



THE RAPTOR REPORT

December 2020

A Message From The Principal

Dear Rice families,

Welcome to December and a transition back to Phase 1, remote learning. Teachers have communicated classroom schedules to families. In Phase 1, we will operate on the regular school day bell schedule, meaning the school day begins at 8:55 and concludes at 3:40. The remote learning schedule will look very similar to what your child experienced during our last round of Phase 1 learning, but you will notice some built in time at the end of the school day for independent practice and work completion. We hope this provides students the time needed to turn in work in a timely fashion. When work is submitted timely, it allows for formative feedback from teacher to student and helps build the understanding for future lessons. The end of the day is also when your child(ren)'s teacher(s) will be available for any questions.

Continued...



Rice Elementary
7000 Third Street
Wellington, CO 80549

Principal
Melissa Duve'

Office
970.488.8700

Attendance Line
970.488.8701

Fax
970.488.8702

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ric.psdschools.org/](https://ric.psdschools.org/)**

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Rice Elementary Newsletter

A Message From The Principal *continued*

Monday through Thursday Overview (Times listed below are minimums.)


- Morning class meeting: 15 minutes live.
- Literacy: 60-minute lesson with minimum 30 minutes synchronous, including lesson delivery and small group and individual support.
- Mathematics: 60-minute lesson with minimum 30 minutes synchronous, including lesson delivery and small group and individual support.
- Science/Social Studies: 30-minute lesson with minimum 15 minutes synchronous, including lesson delivery and small group and individual support.
- Specials: 30-minute lesson with live interaction.
- Lunch: 45 minutes- All students have lunch at the same time.
- Independent practice, small group, and assignment completion: 150 minutes

Friday Overview


- Morning class meeting: 15 minutes live
- The rest of Friday, students complete independent and asynchronous work.
- For teachers, approximately 1/3 of the day is instructional support, and 2/3 of the day is collaborative planning.
- **Teachers have office hours: Parents can arrange for additional meetings or instructional support for their student.**
- Outside of office hours, teachers collaboratively plan and prepare for the next week.



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A Message From The Principal *continued*

Meal Sites Starting Monday, Nov. 23

- *Rice is a designated mobile meal site and will provide sack lunches Monday-Friday (on scheduled school days) from 11:00-1:15. Lunches will be distributed from the front (west) doors by the cafeteria. Please follow social distancing guidelines and wear a mask when you come. Students may get meals at any location regardless of where they attend school.*
- *At PSD school and mobile meals sites: **Please provide a PSD student name and ID number when picking up meals.***
- *Food Bank meal sites are open to all children 18 and younger - student ID numbers are not required.*

This time around in Phase 1, Rice will provide some addition support for a limited number of our students and have an A/B hybrid model for Early Childhood students beginning on November 30.

Wishing you and your family a safe and happy holiday season.

With gratitude,

Melissa



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Rice Elementary Newsletter



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Connections

IMPORTANT INFORMATION FROM THE OFFICE

Please read the following regarding important office procedures:

****Please call the Attendance Line at 970-488-8701 before 9:30 AM** if your child(ren) will be absent from school or late due to an appointment. You can also document the absence by logging into your ParentVUE account. The absence will be marked **unexcused** if we are unable to reach you.

Please **keep your information on file current** (phone numbers, emergency contacts, address). You can update information on your ParentVUE account. *Please note that you must change your address with the office staff. You are not able to change this information in ParentVUE. Proof of address such as a current utility bill is required when doing so.

For laptop/computer issues help is available through the PSD Tech Portal – (970) 490-3339 or <https://techportal.psdschools.org/>

Office Hours 7:30 AM-4:30 PM

Rice Phone 970-488-8700

Rice Fax 970-488-8702

Attendance Line 970-488-8701

School Start Time 8:55 AM

Dismissal 3:40 PM



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PTO NEWS

RICE PTO

PARENT TEACHER
ORGANIZATION

JOIN TODAY!

