

January 22, 2021

Good Evening Richey Families,

Everyone is getting back to the routine of being in person, so it is necessary to remind families of the importance of having your child's walker/car number accessible at the end of the day. This week a number of families picked up their child(ren) without it or attempted to create handwritten placards. We are no longer going to accommodate families that do not present their numbers at the end of the day. Since our carline has grown, we have to find ways to be efficient, and taking extra time "in the moment" to check a pickup person's identification has become overwhelming.

If you do not have your child's number while waiting in the carline, you will be asked to park and wait until the office is able to accommodate an identification check. If you do not have your walker number, you will need to wait outside until we have completed the dismissal process. Once it has ended, you may enter the lobby and the staff will check your identification.

If you are in need of a car number, contact the office prior to the end of the day and someone will support you.

This week we will engage in our second drill of the month. An intruder drill will be conducted on **Tuesday, January 26th at 3:00 pm. No one will be permitted in or out during the drill. Please plan early dismissals accordingly.** The students will have the opportunity to watch and discuss a short video with their classmates. Please take the time to preview it and show it to your child. This gives you the opportunity to use the language/vocabulary that works best for your family.

(Link to Student Video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aQIR1pqd3k8>).

Prior to starting the drill, I will reiterate that "this is a drill". Richey will have all classrooms, offices, and other parts of the building locked down. Staff will shut locked classroom doors, pull the shade down or place something over the door window. Turn off the lights and smartboard. Instead of moving all students to the designated safe area, students will stand/sit silently at their desks. Teachers will identify a couple of students and they will be asked to move to the designated safe area practicing social distancing. It is important to communicate that in the event of an actual emergency, all students will respond to the designated safe area even during Covid times.

If your child exhibits any signs of distress or concern after your home discussion, please contact our school. This will allow us to put the appropriate supports in place for your child's social-emotional well-being.

We will be having Valentine's Day parties this year, but we need to be particularly careful due to Covid. Unfortunately, we will not be able to have outside guests or homemade items. If students are choosing to exchange Valentines, the cards *must* be in the building no later than Friday, February 5th, as we have been told items from home must "sit" untouched for approximately 48 hours. If items come in after the expected date, there is a chance the exchange for that child will not occur on the day of the event. Richey will celebrate on Thursday, February 11th from 2:30 until the end of the day. Teachers will explain other details as related to his/her classroom. We are in the process of planning something special for our remote students. We have not forgotten about you! There will be details shared in the very near future.

I hope you had a wonderful weekend!

Mrs. Armstrong