REAMS ROCKET NEWSLETTER

March 2026

Coming up in March

March 12 & 16
Parent-Teacher Conferences
3:30-7:00pm

March 16, 18, & 20
Kindergarten Artist in Residence

March 18
4th Grade Band/Choir
Informance at RHS

March 24-25
All School Song

March 26
Terrific Thursday

March 27
No School
Teacher PD Day

March 30-April 3
No School
Spring Break

April 6
No School
Teacher PD Day



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,

Kindergarten Round Up was Thursday, February 5th. 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 was thrilled to welcome the Class of 2039 to Kindergarten Round Up. If you have an incoming kindergarten student, you should have received information via email. Do not hesitate to reach out to the REAMS office at 763-477-5837 if you have questions about Kindergarten registration. 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.

REAMS students will be recording the third annual all-school song in March. We are excited to once again share the talents of every child in this heartwarming production. It will be made available to families and on our website soon after spring break!

I hope you have enjoyed the beautiful “spring-like” weather. Enjoy the wonderful outdoors, our REAL spring is just around the corner!

Warmly,
Brenda Nyhus
Principal

REAMS ROCKET NEWSLETTER

PARENT-COMMUNITY NEWS

March Lunch Menu

CLICK HERE

Guest Meal Prices

Breakfast:
Adult $2.50

Lunch:
Adult $5.05

SCHOOL STORE

March

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3	4	5 StoreHours 6-8pm	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14 StoreHours 9am-12pm
15	16	17	18	19 Store Hours 6-9pm	20	21
22	23	24	25 Store Hours 5-8pm	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.

REF News & Updates

March 2026

Mini-Grant Impacts

Growing Opportunities. Inspiring Potential. Stengthening Our Schools

Because of your generosity, powerful learning experiences are happening across our schools. Prize patrol was out in February providing mini-grant funding to support literacy growth, hands-on science, creative writing, and meaningful interventions for students who need it most.



Here's a look at the impact you are making:

Literacy for Neurodivergent Learners
Engaging resources from Reading.com and The Fidget Game are helping students strengthen reading skills through interactive, targeted support.

Sensory Support at RMS
New sensory bags provide Tier One interventions to help students regulate emotions and stay focused in the classroom.

AVID Magazine Subscriptions
Upfront and Action Scholastic News are building critical thinking and reading skills — with built-in support for struggling learners and digital resources included.

Author Visit with William Durbin
This Spring, sixth graders will explore history and writing through engaging presentations and hands-on writing workshops designed to inspire young authors.

Hands-On Science
Students will investigate DNA damage and the effects of UV light using interactive lab kits from Carolina Biological Supply.

Literary Orangizers
Printed curriculum materials and vocabulary resources are supporting structured, effective instruction.

Upcoming Events



SAVE THE DATE

FREE Family Fun Bingo Night+ Swap!

Friday, April 17th
Doors open at 5:30pm
Bingo starts at 6:00pm

- Multiple rounds of bingo
- Concessions available for purchase
- Fun prizes
- Board game, book, & puzzle swap

Registration Required
https://secure.qgiv.com/for/familybingofunnightregistration/event/freefamilybingoswap/

Stay Connected

Follow the Rockford Education Foundation on Facebook, Instagram, or sign up for our newsletter to stay up to date on funding stories, upcoming events, and the incredible impact happening in our schools every day.

Thank you for being part of the REF community. Together, we are investing in students, supporting educators, and building strong futures for Rockford.

Get Involved - We Need Volunteers!

As REF expands its community events and fundraisers, we need volunteers to help bring these opportunities to life!
Sign up to volunteer: www.rockfordfoundation.org/get-involved/

REAMS ROCKET NEWSLETTER

PARENT-COMMUNITY NEWS



NOT AN ISD 883 SPONSORED EVENT

Drop Off at RCC!!