Upcoming Meeting

December 7-10 AM Virtual Meeting

Winter Craft Night 2019

We have fond memories of the PTO Winter Craft night last year where we celebrated with hot cocoa, caroling, photos, and crafts! PTO is wishing your family the best this holiday season! Wishing you all happiness and health!



“Join PTO today to
support students,
staff, and
teachers!”

WHAT IS PTO?

We are made up of parents, community members, school staff and teachers. In addition to planning fundraisers for the school, we find ways to support students, families, teachers, and staff. This organization funds special projects, classroom funds, Thanksgiving lunch, winter craft night, and other fun events, staff appreciation, spirit gear, and organizes volunteers for all school events. If you are looking for a way to get involved, meet other parents, and become more engaged, PTO is the place for you! PTO has the opportunity to bring our entire community together to support our school! To get meeting invitations or find out more, email RiceRaptorsPTO@gmail.com.

continued ...

Rice Elementary Newsletter

PTO News, continued...



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FUNDRAISERS

Morning Fresh Dairy: Caps4Cash is a Morning Fresh Dairy program where schools can earn cash by collecting caps from Morning Fresh Dairy glass bottles. We earn 5¢ for each cap. Please send in your milk caps to school monthly. Last year we earned \$160. You can drop them off at Trim Salon on Cleveland.



SHOPPING FOR GROCERIES ONLINE?

Last year we earned \$744.40! You can still earn Box Tops for your school with your e-receipt! See how at

<http://BTFE.com/emailgroceryreceipts>

You can scan box tops to support our school! Tell grandma and grandpa! Please download the BOX TOPS app for your

smartphone ([apple](#) or [android](#)) or continue to collect your box tops and look for the next collection event.



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PTO News, continued...

Spirit Gear

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Counseling Corner

It was great to have the students in the building for the past month! Now that we are back to online remote learning, I am teaching Social Emotional Learning weekly to all classes. I am still available to meet with students individually online through teams, through phone calls, or by email.

Please reach out if your family needs any resources.

-Beth Roberts

elizabethr@psdschools.org

970-488-8718



Integrating Technology & the Media Center



Thank You!!!

A huge thank you to all that supported our canned food drive and Turkey Round-up for the Wellington Food Bank. Your generosity is truly amazing!



Hour of Code

Computer Science Education Week is the first week in December 7th – 13th. Students can participate in the Hour of Code along with tens of millions of students of all ages and backgrounds around the world. The Hour of Code is an introduction to computer science and coding, and shows that anybody can learn how to code. Coding encourages students to be creative thinkers, persevere, and problem solve, as they work through challenges! [Hour of Code](#) is a fabulous website to further your child's exposure to coding. Some of my other favorites are: [Scratch](#), [TinkerCad](#), [Code.org](#), [Khan Academy](#), [Computer Science in One Minute](#) & [Blockly](#). Find a video and other resources on the [Computer Science Channel in Discovery Education](#). There are also some great apps available.



Integrating Technology & the Media Center



Wellington Public Library

Our town library is another great resource for our students. They now have a pick-up window to the right of the front door! Put your items on hold by going to the library catalog.

Curbside Pick-Up Window Hours:

Monday: 9-4

Tuesday: 9 – 6

Wednesday: 9-4

Thursday: 9-3

Friday: 9 – 3

Saturday: 10-1

Website: <https://wellington.colibraries.org/>

New items/ Catalog access: https://wellington.catalog.aspencat.info/?browseCategory=ccclibrary_new_books

Apply for a card online: <https://wellington.colibraries.org/how-do-i-get-a-library-card/>

E-resources: Overdrive and CloudLibrary apps <https://wellington.colibraries.org/digital-resources/>

A Few Thoughts

As we go back to Phase 1 remote learning, we are also all spending more time on our computers/devices. Please contact me if your child is having tech issues or frustrations. I am learning a lot, don't always have an immediate fix, get frustrated too, and am so happy & excited when we can problem solve and fix issues. I want to thank all our parents, grandparents, care givers, siblings and friends who are supporting our kids and helping them be successful. I thoroughly enjoyed and cherished the time we had together at school, your kids bring me so much joy! At times it is stressful and exhausting but working with an amazing staff & such supportive families, makes it easier. I look forward to when we can all be back at school. Until then.....

