REAMS ROCKET NEWSLETTER

January 2026

Coming up in January

January 1-2
Winter Break

January 19
No School
Staff PD/MLK Day

January 22
Baseball/Softball Demo
During PE Classes

January 27
Kids Heart Challenge
Fundraiser Kick Off

January 28
KG Field Trip

January 29
3rd Grade Spotlight Concert



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

From the Principal

Dear REAMS Families,

As we wrapped up another December, I thought about the many performances that our students shared, the twinkle that they carried in their eyes as the holidays approached, and their incredible accomplishments in and out of the classroom so far this year. As the new year approaches, adults and children alike, often use this time to set new goals, attempt to achieve those goals, be them personal or professional, and perhaps relook at that bucket list.

The holiday break can mean different things for different people, but for each of us, it is a time to be with family and friends, a time to celebrate love for those we care about most, and a time for giving from the heart. We talk a lot about being present and engaged in our lives and showing kindness with our REAMS students. Avoiding distractions of the to-do list, the smart phone, and all that needs to be done during the holidays can be difficult. I hope you were able to take the time to really enjoy each moment with your family and friends this holiday season. Moments we share together with those we love become fewer and fewer in this fast-paced, crazy world we live in. My wish for you all is that you were able to truly be present with those you love most. I hope you laughed a little louder, hugged a little longer, made new and special memories, and tucked them away to revisit them in times of need and difficulty. I hope you had a very happy holiday!

As we look ahead, students returned from winter break on Monday, January 5, 2026. We now look forward to artist in residence opportunities, I Love to Read month in February, beginning the preparation for our third annual all school song, and working hard to continue to learn and grow in the core curricular areas. Thank you for a wonderful first half of the school year. I appreciate all of your support and encouragement for your children to do their very best in school. I wish you the best year ever in 2026!

Warmly,
Brenda Nyhus
Principal

REAMS ROCKET NEWSLETTER

PARENT-COMMUNITY NEWS



January Lunch Menu

CLICK HERE

Guest Meal Prices

Breakfast:
Adult $2.50

Lunch:
Adult $5.05

REAMS ROCKET NEWSLETTER

PARENT-COMMUNITY NEWS

Remember to activate your parent portal account



By activating your parent portal account, you will be able to stay up-to-date on your students' grades, assignments, attendance, lunch accounts, schedules, transportation information, and more. CLICK HERE to log in to your parent portal account. CLICK HERE for helpful information regarding the parent portal account. If you need further assistance with your parent portal account, please email Christa Larson at christa.larson@rockford883.org or call 763-477-7557.

SCHOOL STORE

January 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13 StoreHours 5-8pm	14	15	16 StoreHours 5-8pm	17
18	19	20	21	22	23 StoreHours 6:30-8:30pm	24
25	26	27	28	29 StoreHours 5:30-7:30pm	30	31

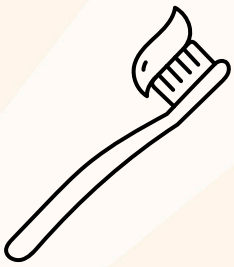
Dates and times subject to change based on event changes. Any changes will be updated and posted on our social media platforms.

REAMS ROCKET NEWSLETTER

PARENT-COMMUNITY NEWS



Give Kids a Smile



Lake Sarah Dental is hosting a free dental day on Friday, February 6th, 2026 from 9am-1pm. We open the schedule for these appointments in December. If you are interested in scheduling, please call our clinic as they are first come first serve reserved time slots. 763-575-8038

Services are provided free with no questions asked, we just need to register the child, have an emergency contact, medical history and consent to treat completed. A legal guardian or parent needs to be present unless paperwork is filled out prior. Services offered during the reserved time slot include: exam, cleaning, fluoride treatment, sealants and x-rays.

If time available we will perform: fillings, stainless steel crowns, and primary extractions. We accept appointments for children from birth to 18 years. If you have any questions, please call our office. 763-575-8038

Lake Sarah Dental
Preserving your natural smile

Not an ISD 883-sponsored event

REAMS | POINTS OF PRIDE

KINDERGARTEN

This month, the Kindergartners have been hard at work practicing for their Holiday Concert of Songs! The whole grade level has been meeting to practice all of their songs every afternoon as well as preparing an individual class song.

In phonics, the Kindergarteners have begun completing their very first homework assignment by showing their families how they can read! Every week the students get to bring home a new decodable book to add to their treasure boxes. The Kindergartners ended the month of December with all of the holiday fun including; winter stations, Terrific Thursday, and Polar express day!







