



# Ramblewood Elementary School

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2017-2019 Five Star School and Golden School Award Winner

**Dacyany Ibarrodo, Principal** **Gregory Charlotin, Assistant Principal**

**January/February 2021**

**“Providing all students with the tools for a safe, cooperative learning environment.”**

The opinions expressed in this publication are not necessarily those of Ramblewood Elementary or Broward County Public Schools.

### Administration

Yipeeee! Join me in saying goodbye to 2020 and welcoming in 2021. As we venture into the 3rd quarter of the 2020-21 school year, we would like to give kudos to the students, parents, teachers, and staff for cooperating with all the changes the new normal presented. Thank you for participating in the Academic Family Nights and PTO sponsored events. It is the involvement of the stakeholders that make Ramblewood Elementary such a special place. Happy New Year!

**Ms. Ibarrodo – Principal** **Mr. Charlotin – Assistant Principal**

### Policy 5.5 Attendance Revised

During distance learning, the use of student cameras is required for attendance and instruction. Students will be counted in attendance in the learning environment during their scheduled class time. Teachers should be flexible and consider any extenuating circumstances of individual students who may be unable to turn on a camera. Teachers may consider other evidence of attendance for individual cases.

### Virtual Attendance

**Florida Statute 1003.21** states that all children between the ages of 6 to 16 are required to attend school regularly during the entire school year. **Statute 1003.24** states that parents are responsible for the school attendance of their children. Parents, if your child is going to be virtually absent, please call the attendance hotline **(754) 322-8152** to report the absence. **Parents** are responsible for their child’s regular attendance. To report an absence, visit our website under **CONTACT**, then select **REPORT AN ABSENCE to submit an electronic form**, call the attendance hotline, or deliver a note to our staff. Our goal is to have ALL students that are able to attend more than 95% of school days. Students that are absent 5% or more days may require parental interventions from school staff. **Truancy** notifications may lead to more severe penalties. Absences impact the teaching and learning for all students in the classroom. If your child must be absent for an excusable reason, please report the absence within 24 hrs. Our attendance clerk will update all absences that are reported and meet one of the reasons in the attendance policy.

### Important Dates

Jan. 4	School Resumes
Jan. 12	Early Release Day
Jan. 13	SAC/SAF – 2:30-3:00 p.m.
Jan. 18	Martin Luther King’s Birthday – Schools & Admin. Offices Closed
Jan. 24-31	Celebrate Literacy Week
Feb. 3	Report Cards Issued
Feb. 5	Virtual Achievement Awards
Feb. 9	Interim Reports Issued
Feb. 12	MSD Day of Service
Feb. 15	President’s Day - Schools & Admin. Offices Closed
Feb. 17	SAC/SAF – 2:30-3:00 p.m.
Feb. 18	Early Release Day

### IMPORTANT REMINDER

Parents of Face to Face (F2F) students, please be sure you perform the Daily Health Self-Assessment Checklist on your child(ren) PRIOR to sending them to school., Students who do not feel well or who cannot answer NO to all questions below are NOT permitted to come into school. Thank you for your cooperation.

- Do you feel warm, have a fever or elevated temperature (100.4), or have the chills?
- Do you have a persistent cough, runny nose, or sore throat?
- Have you recently had a loss of taste or smell?
- Has anyone in your household tested positive for COVID-19?
- Have you been in close, unprotected contact with anyone who has tested positive for COVID-19?
- Are you feeling sick or ill today?
- Are you awaiting test results for COVID-19?
- Have you been told to self-quarantine or self-isolate by a doctor or the Florida Department of Health?

### Guidance Counselor

In January, students will participate in activities during No Name Calling Week (Jan 18-22) that reinforce kindness and positive peer relationships. We will also continue to learn mindfulness strategies and focus on the character traits of Respect in January and Honesty in February. Additionally, BSA Testing will resume in February but BCPS will only be assessing 5th Grade students in science this year. If you have any questions, please contact me.

