

School Calendar

This Week

Tuesday, April 10

Parent Council Meeting – Homestead 2:00-3:00 pm

Looking Ahead

Monday-Friday, April 16-20

Spring Break – No School

Monday, April 23

School Resumes – In-service cancelled

Tuesday, May 1

7th Grade Parent Evening

Thursday, May 3

6th Grade Play

Saturday, May 5

Mayfaire

Wednesday, May 9

Parent Council Meeting 6:30-8:30 pm

Saturday, May 12

Parent Stage 6:30 pm

Monday, May 14

2nd Grade Parent Evening

How to Contact Us

info@rivervalleyschool.org

lc@rivervalleyschool.org

bot@rivervalleyschool.org

pc@rivervalleyschool.org

The May Lunch Menu

is attached to this week's Current.
Orders are due by **Thursday, April 26th**.

Auction News

Last Chance to be part of the Unique Experiences from the Auction. For more details, see From the Board inside. To bid go to: <https://rvws2018auction.ggo.bid>

REMINDER:

2018-19 Enrollment Contracts, with the \$250/child on-time deposit, are **due on THURSDAY, 4/12/2018**. Contracts received after 4/12 must be accompanied by a \$500/child deposit. All deposits are credited toward your 2018-19 tuition.

Mayfaire is Just Around the Corner!

Parents in all classes are asked to make Pocket Fairy items (20 items per family).

The Pocket Fairy Box and ideas and instructions are located in the lobby.

We will also be collecting bouquets of flowers 2 days before the festival. If each family donates a bouquet we will have plenty for the children to make flower garland headbands the day of festival.

Please contact your classroom coordinators with any questions.

Mayfaire Artisan Market

Parents and the River Valley community are gearing up for another Artisan Market!

If you have some handmade items and would like to join us as part of the Mayfaire Artisan Market, please email Ivy at

Karanagoddess@gmail.com

Calendar Adjustments

In the spirit of simplifying what feels like a very hectic spring calendar, the faculty has made some changes:

- RVWS will not be hosting Grandparent's and Special Friends Day (scheduled for May 11th). Instead, we are excited to showcase the Music department work on Thursday, May 31st from 2pm to 3pm. There will be performances from both orchestras and both choruses as well as from the grade school classes. All are invited, guests are welcome!
- **April 23rd will now be a regular school day, in-service is cancelled.**
- Friday, May 25th will be a full day of school.
- Thursday, June 14th will be a full day of school, and will be the last day of school for nursery and kindergarten students.
- Friday, June 15th will be a 1:00 pm dismissal, and will be the last day of school for grade school students. The closing Rose Ceremony will be held Friday morning at 9am, followed by the Field Day. Dismissal is at 1pm. Again, all are invited.
- The 8th grade Graduation Ceremony will be held Saturday, June 16th

The adjusted calendar of the school year is attached to this week's Current. Watch the Current and emails from your class teachers for important details as these dates come closer!

Due to both parent and faculty input, the 2018-19 calendar is being carefully considered in an effort to make school-life feel more manageable for everyone, without losing valuable opportunities to gather as a community to celebrate our school and our wonderful students.

Parent Stage is Coming Down the Pike, Fast!

Saturday May 12 — a week after Mayfaire, 6:30 - ?

What's Parent Stage? Parent Stage is our big Party for Parents, the night we get down, get funky, get loose. A variety show of performances by parents, for parents. No kids (get your babysitter now!).

And no money! It's a free event, not a fundraiser. Potluck & BYOB. It's as amazing as you've heard.

We welcome rusty performers, seasoned performers, and always-wanted-to-be performers. The bold and the shy. If you dance, act, walk on your hands, or make music, bring your act to Parent Stage. There's even a choir if you'd rather sing in a crowd.

Sign ups close April 20th. Please let Chellie Bader (Faye, Grade 5) know if you want to be on the roster. Michelle@smorgasb.org or 617-501-7517. Please contact Kira Willey for choir questions: kirawilley@rcn.com.

From Administration

RVWS Video for your Viewing Pleasure

Hilary Murphy made a wonderful new video about the importance of play and you will find many familiar faces. If you missed the presentation at the auction or if you loved it and want to see it again, it is available on our website: www.rivervalley.school.org. Check it out.

Chicken Pox Update

One case of chickenpox (Varicella virus) has been reported in the middle school.