Donation Deadline: 4/24/26

Hello RCC Members & Rocket Families RAAA Softball NEEDS your help Collecting old clothes! We partnered up with the Epilepsy Foundation of MN to turn your clothes into real dollars to help support the RAAA girls softball program! We appreciate all the love & support!



Accepted Items:

*Clothing -All Sizes
*Hats, Gloves, Scarves
*Men's Ties
*Purses, Wallets, Belts
*Cloth Bags
*Sheets, Blankets
*Towels
*Fabric Table Cloths
*Curtains, Fabric Swatches
*Halloween Costumes

CONTACT:
emilybidne@raaasports.com

DONATIONS SUPPORT FIELD MAINTENANCE, IMPROVEMENTS & EQUIPMENT TO HELP OUR PLAYERS THRIVE ON AND OFF THE FIELD. THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING OUR ATHLETES & OUR COMMUNITY!

REAMS ROCKET NEWSLETTER

PARENT-COMMUNITY NEWS



GROW YOUR YARD WHILE SUPPORTING OUR GIRLS ON & OFF THE FIELD!

Rockford Fastpitch

SCAN QR CODE TO ORDER!

YOUR SUPPORT HELPS IMPROVE PLAYING FIELDS, PURCHASE EQUIPMENT, AND INVEST IN RAAA & RHS SOFTBALL PROGRAMS!

What we are Selling:

- *Dark Brown Mulch (2CF/Bag) $6*
- *Natural Mulch (2CF/Bag) $6*
- *Topsoil (.75CF/Bag) $6*
- *Potting Soil (.75CF/Bag) $6*

***ORDERS MUST BE PLACED BY APRIL 2nd, 2026*

All purchased items will be delivered directly to your home on *APRIL 25th, 2026* for your convenience (If within School District) or pick up at RHS



Not an ISD 883 Sponsored Event

For More Information
emilybidne@raaasports.com

REAMS ROCKET NEWSLETTER

PARENT-COMMUNITY NEWS

EVERY MEAL

WEEKEND MEAL PROGRAM

OUR MISSION

FIGHTING CHILDHUNGER THROUGH COMMUNITY AND SCHOOL PARTNERSHIPS

OUR STORY

Every Meal isa501(c)(3) nonprofit organization with a mission to fight child hunger through community and school partnerships. We strive to make a difference in children's lives by specifically focusing on food gaps - the times when children aren't at school to access meal programs. Every Meal supports families with programming over the weekends, extended school breaks, and summer.
Providing kids with good food that is nutritious, delicious, and relevant is our focus, and their growth and achievement is at the heart of everything we do.

MEAL PROGRAM

- **Free for all families**
- No qualifications required
- No contact information collected
- Families may participate in the program at **any time** throughout the school year
- Students will receive food bags each week, typically on Fridays

Weekend Food Bag Options: Families may choose from five options structured around the USDA MyPlate standards. All bag types contain 4-5 pounds of non-perishable food, including a variety of fruits, vegetables, proteins, and grains. Bag types are identified by different colors of Every Meal logo.

Blue Bag — Tailored for East African dietary preferences, this bag is pork-free and may contain items such as tuna, spaghetti, black-eyed peas, corn flour, fava beans, and tomato products.

Green Bag — Tailored to offer the widest variety of food items, this bag may contain items such as chicken, tuna, pasta, rice, mac and cheese, chili/soup, and varied vegetables and fruits.

Or ange Bag — Tailored for Latino dietary preferences, this bag may contain items such as rice, black beans, pinto beans, corn flour, fideo pasta, enchilada sauce, chipotles in adobo, and diced chiles.

Pur ple Bag — Tailored for Southeast Asian dietary preferences, this bag may contain items such as rice, rice noodles, coconut milk, bamboo shoots, curry paste, green beans, and mandarin oranges.

Yellow Bag — Tailored with all ready-to-eat items which require little or no preparation, this bag may contain items such as dried fruit, tuna salad, chicken salad, sunflower seeds, granola, oatmeal, and soups.

