REAMS ROCKET NEWSLETTER *March 2024*

Rockford Elementary Arts Magnet School encourages student imagination, inquiry, and discovery by using an arts-infused academic curriculum that fosters critical thinking and creativity.

March

March 5-6
Grade 4 Floor Hockey

March 7
Preschool Screenings
Kindergarten Roundup

March 12
Grade 4 Concert

March 13
Copper Street Brass Performance

March 14 and 18
REAMS Conferences

March 21
Terrific Thursday

March 22-29
No School - Spring Break



From the Principal

Dear REAMS Families,

Kindergarten Round Up is Thursday, March 7th. Rockford Elementary Arts Magnet school is proud to offer full day kindergarten for all students in a warm and welcoming environment. The staff has a fantastic year planned for students and are thrilled to welcome the class of 2037 to Kindergarten Round Up on Thursday, March 7th from 5:45p.m.-7:00p.m. If you have an incoming kindergarten student you should have received information in the mail. Do not hesitate to reach out to the REAMS office at 763-477-5837 if you have questions about registration or Kindergarten Round Up. We are excited for our newest little learners to join our REAMS family!

During the month of February, students participated in a variety of activities for "I Love to Read" month. Rockford Elementary Arts Magnet School had many events planned for the students that centered around the wonderful world of literature. The activities engaged students in reading by highlighting favorite book characters and promoting the love of books! We hope you spent time reading together as a family and continue to do so!

As we move into the spring months, third and fourth grade students are gearing up for the Minnesota Comprehensive Assessments (MCAs) in April. Students have been working hard all year to improve their Math and Reading skills. These assessments are taken by all students across Minnesota and are based on the Minnesota State Standards. More information about testing dates and how to best help your child feel prepared and confident on the days they take the test will be coming to you.
I hope you have enjoyed the beautiful "spring-like" weather we have had this winter. It has definitely been a very different winter, but the students have enjoyed getting outside a lot more often and have loved these warmer temperatures. Enjoy the wonderful outdoors, our REAL spring is just around the corner!

Warmly,

Brenda Nyhus
Principal

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REAMS

Welcome Class of 2037!

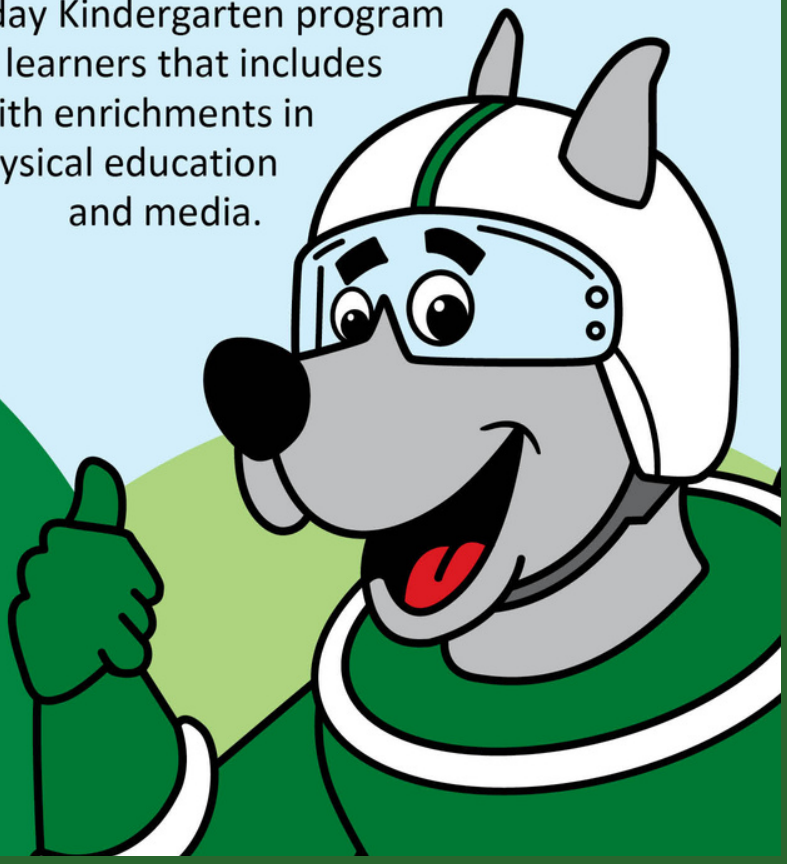
Rockford Elementary Arts Magnet School

Kindergarten

Now Enrolling for 2024-2025

Open enrollment & transportation available!

