



Panther Post

2nd Quarter
2020/2021

CRIS Therapy Dogs: We Need Them Now More Than Ever

Now more than ever, there is an overwhelming amount of stress when it comes to school, for both students and staff. As a way to combat those stresses, Clear Run Intermediate School proudly welcomes three trained and certified therapy dogs into the building on various days throughout the week.

Jett, is a standard poodle rescue who belongs to our sixth grade guidance counselor, Ms. Chelik. Riley is a long-haired dachshund who belongs to reading specialist, Ms. Fries and Charlie is a mixed breed rescue who belongs to fifth grade teacher, Mr. Agostini.

There are many proven benefits of therapy dogs in schools across the country. They are often referred to as “miracle workers” because they can really change to outcome of some tough situations.

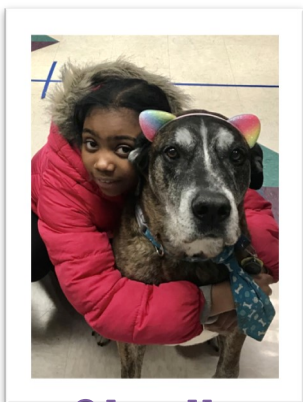
Physical Benefits: Interaction with therapy dogs has been shown to reduce blood pressure, provide physical stimulation and assist with pain management.

Social Benefits: A visiting therapy dog promotes greater self-esteem and focused interaction with other students and teachers.

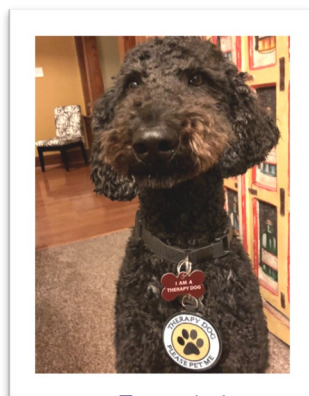
Cognitive Benefits: It has been empirically proven that therapy dogs stimulate memory and problem-solving skills.

Emotional and mental health benefits: A recent national survey of adolescent mental health found that about 8 to 10 percent of teens ages 13-18 have an anxiety disorder. A therapy dog can lift moods in the classroom, often provoking laughter. The therapy dog is also there to offer friendship and a shoulder to lean on for students.

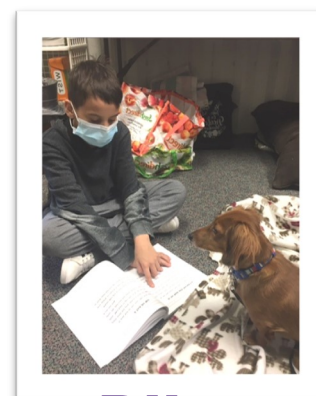
We are so proud of the work that our therapy dogs do here. We couldn't imagine walking the halls without them!



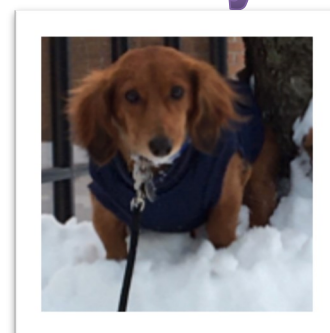
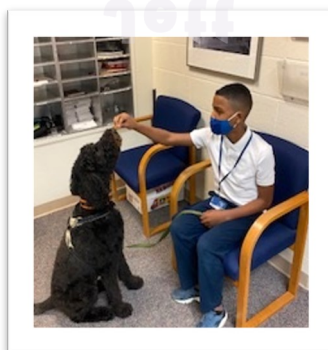
Charlie



Jett



Riley



Guidance News



Join us in Guidance on Wednesdays! Have your students log into their grade level Guidance Google Classroom to see what time they offer LIVE Google Meets. All students can socialize with friends, play games and check in with their counselor.



Each student in the district is required to have a career portfolio. Please make sure your students have logged into their grade level guidance Google Classrooms. They need to access the Career Lessons and complete the attached worksheets to add to their portfolios. They will learn about entrepreneurship, traditional and non-traditional careers.