SIGN UP following the links below:

English Version HERE

Spanish Version HERE

REAMS | POINTS OF PRIDE

KINDERGARTEN

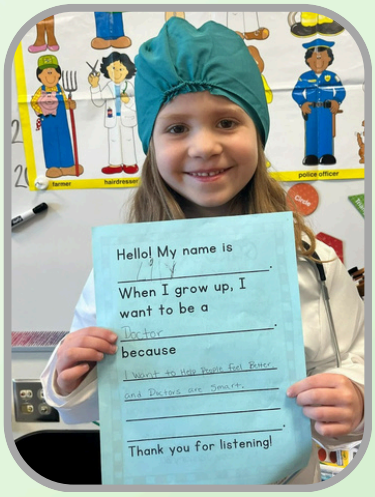
The Kindergartners have been busy in February.

We had a career day where the kindergartners came to school dressed to impress as their future careers, and give a speech about why they wanted the job. This month is "I Love to Read Month" and we are so proud of how far the kindergartners have come in their reading knowledge; they are now confidently reading sentences when at the beginning of the year they were unsure of letters! Another big milestone for Kindergarten is we celebrated our 100th day of school!









REAMS | POINTS OF PRIDE

1st GRADE

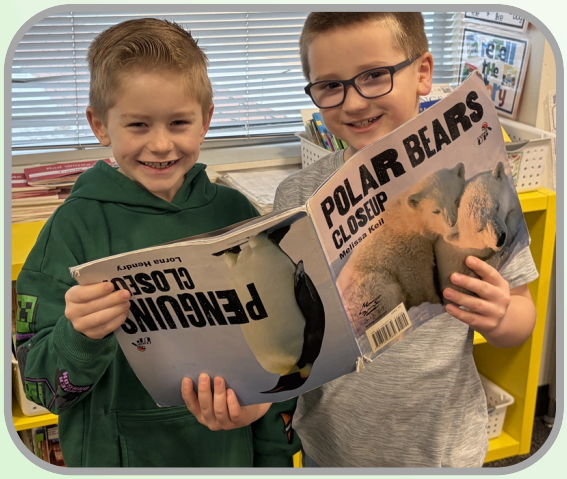
February is a busy month. Along with it being I Love to Read, the 101st day of school, Valentine's Day and President's Day we have also been busy learning about various habitats in first grade.

This month first grade has been learning about and researching the plants and animals that live in a variety of habitats. We have learned about the arctic, freshwater, saltwater, desert, rainforest and deciduous forests. While researching each habitat the students took note of the adaptations necessary for plants and animals to live in each habitat. Each class chose a habitat to focus on and we will be showcasing our habitat work during arts and academics night coming up at the end of the school year.

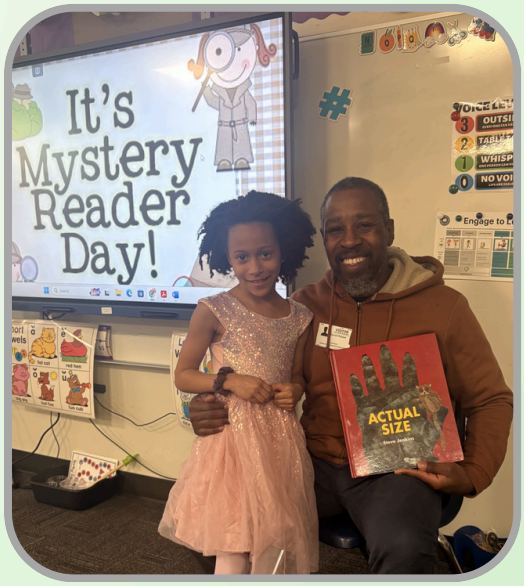
A big part of February is the 100th day of school or as we celebrate in first grade the 101st day! To celebrate the event, students participated in a lot of interesting 101st day activities. Some of the special activities included making 101 fruit loop necklaces, building structures out of 101 different materials, flipping a coin 101 times, and seeing if we can get to the center of a tootsie pop with 101 licks. These activities provide a lot of fun and laughter but also help to reinforce previously taught skills.

