From the Principal

Dear View Ridge Families,

As we continue to move through these challenging times, it is more important than ever to support one another through the stress, uncertainty, and longing for “normal” life. I miss the students more than ever! I can’t wait until we can be together again to share a smile and greeting in the hall, laughter at recess, stories at lunchtime, and excitement to grow our brains through learning throughout the day!

Thank you supporting your families and your students at home. In trying to balance it all, I hope you take time as a family to enjoy the spring weather, a game, a good book or movie, cooking together, or whatever else makes your loved ones feel happy. Including these types of activities is good for everyone’s mental and emotional well-being! Also, for fun, encourage students to share video responses to my Principal Flipgrid challenges! https://flipgrid.com/viewridge

This is a great way to stay connected! Whether you’re a parent, student, or staff, we are in the unique situation of having to write our own ‘lesson plans’ and ‘handbooks’ to get through this! Everyone is making incredible contributions to this living history!

I realize that the future is on everyone’s mind. What’s next? What will school look like in the fall? Will my child be behind? Will things get better? Will they get worse? While I will not pretend to have the answers to these questions, I do know that we will get through this because we will continue to work together, and we will work smart! We have many criteria to consider. Safety is the number one priority in our schools. Making sure our students and staff are safe is paramount. Communication is the key to success! We will continue to keep families informed and address your questions and concerns, but we have to take it one day at a time. Please continue to keep lines of communication open with View Ridge staff to ask questions, give feedback, or just have a conversation about how things are going. Empathy matters most. Our staff wants to make sure we are supporting your family’s needs. Please let us know how we can help. Remote learning is not a “one size fits all” model. We understand each family has individual needs and priorities.

Know that we miss your children, we are here for them, and we will be ready and prepared to help get them back on track when we are together again. Our staff is very committed to working to make this situation the most beneficial and meaningful for your student as we can! Please continue to encourage your students to read, work hard, get their iReady minutes in, and to stay healthy and active! We still have a lot of learning to do! Please see the next page for a few more articles from me about concluding and celebrating the 2019-20 school year!
As we wrap up this unpredictable and unprecedented school year, some Vikings we must wish farewell, as they are moving on to other opportunities and places. We have 96 talented and resilient fifth graders moving onto middle school—and we wish them all the best as they continue their educational path to success. We must also say goodbye to a few of our staff: Yeojin Chung (psychologist), Rosie Sittauer (first grade), Sean Reich (third grade), Francesca Smythies (Transitional Kindergarten), Cindy Lamonica (TK para), Fernando Farias (Life Skills Para), and Magdalena Smith (DK 1:1 nurse) are leaving our school at the end of this school year. Each of these educators has become a big part of our team and in the lives of our students. We wish them the best and will miss them greatly!

**Fifth Grade Bridging:**

We are planning on a virtual celebration for what would traditionally be called 5th Grade Bridging. Our fifth graders are embarking on a new journey into middle school next year, and more than ever does this group of amazing students deserve to be recognized and celebrated. Please mark your calendars for June 9, 2020. A program will be emailed with each part of our bridging being pre-recorded and hyperlinked for fifth grade families to enjoy together. Celebrations over live Zoom meetings will follow at 6:30 pm that night.

**Distribution of Student Materials/Belongings at View Ridge:**

On May 26th and May 27th, we invite families wishing to pick up their child’s belongings to do so at View Ridge. We are working to provide a structure and schedule to maximize social distancing and hygiene for everyone’s safety and well-being. Please see the table below for designated pick-up times, organized by the starting letter of your child’s last name. We will be organizing a second event the last week of the school year for pick-up/return of other items including library books, Chromebooks, and possibly yearbooks and other end of the year documents.

<table>
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<th>Date/Time</th>
<th>9:00 – 11:00</th>
<th>11:30 – 1:30</th>
<th>2:00 – 4:00</th>
</tr>
</thead>
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<td>Last names A-D</td>
<td>Last names E-H</td>
<td>Last names I-M</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Wednesday, May 27th</strong></td>
<td>Last names N-S</td>
<td>Last names T-Z</td>
<td>Families unable to attend other times (A-Z)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**2019-2020 Outstanding Educator and Golden Acorn Recipients:**

Congratulations to our Outstanding Educators, Kelly Brown and Kathleen McCutchen, and Golden Acorn Recipient, Tremayne Brown! Our Viking community is so lucky that you are part of our team!