REAMS | POINTS OF PRIDE

1st GRADE

First grade students spent the last two weeks exploring outer space through reading, writing, and hands-on activities. They learned about all eight planets and discovered how the Earth, sun, and moon move in relation to one another. Students also studied different constellations and practiced identifying them in the night sky. One highlight was writing about the constellation Orion and learning the story behind its famous stars. To wrap up the unit, students created various solar-system-themed objects to showcase their new knowledge.





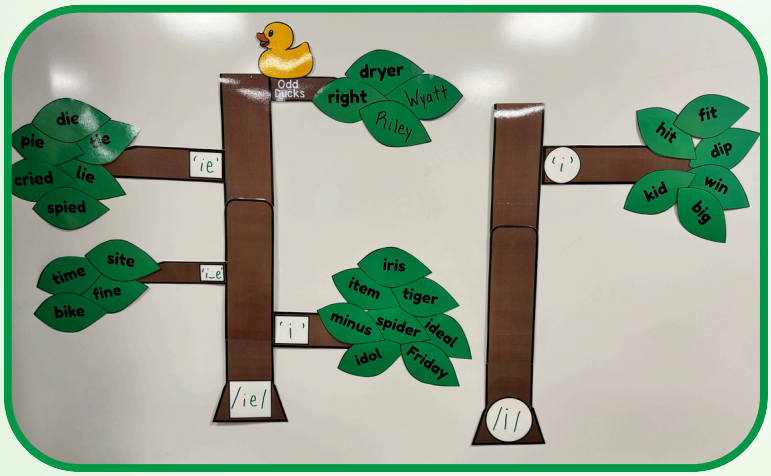


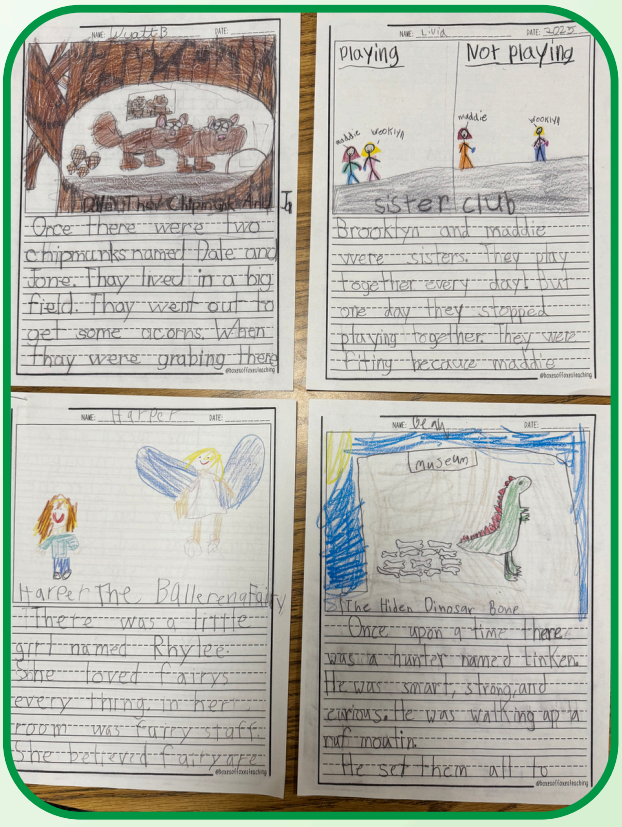
REAMS | POINTS OF PRIDE

2nd GRADE

We've been working hard on lots of things in second grade! We wrapped up our Greek Mythology unit. Students enjoyed listening to several Greek myths and discussing the lesson each story taught (or the explanation for how things came to be). Students had fun creating "Pokémon cards" as a culminating project. Each card represented a god or goddess of their choice, demonstrating their research and learning.

Second graders were also introduced to Spelling Trees, as part of our 3rd skills unit. Each spelling tree is an interactive visual used to help students learn the different spellings for each vowel sound. Students are able to reference the trees to see the different spellings, as well as see how common each spelling is compared to the other spelling patterns. Additionally, students learned about the writing process and wrote a fictional narrative. They followed the writing process by planning, writing, editing, and publishing their story. They also read their story to their classmates.







REAMS | POINTS OF PRIDE

3rd GRADE

"Winter is not just a season, but a celebration." As we say goodbye to 2025, our 3rd graders say hello to new units and skills.