We offer an all day, every day Kindergarten program in a small, caring community of learners that includes a robust core curriculum with enrichments in art, music, theater, physical education and media.



Kindergarten Roundup

Thursday, March 7, 2024
5:30-7:00pm

Doors Open at 5:30pm
Pre-Registered Sibling Care Drop-Off at 5:45pm
Kindergarten Roundup Program at 6:00pm

REAMS | NEWS

NYSTROM & ASSOCIATES

School-Based Therapy

School-Based Therapy is a program in which Nystrom & Associates places clinical mental health providers at a community school to provide therapeutic services to students who have a mental health diagnosis. Therapists will collaborate with teachers, school social workers, and staff to aid the student in working towards their individual goals. The school-based therapist works with all students who qualify for mental health services. They do not need to be receiving special education services or have an individualized education plan (IEP). Guardian involvement is encouraged and recommended. For more information, please contact the your child's teacher or email our school counselors at leisticoa@rockford.K12.mn.us or reynoldsk@rockford.k12.mn.us.



PARENT TEACHER CONFERENCES



Conference links were sent on March 1st with the REAMS Newsletter email for classroom teachers and interventionists. Conference dates are:

Thursday, March 14th and Monday, March 18th.

As conferences approach, if you have any concerns about your child in any of their specialist classrooms, please feel free to come down and see any of the specialists before or after your child's conference. If you need to schedule a time, please email and let them know what time you would like to visit, and they will try to accommodate. Thank you for letting them enjoy your child this year.

K-4 Physical Education (REAMS Gymnasium)
Mr. Rickart (rickarta@rockford.k12.mn.us)
Mrs. Peterson (petersonc@rockford.k12.mn.us)



K-4 Art (Classroom 300)
Mrs. Weber (weberc@rockford.k12.mn.us)



Music (Classroom 100)
Mr. Eliason (eliasond@rockford.k12.mn.us) - Grade 4
Ms. Larson (larsonm@rockford.k12.mm.us) - Grades 1-3



K Music/K-4 Theater (Classroom 101)
Ms. Olson (olsont@rockford.k12.mn.us)



REAMS | POINTS OF PRIDE

Kindergarten!

Kindergarten was bustling with activity during the month of February! February was 'I Love to Read Month' and we celebrated accordingly by engaging in several activities geared to promote and foster the love of books and reading. Activities we participated in were readable shirt day, dress as your favorite book character, and P.J. day!
We're 100 days smarter! We also reached a major milestone this month in kindergarten: our 100th day of school!

On February 15th, we celebrated our first 100 days together by sharing collections of 100 items and dreaming of what we would do with 100 dollars. We practiced counting to 100 by 1s, 5s and 10s, and we worked together to make chains with 100 links, build with 100 cups, 100 blocks, 100 pattern blocks and make gumball machines with 100 dot stamps. The kindergarteners were challenged physically when they tried to do exercises counting to 100. 100 feels like a REALLY big number when you're counting and exercising! It was a very fun and exciting day for the class of 2036. From learning letter names and sounds to learning how to blend them together and read, our kindergartners have accomplished so much in the first 100 days. We are so proud of them!

Other topics of study this month were dental health, maps and communities, American symbols and presidents, Valentine's day fun and starting our Ocean Animals Unit! Students continue to progress in their reading, writing and math skills daily.

Sneak peek for March: In March we will continue to learn about the Ocean and Ocean Animals through music, art, and movement. We will also learn about Weather and the Season of Spring! March is also the month where we get to talk one on one with the Families of our Kindergarteners and share with them all of the wonderful things we have been doing in school. We look forward to meeting with you at conferences on March 14th and 18th!







