REAMS ROCKET NEWSLETTER

April 2026

Coming up in April

April 8-9 & 14-15
3rd & 4th Grade MCA Testing

April 13
KG Rescheduled Field Trip

April 13-17
1st Grade Artist in Residence

April 16
2nd Grade Spotlight Concert
6:30PM at H.S Auditorium

April 20-24
PE Obstacle Course

April 22-28,30
2nd Grade Artist in Residence

Looking ahead in May

May 1
2nd Grade Grandparents Day

May 5-7
4th Grade Artisit in Residence



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 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. The testing dates are: April 8 and 9 (Reading) and April 14 and 15 (Math) for both third and fourth grade students. We know our students always try their best to rock the test!

Several of our grade levels will be spending time with an artist in residence in the coming weeks. Rockford Elementary Arts Magnet School partners with many local artists who provide experiences for students at REAMS in the areas of dance, drama, music, visual arts, and diversity. Children have the opportunity to work with many of the artists for two or more sessions and often couple their learning with a connected field trip. The teachers have also related the work with the artists to the core curriculum in their classrooms to enhance the students' learning. Students will have an opportunity to work with a specific artist in residence at every grade level during their K-4 experience at REAMS. The goal is to ensure that each child has the opportunity to expand their learning in a fun and creative way at REAMS. The REAMS students and staff are honored that so many of the local artists in residence return to partner with them each year. The partnerships and special relationships that the REAMS students and staff have cultivated with these local artists in the past few years have become so valuable to student learning and growing.

All students at Rockford Elementary Arts Magnet School participated in the third annual All School Song on March 25th. Students joined forces in a song entitled, “We Are The People Of The 21st Century,” in the high school gym. REAMS was excited to work with Captivate Media for a second year and look forward to the release of the final video production in mid-April.

We have many exciting events still to come this spring at Rockford Elementary Arts Magnet School, and we look forward to sharing our talents with you all!

Warmly,
Brenda Nyhus
Principal

REAMS ROCKET NEWSLETTER

PARENT-COMMUNITY NEWS

Can't Look Away

Last night we hosted the community screening of the Jolt Films documentary, "Can't Look Away".

After the screening, we held space for important and timely conversations about the many dangers of social media and discussed practical strategies for raising children in this constantly changing digital age.

If you were not able to attend but wish to watch the panel discussion, led by industry expert Jessica Smith from ClickSafe, you can find the link to watch HERE, and viewer discretion is advised.

Additionally, you can find a one-page overview of the event HERE. We appreciate the collaboration between school, parents, students, and the community at large as we try to navigate the complex and ever-changing landscape of social media.

April Lunch Menu

CLICK HERE

Guest Meal Prices

Breakfast:
Adult $2.50

Lunch:
Adult $5.05

SCHOOL STORE

April 2026

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

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

Keep your child's reading skills sharp with a 1:1 tutor this summer

Are you looking for a 1:1 tutor for your child to keep the summer slide at bay?

Register for personalized tutoring sessions with a structured literacy trained teacher.



Program Details:

- 50 min sessions
- Sessions take place at REAMS, transportation is not included
- Sessions offered Tuesday, Wednesday, or Thursday
- Sessions will run June - August
- Schedule is custumizable to your needs

Check the Rockford Community Education Spring Brochure for more details.

https://rockford.ce.eleyo.com/course/1453/summer-26/rockets-1-1-tutoring

REAMS ROCKET NEWSLETTER

PARENT-COMMUNITY NEWS

LBX is not an ISD 883 sponsored program

SUMMER 2026 LBX REGISTRATION

REGISTRATION DUE BY MAY 24TH

LBX is a RiverWorks program that helps ensure all children residing in the Rockford Area School District have access to nutritious meals during the summer season.

IMPORTANT DETAILS

- Deliveries every Wednesday
- June 17th - August 12th
  NO delivery on July 1st
- Meals delivered between
  10:30 - 11:30 AM

IS LBX FOR MY FAMILY?

- Students must live within the boundaries of the Rockford School District.
- Your family receives free or reduced school lunches.
- Financially the cost of groceries is a concern for the summer months.

Scan the QR Code.
When you complete the application hit submit; and it's that easy you are registered!

Questions? Please email The RiverWorks Food Shelf at foodshelf@riverworksonline.org or call 763-477-6098 and leave a message

REF News & Updates

April 2026

Empowering Every Student, Every Day

Growing Opportunities. Inspiring Potential. Stengthening Our Schools

The Rockford Education Foundation is proud to fund more than just equipment. We are committed to enriching the student journey by removing barriers and opening doors to new possibilities.

