



Rockford Elementary Arts Magnet School

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Brenda Nyhus, Principal

A NOTE FROM THE PRINCIPAL 04-22-2022



Dear Parents,

Next week, our counselors, Allison Masessa and Jackelyn Bekius, and I will visit students in their classrooms to talk about diversity and inclusion.

We know kids are all diverse in their own way. Diversity can come in the form of learning styles and abilities, economic status, skin color, physical abilities, the list goes on. As always, we will definitely address these differences through the lens of kindness and inclusion. We will be going into each classroom next week sharing a storybook, using visual examples and visiting with kids.

I am always so proud of our students and how well they engage in these lessons with us. They have very caring hearts and are truly open to seeing the differences in each other and celebrating those differences. We are excited to visit with your kids next week and share some thoughts with them about diversity!

Have a great weekend and enjoy the warm weather!

Warmly,
Brenda Nyhus
Principal



Put it on your calendar

- April 25-29** Minnesota Obstacle Course - Phy Ed
- April 27- May 6** 2nd grade Artist in Residence
- May 4** Battle of the Books - third and fourth grade
- May 6** Second grade Grandparents Day
- May 9-11 and 16-18** Fourth Grade Artist in Residence
- May 17** Arts and Academics and one evening only Book Fair (REAMS)
- May 31** Fourth grade Track and Field

Peek at the Week

RTR students shine bright

The Respect, Trust and Responsibility (RTR) Superstar program promotes a culture of being kind to others, being accountable, honoring uniqueness and always doing the right thing at REAMS. Throughout the week, students who show exemplary acts or behaviors of respect, trust and responsibility are recognized as RTR Superstars and receive a special Star Student token from the school principal.

Kindergarten: Gunner Smith, Ryker Rebstock, Isabella Ruis, Reina Kaszubowski

First Grade: Lucy Roering, Landon Wurm, Grayson Robbins, Wesley Pohl

Second Grade: Cora Gunderson, Olivia Ross, Crosby Boyle, Eloise Day

Third Grade: Sarah Ray, Ariel Acevedo, Harris Harn, Cayden Haupers

Fourth Grade: Hayden Ornell, Fiona Wachholz, Finn Raisanen, Mason Pederson



First grade Artist in Residence - life cycle of a frog

First grade students were learning with Karla Nweje, a dance artist in residence, this past week. First graders connected their learning with the artist to the life cycle of a frog, one of the first-grade science standards.

When working with the guest artist, students used their bodies and imaginations for movement by re-creating the stages of a frog's life. In addition, students will learn the basic principles of dance: body, action, space, time, and energy. Learning with the use of their bodies, or kinesthetically, is a natural fit for first graders. Kinesthetic learning is a style in which learning takes place by the students carrying out physical activities, rather than listening to a lecture or watching demonstrations.



Kindergarteners and fairy tales

This week our study was all about Fairy Tales. Kindergarteners heard familiar stories not only told from different points of views, but also different versions from different places around the world. We talked about why fairy tales are important and why we still tell them today. In reading we have been practicing breaking up words into syllables to make them easier to read. Students were so excited when they realized they could read the word "Fantastic" without any adult help! We are so proud of how they are working, and their confidence is growing!

Minnesota author visits REAMS

Sponsored and fully funded by the Great River Regional Libraries author Mary Casanova visited REAMS. With a PowerPoint program including images of Northwoods animals and book covers and illustrations, Mary recounted her journey growing up in a family of ten, struggling with reading, and discovering that books are a window into the world and writing as a way to "have a voice." Mary introduced students to Little Otter in "Utterly Otterly Day," the trouble-making dogs in the "Dog Watch" series, and with help from students, the silly animals of "One Dog Canoe."



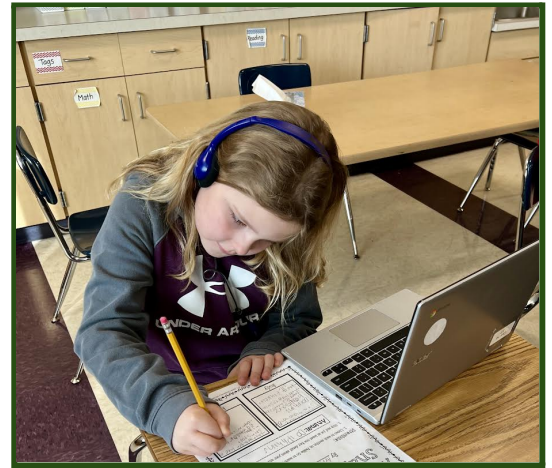
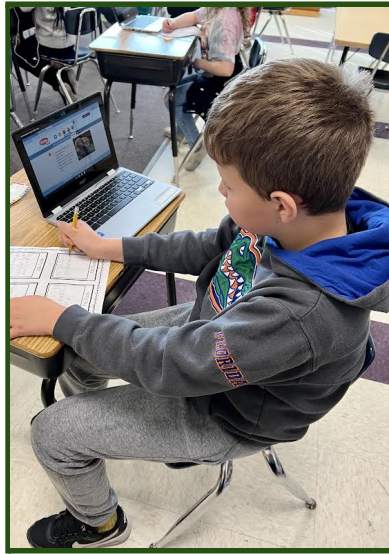
Third grade MCA testing- homerun