Merry Christmas, Happy Hanukah, Feliz Navidad, Happy New Year, and enjoy the holidays!

Mrs. Thornley

Email – dthornle@psdschools.org (no y)

Phone – 970-488-8762

Art News

Happy Holidays and warm wishes to all the Raptors out there,

It was so fun to have students back at school (even for a short time) and even have some classes in the art room!

While some classes came out with finished projects after hybrid, others explored some fun processes like marker printing! My hope is that students stay creative while we transition back to remote and continue making art during our 30-minute sessions as well as on their own. Below are a few quick reminders and a link for an Art Contest that your child may be interested in. Obviously, there are no obligations for participation.

*Reminder: Please have your student ready for remote Art class. Be on time and be prepared!

-Art Folder, printer paper, or paper for drawing or creating

-Pencil and Eraser

-Scissors

-Glue or glue stick

-Sharpie or black marker for tracing

-Coloring supplies: crayons, color pencils, oil pastels, markers, watercolor paints

*****5th Graders only for our Op-Art Cubes (December project)***:**

-8 x 8 white paper (this was included in your go bag on 11-18, 11-19)

-pencil, eraser

-ruler

-sharpie



*This year projects are being sent home as we finish them instead of being saved for art shows. Some students have taken their first (in school) project home while others will after we return to hybrid.

*Any students interested in an Art Contest check out...Create your Dream Car! <https://www.toyotadreamcarusa.com/>

-Multiple age groups and prizes given.

-Criteria, details, and lesson ideas listed on the website.

Thank you again for supporting the Arts!

Stay Well,

Beth Tennyson, Rice Art Teacher

PE

Hi Raptors!

It was an absolute pleasure to see all of you in person these past few weeks and I look forward to interacting with you on the other side of my computer screen over the next few weeks! In physical education classes we have learned and practiced many locomotor skills and we began our soccer unit by practicing the skill of foot dribbling. Hopefully, all of you will get a chance to practice more and improve these life-long fitness skills over the break. Remember to get outside and play in the fresh air and bright Colorado sunshine. Even a little bit of movement can help us to feel better and happier. Also, remember to limit how much sugar you eat and make sure to drink plenty of water and eat your fruits and veggies every day. Happy Holidays Raptors!!!

Mr. Hannen

“No one is born hating another person because of the color of his skin, or his background, or his religion. People must learn to hate, and if they can learn to hate, they can be taught to love, for love comes more naturally to the human heart than its opposite.” -Nelson Mandela

Music News

As we return to online learning, we are relieved to be able to use our singing voices! Although I wish we could have students at school, it has been wonderful hearing and seeing students singing again. Here are some things we have been doing in music class:

Kindergarten: learning how to show steady beat, tracking icons of the steady beat, and learning new songs and rhymes.

First Grade: continuing to track and show steady beat, understanding the difference between beat and rhythm, knowing how to clap syllables to songs and rhymes.

Second grade: reading half note and getting ready to learn a new rhythm that is silent!

Third grade: writing and reading our newest rhythm, “tika-tika,” and identifying it in known songs.

Fourth grade: line dancing, composing word chants that can be turned into rhythms, and gearing up to learn the name of our newest rhythm!

Fifth grade: line dancing, performing the tap-on-the-cup routine with various songs and tempos, and listening to famous works.

Students will have a substitute music teacher, Mr. Staggs, in early December. I will return from maternity leave in March.

