

A Note from the Head of School ...in lieu of a monthly Newsletter January 2019

It was wonderful to welcome your children back to school this week. It's a new year with exciting things ahead. Here are some important reminders and previews of things to come...

The faculty and staff had a workday last week, spending the morning with the Director of Jacy House, Amanda Wilson, who provided a very informative 'Stewards of Children' training. After a wonderful lunch provided by parents, we hit the road in teams to learn about local resources we could utilize. We had fun learning together and we discovered that as a group, we are fairly competitive. Ask us who won!

While Trueblood Preschool will be in session, PreK-8th grades will be **out of school** Friday 1/18 for a teacher workday. Everyone will have Monday, 1/21, **OFF** for Martin Luther King, Jr. day. During this time, PreK-8 teachers will be busy completing their **first semester evaluations**. You will receive your child(ren)'s assessments via email by the end of January and the second week of June.

We invite returning students to submit **re-enrollment forms for 2018-19** academic year by **Monday, February 11th** in order to take advantage of the early bird discount (\$25). We will continue to accept forms throughout the semester, but the cost will be \$50. This early information helps us with our budgeting and admissions efforts moving forward. For Trueblood students interested in our PreK-K class, there will be PreK-K enrollment forms made available to you at the same cost. All forms will be distributed on January 28th. Stay tuned for open house visiting opportunities (for current and new, prospective families) to come!

RFS will once again be working with **Smart Aid** to assist us with managing our financial aid process for PreK-8th grades. The **financial aid application materials are due April 15th**. The process for submitting materials is online through Smart Aid. Please visit our RFS Website: <http://www.richmondfriendsschool.org/admissions/financial-aid/> for instructions and / or feel free to let me know if you have questions.

February is our **READATHON** month. The READATHON is THE parent-led fundraiser of the year. Our goal is to raise \$27,000. Together, we can do it!! Thanks to some parent feedback and guidance from our Parents' Committee, we are trying something new this year. Rather than a kick-off dinner, we will be hosting **4 fireside sessions**. YOU NEED TO CHOOSE ONE at either location – whatever time best fits your schedule. If outside school hours, children can go to Before or Aftercare. These sessions are designed to be brief, informative, and inspiring whether this is your first READATHON or your 10th. Light snacks will be provided. Our development officer, Patti, and I will be at each session along with a parent representative. Each family will receive their packet at this time. If you cannot make one of the four sessions, please contact Patti – development@richmondfriendsschool.org.

Monday, January 28th from 3 – 3:30pm and 5:15 – 5:45pm (both WRF Library)
Tuesday, January 29th from 8 – 8:30am (WRF Library)
Wednesday, January 30th from noon – 12:30 at Stout Meetinghouse (Trueblood)

Lacrosse is coming to Richmond this spring! RFS is excited to sponsor this opportunity for 5-8th grade boys and girls from public and private schools are welcome to participate. Parent, Kyle Zajdel, is the coach leading this exciting endeavor. Team dues are expected to be minimal thanks to a grant already secured to help with equipment costs. Stay tuned for a free upcoming clinic when players can come and learn about / try the sport and sign up to participate if interested.
Feel free to contact Kyle if you have questions (765-914-1587 or kzajdel@hotmail.com).

SAVE THE DATE – May 18, 2019 – RFS Spring Event (to include a special guest speaker, live music, bon fires, scrumptious food and an exciting announcement you won't want to miss....stay tuned for details and invitations to come!)

As always, feel free to ask questions, share your thoughts, concerns and successes with us. We look forward to another great semester!

Warmest wishes –Marcie