For Valentine's Day first graders had a chance to exchange valentines with their classmates. It is a great way to reach out and make that connection with each of our classmates. We also incorporated many phonics and math games into the day. Many of the first graders did candy heart graphing, to reinforce graphing skills as a preview to our upcoming graphing unit in math.

Sneak Peek into March: learning about our nation and how it came to be, March Madness book brackets and graphing!







REAMS | POINTS OF PRIDE

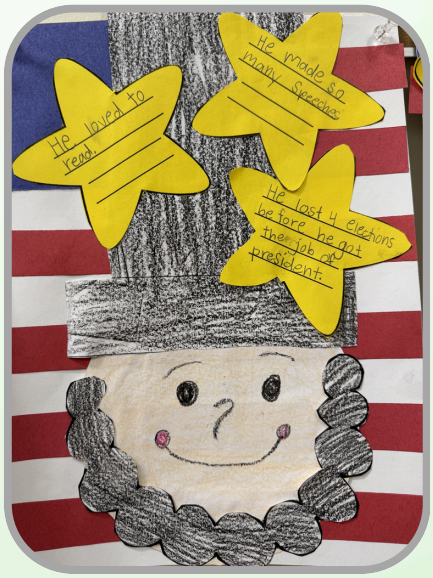
2nd GRADE

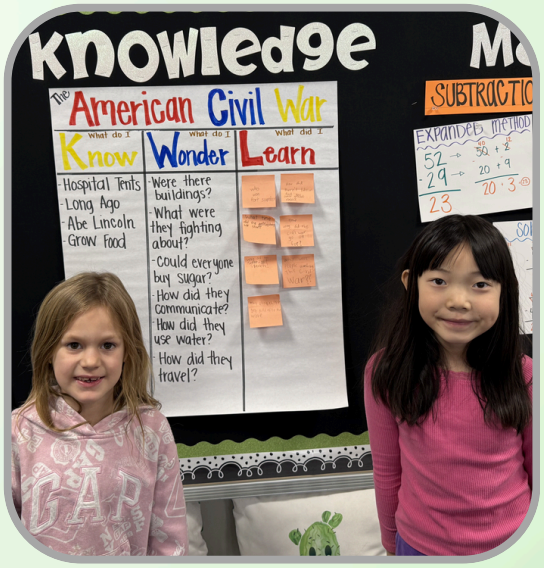
We are wrapping up one of our FAVORITE months- I Love to Read Month. Second Grade is when students usually transform into readers. They are able to subvocalize or "whisper read" to themselves and, with more and more practice, eventually silent read. Reading books becomes more enjoyable and easy to LOVE!

Second Graders just finished learning about a critical period in American history- The Civil War. They learned about conflicts over slavery between the North and the South. Students were also introduced to historical figures such as Clara Barton, Harriet Tubman, Ulysses S. Grant, Robert E. Lee, and Abraham Lincoln.

Second Graders have also been learning how to subtract three digit numbers- with regrouping! This is a big skill and it is taught in a variety of ways. You can solve these problems using the expanded method, the ungroup first method, by using quick draw, and by rewriting the equation vertically. It has been so fun observing which method "clicks" for each student!







REAMS | POINTS OF PRIDE

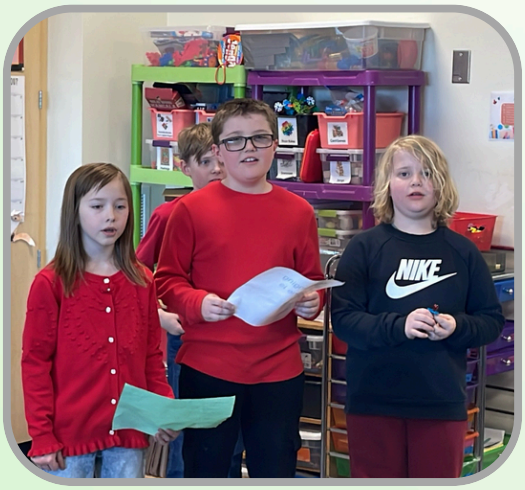
3rd GRADE

January wrapped up with our Spotlight Concert on January 29th, featuring many traditional songs. The students did a fantastic job incorporating different artistic elements, like a variety of instruments, scarves, and movement.

