



HOME OF THE RIVERLIONS

# Rowlesburg School News

## September 2017

## Welcome 2017-2018

We are anxious to begin a fantastic school year at the Riverlions Den!

We have had a few staff changes for this school year. Some new faces are seen throughout the building as well as some familiar faces.

We welcome aboard new teachers:

Cindy Jameson as our K/1 teacher. Ms. Cindy joins us from Oakland, MD. She was formerly a head start teacher in Garrett County. Ms. Cindy brings a smiling face to her K/1 students each day. We look forward to a successful year with her!

Mr. Tom Criser (the tall guy downstairs) joins us from West Preston. Mr. Criser taught Spanish in different areas of the county. Actually, his first Spanish teaching job was at Rowlesburg School several years ago! Mr. Criser is excited to be teaching our 2<sup>nd</sup> graders this year! He's looking forward to a great year!

Mrs. Claire Jones travels from Davis, WV, each day to bring the love of art to our

students. Mrs. Jones attended Marshal University and last school year, she taught in Abu Dhabi, UAE. We are excited to see some of the art projects that Mrs. Jones has planned!

Ms. Susan Floyd has also joined the Riverlion family this year. Most recently, Ms. Floyd taught music at Fellowville Elementary. Ms. Floyd is anxious to get the beginning and advanced band students tooting their horns and putting on several awesome performances throughout the school year.

We have familiar faces within our halls this year; however, some of these faces are in different locations/positions then before.

Ms. Carlyn Arnwine took the trip upstairs from 2<sup>nd</sup> grade to 6<sup>th</sup> grade teacher. This is her first time working with middle school students but she is enjoying the change. Also new with Ms. Arnwine this year is the fact that she is teaching Spanish to 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, and 8<sup>th</sup> grade students. Gracias, Seniorita Arnwine!

Although Ms. Kelly Reed is located in the same classroom, she has taken on an additional teaching role. Ms. Reed is our 3<sup>rd</sup>/4<sup>th</sup> split teacher. Due to low enrollment numbers, our 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> grade classes have been combined. Ms. Reed is an excellent teacher and we are confident that she is up to the challenge that a split classroom may present.

We don't want to leave out our returning teachers! Mr. Josh Waugh continues as our PE teacher; Mrs. Bowmar returns at Resource; Mrs. Annette continues to be our K/1 Aide; Dr. Cecala is still teaching our 5<sup>th</sup> grade students; Mr. Cales continues to teach English and Social Studies to our middle school students; and Mrs. Williams teaches Math and Science to grades 7 & 8.

We are looking forward to a successful school year. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact the school at 304-454-9311.



### Nook Winner

Vera Strawser, 4<sup>th</sup> grader, happily accepting her new Nook as part of the Summer Reading Challenge.



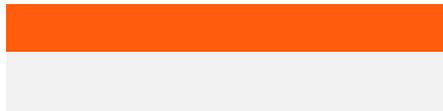
## Summer Reading

Many of our students enjoyed reading over the summer months. Our school was fortunate to have a Summer Library Program throughout June and July. We had 17 students participate throughout the summer! Those students enjoyed our "Happy Camper" theme, complete with a tent, sleeping bags and bonfire.

During the program, our "campers" enjoyed a scavenger hunt, reading ghost stories around the fire, making ice cream and slime, and just laying inside the tent reading books.

For the Scholastic Summer Reading Challenge, our students logged a total of 14,866 minutes read! Great job, Riverlions!

Preston County Schools hosted a Summer Reading Challenge this year. Students that participated were entered into a drawing to win a Nook. Congratulations to our winner, Vera Strawser, 4<sup>th</sup> grade!



## Solar Eclipse

Everyone was talking about the Solar Eclipse, and our school and students were no exception. Many teachers and students donned their special Eclipse glasses and took to the outdoors to see this very special event. Although it was quite cloudy that day, each class that went outside got lucky and was able to see the eclipse. Some of our teachers also showed a live streaming of the eclipse as it progressed throughout the country. It was a view our students will remember for quite some time!



Students wore special Eclipse glasses to view the Solar Eclipse on August 21<sup>st</sup>.



## Did You Know?

Attending school regularly helps children feel better about school and themselves. Start building this habit in kindergarten so they learn right away that going to school on time, every day is important. Good attendance will help children do well in high school, college, and at work.