Kelly Brown is a fifth-grade teacher and has worked at View Ridge for 18 years (one year as a para, 17 years as a teacher!). Ms. Brown is known for building strong teacher-student relationships, creating a culture for learning, integrating technology into learning, and teacher leadership—she serves on countless school teams including our Instructional Leadership Team, EEA representative council, PBIS team, and Tech Cadre. She’s also known for her compassion, integrity, and her sense of humor! Thank you, Kelly, for supporting students, staff, and the community!

Kathleen McCutchen is a paraeducator at View Ridge and a bus driver for Everett Public Schools. She has also been in Everett Public Schools for 18 years. She is integral in supporting our community projects and philanthropic efforts including caring for our community garden and parks, helping with lunch and coat drives, and making the bus, recess, and lunchroom fun and safe places for our students. Kathleen supports View Ridge teachers in implementing math lessons and interventions for students. You can count on her for her smile, positivity, and can-do attitude.

Tremayne Brown currently serves as our PTA Secretary and has been a parent at View Ridge for four years. She played an integral role in bringing Field Day back to View Ridge and has supported building school culture and partnerships in many ways. She and another parent are responsible for creating our beautiful yearbooks for the 2017-18, 2018-19, 2019-20 school years. She’s organized the book exchange, helped in the music room, and helped in many classrooms. She’s supported the art docent program and has been a room mom for several teachers. She is a joy to have on campus, and her contributions are immense! We appreciate you so much!

*Let’s have a great May and an even better June! Go Vikings!!* -Tina Farias, Principal kfarias@everettsd.org (425) 385-5490
From the Assistant Principal (by Mr. Arnold):

**Summer School at View Ridge:**

Summer school this year will be online. Students currently in 2nd, 3rd, and 4th grades who are not yet at standard have been invited to attend based on specific criteria. Summer school will be from June 29 – July 30 Monday – Thursday. Instruction will be from 9:00 am -12:00 pm. Emails have already been sent to families who are being invited to summer school. If you have any questions about Summer school, please email Mr. Arnold at marnold3@everettsd.org.

**Everett Ready:**

Currently we are planning our Everett Ready program for incoming kindergarten students. It will be available to all registered kindergarten students. The dates are currently set for August 17-21. If you have friends or neighbors with kindergarten-age students, please encourage them to enroll online, so they can be included in this important program for kindergarten students.

**Attendance at View Ridge (from an Online Learning perspective):**

I am amazed by all the work and great things our students are doing online. I have been able to see them in Zoom classes as well as view their projects and work in the Google Classroom. I see their use of i-ready each week, and it is encouraging to know that our students are engaging in whatever way they can. This engagement in learning is how attendance works for our online learning. Teachers and staff are monitoring, supporting, and making connections to help students. If you need help don’t hesitate to reach out to us. We are aware that day to day family’s availability to engage in learning changes, so communication with your child’s teacher is very important. We are partners in this process and want to be as supportive of your efforts. We look forward to the day when attendance is not only learning and engaging in educational activities, but also being present at our beautiful school building. Until then, let’s continue to push forward and attend to the learning online.

**i-Ready Spring Diagnostic:**

Parents-- we have a big ask. We need your support for the upcoming Spring i-Ready diagnostic. We need all 100% of our students K-5 to take this assessment during the assessment window June 1-June 15. We do not want to overwhelm you with this task, and we will provide you support in administering this diagnostic at home.

The reason this assessment is crucial is two-fold. One, we will be able to gather uniform data on students’ progress and skills in Math and Reading. Two, students’ learning plans within the i-Ready program will be reset giving them instructional lessons directed at supporting their current learning needs. Students will be able to access i-Ready instructional lessons over the summer.

I am attaching a link to support your administration of the i-Ready diagnostic at home. Let your child do their best, and as much as you want to help them, don’t. Even the slightest bit of help will affect the results and may result in your child being placed on a lesson path that is at a higher level than s/he is, and therefore, be given daily lessons that are too difficult. Remind your child that it is okay to miss problems on the diagnostic. Remind them to do their best! https://www.everettsd.org/Page/35852

**i-Ready Testing Tips**

- Growth Mindset: Explain a computer adaptive test will get harder and easier as it is finding your just right level...
- Finding your “just right” level is important! This tells us what we need to teach. If you know it, great. Work hard and answer it. If you do not know, we need to know that too. Do your best and we will teach it!
- LISTEN to and READ ALL directions carefully!!!! You do not want to miss something because you didn’t follow directions.
- There will be a speaker option where the computer is reading to you only when the test allows it to, not all the time.
- Have a piece of scratch paper ALWAYS to take notes or do your math work!
- Take your time and take breaks when you need them! ROCK IT!
From the Viking Staff:

Counselor’s Corner (by Mrs. Atregenio):

Hello Families!

