Dear W. R. Brown Families,

Hello and Happy Spring! This month we begin our state testing in 3rd, 4th, and 5th grades. Students in 4th grade take the DeSSA Social Studies test and students in 5th grade take the DeSSA Science on April 5th. Students in all grades take the SBAC ELA on May 3rd and 4th and Math tests on May 10th and 11th.

Spring Break will be from Friday, April 15th to Friday, April 22nd. We look forward to welcoming students back on Monday, April 25th.

Please join us in congratulating Dr. Fitzgerald as he retires from the Caesar Rodney School District. The staff and students at W. Reily Brown would like to thank him for all he has done to support our school over the years. We wish him the best in his next adventure!
Habit 7: Sharpen the Saw

Habit 7, Sharpen the Saw, is preserving and enhancing the greatest asset we have – ourselves. It’s regularly renewing the four dimensions of our nature: body, mind, heart, and spirit.

Leadership in Literature

Hana Hashimoto, Sixth Violin by Chieri Uegaki

With only three violin lessons under her belt, Hana Hashimoto signed up for the Talent show. Her brothers think it’s a bad idea to sign up as a beginner, but Hana is determined – until it’s time to go on stage. Thankfully, she recalls the sage advice of her grandfather.

If I had six hours to chop down a tree, I’d spend the first four hours sharpening the axe.

~Abraham Lincoln

At Home Challenges:

- How will your family Sharpen the Saw over the weekend?
- Did you have “quiet time” this week? How did you spend it?
- How do you keep your mind sharp?
- How do you take care of your body?
- How do you build and strengthen your relationships?
- How do you serve others?
Celebrate Earth Day

**Everyday Acts of Stewardship:** Plant the idea of environmental stewardship in your children all year – not only on Earth Day – by making little changes in your daily life.

Our daily routines take a toll on the planet. It can be fascinating to show children how even their smallest activities add up to a significant impact.

- Look at the easy Zero Footprint Youth Calculator at [https://calc.zerofootprint.net/youth/](https://calc.zerofootprint.net/youth/). You’ll see how your lifestyle choices determine your carbon footprint and how small changes can lessen it.

- Now look at [50 ways to help the planet](https://www.50waystohelp.com/) at [https://www.50waystohelp.com/](https://www.50waystohelp.com/). Read the list together and decide which change(s) your family will implement.

- If you’re feeling ambitious, take this month-long zero-waste challenge at [https://www.goingzerowaste.com/blog/31-day-zero-waste-challenge-1/](https://www.goingzerowaste.com/blog/31-day-zero-waste-challenge-1/), listing one small change your family can make each day.

- If desired, use art materials to create fun, colorful reminders – pictures, signs – to help family members keep up your new habits.

[![4 Conversation Starters for Earth Day](https://www.doinggoodtogether.org/bhf/celebrate-earth-day)](https://www.doinggoodtogether.org/bhf/celebrate-earth-day)
Notes from the Nurse

Allergy season has sprung.

Ways to help relieve your symptoms:

*Stay hydrated by drinking 8 glasses of at least 8 ounces of water a day.
*After coming inside, wipe face and nose with cool cloth to remove pollen particles.
*Treat your symptoms with MD approved over-the-counter cold and allergy relief medications. Research some natural products to use also.

*Cool mist humidification at night to help keep airways moist.

*Eat healthy and remember to eat the colors of the rainbow to help with food choices.

Stay safe