Reminder: Next Friday, Dec 22 is a half day of school. All students will be dismissed at noon, and no lunches will be served.

Extended Day
January 2nd – 5th: Since DU is closed for the week of December 25th – January 1st, we are unable to offer camp during that time. We will be hosting camp on January 2nd – 5th. Our theme will be Ancient Greece and students will explore mythology, Olympic Games, participate in a chariot challenge, and much more. Please click here to register.

Summer Programming: We are excited to announce our 2018 summer programming: Summer at Ricks. Our programming will be divided by age, and by internal and external providers. Internal programming will be taught by our fabulous Ricks staff. While our external providers are highly sought after throughout the Denver Metro area. Some of these groups will include Coding with Kids, Playwell TEKnologies Lego, 3D printing, and much more.

Please review the attached save the date flyer for more details. Included on the flyer is pricing, early registration information, and descriptions for each week.

Please note we will be charging a $50 non-refundable deposit. Spots are not guaranteed until the deposit is paid. We are also charging a $25 schedule change fee for all programming happening between 8:30am to 3:30 pm. This fee does not affect extended day programming. Ages3- to 5-year-old sessions include breakfast and afternoon snack (special diet options available). All campers must provide their own lunch. For more information please click here.

Preschool Request
If you have empty oatmeal boxes, or other cylindrical boxes, the preschool class would love to have them to make drums and other musical instruments. Drop them off in Miss Whitney’s and Miss Barbara’s room. Thanks!

Talented Voice: Diversity & Equity in Gifted Education
Parents are invited to register for the 8th Annual Gifted Education Conference & Policy Symposium, presented by the Office of the Daniel L. Ritchie Endowed Chair in Gifted Education at Morgridge College of Education, on February 7-8, 2018. See attached information for registration.
In the Classrooms

Early Childhood

Primary Classrooms

Middle School

Ricks Innovation Lab

The Innovation Lab has been busy this week with the 1st/2nd graders coming in to film their Water Conservation Video on the green screen in preparation for their presentation to the school on February 2nd’s assembly.
3/4 Gold came into the lab again during their genius hour. Bodhi and Matthew had a lot of success coding dash though an obstacle course. There was a new coding center to code music using "Osmo Coding Jam." Students also participated in another new learning center that had them exploring TinkerCad and 3D designing. If you have not already, sign up your child for an account at https://www.tinkercad.com/ and pass along the information to Mrs. Jeffers!

Mr. Kevin's 5th Grade science class came in the lab again this week to continue working on their oceanography 3D designs on Tinkercad. Several more students finished, and Jack's ocean floor is currently in the process of being printed!

Student Council Update

Dear Ricks Families,

We are excited to announce a bake sale on Wednesday the 20th and Thursday the 21st of December during Lunch and Recess. Student Council hopes you will enjoy the sweet treats we are providing. The bake sale will be held in the Middle School playground if the weather is nice, if not Student Council members will be catering to classes.

On December 22nd there will be a whole school Pajama Day. Along with the fun of wearing pajamas you will also be able to bring in canned foods that will be given to those in need.
RCA Happenings...

**RICKS 2017 GALA:**
We have a few more experiences (a few teacher/staff breakfast opportunities too!) that remain from the Gala, check them out on this [Gala Remaining Experience Sign-Up](#) If you sign-up please provide a check for the price listed on the item in the sign-up (detailed instructions are on the sign-up).

**RCA Committee Volunteers:**
- We have filled a number of key roles already but need your help to lock in our committees for the remaining ones.
- We still need a Ricknic lead, as well as a lead for the Spring Conference Meals and Teacher Appreciation! Click here to sign-up: [RCA Committee Volunteers Sign-Up](#)

**Ricks Night at DU Hockey on Friday, February 2nd:**
- Join the RCA at a DU Hockey game! We will provide a pre-game reception (6pm to 7pm) with dinner and prizes on the North Concourse - all you have to do is purchase your tickets!
- Use Promo code “RICKS” via the link below to purchase your tickets today, before they sell out!! Sections 16 and17 are closest to the pre-game reception area.

**HOLIDAY SHOPPING? USE OUR CLASSROOM FUNDRAISING PROGRAMS!**
- Please join the RCA in using our **TWO primary programs**: King Soopers Scrip and Shop with Scrip when you purchase supplies and presents for the holidays! The rebates will go directly to our classrooms!
- Check out the “Ricks Classroom Fundraising Program Info Sheet” attachment to this newsletter to find out more info about how to use these programs.
- **KING SOOPERS SCRIP:** Please grab a card from the front desk - it’s easy to load at a store and has a 3% rebate!

Please contact the RCA with questions, inquiries, and interest at communicationsrca@gmail.com!

**Spirit Wear**
Ricks Center students and families, now is the time to show off your school spirit. Ricks Center now has its own section on the [DU Shop Pioneers website](#). Check back often to look for new items. Let’s see your Ricks school spirit!

**Facebook**
Have you "liked" our [Facebook](#) page? Please take a moment to visit, and "like," the Facebook page. It's another great way to see what is going on in the school and in the Ricks Center Community.

**Girls on the Run Community Service Project**
At the end of each Girls On The Run (GOTR) season, we choose one community service project to participate in together. This season, we are collecting donations for the Denver Dumb Friends League! Feel free to choose to donate an item from the list provided in [this flyer](#), or make a financial donation at the front desk with Bernadette. Please note that DFL does not need any dog or cat food at this time! We will be collecting donations until Friday, December 22. Thank you for your support!

**DU and around Denver**
**Approachable Parent Workshops**
Join us for our Winter Approachable Parenting Conversation! We're dedicated to helping you have open dialogue with your children about important topics. On December 9th, we'll be covering developmentally appropriate conversations around healthy sexuality. Ashley Johnson, credentialed educator with the UUA; facilitator of Elementary, Middle and High School Our Whole Lives curriculum; and teacher trainer will lead you in an engaging and interactive workshop designed to help parents answer those difficult questions that come with growing up. Come ease your fears and build your own toolbox as you become even more of an Approachable Parent! Our December 9th session is focused on caregivers of children 1-10 years old. Please email us at approachableparent@gmail.com for more information or visit our website at www.approachableparent.com.

Save the Date

December

18th
  • Middle School field trip to the Denver Art Museum
  • Boys Basketball at home vs. Legacy Academy

20th
  • Coffee and Conversation at Ricks

21st
  • Girls Basketball at home vs. RMSEL

22nd
  • Noon Dismissal – Start of Winter Break

January

2nd – 5th
  • Ancient Greece camp at Ricks

8th
  • School Resumes
  • Boys Basketball at home vs. RMSEL

12th
  • 3/4 field trip to Denver Stock Show

15th
  • No School – Martin Luther King Jr. Day