Please take a few minutes to read this informative article from Sound Discipline around being kind and firm:

**You know those times when it is all going so well?** Your children are having fun, feeling loved and happy – and then whoops, dishes are left on the couch, chores are undone, and someone just said something really rude to Gramma. Did you let your boundaries or family agreements slip? Sometimes it seems like we are on a perpetual teeter totter trying to balance being kind and firm. We want our kids to have fun, feel cared about and be happy, so we are *kind* until it feels like they are getting out of control and a little bit crazy ...and then we desperately need them to follow the rules, be respectful, and do their work, so we *get firm*. The back and forth is exhausting!

In the words of Positive Discipline, we talk about "getting out of the dance."

Starting with yourself, do what it takes to steady yourself and return to calm. Try some of these activities - [https://www.sounddiscipline.org/self-regulation-toolkit-cards/](https://www.sounddiscipline.org/self-regulation-toolkit-cards/) - or do another activity you know helps you self-regulate, like stepping outside and going for a walk. Once you are calm, try the below suggestions for modeling firmness and kindness, and take a look at our website for more Kind & Firm resources.

**Model Firmness:**

**“I” Statements:** Say what you need and make requests, starting with “I”. You might say, “I need you to clean up your art supplies,” rather than “you need to clean up your art supplies.”

**‘Connect Before Correct’**: Connect with your child by crouching down to their level, and using a touch, your eyes, or making a guess at how they are feeling. Connecting sends the message “I see you, I value you.” After connecting, offer correction or direction. You might say, “Wow. I think that is the biggest tower I have seen you build! How did you get it so high? It is 5:00 now. What has to happen before dinner? Yes, you are right…clean up time!”

**Model Kindness:**

**Help a neighbor:** Write a thank you note. Give compliments. Make a donation. Acts of kindness demonstrate four our kids and give them a chance to practice what it means to be kind.

**Be kind to yourself:** What one thing can you do each day *just for you?* Prioritize that and make it happen—just like you would prioritize an activity for your child. It is a great model for your kids and will allow you to show up as your best self.

**Spend 15 minutes of scheduled one-on-one time every day:** Children need to feel a sense of deep connection with parents and caregivers, especially now. Find a time and a place where you can fully engage in play or conversation led by your child. Let your child guide what you do together. Try it for 10 days in a row and see what happens!

**Health & Fitness Update (by Ms. Eccleston and Mr. Wheeler)**

The PE department at View Ridge would like to say hello and provide a few updates for our students and families!

First, virtual running club has started! Students are able to find all the directions through Ms. Eccleston and Mr. Wheeler’s PE Google Classroom for those who still want to join. Prizes will be handed out to those who participate. (See the picture to the right).

Second, we are so excited to announce that we plan to have a virtual family Field Day the week of June 8–12! We are hoping to make this as fun and stress-free as possible while getting your family moving and connecting the Viking community. Stay tuned for more information and activities to come.
ELA Corner (by Mrs. Fleckenstein)

While I miss all my Viking readers, I am so impressed with the work and effort I am seeing from home! Readers unite!!! Reading daily will keep up your child’s reading skills and build their love of books! Win-Win!!! There are still many Viking readers who are reading and completing AR tests! WOW!! Super Job!! AR is open from home now through mid-August!!! It is a great way to set self-goals and share with teachers your hard work!!!

Just since the closure there are some great celebrations! In April, Mrs. Wright/Fink’s class were our BRONZE medal AR winners with 63% of students taking AR tests!!!! Our SILVER medal winner Mrs. York at 71% and coming in with the GOLD medal congratulations to Mrs. Alberts class with 78% of students taking AR tests!!!! While only Mrs. Wright’s class medaled last month SECOND GRADE comes in as the overall grade level winners for AR participation!!! WAY TO GO!!! There are some stand out students who since the closure started have ROCKED their READING!!! Congratulations to the following super readers with amazing AR point totals: Phoenix Larsen (147 points), Gerard Aguirre (161 points), Colette Burghdoff (171 points), Mila Kosovich (217 points) and Emi Forman (248 points)!!! WOW, Just WOW!!! Great Job all Viking readers!

