



QUARTERLY NEWS

PRINCIPAL'S PIECE

The end of the school year is filled with excitement and bittersweet emotion as we say congratulations and farewell to our 5th graders and in some cases their families. Whether they were new to Red Hill this year, have attended here since preschool or joined sometime in between, all of these 25 students will be missed. As they move on to middle school, we hope they will carry with them fond memories of their Red Hill days. Hopefully we will see them from time to time at events such as the Fall Festival or 5K Run for years to come.

As the school year closes, we also say good-bye to two, long time, staff members. Debbie Cason has been the school secretary at Red Hill since 2000. She is the welcoming face of the front office and the behind-the-scenes magician who performs innumerable tasks that keep the school running smoothly. We will certainly miss her genuine care for our students and her witty sense of humor. We wish her all the best in her retirement and hope she will stay in touch. She has meant so much to the Red Hill community.

Cindy Payne, school counselor at Red Hill since 2002 will be working at Murray Elementary full time beginning next school year. In addition to individual/small group counseling and guidance lessons, Cindy was the heart of the school in many ways. She worked with the Kids Care Club to provide service learning opportunities for interested students. She organized charitable events that benefited many of our families such as Toy Lift donations and distribution. She was the leader of the school's climate committee who among other things planned and organized the School-wide Morning Meetings and Activity Periods. She was our webpage editor and publisher of this quarterly newsletter. We are grateful for her years of service to Red Hill students and families. We are happy to know she is nearby, continuing to do great work for our larger Albemarle County Schools community.

Wishing you all a healthy, happy summer,
Nancy

FROM the RED PEBBLES ROOM

Sylvia Jenkins, PK Teacher

It's all about music and art in Pre-K as we close out our school year. We had the pleasure of working with a resident artist from the Wolf Trap Institute. The class was taken to an imaginary place all while playing musical instruments, singing and doing fingerplays. We especially loved the djembe drum and were given one as a gift from our resident artist. The preschoolers have also spent time preparing for our Extravaganza. This end of the year event gives the children an opportunity to share all of their beautiful art work from the year at the Art Show and perform songs on stage at the Outdoor Performance Area. Our families will also enjoy lunch and gardening together. Speaking of gardening, did we mention that we also did some bean experiments and discovered that beans have coats? Read about it. Have a wonderful summer singing, drawing, reading and exploring the beautiful outdoors.

SUMMER, 2018

SUMMER OPPORTUNITIES

**Albemarle County
Parks & Rec Activities:**
296-5844

*Summer Recreation
Camp, Sports Variety
Camp, Swimming
Lessons, Volleyball
Camps, Tennis*

Other Opportunities

Elks Camp
(week long overnight)

Girls: June 30 – July 6
Boys: July 14 - 20

*contact Ms. Cox for a
scholarship app*

Boys & Girls Club
Southwood: 977-2001

YMCA Summer Camp
KinderCamp (4-6):
Jefferson School
Schoolage Camp: Brooks
974-9622

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FROM the SOUTH GARDEN ROOM

Beth Kavounas & Chris Marshall, Kindergarten Teachers

The fourth quarter in kindergarten was full of opportunities to create, explore, and learn in many fun ways. We examined life cycles and how living things grow and change through planting seeds and plants, observing our classroom butterfly habitats and observing our classroom praying mantises as they hatched from their egg case! We enjoyed a field trip to Open Gate Farm where we explored the farm with its many baby animals. We also spent time observing and learning in nature, both at school and during our Wildrock field trip.

Students worked hard in music to prepare for their "Lemonade" performance. The performance offered the opportunity for more play based learning in our classroom. We made our own homemade lemonade in class and played "lemonade stand". Students counted out collections of coins to buy lemonade at the stand. Students also worked at the stand collecting and counting coins. It was a fun way to reinforce our lessons on money.

Please check out pictures of our field trips, the performance, field day and more end of the year fun on the kindergarten website. Our kindergarten blog documents through pictures the exploration and learning that happened throughout the year. This is a great place to review all the wonderful learning experiences we had in kindergarten!

To help your child stay ready for next year, please continue reading this summer. Your child should practice reading to you and remember to read aloud to them each day as well. Also, encourage your child to write about any vacations or places they visit this summer. Writing letters to friends and relatives is a great way to keep your child thinking about letters, sounds, and sharing their ideas. Remember to count, add, subtract, and use Jiji Math, which is available for your child over the summer for at-home practice. Also, check out the [Summer Activity Calendars](#) we sent home for more summer learning ideas. We have really enjoyed working with all the children this year. We are so proud of their progress. Thank you for sharing your child with us. Have a safe and relaxing summer!

<http://redhillkindergarten.weebly.com/the-rhk-blog>

FROM the NORTH GARDEN ROOM

Tina Bolen, Matthew Killham, Holly Shiflett: 1-2 Teachers



This final quarter in the **North Garden Room** has been full of adventure and exploration! We've traveled to the Frontier Culture Museum to experience life long ago, enjoyed the Paramount Theater twice to see professional actors/actresses perform, and witnessed the lifecycle of the Painted Lady Butterfly in our own learning spaces. Students listened to several versions of the Three Little Pigs and have investigated building and rebuilding the sturdiest house for the pigs from toothpicks and gumdrops so the Big Bad Wolf (hair dryer) couldn't blow it down. Students have learned to work and play together in our outdoor learning area using new gardening tools, kitchen supplies, dress up costumes, and building tipis!





