



View Ridge Otter Know

Friday, March 19th, 2021

Para versión en español, de favor contactarse a [Shannon Otto](#)

Upcoming Calendar Events

- **Equi-Tea Disability Awareness Presentation:** W 3/24 7pm
- **FOCS: Anti-Racism Workshop:** T 3/30 6:30-8:30pm
- **Music Night Out:** TH 4/29 5:00-7:00pm

Dear VRE Families,

Yesterday's [events](#) in the Atlanta area was a culmination of a significant rise in hateful acts and crimes towards Americans of Asian & Pacific Islander descent over the past year. We acknowledge that there have been several incidents that have taken place in our community and school.

At times, in acts of violence, our instinct is to "protect" our children from these hateful acts, but we have to recognize and be aware that it is our privilege that allows us to not have these hard conversations around racism and violence. Instead, we should talk openly with our children about differences, and create a pathway of trust and honest communication. This is an opportunity to have an open conversation with our kids at home. We have included some resources we have found helpful below.

View Ridge Elementary stands with our BIPOC families. It takes all of us to ensure our school is a welcoming, inclusive, and safe place for ALL people in our community.

Workshop for Undoing Racism

- [3/30 6:30 PM - 8:30 PM - Undoing Racism and Teaching Equity to our Children](#) Workshop
 - [Register Here](#)

Online Resources:

- [Talking to Children About Tragedies and Other Events](#)
- [Nine Tips for Talking to Kids about Trauma](#)
- [Responding to Tragedy: Resources for Educators and Parents](#)
- [How to Talk to Kids About Difficult Subjects](#)

Equi-Tea Disability Awareness

Fourth Wednesday of the month is Equi-Tea evening! Please join us at **March 24th at 7pm** for a short presentation on disability awareness, followed by a facilitated community discussion. We are hoping to connect with the community, discussing whatever is on your mind - be it returning to school, hiring a new principal, disability awareness, or anything else. Come to learn, come to listen, come to build community with fellow VRE families. All are welcome. Kristin Kleidon, SPED Liaison, and Shannon Otto, DEI Chair, will present and facilitate. Thank you so much for your participation!

Email DEI@viewridgeschool.org for a link!

Purchase your Yearbook!

Hello Otters – Thank you SO MUCH for sending in your photos! We are so overwhelmed with the positive response! Would you like to purchase a yearbook? **Online ordering is open!** **Yearbooks are \$15.** They will be automatically shipped to the school and a pickup date will be set near the end of school.

New this year, you CAN opt to have your book shipped directly to your home. Shipping fees are added at the time of checkout.

To Order:

- Go to <https://memorybook.com/online-pay/parent-pay>
- Our school code is 991202
- **Last day to order online is April 20, 2021.** After that date we *may* have additional copies for sale, but no guarantees.
- If you need any assistance at all with ordering, please contact Angela or Liz at VRYearbook@gmail.com
- We'd love to add some additional photos – send us your candid!

Now that student photos are almost all in - we'd love to add some candid. Did your student complete a project they're really proud of? Participate in the Harvest Library CheckOut? Snap a pic at supply pickup day? Feel free to send those along! Please remember: if your pic has additional children in it, please identify them and ensure their parents give permission for submission. We're counting on you here, Otters! **Submissions due April 1 – please send to VRYearbook@gmail.com** labeled "candid" and with your child's name

It's not too late – you can still submit your child's photo! We have been amazed with the number of submissions. If it's slipped your mind, it's not too late – please submit by April 1.

Thank You Otters!

OTTER KNOW SUBMISSIONS

The Otter Know is published during the school year once a week on Tuesday, with an Otter Know Update on Friday if needed. Articles for the Otter Know are due the Friday before the Tuesday publication. Articles can be sent through the website, or to the Communications Committee.