Reading/Writing: We have completed our animal classification unit, and each student completed an animal research project. For this project, each student wrote about one specific animal and created a diorama in a box to represent that animal's habitat. In doing this, students also reviewed the writing process-plan, draft, edit, and finalize. Now, we are continuing with our Poetry Unit, where students learn about a variety of poets and use poetic devices to analyze rhyme schemes and free-verse poems.

Math: We recently completed our unit on multiplication and division, but are consistently reviewing these skills and the songs that go along with mastering the fluency for each number. In December, we have focused more heavily on place value and rounding. In introducing this, we practiced identifying the place value of numbers 0-1,000. We also talked about different ways to show expanded form and estimation in equations and story-problems.

Science: We have been learning a lot about the moon phases and the reasons for season change in class. Recently, we used our knowledge with Karla Nweje, our Artist in Residence (AIR) teacher. Karla spent a week with our 3rd graders, helping them create movements that represented the changing seasons of each hemisphere as well as the story of the Quillwork girl.

The third grade teachers appreciate your support from home and look forward to seeing how much more progress your children can make in the new year of 2026!







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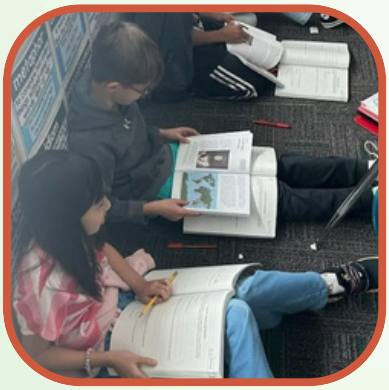
REAMS | POINTS OF PRIDE

4th GRADE

December is always a joyous month with the holidays, and that was no different in the 4th grade classrooms! Classes were busy with lots of learning. We assessed the students' learning with district FAST tests at the beginning of the month. We also got to hear the high school students caroling in the hallways. Many students participated in the Terrific Thursday showcase. The next round of Letter Leaders & Math Masters will be selected to help younger students improve their skills.

We are in the middle of our geology unit in reading, and this has many connections to what we are learning about in science. In the unit, we have discovered that the crust is made up of tectonic plates and how rocks can change over time. In social studies, students are learning about immigration and how that has looked in other countries. During math, students have been learning all about algebra and word problems. The multi-step problems can be tricky, but students have been using their critical-thinking skills to piece it together!

On the last day before break, students celebrated with a holiday-themed party! The kids participated in various holiday activities. We learned about holidays around the world and solved a "Selfish Elf" math mystery. It was a fun day!









REAMS | POINTS OF PRIDE

ARTS- MUSIC

Music

1st graders performed a variety of songs at their Spotlight Concert. Students sang and played instruments including rhythm sticks and sleigh bells, and each class performed a movement from The Nutcracker using plates they decorated in class.





Music Troupe

3rd grade Music Troupe had the opportunity to carol at the high school. The High school choir also came over to REAMS and caroled for the students. These events were the perfect lead into winter break!





REAMS | POINTS OF PRIDE

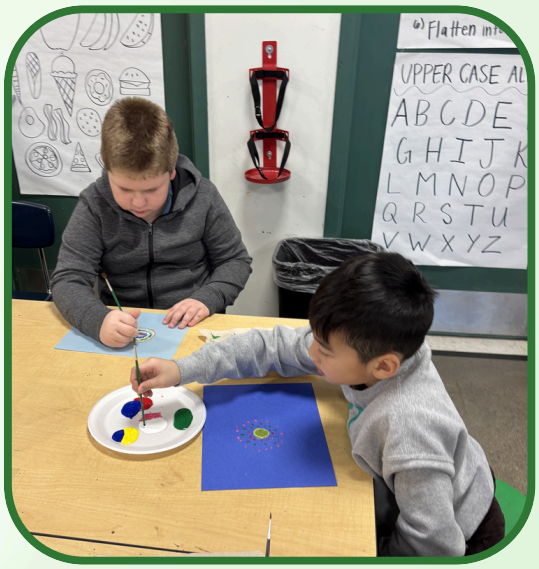
ARTS- ART & Theater

Art

Kindergarten has been learning about shapes and mixing primary colors. Students mixed paint and painted paper for a winter tree collage. 1st grade artists focused on the art element of line and drew mittens decorated with various lines. They have also learned about symmetry by drawing snowflakes. 2nd graders have been busy drawing polar bears with patterned sweaters, using oil pastels to create snowmen, and painting winter mountainscapes inspired by the artist Jen Aranyi. 3rd graders used chalk to create a string of lights drawing and learned about dot art mandalas. 4th grade students have completed their entries for the yearbook cover, and have now created interactive snow globe drawings.