Chickenpox is very contagious. Symptoms of chickenpox include achiness, fever, sore throat, with an itchy, blistered rash. Please keep your child home if they are not feeling well. Varicella is spread by airborne droplets generated by sneezing and coughing or through contact with fluid from pox blisters. It takes 10 to 21 days to develop symptoms after being exposed to someone with chickenpox. The illness lasts from 5 to 10 days.

The ill child must stay at home until the rash has crusted over. Individuals are able to transmit the disease to others from two days before the rash appears until the last lesion has crusted over. If your child develops chickenpox, please be sure to notify their class teacher and the school office at once.

Varicella vaccine can prevent this disease. It is available for children 12 months of age and older. Currently, Pennsylvania law requires two doses of vaccine for attendance in all Pennsylvania schools. Individuals whose immune systems are compromised or pregnant women may be at greater risk for complications from the chickenpox. Those individuals should immediately contact their health care provider or obstetrician regarding this current exposure.

If you would like further information on the Varicella virus, the CDC website (<http://www.cdc.gov>) is an excellent resource.

The Department of Health may require unvaccinated students to stay home from school for 21 days past the most recent onset of chickenpox. If your child is not immunized and you begin the 2-dose series at this time, your child will not need to be exempted. If your child has had chickenpox, please be sure that RVWS has verification from your healthcare practitioner on file.

If your child has received only one dose of the Varicella vaccine but not the 2nd, please have them brought up to date immediately.

If you have any questions, please speak with Cindy Schretlen.

Condolences

We send our condolences to the family and friends of Bob Schumann, father of RVWS alumnae Rosalie and Billy Schumann and former husband of River Valley kindergarten teacher, Joyce Parker. Bob passed away on March 18th. Our thoughts and prayers go out to all who knew and loved him.

Thank you

Thank you to Tony Stuart for installing the new cabinetry in the front office.

From the Faculty

What the Children are Learning:

First Grade – Language Arts

Second Grade – Language Arts

Third Grade – Old Testament

Fourth Grade – Local Geography

Fifth Grade – Ancient Greece

Sixth Grade – Physics

Seventh Grade – Wish, Wonder & Surprise

Eighth Grade – History

Let the Thawing Begin! Happy Spring!

This is a friendly reminder that our garden is very wet, so please be sure that your 1st-5th graders have their rain boots and rain pants for gardening, as we will start to uncover planting beds and compost and haul fresh soil in for the season... good dirty work. This is a good time to think about a garden hat for your child (a simple baseball cap will keep the sun out of eyes). Thank you to the First grade and Yonas and Yana Rahman as well as Aidan Goldstein for helping to prepare and plant our pea bed....It has begun!

From the Board

Don't Miss these Unique Experiences!

There are still spaces available in several of the unique experiences that were offered at this year's auction. Many people have been curious about how they can join in the fun. Please visit the online bidding site - <https://rvws2018auction.ggo.bid> - to reserve your space. Here's what is still available but this is your last chance. Be sure not to miss out!

Sound Clash - The Intersection of Punk & Hip Hop at the Dawn of New Music

Gather with your fellow River Valley music enthusiasts, led by Professor Andrew McIntosh and Ron Ferguson to explore and reflect upon a most magical time in history, the cultural Rubicon crossed by previously unheralded pioneers whose courage in creativity ushered in concurrent eras that forever changed the way we look at life through the filter of music.

Person Protection & Self Defense Class with RVWS Parent JR Nichols - Join River Valley's very own master of martial arts Robert "JR" Nichols as he leads a dynamic, two-hour adult group self-defense class at RVWS. The class focus is to inform and improve the awareness and physical preparation in the event of a violent assault. Participants will learn to diffuse the most common attack situations before they happen, as well as learn simple defensive techniques. We will cover common sense awareness, learning to read situations and self-defense techniques based on common daily actions. Goal: Empowerment. No experience needed.

Men Only Poker Night - Face it gents, you need some time away from the family and time away from the kids. You've had enough. Take a night off with Bill Nyberg and bring the ace up your sleeve and green visor for poker night. Beer and pizza will be plentiful. And don't forget to bring your wallet - there will be a \$10 buy-in to play, with one re-buy. Losers get to play pool and pinball. Only 10 spots so bid early!

