

Principal's Paw Print

December 4, 2020

Yorktown Elementary School

Home of the Wildcats



As we enter the holiday season amidst the pandemic, it may be more challenging to participate in the season of giving that has become a special tradition in our community. Social distancing guidelines and the pandemic's impact on many families' finances have threatened to take the JOY out of this magical time. Each year, our school community comes together to support Yorktown families in need by donating toys, clothing, and food. If you are interested in continuing this tradition this year through the purchase of a gift card, please feel free to drop your gift card off at school between the hours of 8:00am and 2:00pm. Electronic gift cards can be emailed to me at Taryn.Savoy@pgcps.org.

(Please be sure to send me an email to let me know just in case the e-gift card is automatically rerouted as SPAM.)

Donations will be accepted through Friday, December 18th. Thank you in advance!

"Learners Today...Leaders Tomorrow"



November Distance Learning Rock Stars



★**Adelle Aginam** is a Distance Learning ROCKSTAR! She has not missed a single day of class so far this year and always completes her assignments on time! During class, she pays close attention- always asking and answering questions to fully engage with our lessons. Keep up the great work, Adelle! ” ~ Mrs. Connolly (Kindergarten)

★**Yeside Ogundipe** is a true scholar, which is why she is the ultimate Rock Star! Daily, she attends class excited to learn. While there, she pays close attention, eager to absorb new information. Keep being a great role model, Yeside!”
~ Mrs. Thomas (Kindergarten)

★**Mason Houchens** is always attentive and ready to learn! He listens carefully and replies to questions with thoughtful answers. He completes every task and assignment on time with care and detail. :) ” ~ Ms. Trudick (Kindergarten)

★**Arjun Rajagopal** is a distance learning rockstar! He is always willing to help a friend answer a question. He is always smiling on zoom and asks thoughtful questions. Keep up the great work, Arjun!” ~ Mrs. McDermott (1st Grade)

★**Braxton Clark** is a super distance learning rockstar. Braxton is always ready to share an answer or an idea. He has a lot of them! He is such an enthusiastic learner that he makes everyone else excited to learn too! You rock, Braxton!”
~ Mrs. Beller (1st Grade)

★**Rylan Henry** is a true distance learning rockstar!! He comes to every lesson ready to listen, learn, and participate. Rylan is kind to his classmates, always does his best, and brings a smile to class each day! Keep being awesome Rylan :)”
~ Ms. Bonnington (1st Grade)

★**Gavin Gonzalez** is always eager to participate in every lesson we do! He has a positive attitude, pays close attention to the directions, and asks questions when he needs help. Thank you for your fantastic participation during distance learning, Gavin. You are a rock star!”
~ Ms. Elston (2nd Grade)

★**Brianna McVicker** is a virtual learning rockstar because she participates in class, comes to class on time and is prepared to learn every day. Brianna doesn't give up when she gets something wrong. If she doesn't know the right answer she asks for help and corrects her mistakes.” ~ Mrs. Williams (2nd Grade)

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★**Jola Fashina** is a rock star each and every day of learning. She strives to do her best and turns her work on time. She is amazing and we are so proud of your accomplishments this month.” ~ Mrs. Hale (2nd Grade)

★**Terry Baker** comes to class ready to learn! He participates, volunteers and answers questions. He is also focused and attentive during lessons. I am so proud of the work Terry has done! Keep up the good work, Terry!” ~ Mrs. Findlater (3rd Grade)

★**Sophia Ramos-Rios** always completes her assignments. When she gets problems wrong, she goes back and corrects her mistakes. When she doesn’t understand something, she asks questions and is always ready with a response when I ask her questions. Keep up the great work Sophia!” ~ Mrs. Berned (3rd Grade)

★**Lucy Segredo** is a distance learning super star! She is so cheerful and always ready to do her best learning every day. Lucy’s responses during class discussions are very detailed and always include so much flair! Awesome job!” ~ Mrs. Pierson (3rd Grade)

★**Brooke Wise** always comes to class ready for the day and eager to learn. Brooke is a problem solver and will help her classmates whenever she can! Keep up the great work, Brooke!” ~ Mr. Cuellar (4th Grade)

