



BAYARD RUSTIN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
332 West Edmonston Drive Rockville, MD 20852

January 27, 2023

*******REMINDER: THERE IS NO SCHOOL FOR STUDENTS TODAY AS TEACHERS ENGAGE IN END-OF-QUARTER GRADING*******

Good morning Bayard Rustin families,

Happy Friday Red Fox family! It has been a wonderful week at BRES, complete with many opportunities to connect with lots of you. A heartfelt thank you to all who joined us for our Lunar New Year assemblies! Super shout out to all of our Chinese Immersion teachers for helping prepare students for their performances, and the BIGGEST shout out to Mrs. Gan for the exorbitant amount of time that went into organizing and executing such a well-done program! I shared videos on Class Dojo, but you can also access video clips and photos in these [shared folders](#).

We also had a wonderful Principal's Coffee yesterday where we discussed work we are doing in school that aligns with MCPS's Antiracist System Audit. Specifically, we discussed opportunities for students to unpack issues of race, inclusion and empathy, and how to interrupt racism when they experience it. This important work is most impactful when we work in tandem between home and school, so we would love to partner with families to continue these conversations. Our NAACP reps are partnering with us as we engage the MCPS Equity office and other community partners in brainstorming next steps in our antiracist work. If you would like to be a part of this work, please reach out to me so that I can add you to our distribution list.

Finally, we engaged students in a week of kindness this week, and challenged students to complete random acts of kindness throughout their days. For more opportunities for kindness, visit the [Great Kindness Challenge](#) website.

Looking ahead, Ms. Nero and Mrs. Gan are planning a wonderful Virtual Reading Night experience for students on 2/8. In order to take home a bag of materials for this special night, you MUST RSVP by today! Complete this form: <https://forms.gle/w82EdXox68Eh4CCL7> so that we can prepare a bag for your child/children and they can take part in this fun time!

We hope to see you for next Tuesday's Dine-Out at Ledo's Pizza on Rockville Pike from 4-9. Check out the [flyer](#) for details and be sure to mention BRES when you order!

MCPS is holding an in-person [Teacher Job Fair](#) on Monday, Jan. 30 from 5-7 p.m. at 15 W. Gude Drive in Rockville. The district is looking for highly qualified professionals to join its workforce as teachers for the 2023-2024 school year. If you or someone you know is interested, please [RSVP](#).

Please take some time to review this newsletter in its entirety, and let me know if you have any questions. We're looking forward to a wonderful week of learning! Enjoy your weekend and we will see you at school soon!

Fondly,

Mrs. West

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
January 30	ACCESS Testing Grades K, 1, 5 & Make-Ups
January 31	ACCESS Testing Grades K, 1, 5 & Make-Ups Dine Out at Ledo's, 4-9pm
February 1	ACCESS Testing Grades K, 2, 4 & Make-Ups
February 2	ACCESS Testing Grades K, 2, 4 & Make-Ups
February 3	ACCESS Testing Grades K, 3 & Make-Ups

February

Mon 6 Report Cards Distributed
 Tues 7 PTA Meeting 7:00-8:00 pm, Zoom
 Tues 7 Staff Appreciation Lunch hosted by Kindergarten and 1st Grade
 Wed 8 Virtual Reading Night, 6:00-7:00pm, Zoom
 Tues 14 Valentine's Day Celebration 2:00-3:30 pm
 Wed 15 Clubs & Candid Photos
 Mon 20 No School for Students and Teachers
 Wed 22 School Bus Driver Appreciation Day
 Thurs 23 Chinese Immersion Information Meeting, 5:30-6:30 pm on Zoom
 Fri 24 Friday, February 24 10:30 a.m.-10:30 p.m. Honeygrow

[Full Annual 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>

Order a Yearbook Today!

Our amazing yearbook team is curating a beautiful new edition for the 2022-2023 yearbook! Order yours today to take advantage of early bird pricing: <http://yearbooks.classic-photo.com/BbayardRustin/home3/Bookstore.jsp>

Head Lice

As the cold weather moves in to stay, schools nationwide note an uptick in the spread of head lice. Please take a moment to review the CDC's guidance on the prevention and treatment of head lice [here](#). As well, learn more about the MCPS regulation on head lice [here](#).

Donate Your Old Clothes to Our Bin!

As the weather shifts to colder temperatures, it's time to clean out those closets and bag up clothing that no longer fits your child. Did you know that you can upcycle clothing and textiles by depositing them in our BRES Clothing Bin near our entrance? Our school makes money for every pound of clothing added to the bin each month! You help save the planet, and help our school—win win!

Health Reminders

It is officially cold and flu season, and BRES is noting a spike in student absences related to flu-like symptoms. COVID-19 and influenza case rates have increased in Montgomery County, so it is important to remain vigilant in best practices to reduce the spread of germs. As a reminder, please reference this [guidance](#) on when to keep your child home from school. When in doubt, please call our office for additional guidance or to speak with our health tech or school nurse. Check out fact sheets from the Maryland Department of Health (MDH), and MDH's resource pages for [influenza](#) and [Respiratory Syncytial Virus \(RSV\)](#).

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.](#)

As a reminder, breakfast and lunch have returned to paid/charged status for the 2022-2023 school year. Negative balance reports will begin coming home if your student has accrued a balance with the BRES cafeteria. You may load funds to your child's lunch account by visiting www.myschoolbucks.com. Thank you to all who have completed their FARMS forms already for the school year. If you have not already done this, please do so immediately at www.myschoolapps.com. If you are approved, any negative balance will be cleared automatically.

Sign Up For ParentVUE to Stay in Touch With Our School

Families new to MCPS are encouraged to sign up for a ParentVUE account at the beginning of the school year. ParentVUE is the online parent portal that serves as the primary communication vehicle for schools to share information regarding grades, attendance, scheduling, access to myMCPS Classroom and more. ParentVUE provides a way to view school-related information and data for students. Register for athletics, special programs, communicate with teachers and verify your student information annually.

ParentVUE also allows access to Canvas/MyMCPSClassroom, a digital learning platform. Parents and guardians can view instructional information and resources, and get alerts about assignments and grades.

School Cash Online

Thank you for your patience and feedback in signing up for School Cash Online. MCPS has been working to iron out all of the kinks, and shared that SCO PIN notifications were sent via email and USPS mailer this week. The email was sent to all parent/guardian email addresses on file and came from SCOPinProcess@mcpsmd.org.

Directions on signing up for SCO are available in English [here](#), and in Spanish [here](#). If this process still does not work, even after receiving the email and directions, please email communitytechsupport@mcpsmd.org for assistance.

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!