Dear Richard Parents and Families,

I hope that everyone had an enjoyable Spring Break. Welcome back. It is hard to believe that there are only about two months left in the school year and we still have so many things to learn. Thank you for your continued support of our students’ learning at home. Working together is the best thing we can do for our kids. We appreciate all you do to encourage your children’s love of learning and to praise their efforts. Setting aside time to read every day is one of the best things parents can do to help children learn.

Many parents have also set aside time for students to work on educational websites or use apps for learning. There are many available and many of them are free. These can be a fun way to practice math facts in order to gain speed and accuracy or to read and increase vocabulary. All students have access to Moby Math at home. Please contact your child’s teacher if you need any other suggestions.

As the weather becomes warmer, many more students are walking to school instead of being dropped off. We are so fortunate to live in a neighborhood that allows families to walk to school or ride a bike. Please encourage your children to walk or ride a bike to school each day. The physical exercise is important and it is also an opportunity to socialize with friends and family.

We are looking forward to having a productive couple of months at school and we have many activities planned, so please keep in touch through reading emails and updates on our school website in order to stay informed. Thank you for all you do to support our work with your children!

Mary MacDonald-Barrett

---

**Spring Vocal Concert**

The Spring Vocal Music Concert, “Let Freedom Ring”, will be held on Wednesday May 8th at 7 pm at Brownell Middle School. All first and second graders will be performing as well as the 4-5 Choir.

All students in the concert should wear dressy Spring clothing. Please keep in mind that it is very warm on stage. 4th and 5th grade boys will need to have a baseball hat. 4th and 5th grade girls will need to have sunglasses. (Girls should not wear short skirts, spaghetti straps or high heels.)
Golden Awards

Golden Note Award Winners
K-1  Ms. Vetor
2-3  Mrs. Aldrich
4-5  Mr. Stemmler

Golden Shoe Award Winners
Everyone is a winner this month. The students at Richard raised over $2000 for the American Heart Association with Jump Rope for Heart this year. Great job Richard Students!

Golden Paintbrush Award Winners
K-1  Mrs. Tawile - Mrs. Bayster
2-3  Mrs. Murphy - Ms. Gerlach
4-5  Mr. Stemmler –Mr. Havern

Golden Book Award Winners
K-1  Ms. Vetor
2-3  Mr. Swansey
4-5  Mrs. Cole

Safety Patroller of the Month
February  James H.
March    Evie U.

Spot Awards
Alec E.
Max R.
Aidan G.
Cameron L.

Attention 4th and 5th Grade Parents
An Adolescent Health Parent Meeting for 4th and 5th grade parents will be held on Tuesday April 30th—7 pm at Maire Elementary School.

Parents: Please take the time to re enroll for Kroger Rewards. Link is on the Richard Homepage.

Attention 5th Grade Parents
Is your e-mail current with the school district? There is a mandatory online pre-registration for students heading to middle school next school year that must be completed before registration in August at the middle school. Your “access key” for the online pre-registration will be coming to you this summer via your current e-mail that is on file with the school district. If you need to update your e-mail with the school district, then please e-mail ParentConnect@gpschools.org and provide your name, child's name, present school name, and your old and new e-mail address as soon as possible.

Dates to Remember

APRIL
4-16-13—TCBY Fundraiser
4-17-13—PTO Meeting
4-30-13—Adolescent Health Parent Meeting

MAY
5-2-13—Instrumental Concert
5-7-13—5th Graders visit Brownell
5-8-13—Spring Vocal Concert
5-10-13—Richard Reads Carnival
5-15-13—PTO Meeting
5-17-13—AM School Only
Getting Kids to Think

Have you ever stopped to think about what a blessing it is to be a good thinker? Now I'm not necessarily talking about being a genius or intellectually gifted. I'm mostly referring to being able to use good problem-solving skills and good old-fashioned common sense.

As this world becomes ever more complex and temptation-laden, it becomes more and more important that we teach our kids how to build their mental muscles. Listed below are some quick tips:

- When your kids ask you for help with something, encourage them to try a bit longer before you jump in to help them. The only way to really learn good thinking skills is by having to figure out some things on your own.

- Ask them as many questions as possible. Examples include, "What else might you try? What have you seen other people do to solve this problem? What would happen if you tried_________? Where might you learn how to do that? Is that something you could learn about in a book, by asking someone, or by looking on the internet?"

- Allow them to mess up. Too frequently, we step in and tell kids exactly what to do when we worry that they might make a mistake. When the consequences are small, allow them to blow it and learn.