Thank you 😊

Susan Schaffer  
School Counselor

## SRO

### **Coral Springs Police - Safe Zone for Online Transactions**

As we prepare for the holiday's, we want to remind all of our residents that Coral Springs Police offers a Safe Zone for Online Transactions.

In an effort to reduce victimization, the Coral Springs Police Department parking lot and lobby may be used by the public as a safe zone for online transactions 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. We want to make sure you stay safe this holiday season and we don't want anyone to take advantage of unsuspecting victims, robbing them of their money and property.

It is not the goal of the Coral Springs Police to scare anyone from utilizing technology, including online trade sites; it is our mission to make sure you are fully aware of the potential danger of using these sites and offer ways to stay safe. So, remember to protect yourself by following these additional safety tips:

- Never wire money or transfer funds to make a purchase from online trade sites.
- Trust your gut instinct – if something about a buyer or seller seems strange – it probably is.
- If you believe someone is dealing in stolen property, please notify law enforcement.
- Use the Coral Springs Police Department parking lot or lobby to conduct your transaction (2801 Coral Springs Drive, Coral Springs).

If you have any questions about the Coral Springs Police Department's Safe Zone for Online Transactions, call our Community Involvement Unit at (954) 344-1833.

Have a great holiday and stay safe!

Sincerely,

Officer James Weber (SRO)  
Officer Steve Daniello (SRO)

## School Choice

If you are interested in submitting a School Choice application for your child for a magnet program, Nova School or school reassignment for the 2021-2022 school year, the School Choice Phase 1 application window is from December 1, 2020 through February 8, 2021. You may apply online beginning December 1, 2020 or you can learn more about the application process by visiting [www.browardschools.com/schoolchoice](http://www.browardschools.com/schoolchoice). All applicants in School Choice Phase 1 who were not awarded a seat will be considered before applicants who submit an application during School Choice Phase 2.

## PTO

On behalf of the PTO, we hope that you all had a wonderful holiday and happy new year! While nothing is certain in these unprecedented times, your PTO is still working behind the scenes to provide for our amazing staff and students. Our usual events might be on hold but we are always looking for new ideas to bring our families together. Please feel free to reach out through our social media or email if you have any ideas or suggestions!

Please also join us for our Zoom PTO general meeting on January 21. The link will be posted on our Facebook pages. As always we look forward to any opportunity to see and interact with our Ram Fam! Best wishes for a happy and healthy 2021!

## Literacy Coach's Corner

I wish all our staff, students, and families a wonderful holiday break! During this time, students are encouraged to read every night and work on our web-based programs. i-Ready is a K-12 adaptive diagnostic for reading and mathematics and is highly recommended that all of our students participate at home. Students are assessed three times a year. The i-Ready Diagnostic Assessment window for reading and math will begin on January 11<sup>th</sup> and end on January 29<sup>th</sup>. i-Ready allows your teacher(s) to meet your child exactly where they are and provides data to increase your child's learning gains. i-Ready consists of two parts: Diagnostic and Personalized Instruction.

### **i-Ready Diagnostic Assessment**

The i-Ready Diagnostic is an adaptive assessment that adjusts its questions to suit your student's needs. Each item a student sees is individualized based on their answer to the previous question. For example, a series of correct answers will result in slightly harder questions, while a series of incorrect answers will yield slightly easier questions.

### **i-Ready Personalized Instruction**

Ready Personalized Instruction provides students with lessons based on their individual skill level and needs, so your student can learn at a pace that is just right for them.

In addition to web-based programs, kids learn from many family activities! Some ideas include writing thank you letters, following recipes, playing board games, and gardening. Most importantly, it's time for students to enjoy their time with family and friends.