Theater

Pre-K through fourth grade students watched portions of the musical "Matilda" with over 100 5th-12th grade students either in the production or in the backstage crew. Students at REAMS truly enjoyed this one of a kind experience with our next door Rocket neighbors!



RTR & ROCKET STARS STUDENTS















Terrific Thursday















CALENDAR OF EVENTS 2025-2026

learn.explore.create.imagine
REAMS
ROCKFORD ELEMENTARY ARTS MAGNET SCHOOL

September

2-3 Assessment Days
4 REAMS First Day of School
First Day Expectations
15-19 Kindergarten Gingerbread Man Week
22-26 Homecoming Week

October

6-10 Fire Prevention Week
7 Gr K-2 Retakes/Pre-K Jostens Pictures
8 Gr 3-4 Retakes/Pre-K Jostens Pictures
Kindergarten Fire Station Field Trip
Grade 3 Stages Theatre Field Trip
10 Grade 4 Kindness Retreat
15 No School/PD Day
16-17 No School – MEA
30 Terrific Thursday
31 Grades K-4 Fall Harvest Parties
ECFE L'il Punkin' Fall Party

November

3 No School – PD Day
Grades K-4 Evening Parent-Teacher Conf
6 Grades K-4 Evening Parent-Teacher Conf
11 Veterans Day Program
17-21 Scholastic Book Fair
17 Grades K-2 REAMS Family Fun Night
18 Grades 3-4 REAMS Family Fun Night
Kindergarten 50th Day of School
20 Launching Pad Pre-K Parent-Child Night
21 RHS Musical Preview
26-28 No School – Thanksgiving Break

December

1-5 Grade 3 Artist in Residence
11 Grade 1 Spotlight Concert
12 Kindergarten Winter Program
18 Terrific Thursday
19 Kindergarten Polar Express Day
22-31 No School – Winter Break

January

1-2 No School – Winter Break
19 No School – Staff PD Day-MLK Day

January(continued)

28 Kindergarten Children's Museum Field Trip
29 Grade 3 Spotlight Concert

February

5 Kindergarten Roundup
13 Grades K-4 Valentine's Day Parties
16 No School – Presidents' Day
17 No School – PD Day
18 Kindergarten 100th Day of School
19 Grade 1 Children's Theatre Field Trip

March

5 Grade 4 Spotlight Concert
12 &16 Grades K-4 Evening Parent-Teacher Conf
16, 18, 20 Kindergarten Artist in Residence
18 Grade 4 Informance at RHS Band/Choir
24-25 All School Song
26 Terrific Thursday
27 No School - Half PD Day
30-31 No School – Spring Break



April

1-3 No School – Spring Break
6 No School – PD Day
13-17 Grade 1 Artist in Residence
16 Grade 2 Spotlight Concert
20-24 REAMS Obstacle Course
22-28, 30 Grade 2 Artist in Residence

May

1 Grade 2 Grandparents Day
5-7 Grade 4 Artist in Residence
7 Grade 3 Stages Theatre Field Trip
8 Kindergarten Farm Day
REAMS Spelling Bee
11-12 Grade 4 Artist in Residence
12 REAMS Arts & Academics
14 Terrific Thursday
25 No School – Memorial Day
27 Kindergarten Como Zoo Field Trip
28 Grade 4 Capitol and Ordway Field Trip
29 Senior Salute

June

4 Last Day of School

EARLY CHILDHOOD AND LAUNCHING PAD PRESCHOOL

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.883.org. Under the Community tab, click Early Childhood Programs. For more information, please call us at 763-477-7500.

GALAXY KIDS SCHOOL-AGE CARE

Galaxy Kids holds opportunities on non-school days for families within the program that need care. Students are able to participate in many fun filled activities throughout each day that are tied to different Themes. They also are able to enjoy the weather and go outside and play on the playgrounds and outdoor spaces around the school.





Galaxy Kids is a certified before and after school child care program for preschool-4th 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, and over the summer, then this may be the program for you.





For more information contact
Cody Hallahan at 763-477-7555
or
cody.hallahan@rockford883.org