Keep up your reading, take AR tests and keep those reading muscles strong! I-Ready lessons are another great way to grow your skills and will also be open for learning through mid-August!!!! I will be sharing celebrations around i-Ready Reading next month... so stay tuned and keep learning!

Math Corner (by Mrs. Petersen)

If you would like some ideas for how to bring curiosity back into math at home, check out this website: https://www.youcubed.org/resource/youcubed-at-home/ It offers a variety of tasks at all grade levels for kids to explore math in rich and creative ways. Some of these would be great for summer!

Bedtime Math: I’ve always known how important it is to read with my children before bed. While teaching 2nd grade one year, Ms. Townsell gifted my family with a Bedtime Math book. Math at bedtime? I’d never heard of anything like this before but took it home to try out that evening with great success. My kids really enjoy listening to the wacky story and then answering math questions related to the facts from the text. I hear a lot of moans about doing just one each night, because they want more! 😊

Check out their website http://bedtimemath.org for more information about their best-selling books and free mobile app, which is also available in Spanish. You can also join their mailing list and get fun math riddles to do as a family in your inbox each day! Another site is https://mathbeforebed.com/ This one doesn’t have stories, but interesting pictures that hopefully inspire good mathematical discussions before bed, at dinner, or anytime!

Library News (by Kristie Post, Teacher/Librarian):

April, May, June Birthday Book Club Celebrations:

April: Agniya Velichko, Royal Wescott-Patterson, Anya Barbour, Tilde Partington, Justin Webster, Thomas Larsen, Anna Wellenbrock, Airyann Schreifels, Max Sullivan, Kyla Petersen.
May: Cianna Monego, Derek Haas.
June: William Timoll, Adam Sharp, Elise Quaterman, Ahmad Jeraiw.

A HUGE THANK YOU to the 2019-2020 Shelf Elves! Without your time and dedication, the View Ridge library would not function as smoothly and be as fun. Christina Torchilo, Bristol Cowley, Meagan Mc Mains, Aubree, Rosie, Airyann Schreifels, Kayla Spain, Shahiah Langan, Gerard Aguirre, Zarlia Brown, Derek Haas. Cheers, Mrs. Post
You can return your library books on the following Mondays: May 18, June 1 and 8, from 11:30-12:30. Just place your returned books on the library cart outside the View Ridge office. I am also collecting library books on May 27 and 28 when you pick up your child's classroom belongings. A library cart will be located at the pickup point.

Sno-Ise Libraries (check out and read thousands of eBooks using Overdrive or Kindle!)

If you do not already have a Sno-Ise account, sign up online and you will have immediate access to Overdrive and other digital media available through Sno-Ise libraries. This is one of my favorites...you can find most of what you are looking for available as an eBook...you can check out up to 30 digital materials at a time! Sign up at https://www.sno-isle.org/getacard

Did you know that once you have your Sno-Ise card, you can also check out and read lots of graphic novels? You can use Overdrive or Hoopla to read thousands of graphic novels for kids, from Dog Man to Amulet! Go to the online library and look at all the great things you can read!

View Ridge Scholastic Book Fair Last Day Saturday the 16th. All orders shipped home, Free Shipping on book-only orders over $25. OPEN LINK HERE Thank you for supporting the View Ridge Library.

Community:

Everett Public Schools and View Ridge Elementary are on Twitter: Please follow us at https://twitter.com/EPS_VRE

View Ridge Scholastic Book Fair Last Day Saturday the 16th. All orders shipped home, Free Shipping on book-only orders over $25. OPEN LINK HERE Thank you for supporting the View Ridge Library.
In case you didn’t see it last time, we’re including this note again!

Classroom Planning for 2020-21 School Year

Please fill out the attached survey if you are a parent of a current K-4th grader to help us with our staffing and classroom placement plans for next year. You may submit your response via the online survey link or email your response to kfarias@everettsd.org.

Student name(s) and current grade(s): _______________________

Are you returning to View Ridge for the 2020-21 school year?

☐ Yes, we are!
☐ No, we are moving.
☐ We are not sure yet.

