

Robert L. Merritt Junior High School

THE MERRITT GAZETTE

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December 2017

"Equitable Education for Every Student"

Principal's Message

Thank you for allowing the dedicated staff of RLMJH to educate your child/children. Our 2nd 9 week benchmark assessments start Wednesday, December 13, 2017, please be sure that your child/children are preparing daily for their assessments and classroom activities. We are very intentional about creating a learning focused building for our staff and student body.

Our goal is growth for all students on every assessment! We will have an Awards Program highlighting all of our students who have done well in the 2nd 9 weeks. Again, I thank you and look forward to seeing you soon. If you have any concerns, please feel free to contact me at (662) 884-1270. Merry Christmas

One School...One Team...One Goal!
Student Achievement

Parent Center Corner, Geraldine Ray

WE ARE STILL WAITING!!.....Come on out and visit our Parent Center at RLMJH. By visiting the center you will receive parenting literature and learning tools for you and your child. Our goals are to make a difference in the lives of children and provide support to parents. I am still looking forward to seeing you at workshops. We had a spectacular time at our Dad's Role in Education Workshop on Thursday, November 9, 2017 from 11:30-12:30 P.M. Remember, we have different ways you can be involved in your child education. Such as, Active Parents, Remind, PTO/PTA meetings, school events, and you may also volunteer. You may reach me through e-mail at gray@sunflower.k12.ms.us. My hours are: Tuesday, Thursday, and alternate Friday's from 7:30 A.M. to 3:30 P.M. PARENTS WE NEED YOU!!!!



Upcoming Events at RLMJH

11/30/17-Healthy Taste Test
12/11/17- Basketball Game (Home) Ruleville @ 5:30 P.M.
12/13-19/17- 2nd Nine weeks Assessments/Basketball game (Home)@ 5:30 P.M.
12/14/17-Basketball Game (Home) D.M. Smith 5:30 P.M.
12/18/17-Basketball Game (Home) Inverness @ 5:30 P.M.
12/20/17-1/08/18 Christmas Break
1/08/18-School Resume

Media Center

EBooks with codes are available in the library. Please visit the library to get the code. You can download eBooks to your cellphone, tablets, or any electronic device.



Sylvester Washington, 9th grade, won 1st place during the storyboard review. He also won 1st place at the district level. Sylvester's board is now moving on to the Regional Level. Way to go Sylvester!!!!

IF YOUR FAMILY LIVES IN ANY OF THE FOLLOWING SITUATIONS:

- ◆ In a shelter
- ◆ In a motel or campground due to the lack of an alternative adequate accommodation
- ◆ In a car, park, abandoned building, or bus or train station
- ◆ Doubled up with other people due to loss of housing or economic hardship (Please Contact your Parent Liaison)

The McKinney-Vento Act provides certain rights for Homeless students. For more information please visit our MDE website at:

www.mde.k12.ms.us/OFP/titlex

Geraldine Ray, Parent Liaison

Counselors Corner

What Is Grit, Why Kids Need It, and How You Can Foster It

by Jenny Williams

<https://afineparent.com/building-character/what-is-grit.html>

1. Find a Passion (or At Least an Engaging Activity)

Okay, so it's probably overkill to expect your five-year-old to have found his "passion." But as children grow older, pursuing a particular interest of their own choosing can help them to identify a passion and understand that practice, hard work and perseverance are surest way to achievement

2. Recognize That Frustration, Confusion and Practice Are Par for the Course

According to the Duckworth lab, those who believe that diligence and perseverance pay off beat out their less optimistic, and often more talented, counterparts nearly every time. Carol Dweck has found that people with "growth mindsets" are more resilient and tend to push through struggle because they believe that hard work is part of the process and they understand that failure is not a permanent condition. Those with "fixed mindsets" on the other hand, believe that success stems from innate talent and tend to give up easily—why work hard at something if you don't believe you can change anything?

It's not that we should never let our children change interests or shift activities as they grow—they are kids after all—but understanding the value of practice, hard work and even struggle may be the thing that carries them across the finish line.

3. Take Risks (and Tell Your Kids About It)

Grit demands risk taking. Successful people are willing to step out of their comfort zones and risk failure in order to learn something new or pursue a long-term goal. And while, by definition, a risk may end in failure, successful adults don't give up. It's easy to spout aphorisms like "*Nothing ventured, nothing gained,*" but letting our kids see us put a little skin in the game may build the optimism and courage they need to take some risks themselves.

4. Teach That Failure Is Not the End

Grit means maintaining the hope and vision to change even under the most challenging circumstances. As parents, it is important that we don't let our protective instincts rob our kids of first-hand experiences with hard-won victories.

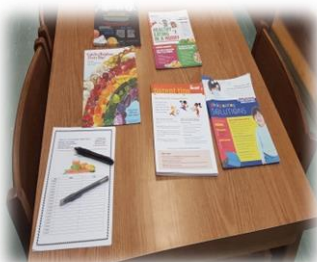
The Ongoing Action Plan for Parents

- Join other parents and implement a "Hard Thing Rule." Help your child identify a challenging long-term goal to work toward and encourage regular practice.
- Talk about setbacks as they arise. Help your child build a plan B or C when necessary.
- Share your feelings about your challenge and celebrate when family members attempt persevere through difficult tasks.

Empowering Staff, Engaging Communities, Educating Students



As part of the Health and Wellness Program implemented in the SCCSD, a healthy taste test was done on Thursday, November 30, 2017.



Parent-Teacher Incentives for supporting PTO meetings!
Parents + Teachers = Successful Students

Merry Christmas!!

