



# Rockwell Elementary News



## Principal's Letter

**February 16, 2022**

### **Celebrating Black History Month**

Hello, Rockwell Elementary Families,

Good afternoon from campus, and welcome to Mid-Winter break! I hope this message finds you safe and well. Team: as we head out for break, I would like to take a moment to recognize and celebrate Black History Month. Included below is more information from our school Equity team.

Take care, everyone, and enjoy a few extra days with your Beagles. We look forward to welcoming everyone back on the morning of Tuesday the 22nd.

Kind Regards,



Michael Clark

Principal

### **Hello from the Rockwell Equity team!**

February is Black History Month. It celebrates the rich cultural heritage, contributions, triumphs and sacrifices of African Americans in our country's history.

Carter G. Woodson, a historian and president of the Association for the Study of African American Life and History started these efforts in 1926 to educate people about Black history and culture. He also had a goal to make this a serious field of study in colleges, universities and schools. February was chosen since it coincided with the birthdays of both Abraham Lincoln who was influential in the emancipation of slaves of Frederick Douglass who was a prominent leader in the abolitionist movement which fought to end slavery.

Each year there is a new theme. The theme for 2022 is **Black Health & Wellness**.

Learn more about this and see a list of other resources here:

<https://www.canva.com/design/DAE0plvaZ70/jxZ-oLxah7BMlksaeZpunQ/view?website#1>

To learn more about the history of slavery in America a great resource is the NY Times podcast titled “**1619**” (6 episodes, also available on spotify).

It is a New York Times audio series, hosted by Nikole Hannah-Jones, that examines the long shadow of American slavery.

<https://www.nytimes.com/2020/01/23/podcasts/1619-podcast.html>

Discussing race or injustice with children isn't always easy for adults. Try listening to this read aloud which helps to start a conversation with kids.

**Our Skin | Kids Read Aloud Books| Black History Month Read Aloud | Tough Conversations Book (~7 min)**

<https://youtu.be/J7m0n6fdiVo>

For a quick overview for kids on Black history month watch:

**PBS Kids Learning - Black History Month (~2 min)**

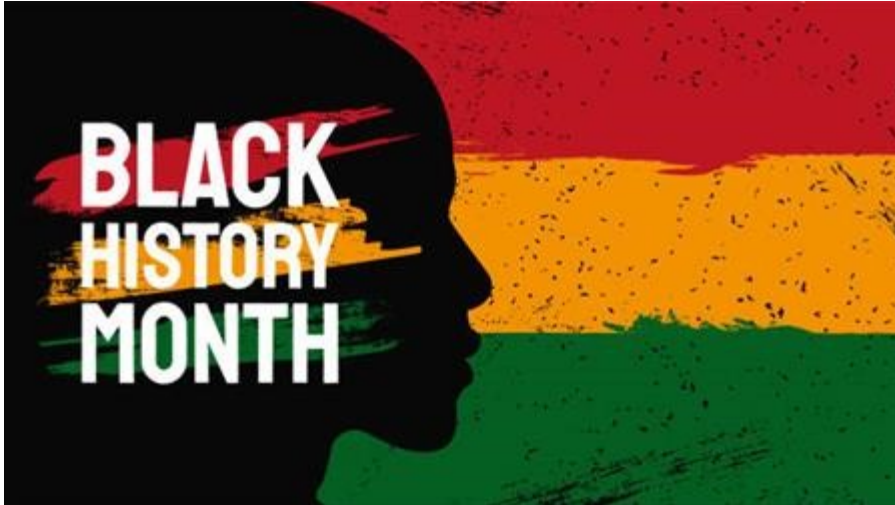
<https://youtu.be/f00AatzvxCO>

To help kids learn about influential Black women in the space race whose job was to do math from the story Hidden Figures watch:

**Kids Books Read Aloud: Hidden Figures (~13 min)**

<https://youtu.be/d0ijSpMWGQ4>

-Aneesa Yousuf  
Equity Team Member



Rockwell



Updates

**Rockwell Running Club Returns!!!**



**Announcing the start of the Rockwell Running Club!**

Who? All Rockwell students in kindergarten through 5th grade, who would like to come out and walk, jog and/or run during lunch recesses!

When? Tuesdays and Thursdays during lunch recesses, starting March 1st!

Where? We will meet at the flag poles on the soccer field! Students will walk, jog and/or run a marked path around the sand soccer field.