## What You Can Do

### **\*Make school attendance a priority**

*\*Talk about the importance of showing up to school every day; help your child maintain daily routines, such as finishing homework and getting a good night's sleep; don't let your child stay home unless truly sick.*

### **\*Help you child stay engaged:**

*\*Stay on top of academic progress and social contacts; encourage meaningful after school activities; make sure he/she is not missing class because of behavior issues or discipline policies.*

### **\*Communicate with the school:**

*\*Know the attendance policy; talk to teachers if you notice changes in your child's behavior; ask for help if you're having trouble getting your child to school*

## FAST FACTS

# 10%

Missing 10%, or 18 days, or school can make it harder to learn to read.

# 6<sup>th</sup> grade

By 6<sup>th</sup> grade, absenteeism is one of three signs that a student may drop out of high school.

## FOR MORE INFORMATION

For more information on school attendance, visit [www.attendanceworks.org](http://www.attendanceworks.org)



## Attendance H.E.R.O

Here  
Everyday  
Ready  
On Time

# Be An Attendance H.E.R.O.

Good attendance is vital for your child's education. Showing up for school has a huge impact on a student's academic success starting in kindergarten and continuing through high school. Even as children grow older and more independent, families play a key role in making sure students get to school safely every day and understand why attendance is so important for success in school and on the job.

Preston County Schools will be sponsoring Super Attendance Week, September 5-8. Each student who has perfect attendance, and no tardies, will be able to select a prize from our superhero prize box.

Throughout the week, we will be having an Attendance Spirit Week. A flyer is attached showing daily themes.

Students who have perfect attendance during the months of August and September will have their names entered into a drawing for a bike and FitBit. These prizes are provided by Preston County Schools. Be sure to get to school on time each day and have a chance to win one of these amazing prizes!

### Attendance Policy Summary:

Excused absences may include:

\*Personal injury or illness of student or family member (up to 5 days per semester)

\*Medical/Dental appointments

\*Death in family

\*Calamity (such as fire or flood)

\*School approved curricular activities

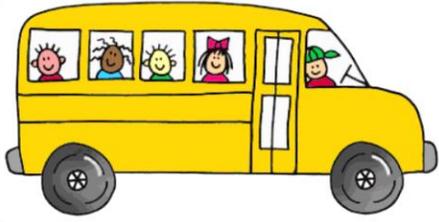
\*Leave of educational value (prior approval needed)

Excuses such as hunting, fishing, working away from home, babysitting, oversleeping or missing the bus are unexcused.

When a student has been absent for any reason, a note from home is required no later than 3 days after the student returns. At ten unexcused absences, the Coordinator of Attendance may take appropriate legal action which may include filing a complaint in magistrate or circuit court.

# Attend Today, Achieve Tomorrow

## Bus Policy



Preston County Schools recently adopted a new county-wide bus policy. In summary, students are to be dropped off at their home, nowhere else. A request for an alternative bus stop may be completed and submitted to Tony Harris, Director of Transportation. Mr. Harris will review the information, determine whether it is approved or denied, and return it to the school. The school office will no longer write bus passes based on parent notes or phone calls.

Students are permitted to submit one alternate bus form per school year. This form should be submitted as soon as possible to determine approval. If your child has to ride the bus regularly to the babysitters or daycare, etc. you will need to submit an application.

Applications will not be approved for requests such as "Johnny's going to Jimmy's house for a sleepover". In this case, other arrangements must be made by the parents.

The alternate bus request form can be found on the Preston County Schools website.

## R-E-S-P-E-C-T

What does respect look like?

Your youngster's daily dealing with adults and kids alike will be more pleasant if he speaks and acts respectfully. Try these tips for helping him learn about respect.

**Respectful replies.** Think about something that you and your youngster disagree on (say, whether his video game time should be limited). Model having a respectful discussion about it. You might say that his brain and body are growing and that he needs to run and play to stay healthy. Then, suggest a respectful response, such as, "I want to be healthy, but I love video games." Have him brainstorm other situations where people have different opinions but still speak to each other with respect.

**Everyday acts.** When you mow the lawn or clean up after your dog, you can teach your child about respect for neighbors. Explain that keeping your neighborhood clean and neat makes it nice for everyone. Ask him to think of other respectful things neighbors should do. If you share an apartment laundry room, he might say that you respect neighbors' time by removing your clothes when they're done so others get to use the washers and dryers.

Remind your students about basic respect characteristics; always say please and thank you, hold the door for others, don't interrupt people when they are speaking, etc.