~Mrs. Davis

Music Teacher

ladavis@psdschools.org

Early Childhood

When we are outside, children often ask questions about our building. They want to know the height of the school building, what it is made of, and how strong it is. They also ask many questions about the way it looks. Their ongoing interest in our building helped us realize that buildings would make a good study topic. Starting in January, we will combine learning about Buildings and Community helpers.

As we study buildings, we will learn concepts and skills in science, social studies, literacy, math, the arts, and technology. We will also be using thinking skills to investigate, ask questions, solve problems, make predictions, and test our ideas.

Vocabulary:

houses	yurts	mosques	concert halls
apartments	shacks	post offices	museums
barns	hotels-motels	supermarkets	parking garages
sheds	inns	libraries	gas stations
castles	office buildings	restaurants	mechanic shops
cottages	schools	hospitals	government
cabins	stores	factories	buildings
bungalows	churches	skyscrapers	community centers
huts	synagogues	theaters	

What You Can Do at Home:

- Study your house or apartment building with your child.
- What materials were used to build it?
- How many floors or stories does it have?
- How many rooms, windows, and doors does it have? Don't forget the basement if you have one!
- How old is your home?
- Who built it?
- What are its dimensions?
- Talk about buildings when in the car or in town.
- Who works in those buildings?

What would you like to do when you finish school?

Talk with your child about the buildings that you see together. Keep a list of the buildings that interest your child. Help your child investigate questions similar to the ones we mentioned above.

Teaching teams:

Cindy McCarthy and Leeann Ekanger

Mary Glaze and Mindi Castaneda



Kinder

Time may feel like it is flying by but in Kindergarten we make each moment and each minute count! There is so much to discover, learn, and share!

As we enter the final month of the calendar year, it doesn't feel like the end of anything around here. There is a lot of learning going on and we are becoming readers, writers, and productive members of our classrooms. We will continue these skills in remote learning, too.

In Literacy this month, we will be implementing the reading strategy of stretching out our words. We continue to use and identify other reading strategies that we have learned and practiced such as using the pictures, getting our mouths ready, and chunking familiar sound combinations. We are learning about plants and how they grow! Students have been learning the parts of a plant, what grows in a garden and had the chance to plant a seed!

In math, we continue to know and understand numbers and number patterns. We will practice and apply skills with what is more than and what is less than. Students will be introduced to the math symbols of + and =. We will use these symbols in our number stories and math sentences and then apply them during our small group games and activities.

This month provides so many traditional as well as fun activities that will support our engagement in storytelling, story sequencing as well as handfuls of creative writing opportunities.

We are so excited and thankful to witness your kids learning – it is truly amazing!

The Kindergarten Team,

Gretchen Lenzner, Sari Bosch, and Lyn Karnes



1st Grade

We are so sad to not have you with us in-person but we are grateful for the time that we got to spend together. The month of December will look a lot like the beginning of the year but now the kids know what to do and what is expected because they have done it in person.

Here is what to expect:

- The remote schedule that your teacher has shared in their Friday email.
- Seesaw is a completely independent activity (we have designed assignments on there so that students can complete all of it by themselves)
- All Seesaw assignments are required and have points that will be part of their report card grade.
- Seesaw assignments piggyback off Live lessons, it will be best for your child to do the asynchronous work when given the time after the whole group live lesson.
- Students are expected to attend all live lessons including Specials!

First Grade standardized assessment Acadience (DIBELS) will be tested in the month of December. This is a required test, your homeroom teacher will give you information when we have our details and schedule set. It is very important that you sign up for a time that your student can perform well and is in a good setting.

We will truly MISS all the kids! Happy Holidays and Happy New Year!

Sincerely,

First Grade Teachers



Second Grade

We hope you all had a relaxing Thanksgiving and you all are healthy and well! This month, we will continue with our Online Learning in 2nd Grade.

Second Graders are in full swing taking AR quizzes. Continue to support them by making sure they are reading at least 20 minutes or more every day. Those cold, wintery days make for great snuggle up and read opportunities. Remember you should still be reading to your child along with your child.