### **Attention Parents!**

We need your help to kick off this popular program! Volunteers are needed to help set up, monitor, and assist students with punch cards on laps being completed, and to award prizes to students who reach running milestones. Please sign up on Sign Up Genius here...

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/4090D4CAEAE2DA4FB6-rockwell8>.

Are you approved yet as an LWSD (Lake Washington School District) volunteer? See link below in Quick Links to get volunteer approval. Thanks!

Questions? Please email Christine Cottom, [ccottom@lwsd.org](mailto:ccottom@lwsd.org)

Christine Cottom  
Norman Rockwell Elementary  
Physical Education Specialist



### **Annual Dr. Seuss Multilingual Virtual Read Aloud Event in the Library!**

Every year we celebrate Read Across America week and Dr. Seuss' birthday with a Multilingual read aloud with his books printed in languages other than English. Due to safety concerns, this year's event will be a virtual one, utilizing FlipGrid to create read aloud videos at home. Then these videos will be shared with the entire school to view online.

**This virtual event will be held the week of March 1st, 2022**

Here is how it will work:

- Parents/students express interest in participating and sign up for a book in their home language. Contact me for a list of titles and languages.
- Once you are signed up, we will check out the book in English AND the chosen language (to the student), then deliver to the child in their classroom
- Parents/Students will record themselves on FlipGrid reading the books (tutorial on how to do this will be shared later this month-once we have sign ups and books are distributed)
- FlipGrid videos will be shared with all classes the first week of March, 2022.

Please have a look at the resource list in our Destiny catalog, find a book in your home language, discuss with your family on whether you want to participate. Then email me if you want to sign up. I will add your students name/your name to the list with the book you want to read.

**If you would like to participate, please contact me no later than: February 22nd, 2022**

**Questions? Feel free to contact me with any questions:  
shgordon@lwsd.org**

I am so excited to continue to celebrate our students' culture and language while reading these classic, fun books!



**SBA Testing in Spring**

Smarter Balanced Assessment: Lake Washington SBA testing window is

April 11th -June 3 for Grades 3-5. Our goal with SBA is to assess student learning growth.

Family vacations are special times, but we ask that you please consult the school calendar when making your vacation plans.

Student achievement and classroom attendance are positively related. We cannot duplicate what happens in the classroom by only making up written work.



### **February Character Trait of the Month: Empathy**

A fun way you can practice empathy is to go on a Feelings Walk. Take a walk around the neighborhood or at a local park. Be on the lookout for how people are feeling. Watch for facial expressions and body language. Talk through your observations about how they're feeling with your child. See if they agree! Then, ask some questions like: What might that person want? What might that person need?



### **Thank you LWSD voters!**

Based on the results shared by King County Elections, it appears that our three levies are heading for voter approval. A huge thank you to our community for helping us continue local levy funding to support excellence for every student. You can learn more about what our levies will fund at [lwsd.org/education-levies](https://lwsd.org/education-levies). Watch the video below of Superintendent Dr. Jon Holmen speaking about the results of the election from election night: [2022 Election Results - YouTube](#)



## **Lake Washington Tuition Preschool Program now accepting Interest Statements for 2022-23 school year**

The tuition-based Lake Washington Preschool Program is now accepting enrollment Interest Statements for the 2022-23 school year. New families interested in securing a seat for their child to enroll at one of the Lake Washington School District (LWSD) Preschool Sites in the 2022-2023 school year, need to complete the Preschool Interest Statement found at <https://www.lwsd.org/programs-and-services/preschool>.

Currently enrolled/returning preschool students, preschool students on an IEP or students enrolled in our Head Start program do not need to fill out the interest statement.

Interest Statements received before March 2, 2022 will be entered into a lottery for a seat in the LWSD Preschool program. Lottery will be held the week of March 7, 2022 and families will be notified by March 18, 2022. Any students who do not receive a seat via the lottery will be placed on a waitlist for that preschool location/session.

Families on the waitlist at specific preschool locations will be called and offered seats as they become available.

After April 11, 2022 registration/enrollments will be handled at the LWSD Early Learning Center at the Old Redmond Schoolhouse to fill any seats remaining after the lottery.

Please direct any questions to Nichole Townsend, preschool registrar at [ntownsend@lwsd.org](mailto:ntownsend@lwsd.org).

