From the Principal:

Dear View Ridge Families,

Happy New Year! I hope 2020 brings your family great health, fulfillment, opportunity, and love! The start of a new year is so inspiring, especially in an elementary school setting, because it allows for meaningful teaching and learning around planning and goal-setting. This work feels so hopeful and purposeful, even for young students. Teachers have launched the continuation of school with class meetings and activities around setting goals or resolutions for academic, personal, and/or global settings.

This work is tied to our January Viking Value focus of PERSEVERANCE. It is also linked to our academic goals for January: Students will be named Viking Scholars in WRITING for setting and meeting a writing goal; and students will be named Viking Scholars in MATH for setting and meeting a math goal. Families can support students by having discussions at home about students’ goals and steps they are taking to monitor and accomplish their goals, and with encouragement to stick with their goals even when it feels tough!

Our teachers have also launched the new year with a clear focus on reteaching expectations and systems to promote a positive and learning environment for all our Vikings. Expectations are one of the cornerstones for our Positive Behavior Intervention Systems (PBIS). Please continue to reinforce and acknowledge students at home modeling our Viking Values!

Looking forward to our second half of the school year! --Ms. Tina Farias
Elementary Progress Reports (by Ms. Farias):

Semester 1 Elementary Progress Reports will be finalized and sent home in the coming weeks. Look in your child’s backpack for a report on their progress on February 7, 2020. A few reminders:
- These go home twice a year, once in February (with students) and June (mailed home)
- Each semester has clear instructional focus and those assessed areas will have a score reflecting a student's current performance level. A number scale is used to assess learning—a 4 is above grade level, 3 is on grade level, 2 is approaching grade level expectations, and a 1 is below grade level expectations. Teachers will also indicate if a student has made significant, steady or minimal progress this semester. Not all areas may be assessed this Semester, but they will by the end of the year
- Students are assessed in 21st Century Skills: Creativity, Critical Thinking, Collaboration, Communication, Citizenship, and Growth Mindset. These were introduced to report cards in 2018, and teachers are continuing to use a combination of student self-assessments and rubrics to develop these skills—levels of depth and frequency

If you have any questions regarding your child’s progress report, please contact your child’s teacher(s). View Ridge teachers, support staff, and administrators are always available to discuss questions, concerns, and supports to benefit students at View Ridge. Thank you!

From the Assistant Principal (by Mr. Arnold):

Dear View Ridge Families,

I am very happy to report that our attendance rate continues to be in the 90% range. Each month we acknowledge the class with the best attendance for the month. The class receives an award to go in the classroom as well as the traveling trophy. This next month we are focusing on most improved class attendance. I know the weather can play havoc on our plans and sickness has made its rounds. If your child is going to be absent, please call our attendance hotline at (425) 385-5405. Please leave a message and we will enter the absence. Thank you for your continued support of View Ridge and getting your students to school each and every day.

Thank you, Mr. Arnold

From the Viking Staff:

Winter Learning Challenge by Greta Fleckenstein and Marie Petersen

Thank you to all those students and families that participated in the Winter Learning Challenge to support reading and math skills! Students were excited to share with us all the fun learning that happened at home over our extended break! 180 Vikings participated this year! GREAT JOB! Two lucky classes hard work earned a hot cocoa party. The primary and intermediate classes with the highest percentage of participation took home the prize. Congratulations to Ms. Sittauer’s first grade class and Mrs. Parks third graders! The parties took place January 10th!
Join the Birthday Book Club (by Kristie Post, Teacher/Librarian)

Celebrate your child’s birthday AND support the View Ridge Library!

Joining the Birthday Book Club is a great way to create a lasting memory for your family at View Ridge and endow our library with exciting new books. Here’s how it works: During the month of your child’s birthday (or summer half-birthday), our librarian will choose a new book that matches your child’s interests. A bookplate dedicating the book in your child’s honor will be placed inside. The book is then presented to the student in the class so that he or she can be the first to read it before it’s returned to the library collection for all to enjoy. Your child’s contribution will also be acknowledged in the school newsletter.

The Birthday Book Club donation is $15.00 per child or event. BBC donations will be accepted throughout the year, and can be also can be used for graduation, memorials, teacher's gifts, and other celebrations.