In Science we have learned about the different sounds frogs make, types of bird feeders that suit different types of birds, and started to discover how water affects our land.

Long vowels have joined the party in our literacy lessons. We are learning about the silent / bossy/ magic 'e' and vowel teams. Reading sound by sound will no longer work because kids need to notice that 'e' at the end of the word. We are also spending time on learning how to chunk words--where the syllables live.

In math we finished up on adding within 100 and now, will be starting to work on subtraction strategies within 100 using hundreds charts, number lines, place value blocks, as well as breaking apart.

Coming up this month, we will be completing our Winter Benchmark for Acadience (Dibels) testing. Your teacher will be sending out a sign up form to set up a time for your child to read and complete their test with them.

Third Grade

Third Grade Families!

Your child is strengthening his or her ability to multiply up to 10×10 by identifying patterns in order to solve problems with efficiency and accuracy. Skip counting is one strategy that can help him or her with multiplication facts using 2, 5, or 10 as factors. For Example, to find 7×5 , skip count by 5s seven times. 5, 10, 15, 20, 25, 30, 35 $7 \times 5 = 35$



Your child will also continue to use the Distributive Property, which states that a multiplication fact can be broken apart into the sum of two other multiplication facts. For Example, 7×5 is the same as the product of 7×2 plus the product of 7×3 . $7 \times 2 = 14$, $7 \times 3 = 21$, $14 + 21 = 35 = 7 \times 5$

Play this game with your child to help him or her learn more multiplication and division facts.

Two Operations Game

Materials: paper and pencil

1. Have Player 1 think of two numbers between 1 and 10.
 2. Write down the two numbers with a multiplication symbol between them.
- Ask each player to explain a strategy to find the multiplication fact.

For example, to find 7×2 , you can skip count by 2s: 2, 4, 6, 8, 10, 12, 14.

After the first fact has been completed, players can switch roles and continue playing.

Observe Your Child

Focus on Mathematical Practice 2: Reason abstractly and quantitatively.

Help your child become proficient with Mathematical Practice 2. Choose two factors between 1 and 10 and tell a story using multiplication to your child. Ask your child to identify the multiplication problem. Then tell a story using division.

Fourth Grade

Hello 4th Grade Families,

We first want to take time to thank you for all your support and encouragement during our work in Phase 3. We appreciate everything you are doing at home to support your child's success at school. It was great meeting with you during parent/teacher conferences these past few weeks. We sincerely appreciate all of your feedback and conversations.

Please continue to have your child read, write, and practice math facts over the winter break. We can provide you with resources or suggestions if you are interested in extra practice for your child during this time. We have been working hard to learn many new concepts. Any extra practice will help your child to maintain these newly acquired skills and strategies.

We have sent many materials and curriculum resources home with your child recently to support their remote work during Phase 1. Please remind your child to keep them in an organized manner in their workspace. Your child will need to return all books, readers, and materials back to school.

We value your partnership in your child's learning and are thankful to be working with such sweet and special families. We hope you have a wonderful winter break!

The 4th Grade Team

Mrs. Schnell, Miss Alldredge, and Mrs. Shannon

5th Grade

Dear Fifth Grade Families,

As we shift back into remote learning, students and teachers will be following a new schedule. Your child's teacher has sent out an individualized schedule for your child during this phase. Students have their schedule in their binders as well. Please note, some schedules will change throughout Phase 1 and all changes will be communicated. We are grateful for the time with students in person.

We completed our second round of book clubs focusing on Animal Perspectives. Students read a variety of books through the eyes of an animal. We loved having book talks with students on Friday's and look forward to our third and final round of book clubs in the spring. Thank you for your support with reading at home and the completion of their prep sheet assignment. The final round of book clubs will focus on Mystery books.

Thank you for your support during hybrid learning and remote learning. We are thankful for all you are doing for your child. We look forward to continuing to teach your child in this new phase.

-Mrs. Hediger, Miss Holmes, Mrs. Neill

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