[Visit the Lake Washington Preschool Program website for more information and to submit a Preschool Interest Statement.](https://www.lwsd.org/programs-and-services/preschool)



## THE PERFECT JOB for PARENTS! Nutrition Services at LWSD is Hiring PT and FT Staff



### 2, 3, 4, & 5 HOUR SHIFTS AVAILABLE

Eastlake High School  
Juanita High School  
Lake Washington High School  
STEM High School  
Inglewood Middle School  
Kamiakin Middle School  
Timberline Middle School  
Mann Elementary School  
Mead Elementary School

### FULL - TIME SHIFTS

Hiring all experience levels. Typical shift is 6 am - 2:30pm.

### APPLY ONLINE!

[Sodexo Jobs at Lake Washington School District](#)



Melissa Allen at Sodexo at LWSD  
970.591.3801 [melissa.allen@sodexo.com](mailto:melissa.allen@sodexo.com)

- **NO NIGHTS & WEEKENDS:** Working for Nutrition Services is the perfect job for parents, retirees, and anyone who loves working around children. Hiring all positions, including 2-3 & 5-hour lunch shifts.
- **HOLIDAYS and SUMMERS OFF:** Your work schedule will follow the LWSD school calendar. You no longer need to worry about childcare during scheduled school leap days & breaks.
- **NO EXPERIENCE NEEDED:** Must be over 18 years old and have a willingness to learn.
- **RECOMMENDED COVID-19 SAFETY PROTOCOLS IN PLACE AND WORKING.** All staff wear disposable masks, be fully Covid-19 vaccinated, and follow LWSD Safety Plan.

Sodexo is an EEO/AA/Minority/Female/Disability/Veteran employer.

## Kindergarten Registration

It will soon be time to begin Kindergarten registration for the 2022-23 school year. The initial registration period for children who will be five years old on or before **August 31, 2022** will begin on February 24, 2022. Registration for all K-12 LWSD students is [online](#). All necessary documents can be accessed on the



LWSD website and completed documents can be uploaded securely. Parents who are unable to upload documents may send them by U.S. mail or drop them off at their neighborhood school. **Important: While K-12 student registration will continue throughout the school year and summer, parents are highly encouraged to register students as soon as possible. Registering early helps LWSD to ensure that class sizes are balanced and adequate staff are hired in time for the new school year.**

## PTA UPDATES

### Seeking baby pictures of 5th graders!

It's a Rockwell tradition to include baby pictures of each "graduating" 5th grader in the yearbook. If you'd like to participate in this tradition, please send a baby photo to [yearbook@normanrockwellpta.org](mailto:yearbook@normanrockwellpta.org). Please send a high resolution photo and include your student's name in the file name. **Deadline is March 4th 2022.**

### VIRTUAL STEAM NIGHT!

Families, please join us for STEAM night on February 25th from 5pm – 7pm. Your PTA has curated an evening chalk full of exciting activities to engage our young learners.

**Kinders, 1st, and 2nd graders** can log in using this Teams link:

<https://bit.ly/3JbFx5l> This age group will enjoy an interactive presentation from Pacific Science Center called "Radical Reactions" (think mad scientist meets a magical sorcerer!) Kids will get to watch a live and interactive presentation with awesome chemical reactions, controlled explosions, and even watch a scientist create elephant toothpaste! Kiddos will also get to play fun math games hosted by our local sponsor Mathnasium, and will learn about a variety of instruments from our local musicians at Bach 2 Rock.

**3rd, 4th, and 5th graders** can log in using this Teams link:

<https://bit.ly/3uBjlxI> This age group will enjoy an interactive presentation from Pacific Science Center called "Night Sky Tonight." Kiddos will get an inside peek into the Center's planetarium and will learn about constellations and the magical effect of our earth's axis. Like the younger group, our older learners will also get

to play interactive games with Mathnasium and will hear some awesome music produced by Bach 2 Rock.



