



## **Ranger Roars!**

*A Feinstein Leadership School*

**March Newsletter 2024**

*Hand-in Hand, Together we can!*

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## **Principal Updates**



by Gail Ponte, Mar 1, 2024

Since this is my first newsletter I would like to thank the many parents who have welcomed me into the Ranger community. From introducing yourselves in the morning at drop off, or in the afternoon at pick up, I am grateful for your greetings and well wishes! I also met many of you at the Sweetheart Dance and I loved seeing you there with your child(ren)! I even made it onto the Ranger PTO FaceBook page dancing with the kids! The PTO certainly does a great job of putting on events! Ranger School has an amazing group of educators and the students are top notch! If at any time you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me via phone or email. Here is my contact information: [gponte@tivertonschools.org](mailto:gponte@tivertonschools.org) I am looking forward to more school events and providing your child(ren) with the best educational experience possible.

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## THIS MONTH'S TOP STORIES



### Kid's Heart Challenge

by Ben DelDeo

We had another really successful year for the Kids Heart Challenge. For the 2023-2024 school year, Walter E. Ranger School raised a total of \$11,489.70 for the American Heart Association. This is the 2nd highest amount Ranger School has raised since our school started participating in the event 24 years ago. In addition to collecting donations, students learned about different ways to take care of their hearts, including exercising each day, choosing water over sugary drinks, getting enough sleep, or eating healthy snacks.

I am extremely proud of the students here at Ranger, they showed a great deal of enthusiasm and generosity. I would also like to thank all of the parents, families, the community, and again the students in their efforts in collecting donations for the event. The contributions collected will be used in trying to find a cure for heart disease and stroke.

**Thirty-eight** students completed Finn's mission and learned hands only CPR, which could potentially save a life. This is our highest total so far. Also because over half of the students participated in the event this year along with the donation total, Ranger School will receive over \$1,000 in gift certificates which can be used to purchase new Physical Education equipment. This is amazing!

The event was closed out the last week of February, so give about 4-6 weeks for the rest of the Thank-you gifts to arrive. (Jump Ropes, Tee-Shirts, etc.)

**A special Picture section will be sent out tomorrow with all participants and top winners!**

## Dr Seuss Week!



***In honor of Dr Seuss' birthday Ranger School will be having a week-long celebration!***

**Monday, March 4**-Fox in Socks & Foot Book; wear mismatched socks and shoes for FUN FOOT DAY!

**Tuesday, March 5**-If I Ran the Zoo & The Sleep Book; Wear pajamas and bring a stuffed animal to school

**Wednesday, March 6**-Wacky Wednesday; wear a mismatched outfit!

**Thursday, March 7**-Horton Hears a Who; wear red and look for acts of kindness

**Friday, March 8**-Cat in the Hat; Thing 1 and Thing 2-dress like twins with a friend!

## An Unexpected Evacuation

On February 15, Ranger School had a malfunction with their heating system which necessitated that the whole school evacuate to Tiverton Middle School. The teachers, staff and students were relocated without incident and carried on with the school day. The teachers rose to the occasion and delivered their exemplary instruction and students were well behaved and engaged in their learning! All of the students were provided with a free lunch and the fourth graders got to see and spend the day in their future school!

Thanks to the TPS, parents received timely updates and specific information about transportation and pick up at the end of the day! Luckily the heating system was able to be repaired quickly and Ranger was able to return to normal functioning on Friday! Hand-in Hand, Together We Can!



## Updates from the PTO

We're MARCHing out of winter and into spring by celebrating Science here at Ranger School! Our annual **Science Fair** is scheduled for **Tuesday, March 5th from 6-7:30pm at Ranger in the gym**. All of our participants have chosen their own projects and topics and we welcome family and friends to attend to support our young scientists as they have an opportunity to showcase their experiments and presentations! The party continues as we welcome Mad Science on Thursday, March 14 th during the school day to present their Fire & Ice Performance to the students. This spectacular show thrills audiences with impressive science experiments and includes foggy dry ice storms and demonstrates how giant beach balls can float in the air! It's going to be a spectacular month of science related fun!

**Tuesday, March 5 th** -The Science Fair at Ranger in the gym 6-7:30pm.

**Thursday, March 14 th**- Mad Science Assembly.

**Friday, March 15 th**- Tiger Pride Friday and/or Wear Green for St Patrick's Day.

**Thursday, March 21 st** -PTO Meeting at Ranger School in the cafeteria at 6:30pm.



## Sweetheart Dance

This year we had a **SOLD OUT** event for the Annual Sweetheart Dance! A great time was had by ALL!



## There's a New Shoe Sheriff in Town!



Emerson Tonski is our first Shoe Sheriff. Not only can she tie her own shoes, but she can also help other students tie their shoes! Congratulations Emmy!

## NAEP Testing

Grade 4 will be participating in NAEP testing on **Friday, Mar 1, 2024**. For more information about NAEP please click on this link and it will give you an overview. [https://nces.ed.gov/nationsreportcard/subject/about/pdf/naep\\_overview\\_brochure\\_2018.pdf](https://nces.ed.gov/nationsreportcard/subject/about/pdf/naep_overview_brochure_2018.pdf)

A letter was sent home and parents have the right to opt out of the testing. Please let me know if you do not want to have your child participate. The test takes roughly 90-120 minutes. Representatives from the RI Dept of Education come into the school to administer the test.

## Parents as Partners

Recently the schoolwide testing results in both Reading and Mathematics were sent home. This data point along with classroom performance are what we look at to ensure that your child continues to make growth. If your child had any areas that appeared as red or yellow on their individual report it means that your child may need some additional work in a specific area.

Additionally, Grade 3 & 4 are preparing for State Testing. In order to make sure that your child tests to their full potential, we ask that you support the teachers in making sure that all homework is completed, that you support your child with additional practice in reading, writing and math. We will be providing students with "practice tests" and formats in the upcoming weeks that mimic the state test so that they know what to expect when testing day comes.

## Important March Dates

- 1      **NAEP** Testing Grade 4, 2 hour slots in library
- 2      **Lion's Club Educator of the Year(Mr Cabral)**~White's 6:00 pm
- 4      **NBSO Grade 4 Field Trip** Departure 11:30, return 2:00 pm
- 5      **Science Fair** 6-7:30 pm in Ranger Cafeteria
- 5      **Faculty Meeting** 3:45 pm
- 11     **Aspen Gradebook Opens**
- 12     **All Strings Orchestra** 7:00 PM at the THS Auditorium
- 12     **Evaluation Team Meeting** 1:30 pm
- 14     **Mad Science Assembly** K-2 9:15 am, 3&4 10:30 am
- 21     **PTO Meeting**~Ranger School 6:30 PM
- 22     **Aspen Gradebook Closes** at MIDNIGHT
- 25     **Print Report Cards**
- 26     **Evaluation Team Meeting** 1:30 pm
- 28     **Send Report Cards Home**
- 29     **NO SCHOOL**

## **RICAS Testing is on the Horizon**

### **STATE TESTING FOR GRADES 3 & 4**

RICAS Testing Window Dates for Ranger School are:

**Reading**~April 3 & 4

**Math**~May 8 & 9

\*\*Please make every effort to have your child present on the appointed testing days to minimize the need for them to make up the day at another date and time.



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