Please share any comments or notes that could be helpful in our planning for next year:

COVID-19 Coronavirus webpage

Stay informed by visiting the COVID-19 Coronavirus webpage www.everettsd.org/COVID-19. Here, you will find messaging to families, information on family tech support, learning engagement, Class of 2020 support, helpful resources, FAQ’s and more related to school building closure.

What will the 2020-21 school year look like?

Thank you for understanding the complexity of decisions for the fall. Right now, we are focused on finishing the school year well, and are following the guidance of OSPI and the state for developing plans for the fall. Realistically, with the current unknowns, we won’t be able to finalize a plan until early August.

Essential item pick-up

We understand your student may still have personal items at their school which are essential to continue their learning from home, such as calculators, books or medications. Schools will be conducting personal item pick-up days in late-May for families to collect your student’s essential items, which will be pre-bagged and labeled by staff. You will receive more specific information on pick-up times from your school next week, but the dates are: elementary schools, May 26 and 27; middle and high schools, May 28 and 29.

There will be a second parent pick-up event at our schools on select dates between June 12-19 for families to collect any remaining student items and to return library books, textbooks, musical instruments, etc. More information about the June pick-up events will be shared with parents in the coming weeks.
When does school end this year?

June 5 is not an early release day but will follow the current modified structure. Learning Improvement Fridays (LIF) are suspended through June 19 to follow the current modified structure. June 19 is the new last day of school. June 12 is the last day for seniors.

Stuff the Bus is coming!

With the support of our generous community, the Everett Public Schools Foundation is hosting its 11th annual Stuff the Bus for Kids school supply drive. Last year the Foundation delivered over 1,900 backpacks to students and hope to deliver the same number this year. Look for collection bins at local businesses during the month of August and look for big yellow Durham school buses parked outside Fred Meyer in Mill Creek and QFC on Evergreen Way Aug. 14-16. For questions, please contact Kirsten Hansen at khansen@everettsd.org.

Kindergarten Registration (Class of 2033)

If your child will be five years old by August 31, 2020, it’s time to register for kindergarten! Online registration is available at www.everettsd.org. Register now to access information about your school’s kindergarten program and receive a parent resource and children’s book “Kindergarten, Here I Come!” Registration also reserves your child’s spot in Everett Ready, our transition-into-kindergarten program scheduled for August 17-21, at our elementary schools. Contact EarlyLearning@everettsd.org with any questions.

To find out which school your kindergartener will attend, click on Path Finder on the district’s transportation webpage or call the transportation office at 425-385-4144.

Vaccinations for next year

Now is the time to plan for the vaccinations your child will need before he or she enrolls next fall. We encourage you to obtain these vaccinations this school year and report them to the school nurse or office staff at your child’s school. We’ll track that information in the school database, which will help you avoid getting calls and overdue letters in the fall. More information can be found on the district’s immunizations webpage.

Summer school

Everett Public Schools offers a variety of summer learning opportunities. Summer programs for high school students include opportunities to strengthen the skills and knowledge required for the district core expectations, repeat courses, extend their interests in academic areas, and take new courses. Tuition-based summer programs are offered for students through Online High School. Elementary and middle school summer programs are available for specific students who need academic support.
Summer Reading Program

Everett Public Schools looks forward to another successful year of its summer reading program. Please watch your school’s website for details about this summer’s reading program.

School supply lists

Looking to get a jump start on next year’s school supplies this summer? You can find the school supply list on your school’s website under Our School around the last week of school.

Summer meals

Did you know that all children ages 1-18 can participate in the summer meal program? Summer meals will start on June 22nd at select locations and times. Find more details on the Food and Nutrition Department website.

The 2020 capital projects bond

Now, more than ever, schools are the heart of our community. Investing in our schools continues our focus on not only academics, but the well-being of every student in our district. Schools are a community resource and they need to be invested in.

Due to impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic, on March 24, 2020 the school board approved Resolution 1228 postponing the April 28 bond proposition until a future time to be determined by the board.

On May 5, the school board approved Resolution 1230 to place the unchanged $317.4 million bond proposition on the August 4, 2020 special election ballot.

The 2020 bond focuses on STEM, Safety, Equity and Space.

To find out more details on all of the bond 2020 projects, visit www.everettsd.org/bond2020.

Please remember to vote on August 4, 2020