REAMS | POINTS OF PRIDE

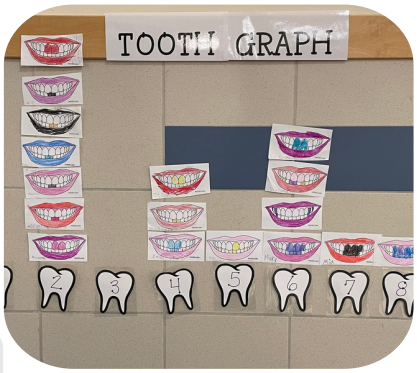
1st Grade

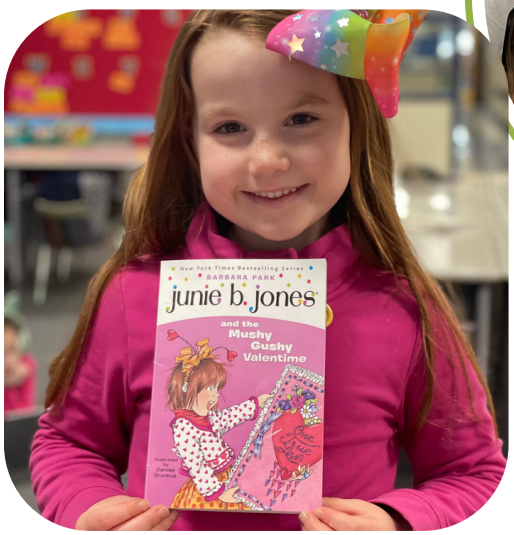
February has been filled to the brim with lots of goodness in first grade We enjoyed a month full of mystery readers surprising our classrooms for "I Love to Read" month. Our all-day read/pj day happened to fall on the 101st day of school. What better way to celebrate than having Cruella show up with her "101 Dalmatians"! This month we finished up our polar animals unit and started talking about dental health and working with coins. We squeezed in creating Valentine's and dressing up as book characters too!



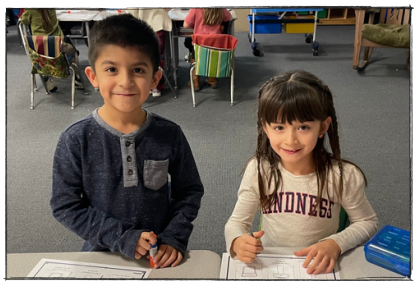












SNEAK PEEK FOR MARCH

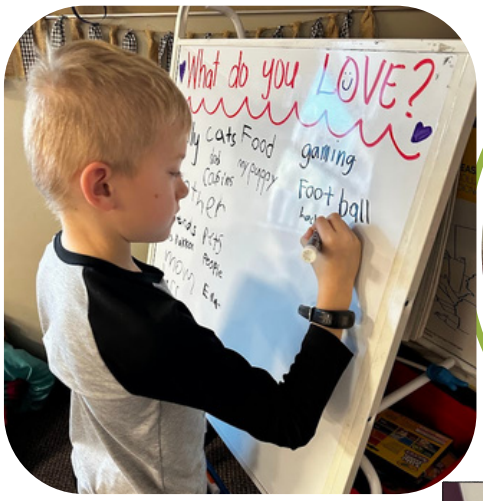
- Learning about the Human Body
- Making Healthy Choices
- Good Citizens

REAMS | POINTS OF PRIDE

2ND GRADE

The month of February was filled with so many reasons to LOVE being a second grader at REAMS. There were SO many things to celebrate. We enjoyed hearing about Groundhog's Day traditions and were excited about Phil's prediction for an early Spring! We recognized our friendships with special Valentines and treats for our classmates. We reminisced about the first 100 days of school and reflected on all that we have learned. We had fun dressing up, discovering new authors and books, and enjoying countless opportunities to READ.

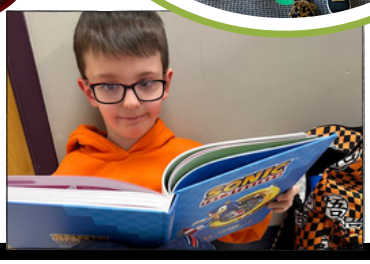
This month, we met a local singer and songwriter named James Hersch. Mr. Hersch spent two hours with each classroom writing a song that highlights some of REAMS core values- respect, trust, responsibility, kindness, and being an Arts Magnet School. Each song was unique, witty, and extremely "catchy". Once the writing was complete, we had a mini concert to share our songs with the other second grade classes. Mr. Hersch recorded these masterpieces for us to listen to afterwards. The students will love singing their special songs for years to come!