Uncle Tom's Cabin with RVWS Parent Ron Ferguson - Join a group of your River Valley peers as we celebrate and investigate this crown jewel of 19th Century American literature. Ever controversial, together we will read and discuss this important document of the pre-Civil War abolitionist movement in an interactive, multi-media session where we will share music and video clips, readings from secondary sources, food and drink of the period and, of course, examine the journey of the characters and draw parallels to life in the new millennium. *"The longest way must have its close-the gloomiest night will wear on to a morning. An eternal, inexorable lapse of moments is ever hurrying the day of the evil to an eternal night, and the night of the just an eternal day."*

Karaoke Night with RVWS Parents, Rod & Katherine Schilling - Join the Schillings for a night of karaoke and party. Food and drinks will be provided but you may bring anything you like. Please remember to coordinate a designated driver or use Uber because Rod and Katherine know how to throw a good party!

End of Year Garden Party hosted by the RVWS Board of Trustees - Please join the RVWS Board of Trustees on June 2 from 4 to 8 in the Garden for an end of year Garden Party, to celebrate and thank our faculty, and to say farewell to our wonderful gardener, Melissa Goldstein. The evening will include lawn games, cocktails and heavy hors d'oeuvres, and great company!

From the Community

Kombucha Quest

If you are making kombucha at home, or know someone who does, I would love to have a baby! Contact Melanie at 215-280-3154

Frenchtown Park Clean-up

Annual Park Clean-up Day, Saturday, April 21st, 8:30am-3:30 pm at Frenchtown Borough Park.

2018 Educational Forum

For families with intellectually curious students.

Sunday, April 15th, 9 am- 4 pm

Friends' Central School, 1101 City Avenue, Wynnewood, PA 19096

Interesting workshops for parents and children. For more information go to: www.scholarsearchassoc.com and click on The Philadelphia Forum

St. Luke's UCC Rummage and Bake Sale

Thursday & Friday, May 3 & 4, 9 am-8 pm, Saturday, May 5 – Bag Sale All Day 9 am-4 pm.

Sale will take place at the building located at the intersection of Routes 412 & 611 in Ottsville. Lunch Available.

Donated items welcome there from April 11-30. Or drop off items on the porch at the schoolhouse of St. Luke's UCC Church on Durham Road. No computers, fax machines, printers, TVs, cribs, car seats, mattresses, encyclopedias, used paint cans, or items needing repair please. For info call: 484-357-5247 or 215-479-2724.

Cut Flower CSA Subscriptions Available for Spring!

Receive a beautiful, lush, bouquet of premium, seasonal, super-fresh flowers and foliage sustainably grown by a former River Valley parent, Jean Tuma of newly launched Flores Temporis, LLC.

I'm passionate about "real" flowers with fragrance and charm, varieties that do not ship well (and therefore are mostly unavailable at standard retail outlets) and heirloom cultivars. Treat yourself or would make a great teacher appreciation gift! 4 consecutive weeks this spring (start date TBD but around late April), one bouquet per week, for \$125 (includes tax, mason jar vase and Tuesday delivery to RV).

Must have at least 4 subscribers for delivery to RVWS. Contact Jean via email at florestemporis@gmail.com or call/text to 484-226-5395 for further details or any questions. Happy Spring!

German Club Moving to Wednesday

German Club is moving to Wednesdays, and our final round of the year begins April 4, 3:30-4:30 pm, at the Presbyterian Church in Milford. The cost is \$150 for ten classes, (\$15 per class), and car pooling from RVWS is available. German Club provides an opportunity for kids to continue their enthusiasm for the German language, discover the excitement of speaking a foreign language, and learn about European culture. There are songs, stories, games and activities that have delighted Bucks area kids for years. (Tutoring is also available for more advanced students who want to prepare for high school German or families planning a trip to Europe.) Contact: Peter Ray, peter.ray@comcast.net, or 215-794-5816.

From the Artyard

FilmYard

Please join us for two unique film screenings in the month of April. For tickets or for more information on our upcoming screenings, please visit our website, www.artyard.org to buy tickets..

Human Flow, Saturday, April 14, 7:30 PM - Over 65 million people around the world have been forced from their homes to escape famine, climate change and war in the greatest human displacement since World War II. This documentary elucidates both the staggering scale of the refugee crisis and its profoundly personal human impact.

