community? Check out their website:

<https://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/lgbtq/> For read-alouds and other PRIDE Week resources, be sure to visit our school counseling website's Rainbow Club page (select from the options on the top): [BRES Rainbow Club Webpage](#)

We're doing great getting those library books back to BRES! Last week students received individual student notices outlining what books are still overdue. You can also see what books your student needs to return by going to our [Destiny Library Catalog](#) and signing into their account. A video showing you how to sign into your child's library account can be found [here](#). All students who return their library books can choose a small gift from the media center prize bin. As well, all students with no overdue books are automatically entered in a raffle to choose a big prize from the Fox Box! Thank you for helping us to get those books back to the library to enjoy next year!

We're counting down to one of the most fun end to the year events—our annual End of the Year Picnic on Friday, 6/7 from 4:30-6:30pm. All students and families are invited to this free event, complete with games and fun for all. Bring your own dinner, or grab a bite from one of many food trucks on site. Try your hand at the dunk tank to splash your favorite staff members for a good cause, or bring chairs and blankets to visit with neighbors and friends. A huge thank you to our PTA for putting on this special event, and for the special support from Kids After Hours and parent volunteers like YOU! We still need many more hands to make this work—please consider signing up to help [here](#)!

Please take some time to review this newsletter in its entirety, and let me know if you have any questions. Have a wonderful long weekend and we'll see you soon for more learning and lots more FUN!

In Partnership,

Mrs. West

[Kathryn C West@mcpsmd.org](mailto:Kathryn_C_West@mcpsmd.org)

School Calendar, Events and Updates

Click [HERE](#) to access the MCPS School Year Calendar.

Click [HERE](#) to access the BRES website

Click [HERE](#) to access the Lunch Menu

Date	Description
Monday June 3	Love is Love Day: Wear Red
Tuesday June 4	Trans Day of Acceptance: Wear Pink, Light Blue and White 5th Grade Fun Day at KAH Red Barn Ranch KFKF Field Trip to Comfort Cases
Wednesday June 5	Golden Rule Day: Wear Yellow and Gold 2nd Grade Walking Field Trip to Dogwood Park
Thursday June 6	Red Fox Spirit Day: Wear Orange and Spiritwear 4th Grade Fun Day on the BRES Field
Friday June 7	Rainbow Day: Wear Rainbows and Tie Dye 1st Grade Marketplace & Fun Day, 12:30pm End of Year Picnic, 4:30-6:30pm, Blacktop & Grounds

June

Tues 11 5th Grade Promotion Ceremony

Wed 12 Promotion Rain Date

Thur 13 Last Day of School - Early Release Day for all students 1:20pm

Mon 24 Report Cards Mailed

[Full Semester 2 Calendar Linked Here](#)

BRES Bricks Campaign

Looking for a great way to contribute to BRES while commemorating your child's experience at our awesome school?! Buy a brick and etch your school pride in stone! Check out our flyer [here](#), and then place your order online at <https://www.bricksrus.com/donorsite/bayardrustines>

2024-2025 Calendar

Mrs. Sobieralski and Mrs. Eig are planning a special Neurodiversity Week for BRES from May 13-17th, with our 2nd annual panel of neurodiverse high school students to kick off the week. This panel will come talk with a select group of neurodiverse BRES students in grades 3-5. Our teachers and counseling team will identify students and ask for parent permission, but we don't want to miss anyone! If you would like your wonderfully neurodiverse child (ADHD, Autism, Dyslexia, Anxiety, etc..) to be a part of this discussion, please let Mrs. S. know at heather_r_sobieralski@mcpsmd.org

Clothing Bin Donations

As the weather shifts from cold back to warm, it's a great time to clean out your child's closet and drawers and donate clothing that no longer fits them. Place all those undersized clothes and shoes in a bag and put them in our clothing bin located at the entrance to our school! Every pound donated equals money for our school! Clean house, save the planet by upcycling clothing and shoes, and make money for your child's school—win/win/win!

School Cash Online

Have you signed up for School Cash online yet? In case you're having trouble getting registered/ready to pay for your child's upcoming field trip, check out the following resources to troubleshoot. Most importantly, be sure you're logged into your ParentVue account to complete the process. Any questions? Call Caitlin Ravida in the main office and she can assist. Resources: [Website](#), Click [here](#) to view the parent guide in English, and [here](#) for Spanish. Watch a video on registering for an account [here](#), and a video on adding a child [here](#).

Apply Online Now for Free and Reduced-Price Meals Benefits

Families of students who may qualify for free or reduced-price meals can now apply for assistance for school meals. Eligibility is based on family size and gross income. Students in Maryland who qualify for reduced-price meals will receive free breakfast and lunch meals.

[Apply here.](#)

[Learn more about the program.](#)

Join the PTA!

If you have not already done so, please visit the BRES PTA website: www.brespta.org

Here, you will find opportunities to get connected and support our school and your child's class. If you haven't already done so, join the PTA today by clicking [here](#).

By joining the PTA, you can...

- Get and stay connected—find out what’s going on at our school and receive a printed directory of family contact information.
- Advocate —speak up on behalf of our children and the school and have your voice heard.
- Enhance education — help fund school assemblies, field trips, and other educational opportunities.
- Make connections—support school-wide and family events.
- Partner—support the teachers and staff to enhance experiences and strengthen the school.

We hope you’ll join today to support our school and your child!