- For more information, contact: Kristie Post – kpost@everettsd.org
- Additional forms are available in the library

January Birthdays: Teacher Marie Petersen 1/8, Oliver Olson 1/8, Melanie Ching 1/10, Max Wolff 1/19, Anna Avetisyan 1/25, Evelyn Wells 1/26
February Birthdays: Gary Weston 2/6, Owen Gardner 2/19, Aiden Petersen 2/25.

Community:

Everett Public Schools and View Ridge Elementary are on Twitter: We are excited to join Everett Public Schools in the use of Twitter to share photos and updates of the amazing work being done here and to promote the learning and community events at View Ridge. Please follow us at https://twitter.com/EPS_VRE
Everett School Board Welcomes Two New Members

This November voters elected two new members to the Everett School District Board. April Berg will fill position 2, the seat vacated by the retirement of longtime school board director Carol Andrews. Berg lives in Mill Creek and is a planning commissioner for the city. She has four children, two in university, one at Henry M. Jackson High School and one at Heatherwood Middle School.

Andrew J. Nicholls will fill position 1, the seat held by Jamyang Dorjee Nhangkar who was appointed to the board in September 2018. Nicholls is a research social worker with the VA Puget Sound Medical Center and has two children who will soon be entering school in the district’s north end.

Lunch payments are easy with the app

Want to see your student’s lunch balance and pay a balance from your phone? If you’re logged into the district’s mobile app, you can find and pay your student’s lunch balance under your student’s info. An icon inside the app also gives a shortcut to deposit funds for your student’s lunch account. To make a payment, look for the green chef’s hat icon.

The latest school news and information in Everett Public Schools is available on smartphones and mobile devices with a mobile app. The free mobile app is available in the online iTunes® and Google Play® app stores. Once you’ve downloaded the app, log in to “student info” with your LMS password to see student-specific information for each of your children.

Parent safety tip

Six ways your student can protect their online identities:

1. Share carefully – don’t give out any personal information to unknown sites or strangers
2. Go private – keep privacy settings high and limit location services when possible
3. Log out – especially after using shared computers
4. Mix up passwords – use different passwords for different apps and websites
5. Avoid clickbait – avoid quizzes and random questionnaires
6. Choose wisely – pick an appropriate username

Learn more about online safety, digital wellness, cell phones and learning with technology with age-specific tips and tools on www.commonsensemedia.org.

Kindergarten registration begins in March

Do you have a child who will be 5 years old by Aug. 31, 2019? Registration begins on March 2, 2020, at all district elementary schools.
Did you know?

Every year OSPI publishes a report card for each district and each school within the district. This year OSPI is using a new application to do this and will require a little more effort to find the data available for Everett Public Schools. You can access the 2017-18 data on the OSPI website.

To review the data for the school district or a school start typing in the name and a drop box will appear with choices. Click on your choice to view the report card.

![I want to see data for a school or school district](image)

Optionally you can click on See all schools and districts and navigate the to the district or school you want to select.

Do you have a student in special education?

Did you know there is a Special Education PTSA in the district? The Special Education PTSA serves students, families, and educators involved in Special Education. They encourage students, families, educators and community members to work collaboratively to provide programs and activities recognizing each student's potential and enhancing the educational opportunities of children receiving and/or seeking special services in our district. Connect with the SEPTSA on their Facebook page.

Harvest of the month

This month, the Food and Nutrition Department brings you beans! Be sure to give them a try this month in our homemade hummus, black bean burger or vegetarian chili!

Did you know that there are over 40,000 different varieties of beans and are an excellent of protein and fiber? Find out more by checking out the Harvest of the Month flyer on our website at [https://www.everettsd.org](https://www.everettsd.org)

I've bean thinking about you...
2020 capital projects bond - community open house meetings

Everett Public Schools is placing a $317.4 million bond on the April 2020 ballot. This measure will provide crucial funding to build permanent classroom space to accommodate growth, improve safety and security and make necessary school improvements.

Upcoming Community Open House meetings are scheduled, and we encourage everyone to attend one:

What the 2020 capital projects bond will fund at our school?

Please see the attached flyer for a list of school specific projects.