Greetings! Welcome to your very first, very own Newsletter! In this newsletter, and, those to come, you will find information on what’s happening at Riverside, within Interfaith Senior Programs, and, other “news you can use. On occasion, I will ask for your feedback, and, would appreciate a prompt reply if possible. There are times when I am asked for additional information about my volunteers to aid with funding of our program, educating the community, and so forth...I promise, nothing too personal, and, there is no “obligation” to reply!

So what is fun and exciting this month? Our 2012 school year is off to a fast start! We have volunteers starting in classrooms, after school, and in the library, art room and health room! We had volunteers help with Riverside’s one and only fundraiser this year, the Rally for Kids! The children of Riverside collected pledges and then spent October 12th walking and doing other activities in their Rally for Kids! The Brewer’s sausages even came and held a race right on Riverside’s playground!

WKCE testing will be taking place in the next couple of weeks and some of you may find you have abbreviated schedules. Encourage your students to do their best, and, always let them know you are very proud of them! A little encouragement can go a long way for our students. Thank you for being a part of their support system!

The end of the month is sure to bring festive times. Just an “FYI” note for you...many schools do not have “Halloween” parties any longer. With such a wonderful and diverse population at our schools, the district will try to find a way to honor everyone and include everyone when celebrating throughout the year. At Riverside, there aren’t any costume parties, though a fall festival party or two may happen in individual classrooms.  if you are lucky enough to be here when one is going on, enjoy!!

Veteran Survey-Please Respond

Interfaith Senior Programs is working on funding for our Seniors and Students programs and part of the information we use to write grants and apply for funding includes how many extremely honored and appreciated Veterans we have volunteering their time and talents for us. If you are a Veteran, would you please be so kind as to email me or call and let me know? Again, this is just a “number” that we pass along, there are no names given at any time. Thank you so much for your prompt reply! Please respond by October 22nd.

Contact Information:
susanh@interfaithwaukesha.org
262-250-6465
Office Hours:
Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday
10am-5pm
No School October 25th and 26th

There will be no school on Thursday, October 25th and Friday, October 26th. Thursday is a District In-Service Day and Friday is a Teacher Work Day. YOU have the day(s) OFF! 😊

Openings Still Available!

There are plenty of openings still available if you or someone you know would like to add a fabulous volunteer experience to their day! Please see the specific openings below and contact me, or have a friend contact me, to grab one up! The students LOVE to have you in the classroom and helping them one on one! Come for a half hour, or hour, and change someone’s life!

Current Openings:
M, W 9:30-10:30  Mr. Maloney’s class (4th grade) Math Help
M, W, TH, F 9:30-10:00 Pick your day!  Mr. Pitrof’s class (3rd grade) Math Help
M, T, TH, F 12:30-1:30 Pick your day!  Mr. Fraundorf’s class (5th grade) Reading
T, W, F 1:15-2:00 Any day that works!  Ms. Zahnow’s class (2nd grade) Math Games
T, TH  2:30-3:00 Mr. Fraundorf’s Class (5th grade) Math Help
T  2:45-3:30  Ms. Guebard’s Class-ART ROOM!  Help with inspiration!

The Pen Pal Project

Riverside fifth graders are writing to senior Pen Pals! This RSVP program gives students and seniors the chance to share stories, likes, dislikes, and fun happenings with each other! The students started writing in October and pen pals will be writing back about once a month. The topics vary, and, at the end of the year, the pen pals will meet each other at a Pen Pal Party! Sound like fun? Want to be a part of it?

Please let me know and we’ll get you on our list! We would love to have you join the Pen Pal Project!!
High School Students Helping Out

Menomonee Falls high school students are helping Riverside Elementary school students after school on Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays in a one on one tutoring program. This program has been going on for years at Riverside and this year is starting off wonderfully! We have twenty high school students who are volunteering their time to help our students with math, reading and general homework. The high school students come at 3:30 and tutor for one hour a week. The volunteer time looks great on college applications and they are fabulous role models for our young students. 😊

Readers’ Café

Readers’ Café is a new program we are incorporating into this year’s agenda. More information will be provided as we work out the details, and, if you would like to participate, please let me know! Readers’ Café will take place on Tuesdays during the student lunch hours. The program will consist of half of the time eating a bag lunch and sharing conversation and half of the time reading a chosen book.

For the younger students, their partner (you!) will probably read to them for a good part of the time, or help the student with a page or two. For the older, more accomplished reader, the child may read to you or you may take turns reading and discussing your book.

So much of reading is comprehension and giving the students a chance to discuss what they are reading reinforces so many aspects of learning. The books available to the children for this program will be chosen by the teaching staff and made available to the children either at café time, or prior to café time. Engaging students early in their reading careers with the concept of “book clubs” builds a great foundation for a lifetime of reading!

Come share a story and some time with a student! You’ll find you might just enjoy those childhood classics all over again!

Communication Corner

The Menomonee Falls Community Education and Recreation Center is hosting a Senior Enrichment Fair on Thursday, October 25th. The Fair will have educational seminars, demonstrations, vendor exhibits, door prizes, musical entertainment, lunch, refreshments and more! Registration is $5 and must be received prior to October 19th in order to be provided a lunch. (but I think you can still go if you are after the deadline!) Call the Menomonee Falls Community Education and Recreation Department at 262-255-8460 for more information.

Retired and Senior Volunteer Program of Waukesha County is a program of Interfaith Senior Programs, Inc. Major funding for RSVP is provided by the Corporation for National and Community Service, the State of Wisconsin, and the United Way in Waukesha County. www.InterfaithWaukesha.org