February was a busy month! A major 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 330 valentines! WOW! In addition, some students enjoyed making valentine cards for teachers and residents of St. Therese. We also celebrated I Love to Read month with our variety of school-wide activities! Many classes enjoyed special mystery readers.

In reading, students studied the ancient civilization of Rome. They learned the legends of Rome's origins, how the Roman Republic expanded and then ultimately fell. The students culminated the unit by creating a mosaic featuring one thing of importance to this time period, such as the Colosseum, Julius Caesar, Augustus Caesar, god or goddess, or architecture. We look forward to showcasing some of the mosaics at Arts and Academics in the spring.

Fractions and multidigit multiplication were studied throughout the month of February. Students learned fractions can be represented multiple ways like fractions of a set, fractions of a whole, and on a number line. Multidigit multiplication was a fun, yet challenging unit. Students used many different strategies to solve these problems. Keep practicing multiplication facts at home.







REAMS | POINTS OF PRIDE

4th GRADE

We had a fun February in 4th Grade! We had a blast celebrating Valentine's Day and I Love to Read Month and have been learning like crazy on top of it all.

Here's what we learned in class during the last month…

- Social Studies: The Branches of Government
- Math: Fractions and Decimals
- Science: The Hydrosphere and The Water Cycle
- Reading: The American Revolution

This month students have been learning all about the American Revolution, and have even been working on a five paragraph essay about the causes and major events leading up to the war. Students have made connections between the founding of the United States and the current system of government in social studies, where they have been learning about the three branches of government. In math we have learned all about fractions and decimals, and have been continuing to work on our multiplication facts! In science we have learned all about the water on earth and the water cycle, and students are using their digital literacy skills to create a Canva poster showing all of the six parts of the water cycle that we have learned about while paying attention to digital design elements. We are looking forward to another month of learning including a novel study of The Season of Styx Malone in reading and our geometry unit in math!







REAMS | POINTS OF PRIDE

ARTS- Theater & Music

Theater

The 4th grade theater troupe has been preparing for their upcoming performance at their concert! They are creating an Olympic puppet show to showcase to their friends and family.





Music

Groups of students in third and fourth grade have been learning through the arts in music, theater, and dance troupes. Third grade songwriting troupe has created their own melodies and lyrics to songs like professional composers! Students are planning to perform at Terrific Thursday in late March.

The theater, drumming, advanced recorder, and dance troupes in fourth grade were practicing together for two months and performed for the 4th Grade Spotlight on the Arts concert on March 5. Students used a wide variety of talents and were so proud of the work they created for audiences. Way to go, dancers, musicians, and thespians!





REAMS | POINTS OF PRIDE

ARTS- ART

Art

Kindergarten artists made Love Monsters inspired by the book "Love Monster" by Rachel Bright. They also learned about artist Alma Thomas and created paintings inspired by her painting style. 1st grade students learned about the art movement Pop Art and artists Andy Warhol and Jim Dine. They created hand print artworks. 2nd graders learned about the artist Chris Uphues and drew many different cartoon hearts. 3rd graders learned about comic books and character creation. They also learned about gems and minerals when creating a heart gem drawing. 4th grade artists learned more about printmaking and made book mark prints using styrofoam.











