

Robert L. Merritt Junior High

THE MERRITT GAZETTE

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December 2021

"Equitable Education for Every Student"

Principal's Message

Greetings Parents!

Our students will be taking their 2nd 9wks benchmark assessment starting December 13th - 16th, 2021, and we want to be sure our students are prepared to be successful. Please help us by making sure your child is at school daily, on time, and stay the entire day. December 17th will be the last day for classes until after the Christmas break. We look forward to continuing to educate your child/children upon their return in the new year. Please have a safe enjoyable holiday. Merry Christmas from Robert L. Merritt Jr. High School!

Parent Center Corner, Geraldine Ray

The year has kicked off with a great start. Let's continue to practice safety and social distancing. As the holiday's approaches, let's enjoy family and food with love and care by continuing to wear our masks and sanitize. Remember, we have different ways you can be involved in your child 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. to 3:30 However, I will adjust my hours to accommodate you.

Happy Holidays!!!

Upcoming Events at RLMJH

12/13-16- 2nd Benchmark Assessments
12/17/21- Christmas Program
01/21/21 - Deadline for School-level bees & to select your Spelling Champion

From the Desk of the Assistant Principal

As we come to the end of the first semester, it is evident that things here at RLMMS are starting to fall into place. The teachers and students are buying in to the philosophy of "Do your job and represent your school well." We have received less referrals and classes seem to be running smoothly. As I walk around our campus, I see teachers are collaborating and conversing more with each other and this is a good sign of things to come. As far as the upcoming break, we are encouraging students and staff to enjoy family, get rest and be ready to hit the ground running for the second half of the school year. As the assistant principal here at Merritt, things are starting to slow down for me as well. I am growing as an administrator daily and learning what it takes to be a successful administrator. With that being said, the students and staff here at RLMMS wish each of you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Timothy Holmes



Merritt's Students of the Month (December)



Miranda Willard (8th grade)



Ja'Terrance Longmire (9th grade)



Jaylan Minton (7th grade)



Za'Kemsly Yarbor (9th grade)



Clyde Robinson (7th grade)

Merritt's Parent of the Month (December) and Year!



Kimkonya Williams

Merry Christmas and a Happy New York!

“With us plus you, there’s nothing our students can’t do”!

Happy Holidays!!!!

Media Center, Dr. Jessica James

Reading Fair

We are preparing to reincorporate the Reading Fair this year throughout our District. More information will be given to the students at a later date. You can start preparing by going to the school's library page and follow the steps listed:

- Internal Link & External Link
- Select Robert L. Merritt Jr. High School-Display (Full Opac if you are using a phone/tablet)
- Links-Scroll down to Reading Fair Guidelines

Storyboards due to the school on January 4, 2022

January 10-14, 2022 School Reading Fair

Spelling Bee

01/11/22 Deadline for classroom level Spelling Bee and Champion Selection

The McKinney-Vento Act

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 aids with homeless students so that they can continue to be educated despite the challenges they face. If you know of families with children who are homeless, please contact the Homeless Liaison at RLMJH, Geraldine Ray at (662) 884-1270 ext. 317. Your call could be of great assistance to a family in need. For more information visit Website: <http://www.serve.org/nche> or E-mail homeless@serve.org





Let's Talk about Attendance: Every School Day Counts!

Yes... Mom and Dad, Auntie or Uncle, Grandma or Granddad: Every single school day counts Why? I am so glad that you asked! Research shows that attendance is an important factor in student achievement. What does that mean? It basically means that when your child is present, virtually at this present moment, but nonetheless, present, your child is given a greater chance to succeed academically. One cannot learn what they have never been taught, nor can they recall facts that they have never heard or read. Every missed school day is a lost opportunity for students to learn.

We know that you understand that your child attending school is important but now more than ever because we need our students to keep their love and passion for learning! They will become the next doctors, lawyers, preachers, and teachers etc. We want them to be the very best that they can be. We want them to be prepared for college, or ready to step into a career after they have completed high school. That preparedness does not start their senior year of High School. It starts today, as a matter of fact it began when they first stepped into Pre-K or Kindergarten.

The bottom line here is, we need our students to attend school, each and every day, for the entire school day. As for those of you who are making sure that your child is at school and on time each and every day and following their academic progress, you are to be celebrated! Hats off to you and keep up the great work!

