The Ridgeview Reporter

Every child a reader!

**April 2015**

**Edition 8**

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Marialyce Zeerip, Principal ~ marialyce.zeerip@spartaschools.org **Monthly Value: Trust**

Dear Ridgeview Families,

Welcome to Spring! It is such a relief to see the sun and feel the warmth. For our young friends to get outside and play, is pure joy! And recess – the running and taking turns, the friendships and conversations that occur in this unstructured time, are important to a child’s development. Recess is a valuable part of the elementary school day and we are delighted to experience this change in the weather , so that our students can run outside more often!

April also means time for field trips, which we are still able to offer – due to the work of the many volunteers who head up and work our Parent Teacher Committee events. The bussing costs for field trips has become an extreme expense and has limited our field trips to two per grade level a year. The PTC underwrites the cost of our field trips and we are extremely grateful to them (and to everyone of you who support the PTC fundraisers and events) for this support. This month, kindergartners will be going to the Grand Rapid’s Children’s Museum, first grade to Frederick Meijer gardens and 2nd grade to the Civic Theater. Do ask your child for specifics on their field trips!

Enjoy this lovely spring!

 Yours in Education,

 Marialyce Zeerip

Together in Education, Marialyce Zeerip

**Quick Facts**

Office Hours:

Monday-Friday

8:25-3:55

**Student Drop Off:**

**8:25-8:40 AM**

**Breakfast/Recess:**

**8:25-8:40 AM**

**Bell Rings:**

**8:40 AM**

**School Starts:**

**8:45 AM**

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**REMINDERS FOR APRIL & MAY**

**April 1:** Vision & Hearing Screening

**April 2 -3: No School**

**April 6 - 10: SPRING BREAK**

**April 13: School Resumes**

**April 13: Student/Teacher Characteristic Forms ~ Available in Office**

**April 14:** Preschool and Kinder Open House : 4:30 – 7PM

**April 20:** Board Of Education Meeting ~ 7:00-9:00PM @ Administration Conference Room

**April 22:** Earth Day

**April 22:** National Secretaries Day

**April: 24: Student/Teacher Characteristic Forms ~ Due Today\_**

**May 4-6:** **MOBILE DENTISTS**

**May 6: Nurses Day**

**May 4-8:** Teacher Appreciation Week ~ Tell a Teacher “Thank You”

**May 10: Mother’s Day ~ Hug a special lady in your life!**

**May 11:** 7:00-9:00PM ~ Board of Education Meeting @ Administration Building

**May 17:**  1:00PM ~ Whitecaps Game

**FIELD TRIPS & ASSEMBLIES**

**April 16** Frederik Meijer Gardens - 1st grade

**April 23:** Kindergarten Music Program - 4 Classes at a time / 2 Concerts

**April 28:** Alexander Matinee - 2nd grade

**April 28 & 29:** Kindergarten Visits Children’s Museum

\***Please read classroom newsletters for specific events to that class – Thank you!**

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***Many Thanks:***

* To all of you who attended Parent Teacher Conferences and filled out the Parent Surveys! Your communication with us is greatly appreciated!
* To PTC for organizing the Book Fair!
* To Sports Boosters for supporting conferences with the availability of “Spartan-Wear”.
* **April 12th-18th is Volunteer Recognition Week.** We take this time to say thank you to everyone who volunteers their time, talents and treasures. We appreciate your support and value your time. Thank you!

***PTC Priorities:***

**Box Tops:** Keep collecting Box Tops to support Sparta Schools. Each Box Top earns 10 cents toward fundraising. Next competition is April 20-May 11.

**Needed:** The PTC is looking to fill the positions of a Fundraiser Coordinator and Family Fun Festival Committee for the next school year. If you are interested in knowing more about these positions and many other ways to volunteer please contact the PTC at ptc@spartaschools.org or at 616-887-7506 ext. 3506

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**STUDENT/TEACHER PLACEMENT 2015-2016:**

For those parents/guardians interested in offering input for their child’s classroom placement for the 2015-2016 school year, a form will be available to fill out regarding your child’s learning style. **The *learning characteristic* forms** will be available on Monday, April 13th 2015 at Ridgeview and Appleview. Forms must be turned into the office before Friday, April 24th for requests to be considered.

*No late requests please.* Thank you for sharing your input.

 **MOBILE DENTISTS**

* The dentist will be here on May 4th, 5th and 6th. If you are interested in this service and have not filled out a form, please stop by the school for a form or contact your child’s teacher.

***Volunteer Background Checks:***

**\*Reminder that all those that would like to go on field trips must have a “volunteer background check” completed at least a week prior to the trip.**

**Sparta Michigan App:**

There is a great new app called Sparta Michigan that is available for both Android and Apple devices. This app will provide users with a better connection to our schools, events, and businesses in the Sparta community. Thanks to the Sparta Chamber of Commerce and local businesses for making this mobile application available. Instructions on how to download and use this app are available at the following link: [Sparta Michigan App Instructions](https://email.spartaschools.org/owa/redir.aspx?SURL=9KsttodcqVZ4VMRHxmO4GUy5alTDQSXZF6ew7NJg0_Ue-eaa2DbSCGgAdAB0AHAAcwA6AC8ALwBkAHIAaQB2AGUALgBnAG8AbwBnAGwAZQAuAGMAbwBtAC8AZgBpAGwAZQAvAGQALwAwAEIAdwBWAGkASQBPADcAYgBoAEoAdgB1AFoARABSAHYAZQBGAGwAMABjAFgAVQB4AFEAawBFAC8AdgBpAGUAdwA_AHUAcwBwAD0AcwBoAGEAcgBpAG4AZwA.&URL=https%3a%2f%2fdrive.google.com%2ffile%2fd%2f0BwViIO7bhJvuZDRveFl0cXUxQkE%2fview%3fusp%3dsharing)

***Nurse’s News:***

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**Spring Safety Tips**

• Always wear sunscreen while you are outside! Your skin is your first line of defense against infections so you want to keep it as healthy as possible. You can get sunburned in the shade or in cloudy weather too. It is always better to protect your skin for many health reasons.
• Always wear helmets and protective gear while riding bikes, skateboards, rollerblades, etc…
• Always obey the rules of the road while riding your bike. It's very important for you to watch for the cars as well as the cars watching out for you.
• Never swim alone. You should always have a partner while swimming just in case something happens. Even a good swimmer can have an emergency!