In our book, *Love and Logic Magic: When Kids Leave You Speechless*, we also teach the importance of limiting the amount of TV kids watch and how to deal with all of the arguing that can happen when we begin to set limits. The less TV your kids watch the better thinkers they will become.

Thanks for reading!
Dr. Charles Fay

©2010 Love and Logic Institute, Inc. All copyright infringement laws apply. Permission granted for photocopy reproduction and forwarding. Please do not alter or modify contents. For more information, call the Love and Logic Institute, Inc. at (800) 338-4065.
Parents: As the staff at Richard School prepare for the 2013-2014 school year, it would be helpful if you provided us with the following information. We ask that you do not request specific assignments from your child's teacher but rely on the professional judgment of highly qualified staff to make these decisions. (Feel free to leave any sections blank if you choose.)

Child's Name: ___________________________ Grade: 2013-2014 _______

1. I feel that my child's academic strengths include:

2. I feel that my child needs to continue to grow in these academic areas:

3. Here is what is special about my child (include hobbies, outside interests, reading preferences, friendships, etc.):

4. Here are some thoughts regarding my child's learning style:

5. Here are some other things I would like to share about my child:

In some grades it may be necessary to have a split grade (example: grade 2 and grade 3 in the same classroom). Do you feel your child would succeed in this arrangement?
Attention 5th Grade Parents…

We are beginning development of the 5th Grade Graduation slide show/video. In order to make sure every child is represented we need your help.

1. Please gather a few photos (2-3 photos) of your student during his/her time at Richard Elementary (e.g. class parties, recess, concerts, etc).  NOTE: Photos should be school related. Please no studio shots that are taken at beginning of school year.

2. Convert your photos into a digital photo file (e.g. .jpg, .png); no pdfs please.

3. Email photos to mlappguevara@aol.com before APRIL 15th. In the email include your student’s name.

4. Contact Mary with questions OR if you are unable to convert photos to electronic format (we will scan for you). 313-702-7893 or mlappguevara@aol.com.

Thank you in advance for making graduation a special day for our 5th graders!
DATES TO REMEMBER:

4/12 & 4/15 – Richard READS check-in for March – FINAL CHECK-IN!!!!
4/15 – Fishflies registration begins
4/16 – TCBY Day
4/17 – PTO Meeting at 7 pm in the Richard Library
4/22 – 4/26 – 5th Grade Penny Wars
April – Kroger Re-Enrollment

FISHFLIES
Registration for the spring Fishflies season will begin on April 15th. Look for the registration form to come home with your student. You can also register online at the Fishflies website: www.gpfishflies.com. The season will run on Thursdays, from 3:45 to 4:30 during the month of May. A huge thank you to Sue Quinn for organizing this wonderful activity for our students. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact Sue at Susan susanreedquinn@gmail.com.

BOX TOPS
Please continue to clip and turn-in Box Tops, as there will be a turn-in prior to the end of the school year in May. Also, visit the Box Tops website: www.boxtops4education.com to check on our progress and shop at over 175 online retailers through the Box Tops Marketplace. Thanks for your continued participation. If you have any questions, please contact Sandy O’Keefe at sandyokeefe@comcast.net.

KROGER
It is that time of year again where we have to re-enroll our Kroger cards to continue to benefit Richard. See the attached flyer in this newsletter. If you have any questions, please contact Tammy Bell at tbell93@sbcglobal.net.

RICHARDWEAR
Richardwear is on sale again. Look for an order form to come home with your student, with some great new choices. If you have any questions, please contact our creative Richardwear Chair, Tammy Bell.

SCHOOL SUPPLY KITS
Our Vice-President, Laura Wholihan, has been hard at work researching school supply companies so that we can continue to offer this service to our Richard families. We will be switching companies this year for a value-added product, which we also believe will be more convenient for our families. Information will be distributed in the near future.
**RICHARD READS**

Our next and FINAL check-in dates are **FRIDAY, APRIL 12TH and MONDAY, APRIL 15TH**. We will not be accepting any calendars after April 15th, so please make sure that your student turns all calendars in by this date (it does not matter what month they are). Thank you for your cooperation.

Our "gently" used book collection held in March was a great success. We were able to donate six heaping boxes of books to our friends at the Voyager Academy in Detroit. Thank you to each and everyone of you who donated books.

Also, make sure your student(s) check out our "Get Your Green On" program this month. In a collaborative effort with our librarians and Green School Committee, we have made a number of eco-friendly books readily available in our school library for kids to check out and read. For each book they read, they will get a “leaf” to fill out to put on our “tree” on the stairs. Each leaf will also be an entry into a raffle for a special eco-friendly prize!