Third graders knocked it out of the park with MCA testing! They had their first exposure to MCA testing last week for reading and this week for math. Third grade teachers used a baseball theme for strategy posters, review was called "spring training," encouraging notes that looked like baseballs were sent from parents, and we will have a celebration when testing is finished. It was an opportunity for them to "show what they know." They were all able to use their own Chromebooks and take the test in their classroom. Way to hit a homerun, third graders!



Second grade digs deep

Mrs. Hammer's class has been learning about the research process. They have selected an animal to research and have been using WIN time to look up information about the animal's body, habitat, food, life cycle, and fun facts. They will be working to put their research into a nonfiction animal book throughout the next few weeks. We are excited to learn more about animals we don't already know a lot about!



REAMS, strong to the core in Phy Ed

Students in Physical Education this week worked on CORE strength and balance along with Focus and Cooperation in groups. Our tumbling and pyramid unit is always one of the most fun times in the gym and the noise level of laughter is joyful! Ask your child to show you some of the things they did and ask them what they liked the most!

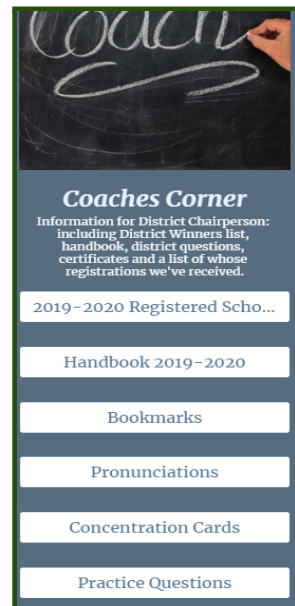


Battle of the Books practice questions available

Attention third and fourth grade Battle of the Books participants!

The Battle of the Books is May 4! If you would like to test your book knowledge, visit AKASL Battle of the Books for access to practice questions. Scroll down to the Coaches Corner to find Practice Questions. Download the "3/4Practice" questions using password Patience#2022 writing process: dealing with writer's block, drawing on personal experience, using the five senses; show, don't tell, and the use of conflict.

Battle Begins on May 4



Other Opportunities

Free weekend food program

Not an ISD883 sponsored event

Every Meal is a nonprofit organization with a mission to fight child hunger through our community and school partnerships. Every Meal strives to make a difference in the lives of children by focusing specifically on food gaps- the times when children aren't at school to access meal programs. Every Meal supports families with programming over the weekends, summers, and extended school breaks. Providing children with wholesome food is the focus of Every Meal.



Every Meal is free for all families!

- No qualifications required for enrollment
- Every Meal does not collect information from families; privacy is protected
- Families may enroll in the program at any time throughout the school year
- School staff discreetly deliver the food bags to students weekly

For more information or if you want to sign up to receive a free bag of food every week, please contact your child's school counselor!

Become a Girl Scout

Not an ISD883 sponsored event

Friendship, adventure, and making a difference—it all starts here.

Whether they're sleeping under the stars, creating the most colorful work of art, or teaming up with their new friends to build a robot, Girl Scouts grow into their strongest, kindest, most resilient selves. Watch your child make a difference in the world—and in themselves.

Join Girl Scouts today at GirlScoutsRV.org/Join! Join now for a discounted rate and a free welcome gift! For just \$35, your child will receive:

- Discounted Extended Year Membership, valid April 2022 through September 2023 (\$50 value). Offer valid April 1, 2022 through July 31, 2022. Financial assistance is available.
- Exclusive access to a virtual national Girl Scout event on May 19. Registration closes May 13.
- A welcome kit that includes a Girl Scout memory book and your child's first patch! While supplies last.

New troop leaders (and their accompanying Girl Scout) can join for FREE! Explore troops in your community and register at GirlScoutsRV.org/Join or scan the QR code on a mobile device to learn more. All girls in Kindergarten through grade 12 (Fall 2022) can join Girl Scouts.