



# Ripley Central School

*"Home of the Eagles"*

Learn today. Lead tomorrow!

1/5/24

Dear RCS Families,

Welcome back! It's been an incredible first week post-break, and our students have truly hit the ground running. This month, our focus resolves around the trait of Respect. During this morning's Crew Celebration, we organized a Respect Circle, where each student had the opportunity to share affirmations with their peers. The sincerity and thoughtfulness, especially from our youngest learners was heartwarming. Check out the insightful ideas in the Capturing Kids' Hearts Newsletter on the reverse side, offering valuable suggestions for instilling respect in your children at home.

A notable change in the calendar is approaching next week. Students will have a four-day weekend, as our dedicated teachers engage in an in-service day on Friday, January 12. They will be participating in a CKH seminar, a program that has undeniably shaped our school's culture. This mid-year check-in aims to sustain the positive momentum we've built together.

In our commitment to community welfare, a collection box for gently used clothing has been placed in the foyer outside the large gym. All donated children's clothes will find a home in our caring closet, while larger items will be distributed back into the community. A heartfelt thank you to WNY Community Outreach for generously providing the collection box.

Be sure to glance at the right-hand column for an overview of a multitude of extracurricular activities happening this month. This column will serve as your handy tool to stay informed and engaged.

Best of luck to all the dedicated wrestlers taking part in the WRCL Youth Novice Wrestling Tournament this Sunday! We are thrilled to host this exciting event and anticipate a packed gymnasium filled with energy and enthusiasm. May each participant showcase their skills, sportsmanship, and determination on the mat. Here's to a fantastic tournament for everyone involved!

Enjoy your weekend and keep an eye out for your kids' reading folders. Students should be reading nightly during the week.

Yours in education,

Mr. Micah Oldham

*RCS Principal*

716-736-2631

[moldham@ripleycsd.org](mailto:moldham@ripleycsd.org)

## Upcoming Events

### **Sunday, January 7**

WRCL Youth Novice Wrestling Tournament

### **Monday, January 8**

Musical Practice 4:30 pm  
Maker Faire ASP 5:30 pm

### **Tuesday, January 9**

Maker Faire ASP 5:30 pm

Ski Club

### **Wednesday, January 10**

Musical Practice 4:30 pm  
Basketball Practice 4:30 pm

BOE Meeting 6:30 pm

### **Thursday, January 11**

Musical Practice 4:30 pm  
Basketball Practice 4:30 pm

### **Friday, January 12**

No School  
Inservice Day

### **Monday, January 15**

School Closed  
MLK Day

### **Tuesday, January 16**

Maker Faire ASP 5:30 pm

Ski Club

### **Wednesday, January 17**

Musical Practice 4:30 pm  
Basketball Practice 4:30 pm

### **Thursday, January 18**

Musical Practice 4:30 pm  
Basketball Practice 4:30 pm

### **Friday, January 19**

Musical Practice 4:30 pm

*"Respect yourself and others will respect you."*

~ Confucius

# Honor You, Honor Me

Give honor and value to ourselves and others.

*This month, we're focusing on respect, which comes in many forms: respect for life, for property, for parents, for elders, for nature, and for the beliefs and rights of others. **Respect includes being courteous and polite, as well as respecting yourself by avoiding self-criticism.** We can model respect for our children regarding how we speak to and treat them. Respect is not only an important character trait, but it can also be a source of real joy! Respect implies a certain appreciation, which makes us more aware of other people's needs and feelings.*



## 1 ENGAGE: Honor Each Other

As a family, create an Honor Board where family members and friends can write affirmations to the person of honor. (Make sure each family member gets to be the honoree.) The Honor Board can be made of construction paper, poster board, or a blank piece of paper. Once the board is complete, encourage the family member to display it so they can see it often and remember the great things others see in them.



## 2 EMPOWER: Practice Forgiveness

Everyone makes mistakes. Ask each family member to share a story about a time they made a mistake (at school, work, home, etc.) and discuss what lessons they learned. Share this quote: "Mistakes don't define us, but how we respond to mistakes will." Ask, "How can we show honor for each other, even when we make a mistake or disagree?" Process each person's response and thank everyone for their willingness to share. Challenge each other to respond to mistakes this week with love and respect.



## 3 EXCEL: Honor Those Who Serve

Celebrate members of your community who lead through service to others. Write "Thank You" notes to someone that has helped or served your family. Consider people in your community like veterans, teachers, nurses/doctors, ministers, bus drivers, police officers, firefighters, mail carriers, etc. Deliver these notes with a special treat.

## Conversation Starters

- ♥ What is the biggest lesson you learned last year?
- ♥ What is something you want LESS of in the next year? Why?

- ♥ What is something you want MORE of this next year? Why?
- ♥ What makes you feel respected? Disrespected? Why?