This work is only made possible by our amazing donors. Whether you support us through **Rocket Launch monthly giving, event sponsorships,** or by **participating in our fundraisers,** your generosity creates these experiences:



Field Trip Access: From the **MN Zoo** and **Children's Museum** to **Stages Theatre** and the **Historical Society**, the Foundation regularly funds admission for every grade level to ensure all students participate in these vital learning experiences.

Career Pathways: We are helping our high schoolers build their futures! We've provided essential supplies for the **CNA program** (scrubs, watches, and exam fees) and the **Craftsmanship Pathway** (grinders and metal supplies) to name a couple.

Technology & Arts: Our funding has brought cutting-edge technology into classrooms and supported creative milestones like the **REAMS All School Song Production.**









Upcoming Events



FREE Family Fun Bingo Night + Swap!

Friday, April 17th
REAMS Common Area (Door #35)
Doors open at 5:30pm
Bingo starts at 6:00pm

The Fun

Enjoy multiple rounds of bingo for prizes and concessions are available for purchase

Community Swap

Bring a gently used boardgame, book, or puzzle to swap for a “new to you” items!

This event is free, but registration is required
https://secure.qgiv.com/for/familybingofunnightregistration/event/freefamilybingoswap/

ROCKFORD SCHOOLS
Staff Appreciation Week

Staff Appreciation Luncheon

Wednesday, May 6th (Teacher Apprecation Week: May 4-6)

We’re celebrating our incredible staff with a catered lunch from Tacos La Chule, and we need your help to make it a success! We are currently looking for:

- **Monetary donations** to help cover food and decor
- **Donations** of beverages and desserts
- **Volunteers** to help with setup, serving, and cleanup

Sign up to Donate or Volunteer Here

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 | POINTS OF PRIDE

KINDERGARTEN

March is here and spring is slowly coming back into the classrooms.

Students focused on science this month by studying ocean animals and Outerspace! We also spent this month celebrating St. Patrick's Day and Learning about Native American Culture. We are almost done with our in-depth look and practice of every letter in the alphabet. Kids are confident in their reading skills, and becoming masters at writing complete sentences.

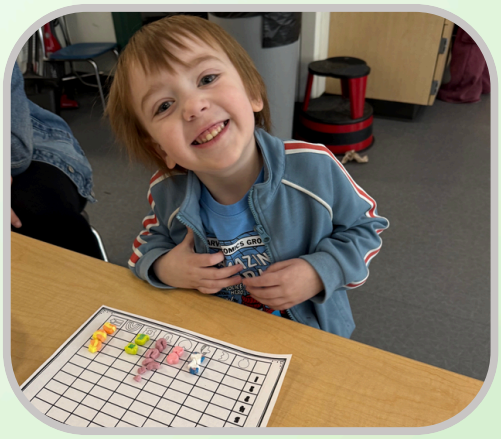
This month kindergarten students got to meet with our Artist in Residence, Erinn Liebhard, to learn about the life-cycle of a plant in a new and exciting way. April will be all about the earth, and how plants, animals, and people all fit together on it.











REAMS | POINTS OF PRIDE

1st GRADE

In March, first-grade students were listening to well-known fairy tales. They were identifying characters, settings, problems and solutions in these stories. Comparing the stories with venn diagrams, finding common phrases in fairy tales like how they start with "Once upon a time" and they end with "happily ever after".
In Math, students worked on teen numbers and place value. They practiced using tens and ones to represent numbers, explored the 100s chart, and they built skills in adding and subtracting. We focused on adding and subtracting multiples of 10 and understanding 10 more/10 less.

We joined in with the March Madness theme and created a bracket with some great books. Classrooms would vote on their top book of the day and that book would move on to the next round of competition! Our final two books are The Watcher and Lala's Words.

