

Robert L. Merritt Junior High School

THE MERRITT GAZETTE

Glen Newson, Principal

Timothy Holmes, Assistant Principal

Amanda Bowman, Academic Coach

Latoshia Lewis, Counselor

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February 2022

"Equitable Education for Every Student"

Principal's Message

Greetings Parents!

Greetings and welcome back. I am elated to begin the second semester with all of you at Robert L. Merritt Junior High School. We are striving to build upon the great start that we have had. We are proud of all of our supporters and stakeholders for helping us along the way. At Robert L. Merritt Junior High School, we promote excellence and the importance of all of our students receiving a quality education that will help them during their next level of education. During this New Year, we must stay committed to our vision that all students can and will learn. With that in mind, let's work together to excel in 2022 to make our goal of being a successful school. If you have any questions or concerns about anything regarding Merritt, please don't hesitate to give us a call. As always, thank you for choosing Robert L. Merritt Jr. High School.

Parent Center Corner, Geraldine Ray

Let's continue to practice safety and social distancing as we enter a new year. Please continue to wear your mask and wash and sanitize your hands regularly. Remember, we have different ways you can be involved in your child's education. Such as: Active Parents, School Status, and Canvas. You may reach me through e-mail at gray@sunflower.k12.ms.us. **My hours are: Monday- Friday from 7:00 a. m. -3:30 p. m. However, I will adjust my schedule to accommodate you.**

Assistant Principal's Message

We have started the new year off on the right foot. Our students performed well on their assessments and we retained the growth award here at Merritt. The teachers are doing an excellent job with our students by minimizing referrals and keeping students in the classrooms. As we approach the 3rd Nine Weeks, we are getting the teachers and students to buy in to our philosophy which simply states, "Do Your Job." We are trending in the right direction here at Merritt and at the end of the year, we hope to reach our goal of being a successful school.

Media Center, Dr. Jessica James

Reading Fair Winners for 2022

Division E

1st The Best Bad Babysitter Ever

2nd The Inspiring Story of One of Basketball's Most Versatile Point Guard

3rd The Crossover

4th Rebound

Division F

1st You're Addicted to Your Phone: How to Break the Habit

1st Place Winners Storyboards will advance to the District.

January Teachers of the Month



Carl Woodson



Everett McDaniel

Generosity at Robert L. Merritt Junior High



Alpha Phi Chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc, Joi Bass (Dollar General Distribution)

Assistant Teacher of the Year



Counselor's Corner, Latoshia Lewis

Kindness, Teach by Example!

Adults often believe that their teenage children or students just aren't listening to them, but teens observe quite a bit, even when they don't seem to be paying attention. And there's just no substitute for learning from a good role model.

If you have teenagers in your life, one of the most effective ways to teach them about the power of kindness is to teach by example.

Let your teens catch you in the act of being kind as often as possible. This doesn't always have to mean taking big actions – it's great to donate to charity or volunteer your time if you can, but small kindnesses are important as well:

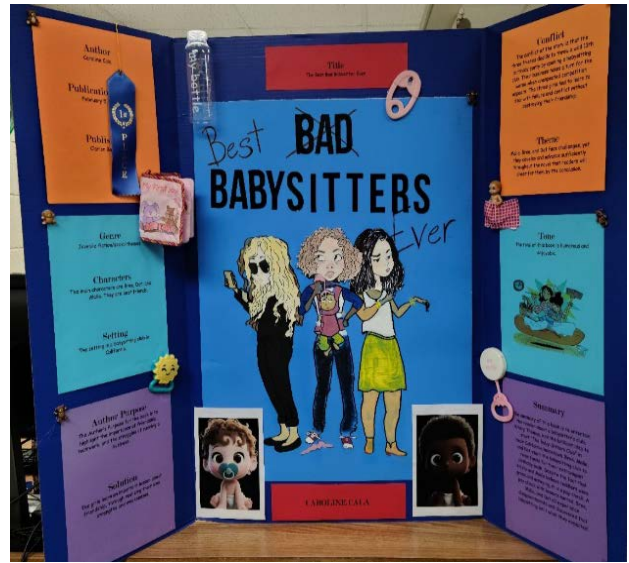
- Give someone the benefit of the doubt
- Smile at a stranger
- Share something with someone
- Offer to help a neighbor with a bulky package
- Hold a door open for the person behind you
- Give a sincere compliment without expecting anything in return, or
- Give a server a larger than normal tip, just because

All of these things add up, and when your teen sees their role models consistently practicing kindness, they'll pick up the habit as well.

Reading Fair Board Winner



Division F Winner, Jakayla Kimber 9th grade



Division E Winner, Zahria Hill, 8th grade

“Every Day Counts!”

Akela Barnes, School Attendance Officer for:
 East Sunflower Elementary
 A.W. James Elementary
 Ruleville Central Elementary
 Drew Hunter Middle
 Ruleville Central Middle
 Thomas E. Edwards, Sr. High

Tel (662) 887-8107 | Fax (662) 887-7306

Akela Barnes, School Attendance Officer for:
 Inverness Elementary
 Lockard Elementary
 Carver Elementary
 Moorhead Central
 Robert L. Merritt Junior High
 Gentry High

Tel (662) 887-8107 | Fax (662) 887-7306

If you have any questions or concerns about attendance, please feel free to call or fax the Attendance Officer assigned to your child/children school. (662) 417-5395



Empowering Staff, Engaging Communities, Educating Students