I Love to Read Month

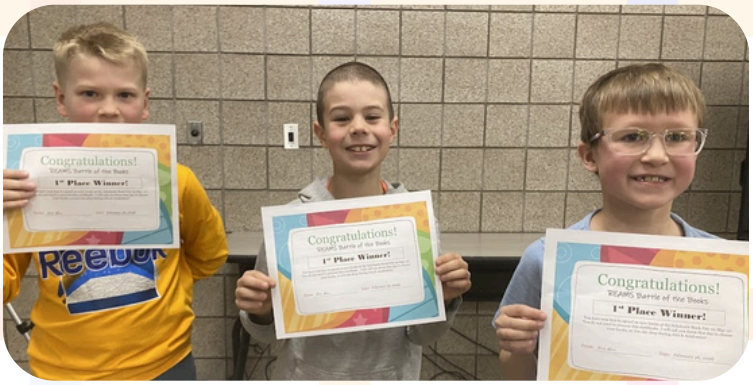
Battle of the Books





At the end of February, with nothing more than a white board and a marker, 21 third graders and 27 fourth grade readers gathered to answer questions about nine books in a competitive battle. Students formed their teams and started reading from a pre-chosen list in October. After two rounds of trivia questions, the three top scoring teams faced off in the final slap-tape round. Congratulations to third grade champions **Briggs, Crosby, and Jonah.** Defending their first place title from last year are fourth graders **George, Max, and Owen!**



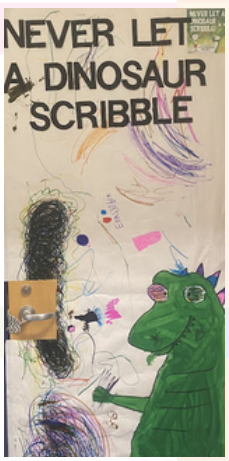


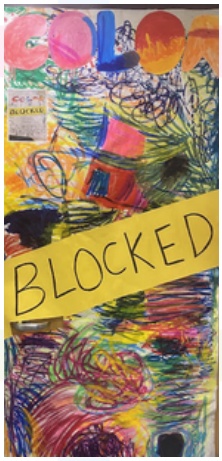
Door Decorating Contest

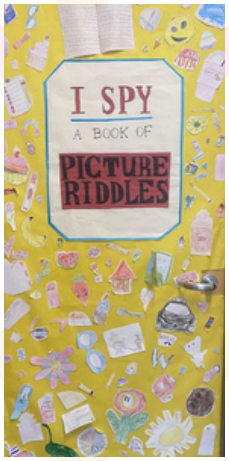




REAMS classrooms participated in the fifth annual 'book themed door decorating' contest! This project is student-driven from choosing the book to creating the artwork. This year we had 31 masterpieces and, although the votes were very close, it was **Mr. Johnson's class with "The Tale of Despereaux"** who earned the traveling trophy and a popcorn party!