Best regards,  
Mrs. Gentile

## **Curbside Grab & Go Meals**

Beginning January 5<sup>th</sup>, 2021, Free Grab & Go meals will be available at Coral Springs High School. The meals will be distributed in the front of the school every Tuesday & Thursday from 9:00-10:00 A.M. and again in the afternoon from 3:30-4:30 P.M. The meals are provided for all children 18 years and younger who are not participating in face to face learning. Parents can drive or walk up to receive meal bundles that contain multiple days-worth of meals. Parents must bring identification for their child, like a student ID or report card to pick up meals. Our Food and Nutrition Services staff are so excited to serve nutritious meals to make sure that every child can power up!

We look forward to seeing you at the next distribution. Identification must be present at each meal service. Please remember to wear a mask & follow CDC Guidelines.

## **2020-21 Evaluations**

Parents interested in providing input into the performance evaluations of Ramblewood Elementary School instructional and/or administrative employee evaluations many contact our office at (754) 322-8150.

## **Broward Remote Instructional Assistance...”Ask BRIA”**

Broward's districtwide evening academic assistance is available Monday through Thursday from 3:00 P.M. to 8:00 P.M. Students can find a link in their Canvas courses entitled “Need Assistance With Schoolwork-Ask BRIA”. By clicking on the link, students will be guided to a live Teams session with a certified teacher to receive academic support. We encourage our Rams to take advantage of this free resource to receive assistance!

### Title I

Ramblewood Elementary is a Title I School, which means we get additional funds from the federal government. There are specific guidelines we must follow and funding is based on our free/reduced lunch rate. The goal of Title I is to ensure that all children obtain a high-quality education and are successful. Look for additional information to come regarding Title I.

### Let's Connect

Please visit our website at [www.browardschools.com/ramblewood](http://www.browardschools.com/ramblewood) for information about our school and latest updates.

In addition, be sure to sign up for our "Remind" notifications by texting @9h93e to 81010.

You can follow Ramblewood Elementary on the platforms listed below:

- Facebook – Ramblewood Elementary PTO
- Instagram – Ramblewoodelementary
- Twitter – Ramblewoodelem

### PreK

This month our preschool students will be working on the letters and C, E, Y, and G. We will be working on a Health and Nutrition Unit where the students will learn all about healthy food choices along with ways to keep ourselves clean, safe, and healthy.

### Kindergarten

We have been very busy learning! During second quarter we completed studies on: Time Before Me (past and present), Thanksgiving, and Day and Night, and we compared different stories about the Gingerbread Man. We will be continuing our learning with Weather, States/Changes of Matter, Sorting different types of Matter, and Arctic Animals during the month of January.

During our shared reading and interactive read out louds we have been learning about different characters and settings in fiction stories. We are also beginning to retell stories with key details and sequencing of story events. Also, during reading groups we are very busy learning sight words, and different reading strategies. In writing, we are using a combination of drawing, labeling, and sentences to write a narrative piece. We will be starting to use graphic organizers to help us in our writing. During math, we are continuing learning about numbers 1-10 and modeling "greater than" and "less than" using manipulatives and numbers. We have also started our unit on Addition.

Please make sure to submit work daily in Canvas. Please read every night and continue to practice identifying letters, sounds, and sight words.

### 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade

As we move into the 3rd quarter, second grade scholars will be taking a deep dive into the concept of sustainability. Throughout this unit we will be discovering that our water sources provide life to many. Science will see us covering basic needs and habitats. While in Social Studies, we will be covering Geography. Throughout the month of February, 2nd grade will celebrate Black History Month. In math, we will be starting two-digit subtraction and three-digit addition/subtraction within 1,000. Please continue to practice basic addition and subtraction facts for fluency. In ELA, we are continuing to strengthen our writing. Our next writing unit will have us learning about informative/explanatory writing. Scholars will continue to learn and practice various skills in grammar, phonics, and comprehension. Please make sure your scholar is working on i-Ready Reading AND Math for at least 45 minutes each week.

