

Ruleville Central Elementary Newsletter

December 2024

"Equitable Education for Every Student"



Sawanda Washington, Principal
Phone: (662)756-4276 Fax: (662)756-2622

Principal's Message



Happy **H**olidays! We are already half way through the school year as we enter the month of December. It is expected that **EVERYONE** continue to keep teaching and learning a **PRIORITY** each day at Ruleville Central Elementary. Not only do we promote the importance of a quality education, we expect our students to be contributing members of our society. By giving, sharing, helping, and sacrificing, our students can make a difference and change the world. Let's teach our children that it is better to **GIVE** than it is to receive and to **COUNT** their blessings. We can impact the world through teaching, learning, giving, and caring! Continue to watch us grow!

Principal S. Washington



Happy Birthday to everyone celebrating a birthday during the month of **December**.

Read All About It

Now is the perfect time to share the love of reading. Make reading a part of your holiday festivities. Give the gift of a great book to the children and adults on your Christmas list! Interesting titles to consider would be:

- **Pete the Cat Saves Christmas* by Eric Litwin
- **The Polar Express* by Chris Van Allsburg
- **How the Grinch Stole Christmas* by Dr. Seuss
- **The Night Before Christmas* by Clement Clarke Moore
- **The Best Christmas Pageant Ever* by Barbara Robinson
- **The Twelve Days of Christmas* illustrated by Robert Sabuda
- **A Christmas Carol* by Charles Dickens
- **The Christmas Tapestry* by Patricia Pollaco
- **The Christmas Miracle* by Jonathan Toom
- **K is for Kwanza* by Juwanda G. Ford

Upcoming Events

12/3-6/2024	MOY KRA
12/4-6/2024	Book Fair
12/10/2024	RIF Book Distribution
12/11/2023	Christmas Program @ 9:00 a.m.
12/12-20/2024	2 nd Nine Weeks Benchmark
12/18/2024	Staff Christmas Party
12/19/2024	Mentor/Mentee Luncheon
12/20/2024	School dismissal for Christmas @ 1:00 pm
01/6/2025	Staff Return/Teacher Workday
01/7/2025	Students Return/Classes Resume

School Hours

Arrival time for students is between **7:00 A.M. and 7:30 A.M.** Students are tardy after **7:40 A.M.** An adult must come into the office to sign for the tardy student. During dismissal, parents must pick up car riders in the car rider lines on L.F. Packer Drive. Adjacent to the church and stop sign. Parents should not exit vehicles, but wait patiently for students to be delivered by a school official to each vehicle. School dismisses at **3:00 P.M.** after announcements. Avoid checking students out of school after **2:30 p.m.**



Ruleville Elementary Networking Service

To receive school announcements via text **Notify Me** through School Status.

This is a safe and confidential communication system. No telephone numbers will be revealed during this process. We are working to improve home and school communications one text at a time.

In the Spotlight



Shafreda Barber
Teacher of the Month



Tracy Turner
Parent of the Month



Community Partner



RCES Tigers of the Month



Caring for Christmas



HELP FOR THOSE IN NEED

RCES faculty, staff, and students took a trip to show an act of kindness to the residents of the **Walter B. Crook Nursing Home** in Ruleville. The group delivered care bags filled with toiletries and sang Christmas carols. The students learned from the experience that it is better to give than it is to receive.



Pictured above-Principal Washington and the **RCES Students** at the **Walter B. Crook Nursing Facility** in Ruleville.

HELP FOR THOSE IN NEED

When a family becomes homeless, there are two issues that usually occur with the affected children, 1) student attendance decreases and 2) financial situations destroy students' interest in school. The SCCSD recognizes the importance of education for all children and has adopted the McKinney-Vento Homeless Act that addresses the needs of homeless children.

This policy provides assistance for homeless students so that they can continue to be educated despite the challenges they face. If you know families with children who are homeless, please contact the Homeless Liaison at RCES, Ada Mays at (662)756-4276. Your call could be of great assistance to a family in need.