Amazon Future Engineers

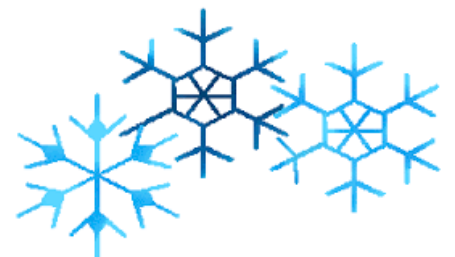
CRIS has been accepted into a partnership with the Amazon Future Engineer program and Project STEM to bring a comprehensive introductory computer science course to our 6th Grade students. The CS Explorations course will empower students to create authentic artifacts and engage with computer science as a medium for creativity, communication, problem solving, and fun. In this course, students will learn the foundational concepts and skills of computer science (CS). They will explore using computers to solve problems and to express themselves. Students will build, remix and share animations, games, stories, music and art, in a collaborative environment.



Fourth Grade is Catching Snowflakes!



Hearing of a possible snow day, Ms. Schaller and her fourth grade students read "The Snowy Day" by Ezra Jack Keats. Students discussed how exciting it can be to await a snow storm. They also discussed how it feels to be surrounded by snow and feel the snowflakes falling all around you. The students created a depiction of themselves through different cut outs of paper to display what they look like among the falling flakes of snow.



Upcoming Events

February 12th

SCHOOL CLOSED
Teacher In-Service Day

February 15th

SCHOOL CLOSED
President's Day

February 19th

SCHOOL CLOSED
Parent/Teacher Conferences
Virtual

February 26th

Mid-Point of the 3rd Qtr.
*Log onto HAC to check
your child's progress

March 3rd

Progress Report Grades
will be posted on HAC

March 31st

Last Day of 3rd Qtr.

April 1st–5th

SCHOOL CLOSED
Spring Recess

April 12th

3rd Qtr Report Cards
go home to students

****All Progress Report/Report Card Dates are subject to change based on snow days****



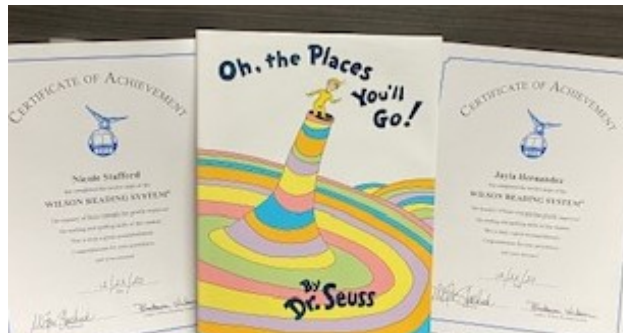
Third Grade Has A Dream....

To celebrate Martin Luther King Jr. Day, students in third grade who participate both virtually and hybrid, celebrated and learned about Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. and his famous "I Have A Dream" speech. Students' photos were taken, printed and incorporated in their very own "I Have A Dream" speech bubbles. Students made personal connections with their own life by writing the dreams they have for themselves.



Oh, the Places You'll Go!

Congratulations to Jayla Hernandez and Nicole Stafford of CRIS. Both 6th grade students recently completed the Wilson Reading Program. Jayla and Nicole have been instructed in the program, by Ms. Eve Stachnik, since the 3rd grade. When asked about their accomplishments, Ms. Stachnik said "It goes without saying, that my girls are two of the hardest working students I've ever had the pleasure of teaching. The Wilson program takes tremendous self-motivation, hard work and perseverance. They exemplify everything associated with PRIDE in and out of the classroom! Jayla and Nicole have made outstanding progress in their phonics, decoding, fluency,



reading, spelling and comprehension skills. Graduating from this program is a huge accomplishment for both students." The girls will each receive a Certificate of Completion and a copy of Dr. Seuss' book, Oh, the Places You'll Go! Jayla and Nicole are two examples of GREAT things happening at CRIS!

Sensational Science

Brett Agostini, a 5th grade Math & Science Teacher here at CRIS, received a grant from the Brodhead Chapter of Trout Unlimited to provide the materials and will be conducting Trout in the Classroom (TIC) for the second semester. Through this program, students will have the opportunity to raise trout from eggs to fry, monitor tank water quality, engage in stream habitat study, and grow to understand ecosystems, just to name a few! TIC incorporates science and math into one fun and engaging activity for students. At the end of the school year, the students will release their trout in the nearby Tobyhanna Creek. We are looking forward to following this exciting activity as it unfolds, stay tuned!