### Anti-Bullying Policy 5.9

At the beginning of each school year, teachers, staff and students are required to participate in educational trainings regarding Policy 5.9 Anti-Bullying (Grades K-12). Recognizing that parents are an integral part of a school's environment and their child's safety, the School Board of Broward County is giving parents, guardians & caregivers the opportunity to participate in a training module developed specifically for them on Policy 5.9, Anti-Bullying. Please utilize the link below to access the Policy 5.9, Anti-Bullying training modules titled *Parents & Caregivers*: Please visit [www.browardprevention.org](http://www.browardprevention.org) and click on the violence tab, Anti-Bullying, Training module for parents & caregivers.

### Safety and Security Updates

**Maintaining a safe and secure campus is our priority.** Per District protocol all perimeter gates will remain locked and manned when opened. All classroom doors and buildings will also remain locked at all times. Our campus monitor ensures all safety protocols are followed each day. Even though we are currently in an E-Learning model, monthly drills are conducted at school, as we continue our mission to bolster our safety and security procedures.

We continue to practice monthly emergency drills while adhering to CDC guidelines.

### 1st Grade

Next quarter first grade will be working on several key skills to improve your child's comprehension when reading. We will work on compare and contrast with characters in stories and text to text. We will also be working on main idea and details, and author's purpose. Reading sight words is an important part of becoming a good reader. Please review them often with your child. You can find information on sight words on your child's teacher's home page. It is important that you read daily with your child as well to help improve fluency and word recognition. We will also be learning about the importance of American Symbols, Martin Luther King Jr, as well as patterns of movement. In math we will work on Addition and Subtraction relationships, Fact Families, (1+4=5, 4+1=5, 5-1=4, 5-4=1), comparing numbers, and addition and subtraction fluency to 20. Please review doubles which will help with fluency.

### 3rd Grade

This quarter, 3rd grade has been learning about nonfiction text features as well as main idea & details. Students have been introduced to the five regions of our country and the things that make each region unique. Our writing focus this quarter is informational writing. Students are learning to incorporate nonfiction text features into their writing. Our science unit is focused on "objects in the sky" – recognizing characteristics about stars and our sun. Finally, in math, students have been busy memorizing their multiplication facts. Our chapters this quarter focus on multiplication and division as well as how they're related to each other. Don't forget – the i-Ready focus is 45 minutes of reading and 45 minutes of math every week! In addition, students should be reading at home each night to practice and improve their reading skills.

### 4th Grade

In January, the students are scheduled to complete their second i-Ready Diagnostic Assessment. This tool allows the students' growth from September to January to be measured in both ELA and Math. It also adjusts the students' learning pathways so that they can practice their skills at the level that most closely fits their individual needs. It is very important that they try their best on this test and complete it without help of any kind so that their learning path is the most accurate and the most helpful to them.

Students should be working on their i-Ready learning pathways in both Reading and Math at home for about 45 minutes per subject area every week. This is the expectation, and it will set your student up for success.

In ELA, we will be learning how to analyze and identify text structures in Reading (problem & solution, sequence & order, cause & effect, compare & contrast, and description), and we will continue working on this and other reading strategies and skills in Guided Reading Groups as well. This classwork is supplemented and reinforced by the students' nightly reading of 20-30 minutes; please be sure your child invests in this critical practice skill.

We are also continuing to learn how to write a four-paragraph essay using the OMEEEEEKS model. We have been working on the Expository (to explain) Essay and will soon switch to the Opinion (to persuade) Essay. The students will continue working with this model to achieve success on their FSA Writing Assessment and throughout fifth grade next year. Students may need to finish some of their writing assignments for homework. It is very important that these and all assignments are completed on time. Please consider downloading the Canvas App for Parents to help your students track their assignments.

In Math, 4th graders have been working on division, factors, multiples, and patterns. After we return from Holiday Break, we will begin working on understanding fractions. Please be sure that your child knows their multiplication facts; it is very, very important that they master them in order to have success with all the 4th grade math standards.

In Social Studies and Science, the students continue to work on their standards using the district pacing guide, and they are learning so many fascinating new things! We love seeing and hearing their excitement as we explore our world together.