Mudlarking at Artyard

Sunday, April 8 1-3 pm – Weather Permitting

In preparation for our upcoming exhibition, The Memory Palace: Frenchtown at 150ish, we would like to invite the community to participate in mudlarking. The term mudlarking draws from the British tradition of scavenging for treasures in the River Thames. We will meet at ArtYard and head to the river as a group. Objects found during these expeditions will be on display in the Unearthed section of our spring exhibition. If you have treasures you have found on your own time that you would like to lend to ArtYard, please bring your objects to the ArtYard gallery

Wednesday-Sunday, 11:00 AM - 5:00 PM. To RSVP go to: <https://www.eventbrite.com/o/artyard> and type in Artyard.

Hawthorne Valley Farm Camp

Kids Can Cook Camp – Ages 8-13 - June-August

Cooking, Gardening, Animal Care and more

House Camp – Ages 8-12 – July-August

Feeding Animals, Archery, Gardening, Nature Projects, Hikes, Cook-outs, Swimming

Field Camp – Ages 12-16 – July-August

Campers become Junior Apprentices on the farm – 2 and 4 week sessions

Named one of the 7 best farm camps for kids by Modern Farmer Magazine!

pbhc.hawthornevalley.org 518-672-7500 X201

2018 Sustainable Living Expo

Friday, April 13th, 5-10 pm

Presentations, films, workshops, vendors, great food from the Taza Truck and more.

Hosted by the Key Club, Palisades High School, 35 Church Hill Road, Kintnersville, PA 18930

Find out more at peace-youth.org

If anyone has a sustainable business or educational topic they'd like to promote, or think of a business that might be interested, contact Tina Venini through the website: peace-youth.org. This event will reach thousands of families in Bucks/Northampton Counties and NJ.

From: Independent.co.uk via Waldorf Today

Give childhood back to children: if we want our offspring to have happy, productive and moral lives, we must allow more time for play, not less

Because students spend nearly all of their time studying, they have little opportunity to be creative or discover their own passions

By Peter Gray

I'm a research bio-psychologist with a PhD, so I've done lots of school. I'm a pretty good problem-solver, in my work and in the rest of my life, but that has little to do with the schooling I've had. I studied algebra, trig, calculus and various other math in school, but I can't recall ever facing a problem – even in my scientific research – that required those skills. What math I've used was highly specialized and, as with most scientists, I learnt it on the job.

The real problems I've faced in life include physical ones (such as how to operate a newfangled machine at work or unblock the toilet at home), social ones (how to get that perfect woman to be interested in me), moral ones (whether to give a passing grade to a student, for effort, though he failed all the tests), and emotional ones (coping with grief when my first wife died or keeping my head when I fell through the ice while pond skating). Most problems in life cannot be solved with formulae or memorized answers of the type learnt in school. They require the judgement, wisdom and creative ability that come from life experiences. For children, those experiences are embedded in play.

I'm lucky. I grew up in the United States in the 1950s, at the tail end of what the historian Howard Chudacoff refers to as the "golden age" of children's free play. The need for child labor had declined greatly, decades earlier, and adults had not yet begun to take away the freedom that children had gained. We went to school, but it wasn't the big deal it is today. School days were six hours long, but (in primary school) we had half-hour recesses in the morning and afternoon, and an hour at lunch.

Teachers may or may not have watched us, from a distance, but if they did, they rarely intervened. We wrestled on the school grounds, climbed trees in the adjacent woods, played with knives and had snowball wars in winter – none of which would be allowed today at any state-run school I know of. Out of school, we had some chores and some of us had part-time jobs such as paper rounds (which gave us a sense of maturity and money of our own); but, for the most part, we were free – free to play for hours each day after school, all day on weekends, and all summer long. Homework was non-existent in primary school and minimal in secondary school. There seemed to be an implicit understanding, then, that children need lots of time and freedom to play.

(Continued on the next page.)

I'm writing, here, in response to the news that the independent School Teachers Review Body is due to report back this week to Michael Gove on his plan to make school days longer and holidays shorter. The Education Secretary's hope is that more hours in school will raise test scores in the UK to the level of those in China, Singapore and other East Asian nations. Paradoxically, Gove's proposal has appeared just a few months after the Chinese ministry of education issued a report – entitled Ten Regulations to Lessen Academic Burden for Primary School Students – calling for less time in school, less homework and less reliance on test scores as a means of evaluating schools.