SNEAK PEEK FOR MARCH

- Spring Break!
- Telling Time
- Graphing
- Timelines

REAMS | POINTS OF PRIDE

3RD GRADE

February was a busy month! It kicked off with our Spotlight Concert on February 1st, featuring many traditional songs and songs related to winter. The students did a fantastic job incorporating different visual elements, like scarves and movement.

One big highlight of the month was our special visitor. Our weekly story, Aero and Officer Mike, featured a police and K-9 officer team. We were able to have a Hennepin County police officer and his K-9 partner come into our classroom to tell us what it is like in the field. The Officer told us about all of the special things his K-9 partner, Norm, can do, like sniff things out, find missing people, and run about 30 miles per hour.

Another highlight was delivering singing Valentines to those around the school. Each group of students sang a special song to spread Valentine cheer. Students delivered over 300 valentines! WOW!













SNEAK PEEK FOR MARCH

- Animal Report
- Conferences
- Native American Study with Art

REAMS | POINTS OF PRIDE

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REAMS
ROCKFORD ELEMENTARY ARTS MAGNET SCHOOL

WHAT WE ARE LEARNING:

Second Grade Artist in Residence

Minnesota singer/songwriter James Hersch was the artist in residence with 2nd grade students in early February, sharing his talents and helping each class create a new song. Each second grade class spent two periods with James to create a unique song to their class and topic. Topics for songs included kindness, respect, responsibility, trust, and even a song to celebrate 20 years of REAMS educating students as an Arts Magnet School. Creativity and ideas were flowing for two days, and second graders finished their residency with a performance for each other. It was amazing to see what they could create in such a short amount of time!





"Colors of the Wind" Inspired Art

Third grade Visual Arts students examined and discussed characteristics of a variety of different art styles (Abstract, Expressive, Functional, and Realistic). From this, students created their own original artwork based on their concert song "Colors of the Wind". Students created the art while listening to the song.






REAMS | POINTS OF PRIDE

I Love to Read Month

During the month of February, students participated in a variety of activities for "I Love to Read" month. We had readable shirt days, dress as your favorite book character day, all day read/pajama day, third and fourth grade battle of the books and LEAP into a new book day!











RTR (Respect, Trust, Responsibility) Super Stars



RTR Superstar tickets are handed out to students as a positive way to recognize RTR behavior with all students in the building. We do a drawing and share the winners in the announcements. These students come to Mrs. Nyhus' office to receive a prize. Pictured are the students who have been recognized as RTR Super Star prize winners this month!

Mark Your Calendars: REAMS Upcoming Events

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REAMS
ROCKFORD ELEMENTARY ARTS MAGNET SCHOOL

DECA DATE NIGHT

MARCH 1ST: 5 PM - 9 PM



What is it?

Deca Date Night is a fundraiser for the high school business club, DECA! On March 1st, from 5pm to 9pm, parents will be able to drop their kids off at the elementary school and have a night to themselves!

Registration & Cost

You can register through the Deca registration form, or at the door! The cost:
$20 per kid for pre-registration
$25 per kid for registration at door

DETAILS

SCAN FOR REGISTRATION

Date: Friday, March 1st
Time: 5pm to 9pm
Where: Elementary School Gym (door 35)
Age: All kids 3 and over (must be potty trained)
Activities: Arts and crafts, kickball, open gym, games, and a movie
Supervision: DECA members and advisor
Serving: Pizza and Veggies

Not an ISD 883 Sponsored Event

MARCH

5-6 @ 3-4:15pm Grade 4 Floor Hockey
7 Preschool Screenings
@ 5:45-7pm Kindergarten Roundup
12 @ 6:30pm Grade 4 Concert
14 Preschool Screenings
REAMS Conferences
REF Fundraiser Kickoff
18 REAMS Conferences
21 @ 2:15pm Terrific Thursday
22 Half Day Work Day/Full No School Day
25-29 Spring Break - No School

APRIL

2-4 Kindergarten Artist in Residence
4 Grade 2 Stages Theater Field Trip
8-12 Grade 1 Artist in Residence
11 Preschool Screening
11 @ 6:30pm Grade 2 Concert
15-19 PhyEd Gymnastics
22-26 PhyEd Obstacle Course
25 Launching Pad Parent-Child Night
25-26; 29-30 Grade 2 Artist in Residence
29-30 PhyEd Track

