

The Riviera Reporter  
Riviera Day School  
January 2012



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- 1/3 School resumes
- 1/10 VPK- Moore: field trip to Publix
- 1/13 Spring Fling meeting at 9:00 a.m.
- 1/16 No school—MLK holiday
- 1/19 Spirit Day—wear your RDS t-shirt  
Chick-fil-A Night (join us for dinner)
- 1/19 & 1/20 Fall 2012 Application packets distributed
- 1/30 & 1/31 VPK conference days  
No school for VPK students  
Regular classes for the 2's and 3's  
**NO EXTENDED DAY OR AFTERNOON  
ADVENTURES!**

RDS Website

Please check our website often at [www.riveraumc.org/rds](http://www.riveraumc.org/rds) for any information you may need. Teacher bulletins and calendars, along with school events, are posted on the site.

CC's New Year Chatter

Happy New Year! Welcome back and I hope everyone had a wonderful holiday break. We ended the school year with the Christmas program and I was extremely proud of our teachers and children. Many of you were able to attend our wonderful Christmas show, though I know it can be difficult to take off from work and such. Some have expressed their thoughts regarding changing the time to the evening hours. We realize that no matter what time we scheduled this program that not all could attend. We have tried evening events and find there are many conflicts at that time also. We will revisit this issue, but, so far, daytime has worked out well for us and we usually have a packed house.

The Christmas videos will be delivered by next week for all that pre-ordered by December 15th. If you did not pre-order a video and have since decided you want one, please come see us in the school office. The cost is \$15.00.

The second half of the school year is going to fly by. Registration for Fall 2012 is already upon us, so the Application packets will be going out on January 19th and 20th. This is your first "heads up" with many more reminders to follow. We intend to make the registration process as easy and stress-free as possible. Just make sure to read all information that is sent out to you either via e-mail or hardcopy in backpacks. You won't want to miss any important deadlines.

*Best Wishes for 2012-*

*Cyndi Chavez*

### **Important Info for Fall 2012**

Exciting news at RDS!! We have some wonderful changes happening here and hope you will be just as thrilled as we are. After much consideration and discussion, we have decided to reevaluate our VPK classrooms. As you may know, VPK (Voluntary PreKindergarten) is funded by the state. We did not jump on board the very first year, as we wanted to investigate further and make sure the program would truly be beneficial to our RDS families. We later decided to participate, since we already provided a high quality program and did not need to make curriculum adjustments, but simply wanted to provide a courtesy to our families.

A few years ago, we changed our Kindergarten classroom to another VPK classroom as the demand had changed over time. Since then, the state of Florida has actually decreased the monthly amount paid on each child every single year. With that in mind and the fact that the demand has changed once again, we are making new plans for 2012.

We will offer only two VPK classrooms next Fall, but that gives us room to grow for our 3-year old program. This is the exciting part—we will now have two 3-year old classrooms—each offering the same wonderful curriculum, but with different choices of days. There will be a 5-day class, Monday thru Friday, and there will be a 3-Day Select class.

What is 3-day Select? Glad you asked. This is going to appeal to many families that do not want to go 5 days but 2 is just not enough. Now the Select part. You can actually choose what 3 days you want your child to attend as long as all of those days are available. We can only take 15 children on any given day of the week. Some may still want to do MWF, but others have expressed an interest in 3 consecutive days, or any combination that suits you and your schedule. Again, as long as those days are not full. Of course, the 3 days you choose will apply for the entire school year unless other days come available. How cool is that?!

We will continue to offer our wonderful 2-year old program with two class choices—either MWF or TTh. VPK will still be a 5-day program, Monday thru Friday.

This is all I can share for now. Teacher assignment and tuition fees will all be available in your Application packets that are being distributed on January 19th and 20th.

### **VPK Conferences**

VPK conferences will be held on January 30 and 31. There will be no classes for VPK students these days (regularly scheduled classes for 2's and 3's). Please see your teacher's sign up list to schedule your meeting for one of those dates. At least one parent needs to attend, as this is part of our VPK requirements. I know it can be an inconvenience that there is no school for VPK students those 2 days, but we will provide care for your student during your scheduled conference time. RDS students only—sorry teacher aides cannot watch siblings unless they are enrolled RDS students also. If you will be using our child care that day, please bring your student to the room at the end of the school office hallway prior to your conference time. The Aides will be there with activities for your children.

### **Spring Fling**

Spring Fling planning is in full swing. Hopefully, more of you can join us and share your thoughts and ideas these final 2 months of organizing. We need all the help we can get to pull off this wonderful event. The next meeting will be January 13th at 9:00 a.m. in the Church nursery (your little ones can come too).

### **PAC**

Parent survey results will be forthcoming and sent via e-mail. In addition, there will be comments and possible resolutions to any concerns you may have noted. Please feel free to respond to the e-mail with any additional feedback.

The next Parent Advisory Committee meeting will be held in February. We hope you will be able to join us to discuss school improvements and concerns.

### **Clothing Swap**

Thank you so much to all that participated in our very first clothing swap. So many of you donated some wonderful clothing. Many thanks to Barbie Hedge for planning, sorting, organizing and storing all the donated items to make the big day very successful. It proved to be a win-win situation: we could clean out our closets and get some great new things at the same time. We will definitely have to do it again (if Barbie is willing).