Educators in East Asian nations have increasingly been acknowledging the massive failure of their educational systems. According to the scholar and author Yong Zhao, who is an expert on schools in China, a common Chinese term used to refer to the products of their schools is *gaofen dineng*, which essentially means good at tests but bad at everything else. Because students spend nearly all of their time studying, they have little opportunity to be creative, discover or pursue their own passions, or develop physical and social skills. Moreover, as revealed by a recent large-scale survey conducted by British and Chinese researchers, Chinese schoolchildren suffer from extraordinarily high levels of anxiety, depression and psychosomatic stress disorders, which appear to be linked to academic pressures and lack of play.

The main focus of my own recent research is on the value of play for children's development. All mammals play when they are young and those that have the most to learn play the most. Carnivores play more than herbivores, because hunting is harder to learn than grazing. Primates play more than other mammals, because their way of life depends more on learning and less on fixed instincts than does that of other mammals. Human children, who have the most to learn, play far more than any other primates when they are allowed to do so. Play is the natural means by which children and other young mammals educate themselves. In hunter-gatherer bands, children are allowed to play and explore in their own chosen ways all day long, every day, because the adults understand that this is how they practice the skills that they must acquire to become effective adults.

The most important skills that children everywhere must learn in order to live happy, productive, moral lives are skills that cannot be taught in school. Such skills cannot be taught at all. They are learned and practiced by children in play. These include the abilities to think creatively, to get along with other people and cooperate effectively, and to control their own impulses and emotions. My bet is that Gove would agree that now, even more than in the past, creativity is a key to economic success. We no longer need people to follow directions in robot-like ways (we have robots for that), or to perform routine calculations (we have computers for that), or to answer already-answered questions (we have search engines for that). But we do need people who can ask and seek answers to new questions, solve new problems and anticipate obstacles before they arise. These all require the ability to think creatively. The creative mind is a playful mind.

All young children are creative. In their play and self-directed exploration they create their own mental models of the world around them and also models of imaginary worlds. Adults whom we call geniuses are those who somehow retain and build upon that childlike capacity throughout their lives. Albert Einstein said his schooling almost destroyed his interest in mathematics and physics, but he recovered it when he left school. He referred to his innovative work as "combinatorial play". He claimed that he developed his concept of relativity by imagining himself chasing a sunbeam and catching up with it, and then thinking about the consequences. We can't teach creativity, but we can drive it out of people through schooling that centers not on children's own questions but on questions dictated by an imposed curriculum that operates as if all questions have one right answer and everyone must learn the same things. Even more important than creativity is the capacity to get along with other people, to care about them and to co-operate effectively with them. Children everywhere are born with a strong drive to play with other children and such play is the means by which they acquire social skills and practice fairness and morality.

Play, by definition, is voluntary, which means that players are always free to quit. If you can't quit, it's not play. All players know that, and so they know that to keep the game going, they must keep the other players happy. The power to quit is what makes play the most democratic of all activities. When players disagree about how to play, they must negotiate their differences and arrive at compromises. Each player must recognize the capacities and desires of the others, so as not to hurt or offend them in ways that will lead them to quit. Failure to do so would end the game and leave the offender alone, which is powerful punishment for not attending to the others' wishes and needs. The most fundamental social skill is the ability to get into other people's minds, to see the world from their point of view. Without that, you can't have a happy marriage, or good friends, or co-operative work partners. Children practice that skill continuously in their social play.

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In play, children also learn how to control their impulses and follow rules. All play – even the wildest-looking varieties – has rules. A play-fight, for example, differs from a real fight in that the former has rules and the latter doesn't. In the play-fight you cannot kick, bite, scratch, or really hurt the other person; and if you are the larger and stronger of the two, you must take special care to protect the other from harm. While the goal of a real fight is to end it by driving the other into submission, the goal of a play-fight is to prolong it by keeping the other happy. In sociodramatic play – the kind of imaginary play exemplified by young children's games of "house" or pretending to be superheroes – the primary rule is that you must stay in character. If you are the pet dog, you must bark instead of talk and you move around on all fours no matter how uncomfortable that might be. If you are Wonder Woman and you and your playmates believe that Wonder Woman never cries, you must refrain from crying if you fall and hurt yourself. The art of being a human being is the art of controlling impulses and behaving in accordance with social expectations.

