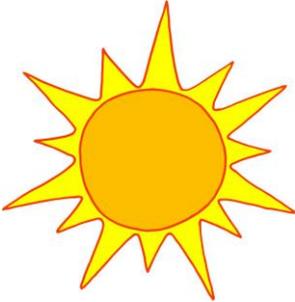


May Newsletter



"Keep your face to the sunshine and you cannot see a shadow." – Helen Keller

We will be celebrating STAFF APPRECIATION Week here at Radix next week. I hope you share my pride and appreciation for the dedication and commitment of the Radix Staff. They genuinely care about our kids, their successes and their challenges. They never cease to amaze me in a time when teachers are reviled often in the press- I am here to remind you that our staff, our teachers, our nurse, our counselor and our paraprofessionals are greatly appreciated for a job well done! I hope you share that sentiment; you are most fortunate to have your child/ren in such good care.



There are several significant dates to keep in mind as the year winds down (inclusive in the attached calendar of events):

- **May PARCC Testing:** All students should be present and on-time for testing days, have plenty of rest and a good breakfast. Our students have approached the PARCC with a positive attitude. As I have personally assured them...the expectation is for them to just do their best, not stress and “ROCK THE TEST!”
 - **May 1st-2nd- 4th** Grade PARCC ELA
 - **May 7th-8th- 3rd** Grade PARCC Math
 - **May 9th-10th- 4th** Grade PARCC Math
- **May 5th**-(Saturday) PACE (**PA**rents **C**aring about **E**ducation) meeting, 9:30 am in the Media Center
- **May 8th**- PTA meeting, 7:00 pm
- **May 11th**- RX students will have spring photos taken. We will be using our new photographer, Lifetouch, who will be sending out information regarding the many new options available for student photos.
- **May 16th**- RX Student Council/Safety Patrol trip
- **May 23rd**- Radix **Spring Fair**- on fields behind Radix. The PTA will be sending out the details for this annual event.
- **May 24th**- Radix 4th grade TAG testing for 4th graders who apply
- **May 25th**- Early Dismissal, with all kindergarten and preschool students attending in the a.m. session.
- **May 28th**- Memorial Day; no school.
- **May 29th**- Invention Convention 10-12:00 (WMS 5/6 gym)
- **May 31st**- Radix Move and Groove PTA fund-raising event
- **June 20th** - The last day of school.

Want learning to continue once school gets out? Whether you spend time at home, or travel, you should consider some fun ways to help your child learn about geography with the below educational activities:

- Have your child **draw a map** of how to get from your home to school, a store, a family member, etc. Then, follow the map.

- **Walk outside** and identify north, south, east and west, as well as NE, NW, SE, SW. Ask your child to use these words to describe where things in town are located. "My house is northeast of my school."
- Look for **street patterns**. In some towns, streets run N and S, while avenues run E and W. Street names might be alphabetical, names after flowers or trees, or cities, etc. Discuss the possible patterns with your child.
- Encourage your child to **start a collection** of objects from countries or states. Stamps, post cards and coins are easy items to collect.
- Tell your child **where his/her ancestors** came from. Find these places on a map. If possible, do some research and learn about those places and see if you can decide the routes traveled to the United States.
- Go through your house and talk about **where things came from**. Have your child read labels to see where items were made, and see if you can locate those cities or countries on a map.

As the weather gets nice, please be mindful of our dress code (refer to the student handbook for the complete list of standards):

- It is preferred that all shirts cover the top of the shoulder or have a sleeve.
- No midriff, halter, or tube tops are permitted as outer garments.
- It is preferred that all footwear has a back to minimize tripping and to allow for playing on the playground safely.

Our running club is in full swing. What a wonderful thing to behold...children running and happy to be outside doing something fun and healthy; as opposed to sitting with a technological device in front of them!

Last month, I shared internet safety tips with parents. Our Technology Teacher, Mrs. Catania, has also done class internet safety lessons with our 3rd and 4th grade students. There is a website with lots of great information for parents as you help your child/ren navigate technology: www.common sense media.org

I'd like to take this opportunity to thank you for sharing your child/ren with me; for entrusting them in my care; and for partnering with me and the staff to create nothing less than a wonderful school community!

In the end, it's not the years in your life that count. It's the life in your years.

[Abraham Lincoln](#)