Sneak Peek for April:

- Artist in Residence
- Field Trip
- Graphing and Fairy Tales



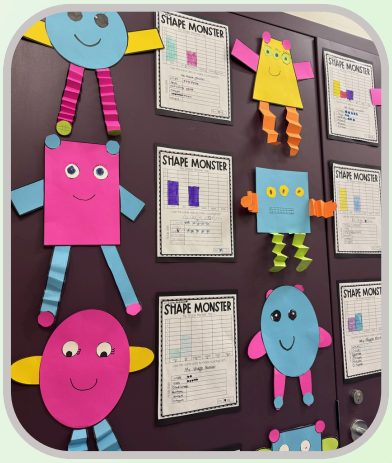
REAMS | POINTS OF PRIDE

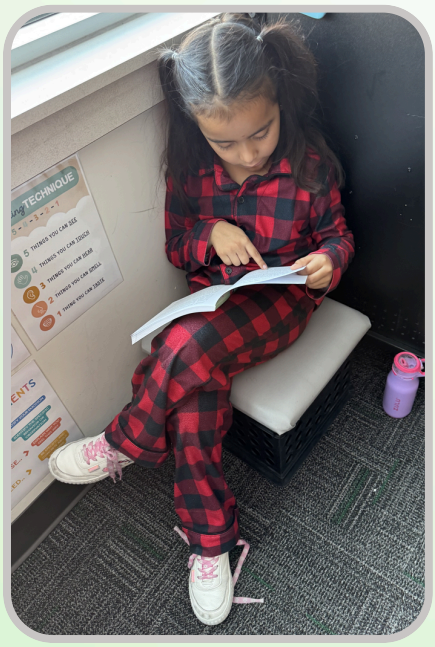
2nd GRADE

The month of March has been busy for the second graders at REAMS! We began the month with a new math unit focused on telling time and graphing. Students explored how to read and create various types of graphs, including picture graphs, bar graphs, and tally charts. Then students used colorful shapes to design their very own Shape Monsters. They then graphed the number of shapes they used on both a bar graph and a picture graph. It was a great opportunity for students to use their creativity!

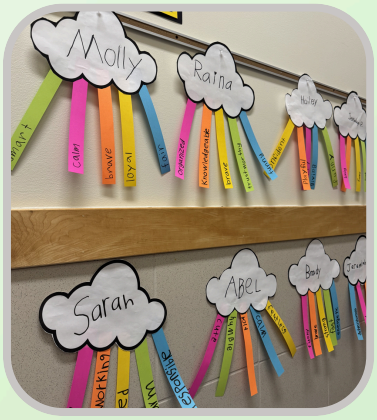
In addition to math, we've been diving into our latest CKLA Knowledge unit: Making a Difference. This unit is all about important individuals that fought to make our world a better place. We have been learning about Susan B. Anthony, Eleanor Roosevelt, Martin Luther King Jr., and Rosa Parks. We have been having meaningful conversations about how even one person can make a big difference. Students have also been learning about adjectives, nouns, and verbs as well. They then used adjectives to describe themselves in a rainbow project. Hopefully our rainbows bring more spring weather!

<u>Next Month We are Looking Forward To:</u>
Second Grade Spotlight Concert
Artist in Residence
Adding Three-Digit Numbers









REAMS | POINTS OF PRIDE

3rd GRADE

Our third graders have been busy exploring, discovering, and learning in March!

Reading: Our Solar System Unit

Third Graders dove into an engaging study of our solar system! They learned about the planets and their unique characteristics, as well as satellites (like moons) and other orbital bodies such as asteroids and comets. We explored what makes up the sun and how it produces light and energy. They also expanded their understanding beyond our solar system by learning about galaxies and how vast our universe is. We investigated fascinating phenomena like eclipses and discovered how the Earth's axis rotation and tilt causes seasons based on the hemisphere. To wrap up the unit, they became space researchers! They studied what life is like for astronauts aboard the International Space Station. Using what they learned, each student wrote an informative essay imagining their own life as an astronaut—highlighting daily routines, exercising, eating, relaxing, and even sleeping in space.

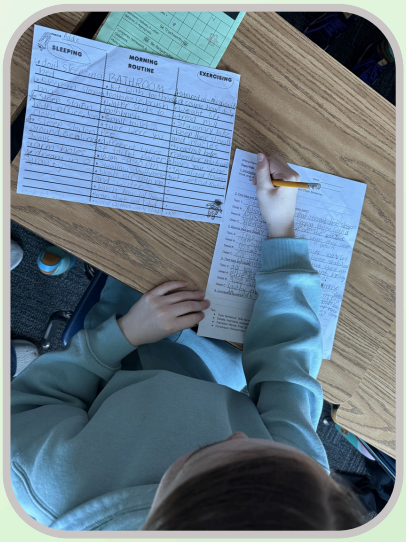
Math: Telling Time, Graphing, Geometry

In math, third graders worked on telling time using both analog and digital clocks. They practiced reading time to the nearest minute and developed strategies for solving real-world problems involving time. In addition, students learned how to calculate elapsed time—figuring out how much time has passed between a start and end time—using number lines, clocks, and problem-solving strategies.