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FROM the HEARDS MOUNTAIN ROOM

Veronica Brennan, Tyler Croson, Susi Page, Ali Summers: 3-5 Teachers

During the fourth quarter, the Heards Mountain room has engaged in activities that have given them a chance to show what they know! Across the 3rd, 4th, and 5th grades, students have experienced using virtual reality to explore ecosystems and events in history. Students have been learning what it takes to build a civilization through Minecraft Education. They have also enjoyed using their inferring skills to describe interesting pictures that did not include any captions or text. They worked hard at combining their background knowledge with what they saw to create group posters!

May was a busy month! It was “kicked off” by the 5th grade versus teachers kickball game! You could feel the excitement of all those watching and playing! The upcoming 5th graders are ready for their chance to play! The drama club students performed a wonderful play of Annie, and the talent was outstanding! Teachers felt so thankful for the heartfelt gifts and thank yous from parents and PTO during the Teacher Appreciation Week! A main focus for Heards Mountain was to get the chance for students to show what they have worked so hard to learn on the Virginia SOLs. Their hard work definitely shows! Ending the month, Walton Ambassadors visited the 5th graders in preparation for middle school. Across the board, students continue to shine and we cannot wait to see them back again this coming school year!

FROM the RABBIT VALLEY MEDIA CENTER

Debbie Rondeau, Library Media Specialist

What a wonderful year we have had filled with books, reading, stories, author visits, SKYPE, scientists, coding, robotics, internet safety and much more. I hope your child has enjoyed this year, and I hope you realize the importance of reading over the summer. For this very reason, I will open up several times so you can come in with your child/ren to check out books to take home. That way you don't have to travel all the way into town to go to the library. **I will be open from 5-7 PM on June 17, July 8, July 29, and August 12.** Please come visit, tell me about your summer, bring the BINGO sheet for prizes, build robotics or have fun coding! I'll be looking for you!

I appreciate all my volunteer help this year, and all the support you have given me. If you have any questions, please call! Enjoy the fun in the sun! Happy reading!

FROM the COUNSELING OFFICE

Cindy Payne, School Counselor

It is with a heavy heart that I say farewell to Red Hill. After 17 years here at Red Hill, I have come to know your families as an extension of my own. Many of you, parents, were once my students – not just here at Red Hill, but Yancey too. Between the 2 schools, I have spent the last 25 years with your families. The hundreds of relationships over those years have had a profound impact on me professionally and personally. I have laughed, cried, struggled, and celebrated with you together. This community will always hold a special place in my heart. And while I am incredibly sad to leave Red Hill, it comes from a wonderful blessing. Albemarle County has committed to at least one full time counselor in EVERY building next year. So while this means I will be moving to Murray full time, it also means that Red Hill will benefit from a full time counselor as well. Ari Zlotnik will be joining you next year. She comes with new energy and enthusiasm for building relationships with your kids and I know I leave you in very capable hands. With love, I wish every one of you the very best and know I intend to keep tabs on the very bright futures of all my Moos!

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FROM the BUNDORAN GYM

Matt Ewen, PE Teacher

This quarter in physical education the kindergartners have been practicing agility in tagging games. We continue practicing throwing and catching frisbee's as well. The first and second grade classes have been practicing throwing and catching in group games. One of their favorite games is called Bean Bag Switcheroo. The third, fourth, and fifth grades worked very hard on fitness testing. The results of the testing go home with your child's folder. We have had fun playing kickball the last two or three weeks, after all the students' hard work on the SOL test. Field Day was a big hit! Thank you to all the parents and family members who helped run stations. Thank you to the PTO for the two water slides we rented for the event. The kids really had a great time.

FROM the DUDLEY MOUNTAIN ART/MAKER SPACE

Christine Kelly, Art Teacher and Gifted Resource Teacher

It has been a very busy year in the art room. In the last quarter we focused on the concept of color. Students took on "The Primary Color Challenge" and were surprised at the wonderful compositions they could create using only red, blue and yellow. Be on the lookout for these wonderful examples of your child's art. Many thanks to those who were able to purchase art through our Square 1 fundraiser. If you would like to place an order for this year's art or any of the past three years, it is not too late. The folks at Square 1 Art will be very happy to help you with your needs at any time. I hope each child has an opportunity to explore his or her creativity this summer and make some art.

FROM the GREEN MOUNTAIN MUSIC ROOM

Tracy Brown, Music Teacher

Greetings Red Hill Families! It's been a fun spring in music with our kindergarten students preparing and performing their show "Lemonade." Our Drama Club also performed their annual play. This year's show was "Annie." Congrats to all of our spring performers!

Some highlights of the year in the music classroom were: We turned our favorite books into mini plays: Fortunately, Unfortunately, May I Bring a Friend, and Jump! We used instruments, costumes, and props to have characters and narrators act out books with music. We also composed and performed quarter and eighth note rhythms with popsicle sticks and blocks. Students worked in groups to compose melodies to play on recorder. We played a hand drumming game to learn teamwork while playing complex rhythms.

Have a fun summer filled with relaxation, laughter, family time! I look forward to seeing everyone in the fall refreshed and ready to make more music!

Our Drama Club Production: Annie





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