May

2 Preschool Screenings
Grade 2 Artist in Residence
3 @ 12:15pm Grade 2 Grandparents Day
6-10 All Grades at Track for PhyEd
14-16 Grade 4 Artist in Residence
15 Education Foundation Fundraiser Pick Up
20-21 Grade 4 Artist in Residence
21 @ 4-6pm Arts & Academics
24 @ 2:15pm Fabulous Friday
27 Memorial Day - No School
29 Grade 4 Field Trip to Capitol and Flint Hills

June

4 Last day of School
June 5- September 2 Summer Break

Summer

September

Sept 3-4 Assessment Days
Sept 5 First Day of School

BACK TO SCHOOL

EARLY CHILDHOOD AND LAUNCHING PAD PRESCHOOL| POINTS OF PRIDE

2024-25 LAUNCHING PAD PRESCHOOL REGISTRATION IS OPEN!

Launching Pad Preschool provides an outstanding and unique public preschool experience!





- Children 3 to 5 years old
- Full and half day options, 2, 3 and 5 days a week
- Reggio Emilia-Inspired Approach to education
- Rich in opportunities to discover and explore
- Encouraged to problem solve and try new ways to do "old" things
- Nurturing and accepting surroundings
- Caring and highly trained staff, including licensed early childhood teachers
- Located at Rockford Elementary Arts Magnet School

The entire program is designed to be engaging and fun so children don't just learn, they love to learn! On-line registration and information are available at www.rockford.ce.eleyo.com. Or visit our website at: www.rockford.k12.mn.us. Under the Community tab, click Early Childhood Programs. For more information, please call us at 763-477-7500.

ECFE POP-IN & PLAY

Come and explore our early childhood classroom especially set-up for your little ones. This is all about play, play and more play! A change of scenery, something new, maybe something messy that you don't have to clean up. Activities will change each week and be fun and engaging for your child. Come and play once, or every time. Pre-registration is requested at rockford.ce.eleyo.com, or by CLICKING HERE.

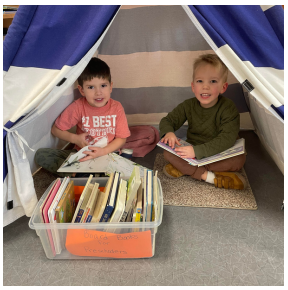
Tuesdays
11 am to 12 pm
Winter: Jan 9 to Mar 12, $2 /child/ session
Spring: Apr 9 to May 14, $2/child /session
REAMS ECFE room 213



GALAXY KIDS SCHOOL-AGE CARE| POINTS OF PRIDE

WHAT WE ARE LEARNING:

Galaxy Kids will hold their annual January non-school days for families within the program that need care on January 15th and 22nd. Students are able to participate in many fun filled activities throughout each day that are tied to the Snow/Winter Theme. They also are able to enjoy the weather and go outside and play on the playgrounds/outdoor spaces around the school.





Galaxy Kids is a certified before and after school child care program for preschool-6th grade students offered through Rockford Area Schools Community Education. We are conveniently located in Rockford Elementary Arts Magnet School right across the hall from ECFE and the Preschool classrooms. We are open Monday-Friday from 6:00am-6:00pm, to assist with family child care needs. We have many different registration options that are sure to accommodate most families' busy schedules. If you are looking for child care, before, during, or after school, then this may be the program for you.





EARLY CHILDHOOD SCREENING

Identifying possible concerns early in young children is the best way to prevent serious problems later. Children need to complete Early Childhood Health & Development Screening before they may enter public kindergarten. The ideal time to screen children is between ages 3 to 4. Early Childhood Screening also provides an opportunity for parents to discuss questions and concerns, and find out about resources in the school and community.

The Screening Process

Screening includes a health history, height and weight, immunization review, follow-up with parents and screening in the following areas:

- Hearing & vision
- Fine & gross motor skills
- Speech & development
- Social-emotional development

Make your appointment by calling the Early Childhood Programs Office at 763-477-7500. Appointments are needed and letters are sent to families with age-eligible children. If you have a child in this age group and do not receive a letter, please call us.

PARENT- COMMUNITY NEWS

Attention: Governor Walz signed a bill into law to provide breakfast and lunch at no charge to students at participating schools, beginning in the fall for the 2023-24 school year.

APPLICATION FOR EDUCATION BENEFITS:

If you haven't already done so, please take a moment to fill out this FORM. Our school also receives state funding for technology based on qualifying families! For more information or a Spanish version, click HERE.