They built strong skills in understanding and working with data. They learned how to read, analyze, and create different types of graphs, including bar graphs, pictographs, and line plots. We also explored geometry! Students learned to identify and describe different types of angles and lines. They studied the attributes of polygons and took a closer look at quadrilaterals, learning how to classify shapes based on their properties.







REAMS | POINTS OF PRIDE

4th GRADE

4th Grade has been rocking and rolling!

Here's what we have been up to:

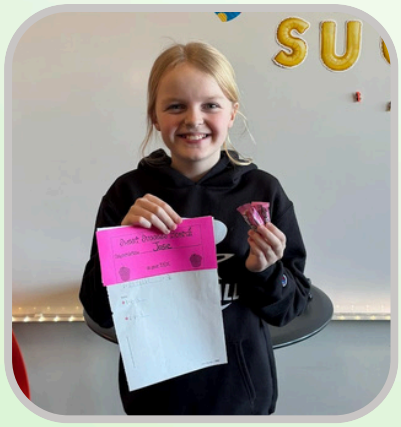
- Math: Geometry
- Social Studies: The United States Regions
- Science: Interactions with Earth's Spheres
- Reading: The Season of Styx Malone Novel Study
- Language Arts: Narrative Writing Paper

Students have had a blast getting to read The Season of Styx Malone in literacy! They are currently working on their writing projects which is a narrative writing essay. They are getting to use their knowledge of the characters to write a new scene related to the novel. Students are also having some fun learning about the United States regions! We are learning about resources, landmarks, products, etc. found in each region. We have been listening to some songs to help us remember the states and capitals as well! In math students are learning about different types of lines, angles, quadrilaterals, and transformations.











REAMS | POINTS OF PRIDE

ARTS- Theater & Music

Theater

Kindergarten music has been preparing for the all school song! The kindergarteners and first graders are gearing up for their puppet creation unit. The 2nd and 3rd graders are learning about folktales. And the 4th graders are working on responding to dramatic works!







Music

Fourth grade students presented their concert "Fifty Nifty, United States" in early March. Students connected learning from social studies to songs from the different regions of the country. Besides sharing their singing voices, students showcased African drumming, bucket drumming, recorder, xylophone and glockenspiels, pounding sticks, ukulele, and hand drums and tambourines. The Theater Troupe performed a student-written skit about the Winter Olympics and Dance Troupe performed to several songs. Audiences were even dazzled by the many pieces of student artwork that were displayed in the lobby. What a great evening of sharing fourth grade learning in and through the arts!







REAMS | POINTS OF PRIDE

ARTS- ART

Art

Kindergarten artists read the book "The Lion Inside", then drew lions and painted their manes with forks. 1st and 2nd grade students practiced blending from color to color on their sunset paintings. 3rd graders learned about the art element of form- making something look 3D. They then drew and watercolor painted a potted plant. 4th grade artists learned about the pop art movement and drew colorful cupcakes.







Artist in Residence- Kindergarten

In March, Kindergarten classes worked with Artist in Residence Erinn Liebhard. Mrs. Liebhart worked with students using creative movements to learn about the different stage of the plant life cycle.







REAMS | POINTS OF PRIDE

learn.explore.create.imagine

REAMS
ROCKFORD ELEMENTARY ARTS MAGNET SCHOOL

All School Song













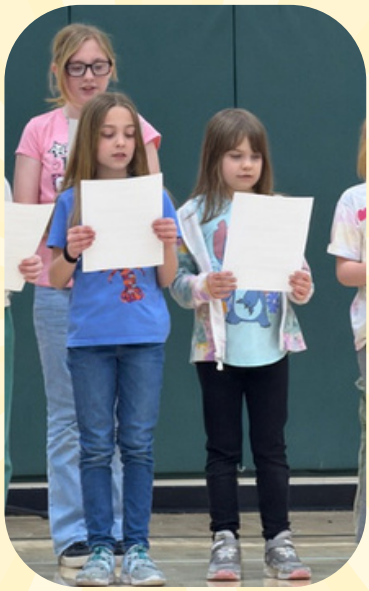
Teriffic Thursday





















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 Performance 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