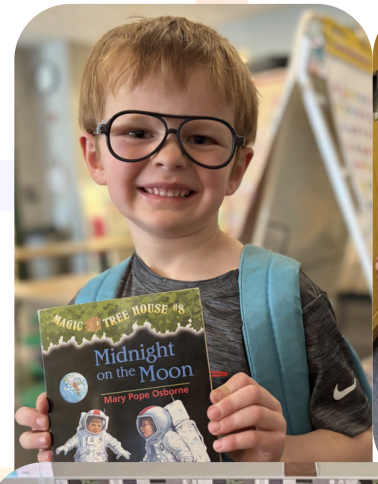




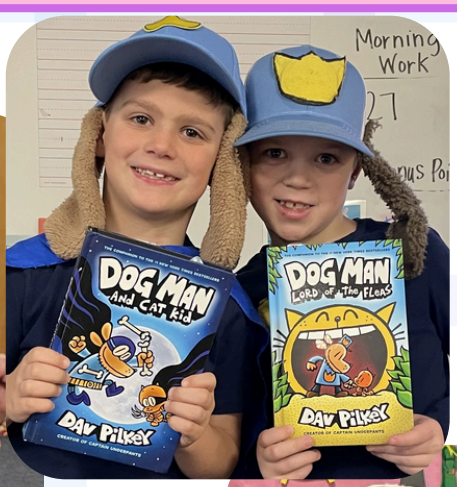


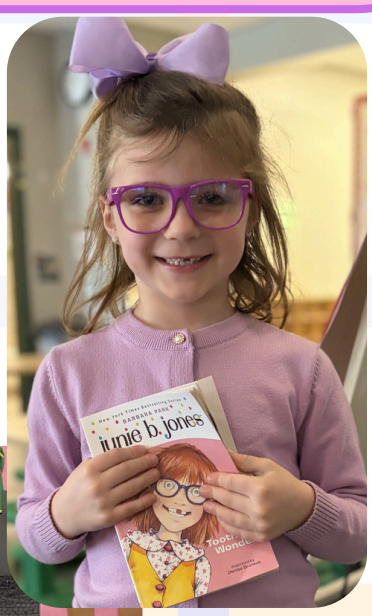
I Love to Read Month

Book Character Day













Tissue Box Contest

Topping off the celebrations for I Love to Read Month was our optional, at-home, family, tissue box decorating competition! There were 73 creative and fun entries on display in the media center. Check out the video on our social media sites for a tour of all the submissions. Congratulations to our five winners who were awarded book-themed goodie bags.





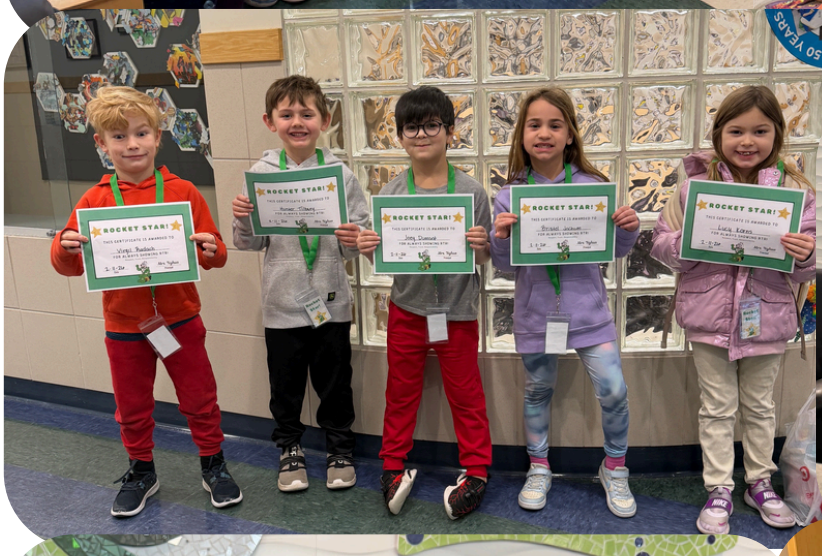


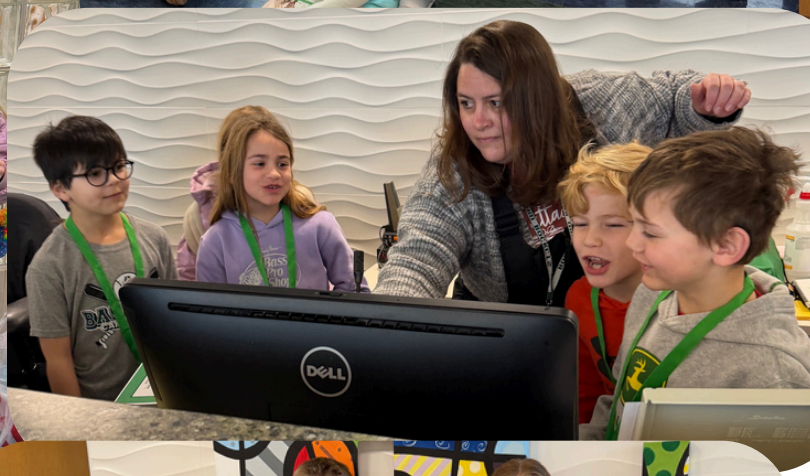


RTR & Rocket Stars Students













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 Veteran's 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