Our Richard READS Carnival will be held on **Friday, May 10th**. A letter with details about the Carnival and a volunteer / donation form will be sent home with students this week and is also attached to this newsletter. This is an enormous event and many hands help to make it the success it has been. Please consider volunteering if you are able.
CARNIVAL VOLUNTEER FORM

I can help out with the Richard READS Carnival by doing the following:

_____ Set-up on Thursday, May 9th after school

_____ Work the day of the carnival. This is the time(s) that I am available:

_____ 8:00 am – 10:00 am    _____ 10:00 am – 11:30 am

_____ 12:00 pm – 2:00 pm    _____ 2:00 pm – 4:00 pm

_____ Other: ______________________

_____ Make a prize donation for the tin-can raffle (please describe):
(i.e. – Barbie or other dolls, sports items, Nerf, scooter, girl’s makeup sets or jewelry
making sets, beach/summer toys, Lego, etc.) Please turn in all donations by May 3rd.

_____ Making a monetary donation: $________________

______________________________________________________________

Name

______________________________________________________________

Phone Number         E-Mail

PLEASE TURN IN THIS FORM BY APRIL 30TH!

Thank You for Your Support!
Dear Richard Parents,

We are planning our annual Richard Reads Carnival. The Carnival will be held during school on Friday, May 10th and we will have games and a tin-can raffle for the students to enjoy. Every participant in Richard Reads will use the “tickets” they have earned all year for reading to enter the tin-can raffle. Each student will be given his/her tickets by their classroom teacher the day of the carnival.

Richard students have grown to love this event and with your help, we can make this the best carnival yet to reward our children for their hard work all year! There are many ways in which you can help. We will need plenty of volunteers. If you are able to help out, please complete the attached form and return it to the office by April 30th. If you find it easier, you can also visit our school website under the Richard Reads tab and sign up via the Volunteer Spot link.

We will also need donations for the carnival for the raffle. Popular raffle items in the past have been things such as:

- American Girl Dolls, Barbie Dolls, Lalaloopsy Dolls, Cabbage Patch or other dolls
- Nerf toys and/or other sports items
- Lego sets
- Board Games
- I-pod, I-tunes cards
- Kindle
- Gift Cards

We will gladly accept any raffle donation, including monetary donations, which we can use to buy supplies for the carnival and/or prizes. Donations can be left in the Richard office, where gift donation receipts will also be available. We would appreciate all donations to be made by Friday, May 3rd.

Should you have any questions, please contact Paige George at paigecgeorge@comcast.net or Dawn Aldighieri at pd.aldighieri@sbcglobal.net. As always, thank you for your support of the Richard Reads program.

With Sincere Appreciation,

Richard Reads Committee
Kindergarten Winners

Readers are Leaders

Books are Cool!

Dive into a Good Book
2013 GEO-QUEST Newsletter Write-up

In partnership with Invent Now, Grosse Pointe Public Schools is pleased to offer the nationally-acclaimed Camp Invention program to children entering grades one through six this summer. This exciting, weeklong adventure in creativity immerses children in imaginative play that reinforces and supplements school-year learning in the subjects of Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM). Children will work together to seek innovative solutions to real-world challenges and sharpen critical 21st century learning skills such as teamwork and creative problem solving as they rotate through four modules each day that disguise learning as fun.

This exciting week begins on June 24, when Debra Duffey will direct the Camp Invention Geo-Quest program at Parcells Middle School. Working in teams, children become expedition trainees, navigating their way to special treasure-filled caches and creating solutions to challenges posed by youth from around the world. They will be embarking on a global adventure, uncovering hidden messages from the Earth investigating several extreme natural wonders of the world, and building a device to launch international ducks back home.

In the Cache Dash™ module, children navigate their way to treasure-filled caches and solve global challenges from youth around the world. Tools are invented to reveal hidden messages while exploring the Earthy realms of sky, sea, land and underground in the Ecoverse™ module. In the I Can Invent: Launchitude™ module, children will take apart broken or unused appliances using real tools and re-engineer the gears to invent an awesome Duck Chucking Device! Finally, in the Amazing Atlas Games™ module, classic high-energy games will be fused with global fun.