FOOD SERVICE REMINDER:

Please check your parent portal for notifications (letters) regarding current food service balances.

Please note, per our School Board approved School Meals Policy, Low Account Balance and Negative Account Balance email reminders will continue to be sent. Since Rockford Area Schools are not receiving additional meal funding at this time, it remains the parent(s)' or guardian's responsibility to ensure adequate funds are available in the meal account.

CAMPUS

It is very important to ensure the school district has current household and contact information for all students. Please be sure to log in to your Parent Portal account to complete the Annual Update. The online update will replace the emergency forms you have received in the past. Keeping household information updated will help families stay connected and be informed of upcoming events, and it will ensure you receive information regarding any important announcements.

To complete the annual update, please do the following:

1) Log in to your Parent Portal Account
2) Select "More."
3) Select "Online Registration"
4) Select "23-24 School Year Annual Update for Existing Students"

The information that is in our system will auto-populate for parents to review or update. Please be sure to submit your annual update as soon as possible. If you have any questions, please contact Christa Larson at larsonchrista@rockford.k12.mn.us or 763-477-9165.

Please call our attendance line to report your child absent.

SCHOOL Attendance

763-477-7525

Option 1: REAMS Option 2: RMS-CES Option 3: RHS
Option 4: Galaxy Option 5: Launching Pad Preschool

PARENT- COMMUNITY NEWS

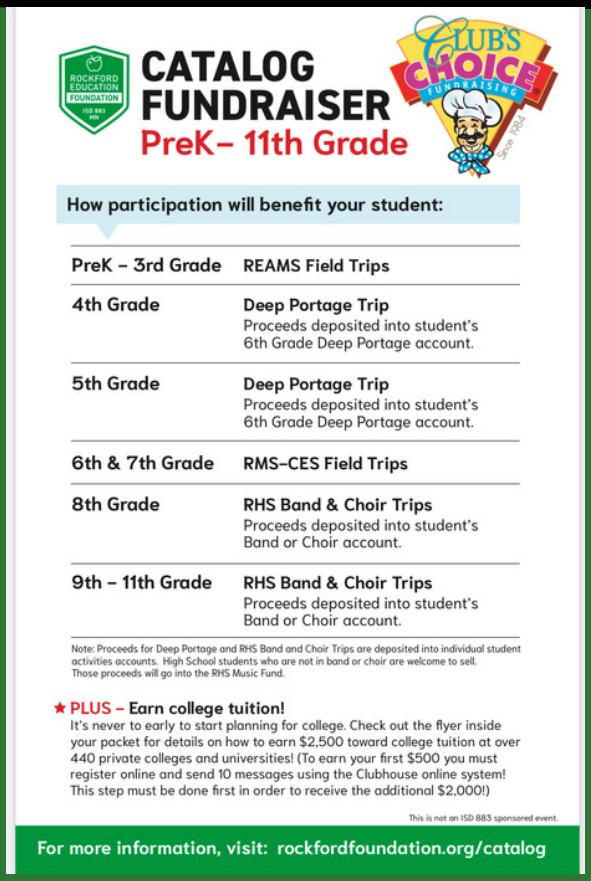
Not ISD 883 Sponsored Events

CATALOG FUNDRAISER (MARCH 14-APRIL 5)

Students Preschool through 11th grade have the opportunity to sell food and gift items to their family and friends to raise money for their schools. The Rockford Education Foundation will be kicking off the Spring Catalog Fundraiser with students on March 14 and 15. Families are welcome to make a donation in lieu of selling.

March 14 - Fundraiser kick off at REAMS & RMS
March 15 - Fundraiser kick off at RHS
April 5 - Order forms and money due / online orders due
May 15 - Delivery at REAMS gym 2:45 - 6pm

For information about this fundraiser, visit: www.rockfordfoundation.org/catalog



ROCKET BOOSTERS SCHOOL STORE

Get your Rocket Gear at our very own school store!

School Store
March 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
3	4 Store Hours: 6:30p-8:30p V Boys BB Section Game	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12 Store Hours: 6:00p-8:00p 4th Gr Concert	13	14	15	16
17	18	19 Store Hours: 7:00p-9:00p HS Band Concert	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

Dates and times subject to change based on event changes. Any changes will be updated and posted on our social media platforms.