RCES Cafeteria Team

Staff of the Month



Vera Ervins
Cafeteria Manager



Mary Winfrey
Cafeteria Staff



Linda Brown
Cafeteria Staff



Vernikia Phillips
Cafeteria Staff



Sha'Niqua Seals
Cafeteria Staff



Esther Gilliland
Cafeteria Manager



RCES Student of the Month



K



Grade



Typhron Armstrong

1st



Grade



Rundell James

2nd



Grade

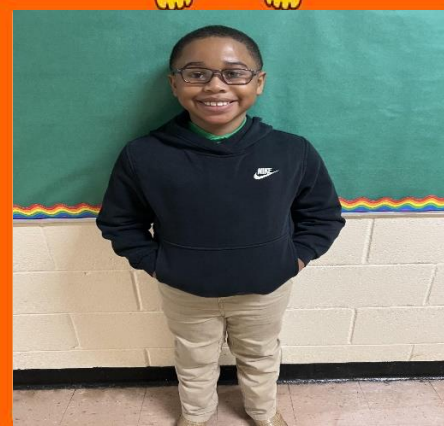


De'Nylah Ray

3rd



Grade



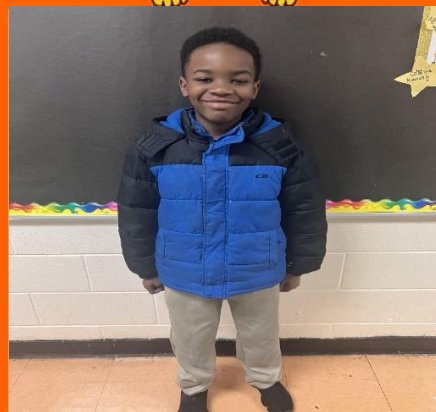
Bryson Graham



4th



Grade

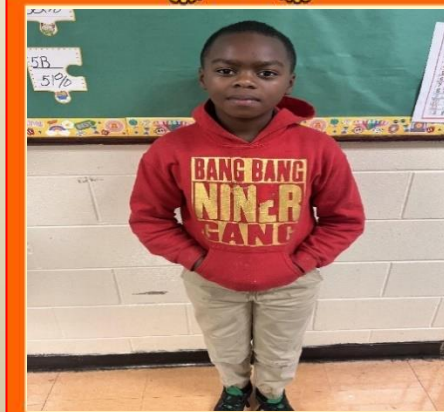


Aiden Hawkins

5th



Grade



A'Drelyn Pomerlee



**RCES 2024 Bookfair/ Staff Dress Out & Popcorn
Fundraiser/TEHS Book Distribution/
Christmas Program/Science Experiment**



How can families help their children become strong readers?

3RD GRADE READING ASSESSMENT

FOR YEAR 2025

KEY INFORMATION & DATES

1. About the test: The Literacy-Based Promotion Act requires all 3rd grade public school students to pass a reading test in order to qualify for promotion to the 4th grade. The reading portion of the Mississippi Academic Assessment Program (MAAP) English Language Arts (ELA) test will determine whether students meet the requirement for promotion. Students who do not meet the promotion requirement on the 3rd Grade MAAP ELA test will be given two retesting opportunities.

2. Test format: Both the 3rd Grade MAAP ELA and the 3rd Grade Reading Alternative Assessment are multiple-choice tests that are given online via a computer or tablet in your child's school. Students will have 180 minutes or 3 hours to complete this test.

3. Content and skills: Both tests assess the Mississippi College and Career-Readiness Standards of reading for foundational skills, informational text, literature, and language.

4. Testing dates:

- **March 31, 2025–April 18, 2025:** 3rd Grade MAAP ELA Assessment Testing Window
- **May 5 – 9, 2025:** 3rd Grade Reading Alternative Assessment (first retest opportunity)
- **June 16 – 27, 2025:** 3rd Grade Reading Alternative Assessment (second retest opportunity)

5. Test results: Parents and teachers will receive a student report for the reading portion of the 3rd Grade MAAP ELA test before **May 5, 2025**. The report will indicate whether the student meets or does not meet the Literacy-Based Promotion Act promotion requirement. Students who do not meet the promotion requirement will be scheduled for the 3rd Grade Reading Alternative Assessment during the window of **May 5 – 9, 2025**. Students who do not pass the alternative assessment will be given a final opportunity to retest during the window of **June 16 – June 27, 2025**.

StrongReadersMS.com gives you the needed resources, activities and information so you can help your children become strong readers and strong leaders.



START
HERE.



Why must 3rd grade students pass a reading test to be promoted to the 4th grade?

The Literacy-Based Promotion Act (2013) requires 3rd grade students to demonstrate at the end of the school year that they are ready for 4th grade reading instruction. Research has proven that students who are not reading on grade level at the end of 3rd grade are likely to struggle as they progress in school. Third grade students who do not pass the reading test may qualify for an exemption and be promoted. Ask your child's teacher about "good cause" exemptions.

What should I ask my child's teacher now?

1. Is my child reading grade-level books, stories, poems and articles with fluency and understanding?
2. How is my child performing on the universal screener?
This report provides information about your child's reading progress throughout the school year.
3. What can I do at home to prepare my child for the 3rd Grade MAAP ELA test?

How can I support my child's reading development at home?

- Have your child read aloud.
- Point out any missed words.
- Help your child read missed words correctly.
- Have your child reread the sentence to be sure he/she understands the meaning.
- Create a quiet place for your child to study, do homework, and read.
- Make time to do homework, study, and make reading a part of their daily routine.
- Talk to your child's teacher about his/her progress, tips, and what you can do to help at home.



Open the camera app on your phone and scan the QR code to visit **StrongReadersMS.com!**



FOR MORE DETAILED INFORMATION, PLEASE VISIT [MDEK12.ORG/LITERACY](https://mdek12.org/literacy)