Local educators will facilitate program modules, and enthusiastic high school and college students will serve as Leadership Interns – ensuring that one staff member is in place for every eight children. Register on or before March 28, 2013 to receive $25 OFF the base price of $260. Every registration includes a free Camp Invention t-shirt. Availability is limited, so visit www.campinvention.org or call 800.968.4332 to reserve your child’s spot today!
Princess for A Day
To Benefit the Detroit Institute for Children

Sunday April 14th, 2013
3:30 p.m. - 5:00 pm
Two time slots available
(3:30-4:15) (4:15-5:00)

Christ Church Grosse Pointe Basement
61 Grosse Pointe Boulevard

Girls: kindergarten - 2nd grade, $10 per child
Adults free

Wear your favorite princess costume, get your hair, make-up and nails done, and make a “princess craft”

Bring a camera!

Cookies and apple juice will be served

Parent must be present at all times

Spaces Limited
For a registration form, email princess4aday13@gmail.com
**BOOKMARK CONTEST WINNERS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Winner</th>
<th>First Runner Up</th>
<th>Second Runner Up</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Kindergarten</td>
<td>#18 Isabella F. (Mrs. Tawille) – Readers are Leaders</td>
<td>#19 Heidi D. (Mrs. Tawille) - Books are Cool!</td>
<td>#20 Evan B. (Mrs. Tawille) - Dive into a Good Book</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>First Grade</td>
<td>#16 Jacob H. (Mrs. Kelly) – It’s Time for Me to Read</td>
<td>#15 Patrick M. (Mrs. Bayster/Brown) – Richard Racoon &amp; Me</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Second Runner Up</td>
<td>#26 Charlotte B. (Mrs. Vetor) - Read Right to Stay Bright</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Second Grade</td>
<td>#27 Bridgette R. (Mrs. Murphy) – Reading Helps You Grow</td>
<td>#30 Lucy V. (Mrs. K. Schmitz) – Get Lost in a Book</td>
<td>#25 Gracie Q. (Mrs. K. Schmitz) – Reading is Cool</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Third Grade</td>
<td>#25 Mia C. (Ms. Piasecki) – Search for a Great Book!</td>
<td>#35 Ava S. (Mr. Swansey) – Got Books?</td>
<td>#11 Joey K. (Ms. Piasecki) – Bury Yourself in a Good Book</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fourth Grade</td>
<td>#51 Violet W. (Mr. Stemmler) – In Your Future, I See Reading</td>
<td>#64 Lucy R. (Mrs. Wrosch) – Chillin’ With a Book</td>
<td>#63 Spencer R. (Mrs. Wrosch) – Books Fly - Bring Them Places</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Congratulations!

Again, thank you to everyone for your hard work and creativity this year! We look forward to seeing your bright ideas next year!

Mrs. Martin
Mrs. Walpole
Register Now for Kindergarten 2013

Please enroll today and share this information with friends and neighbors.

We build our budget on actual enrollment figures, not projections.

All forms and required documents are online at www.gpschools.org

Grosse Pointe Public School System
Administration Building
389 St. Clair
Grosse Pointe, MI 48230
Hours: 8-4 M-Th, 8-3 F
Phone: 313-432-3093
www.gpschools.org
1st Grade Winners

First Grade Winner
Jacob (Mrs. Kelly)

First Grade 2nd Runner Up
Charlotte (Mrs. Veter)
2nd Grade Winners

Reading helps you grow

Get lost in a book

Reading is cool

Second Grade Winner
Brianna (Mrs. Murphy)

Second Grade 1st Runner Up
Lucy
(Mrs. K. Schmitz)

Second Grade 2nd Runner Up
Gracie
(Mrs. K. Schmitz)
3rd Grade Winners

Search for a great book!
Third Grade Winner
Mia (Ms. Patecki)

Got Books?

Start

finish

Third Grade 1st Runner Up
Ava (Mr. Swanson)

Bury your self in a good book

Third Grade 2nd Runner Up
Zak (Ms. Patecki)
4th Grade Winners

In your future, I see you reading

Chillin' With a Book

Books fly when you bring them places!!!

Fourth Grade Winner
Violet
(Mr. Stemmier)

Fourth Grade 1st Runner Up
Lucy
(Mrs. Wrench)
5th Grade Winners

- **Books Gems**
  - Fifth Grade Winner
  - Danielle (Ms. Cole)

- **Hop into The Magic of Books**
  - Fifth Grade 1st Runner Up
  - Kaleigh (Ms. Cole)

- **Reading Rocks!**
  - Fifth Grade 2nd Runner Up
  - Julia (Ms. Cole)
Penny Wars Are Coming Soon!

MON April 22 – FRI April 26

Start saving your pennies and silver coins for a competition between the 5th grade classes - all students invited to participate.

Who will collect the most pennies?

(NOTE: Silver coins are subtracted from the penny total.)

All proceeds go to Fifth Grade Boosters.