★**Jeremiah Chery** has proven himself to be a scholar and a leader already this school year. He is conscientious about his academics, respectful to classmates and teachers, and is a thoughtful leader and participant in group work. Keep it up, Jeremiah!”
~Ms. Deafenbaugh (4th Grade)

★**Nyla Britten** is a distance learning rock star! She has proven herself to be a thoughtful and diligent student. We can always count on her to lead class discussions, solve problems, and ask questions. We love her positive attitude and the respect she has for school, her classmates, and her teachers. Keep up the great work, Nyla!”
~ Mrs. Eberwein (4th Grade)

★**Tommy Pearson** has faced some hurdles in the last month. However, at no time did he allow his school work or his attention to lapse. He has continued to hold himself accountable for his assignments as well as his involvement in all of his classes. He has maintained the same positive attitude throughout. I am very proud of Tommy, and know that he will continue to be successful during our Distance Learning. Bravo!” ~ Mrs. Porambo (5th Grade)

★**Jenai Vernon** has held herself to a standard through virtual learning. She has set the bar high for herself and reaches for it each day. She participates in group discussions and always has key points to share with the class. She puts her heart into her work and loves to share with her classmates!” ~ Mrs. Bermpohl (5th Grade)

★**Javielys Hernandez Figueroa** comes to class early each day to get a head start on her Xtra Math fact fluency. She’s extremely organized, always has a positive attitude and is the

ultimate risk-taker for taking on difficult problems. She always participates in class discussions and has a growth mindset when it comes to learning from her mistakes. Javielys, job well done and keep up the great work!”

~ Mrs. Chery (5th Grade)



Coffee & Conversation w/Dr. Savoy



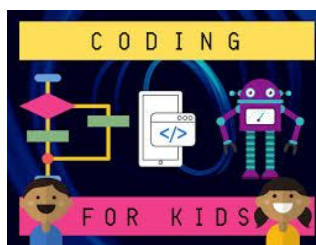
Please join me for our next parent meeting “Coffee & Conversation with Dr. Savoy” on Thursday, December 10th at 9:00am. We will be sharing tips for keeping your student focused and engaged during distance learning. Please feel free to share your own tips and strategies that you have found to be helpful for your child this year! Please use the following link to join:

<https://pgcps-org.zoom.us/j/2977334246?pwd=YUdMSjZOVGQvSkhTdFhoRlc0YU9lZz09>

Meeting ID: 297 733 4246 Passcode: 845170



Level Up with Code



PGCPS will host an interactive coding event for students in grades PreK-5 on Monday, December 7th at 6:00pm. No coding experience is necessary for this fun hour of coding event including Minecraft, Scratch, Scratch Jr. and Star Wars! If interested, please register using the following link: <https://bit.ly/35KnQsV>

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Paint Night



The Yorktown PTA is hosting a virtual Family Paint Night on Thursday, December 10th at 6:00pm! All materials will be provided by the PTA and will be available for pick up at Yorktown Elementary on Monday and Tuesday. Be sure to register if interested in participating in this fun event using the following link:

<https://docs.google.com/.../1FAIpQLSdoMEu50B32aj.../viewform>



Virtual Science Assembly



Yorktown students are invited to participate in an upcoming holiday-themed STEM assembly presented by Mad Science of DC on Thursday, December 17th at 12:30pm. Students will watch how jolly ole Bubba the Balloon uses air pressure to slide down the “chimney”, how chemistry can be used to make fake snow, and how ice colder than the North Pole creates exciting bubbling reactions! Look for the link to join the virtual assembly to be sent in an email from your child’s teacher.



Professional Development Day



School will be closed for students on Friday, December 11th in order to allow for teachers and staff to engage in professional development opportunities.

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Holiday Gifts



Several parents have inquired about purchasing holiday gifts for teachers this year given our current school closure. Please feel free to drop gifts off at Yorktown before December 22nd to be distributed to teachers for the holidays. Keep in mind that electronic gift cards (i.e. Amazon, Dunkin, Target, etc.) are also a great way to recognize your child's teacher in a socially distant and safe way!



Winter Break



School will be closed for Winter Break from Thursday, December 24th through Friday, January 1st. Classes will resume on Monday, January 4th.