Play is also a means by which children (and other young mammals) learn to control fear. Young mammals of many species play in ways that look dangerous. Goat kids romp along the edges of cliffs; young monkeys chase one another from branch to branch in trees, high enough up that a fall would hurt; and young chimpanzees play a game of dropping from high up and then catching themselves on a lower branch just before they hit the ground. Young humans also play in such ways when free to do so. Why? Apparently, the slight risks involved are outweighed by gains. They are dosing themselves with the maximum levels of fear that they can tolerate without panicking, and they are learning to control their bodies in the face of that fear – an ability that may one day save their lives.

Children also play in ways that elicit anger. One youngster may accidentally hurt another in the rough and tumble, or negotiations about the rules of a game may fail, or teasing that was at first in fun may go too far. But for the fun to continue, the anger must be controlled. To keep the game going in such situations, the players must react assertively, to stop the offending behavior, without physically attacking or throwing a tantrum, either of which would bring play to an end. In this way, children learn to control their anger.

Researchers have raised young monkeys and rats in ways such that they are allowed other types of social interactions but are deprived of play. When these animals are tested, in young adulthood, they are emotional cripples. When placed in a moderately frightening environment, they overreact with fear. They panic and freeze in a corner and never explore the environment and overcome the fear as a normal monkey or rat would. When placed with an unfamiliar peer, they may alternate between panic and inappropriate, ineffective aggression. They are incapable of making friends.

Some people object, on moral grounds, to experiments in which young animals are deprived of play. What a cruel thing to do. But consider this: over the past 50 to 60 years, we have been continuously decreasing the opportunities for our own children to play. School became more onerous, as breaks were reduced, homework piled up, and pressure for high grades increased. Outside school, adult-directed sports (which are not truly play) began to replace impromptu games (which are play). Children began to take classes out of school, rather than pursue hobbies on their own. "Play dates", with adults present, replaced unsupervised neighborhood play, and adults began to feel it was their duty to intervene rather than let children solve their own problems.

These changes have been gradual, imperceptible, but over time they have been enormous. They have been caused by a constellation of social factors, including the spread of parents' fears, the rise of experts who are continuously warning us about dangers, the decline of cohesive neighborhoods and the rise of a school-centric, or "schoolish", take on child development – the view that children learn more from teachers and other adult directors than they do from one another.

This dramatic decline in children's opportunities to play has been accompanied by an equally dramatic increase in childhood mental disorders. It's not just that we are detecting such disorders where we failed to look before; the increase is real. Clinical assessment questionnaires, which have been administered to normative groups in unchanged form over the years, show that rates of clinically significant depression and anxiety in US schoolchildren are now five to eight times what they were in the 1950s.

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Other research indicates that empathy has been declining and narcissism increasing, ever since valid measures of these were first developed in the late 1970s. There are even well-validated ways of assessing creative thinking, and research using these tools suggests that such thinking has been decreasing among schoolchildren at all grade levels over the past 30 years. All of these deleterious changes, accompanying the decline of play, are exactly what we would predict from our knowledge of play's purposes.

No, our children don't need more school. They need more play. If we care about our children and future generations, we must reverse the horrid trend that has been occurring over the past half century. We must give childhood back to children. Children must be allowed to follow their inborn drives to play and explore, so that they can grow into intellectually, socially, emotionally and physically strong and resilient adults. The Chinese are finally beginning to realize this, and so should we.

Dr. Peter Gray is a research professor of psychology at Boston College and author of the acclaimed textbook 'Psychology' (Worth Publishers). His recent book, 'Free to Learn: Why Unleashing the Instinct to Play Will Make Our Children Happier, More Self-Reliant, and Better Students for Life' (Basic Books, £18.99), is available now.

7th Grade Limericks

River Valley has very good ratings.
You don't have to do much waiting.
It's open and free.
"I" becomes "we."
And every year you get to go skating.

There once was a tiny school.
Everyone thought it was cool.
We climb up a tree.
And say "yippee!"
And we sometimes have sharp tools.

The school's policy on phones is terse.
But the homework load could be worse.
Mayfaire is nice.
And we check for lice.
And everything is said in verse.

We have a party called Mayfaire.
We almost always have hay there.
There is a pole in the field.
We all have to wield.
A branch of snowy Mayfaire.

There once was a school on a hill.
Where handwork would give some a thrill.
When our cubbies are clean,
No one is mean.
And we're fed with good food to our fill.