### 5th Grade

Wow! We can't believe winter break is here! Please continue to encourage your children to read for at least 20 minutes and utilize i-Ready over break. We know that if they don't use it, they lose it! We would like the students to continue to work on their individual lesson pathways in reading and in math.

When the students return in January, we will continue to work on reading informational text, including the American Revolution. In writing, the students will be reading and analyzing articles, and then they will practice writing informative and opinion pieces. In math, we are finishing multiplying and dividing decimals, and then we will move into adding, subtracting, multiplying, and dividing fractions. In science, the students are working on circuits.

As always, thank you for your continued support. Hope you have a wonderful holiday season!

### Code of Conduct

Parents and students, the Code of Student Conduct Handbook Goes Green! Parents are invited to review the Code of Student Conduct Handbook and complete the required forms by accessing the Back to School Forms link found on the Broward Schools' webpage at:  
<https://www.browardschools.com/Page/38091>.

**The School Board of Broward County, Florida, prohibits any policy or procedure which results in discrimination on the basis of age, color, disability, gender identity, gender expression, genetic information, marital status, national origin, race, religion, sex or sexual orientation. The School Board also provides equal access to the Boy Scouts and other designated youth groups. Individuals who wish to file a discrimination and/or harassment complaint may call the Director, Equal Educational Opportunities/ADA Compliance Department & District's Equity Coordinator/Title IX Coordinator at 754-321- 2150 or Teletype Machine (TTY) 754-321-2158.**

**Individuals with disabilities requesting accommodations under the Americans with Disabilities Act Amendments Act of 2008, (ADAAA) may call Equal Educational Opportunities/ADA Compliance Department at 754-321-2150 or Teletype Machine (TTY) 754-321-2158.**

E.S.E. Specialist's Corner

**What Is Exceptional Student Education and the Process for Qualifying for Exceptional Student Education?**

In Florida, children who have special learning needs are called exceptional students. Exceptional students include children who are gifted and children who have disabilities. The purpose of exceptional student education (ESE) is to help each child with an exceptionality to progress in public school and prepare for life after school. ESE services include specially designed instruction to meet the unique needs of the exceptional student. There is no charge for these special services.

**Evaluations**

Some children are referred for an individual evaluation because they have not shown adequate progress after intensive intervention has been put in place. Generally, several strategies are tried to give these children more opportunities to progress in the regular classroom. If these strategies are not effective, the parent or the school staff will then refer the child for an evaluation to determine if they are eligible for ESE services. An individual evaluation is a way of collecting information about a child's learning needs, strengths, problems, and interests. The evaluation may include tests, observations, interviews, or other ways of gathering information. In order for a child to be individually evaluated, the parent or guardian must give written consent. After the evaluation is complete, the school holds a meeting called an eligibility staffing. The team at the eligibility staffing discusses the information collected about the child. Then the team determines whether the child is eligible for ESE services.

**Eligibility Meeting**

If the child is eligible for ESE services, the next step is to hold a meeting to write an IEP (Individualized Education Plan) or EP (Education Plan) for the student. The child's parents are invited to this meeting as members of the IEP/EP team. The team documents the child's present levels of performance, establishes goals for the child, and determines how progress will be measured and reported. Also, the EP team determines what special services are needed for the child to make progress and achieve his or her goals. The team also decides where the child will receive services. After the first IEP/EP has been written, the parent is asked to give written consent for the child to receive ESE services. A child cannot receive ESE services for the first time until the IEP/EP is written, and the parent has given written consent for placement. The IEP team meets annually to discuss the student's progress and revise the IEP. Of course, the child's needs may change at any time, so the parent, teacher, or other team members may ask for an IEP meeting at any time. As always, if you have questions or concerns, please reach out to me at 754-322-8162 or [Mary.Dunn@browardschools.com](mailto:Mary.Dunn@browardschools.com)

Mrs. Dunn  
E.S.E. Specialist



**FORTIFYFL**  
SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITY REPORTING APP

FortifyFL is a suspicious activity reporting tool that allows you to instantly relay information to appropriate law enforcement agencies and school officials.



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