## Snapshots of Rockwell Learning

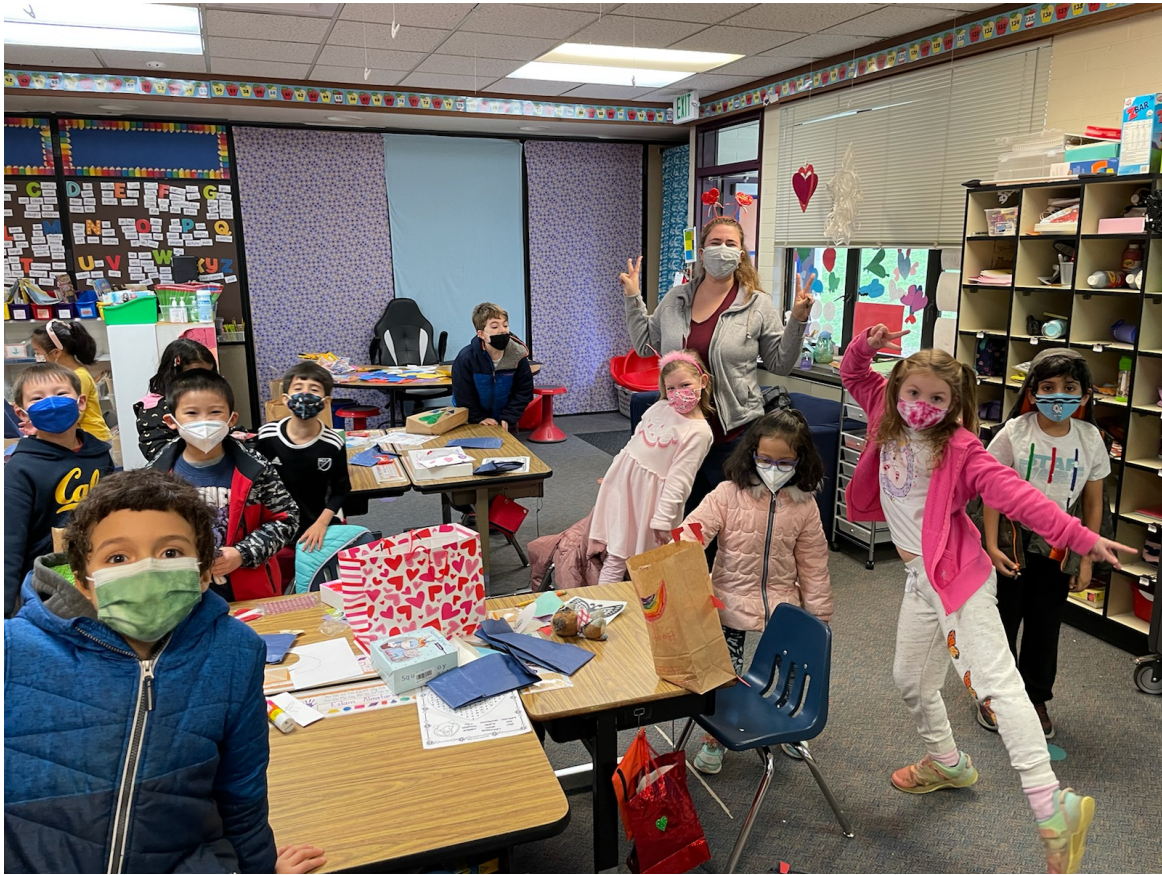
Our school namesake, Norman Rockwell, contributed several works to the national conversation around race and racial equity during his later years in the 1960's and 1970's, including "The Problem We All Live With," a depiction of heroic six-year-old Ruby Bridges being escorted to school by U.S. Marshalls. [Here is a link to a video interview of Ruby Bridges Hall from the Norman Rockwell Museum:](#)



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BvnxYDZ4ymY&t=3s>

**Thank you to all of our teachers and room parents for the work they put into this year's Valentine's Day parties! Our kids had a blast!**









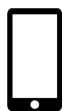
## Upcoming Events

### Calendar

- February 17, 18, 21      Mid-Winter Break
- March 11      - Staff Inservice Day (No School)

## Student's Rights and Responsibilities

Families: here is a link to our district Student Rights and Responsibilities page:  
<https://www.lwsd.org/programs-and-services/student-services/student-rights-and-responsibilities>. Please let Mr. Clark know if you have any questions. Thank you!



## Quick Links

**For information on Free Wi-Fi for families, follow this link:**

[LWSD Free Internet webpage](#)

Resources for LWSD Families & Staff During School Closure

- [Free Meals for Students](#)
- [Technology Support for Students & Families](#)  
Email for Students: [ftaccess@lwsd.org](mailto:ftaccess@lwsd.org) or  
Email Address for Parents: [parentquestions@lwsd.org](mailto:parentquestions@lwsd.org)
- [Educational Resources](#)
- [Child Care Resources](#)

## **Contact Info**

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Redmond, WA 98052

(425) 936-2670 Office

(425-885-5528) Fax

<https://rockwell.lwsd.org/>

<https://normanrockwellpta.org/home>



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