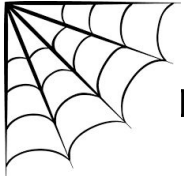




RUTH POWELL SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

OCTOBER 2026



Principal's Corner

Dear Families,

1st quarter is complete! Students are learning and growing every day. I hope everyone resets over the break and comes back ready to learn. Parent teacher conferences take place October 22 & 23. Please make sure you respond to teachers when they try to schedule and attend these important meetings to discuss your student's progress this year.

This month we are discussing self-direction. Please see the attached newsletter about our October focus. I encourage you to have a conversation with your student about respect at school and go over the student code of conduct. At school we want to prepare students for the future -future jobs, future travels, future connections. We want school to be a collaborative place where everyone is respected because we know it will transfer into their future. We all must work together to do our part. Happy Fall!

Ashley Vaughn
Ruth Powell School, Principal

Dates to Remember

- October 5th- 15th: Fall Break
- October 22nd & 23rd: Parent/Teacher Conferences
Early Release Oct 22nd @ 11:45pm
- October 26th - 29th: Pumpkins & Poems
- October 29th: The Great Pumpkin Fun Run
- October 29th : Grades 4-6 Honor Roll BBQ
- October 29th: Halloween Parade @ 1:30
- October 29th: RPS Trick or Treating 5:30 - 6:30
- November 2nd: Veterans Day Concert with
4th Graders & Bulldog Express
- November 11th: No School - Veterans Day
- November 25th: Early Release @ 11:45
- November 26th: No School for Thanksgiving Break

Attendance Matters!

Missing a day of school here and there may not seem like much, but absences add up!

When a student misses 2 days a month	When a student misses 4 days a month
They miss 20 DAYS a year (10% of the school year)	They miss 40 DAYS a year (20% of the school year)
They miss 30 HOURS of math instruction.	They miss 60 HOURS of math instruction.
They miss 60 HOURS of reading and writing instruction.	They miss 120 HOURS of reading and writing instruction.
They will miss over 1 YEAR of school by graduation.	They will miss over 2 YEARS of school by graduation.

SELF-DIRECT:

SETTING GOALS FOR WHO YOU WANT TO BE AND WHAT YOU WANT TO DO. THEN, TAKING STEPS ON YOUR OWN TO GET THERE.





Halloween Parade & Trick or Treating



Beware of little ghosts and goblins wandering the halls of Ruth Powell School! Our Annual RPS Halloween parade will be held October 29th at 1:30. Parents are welcome to attend. This is a whole school event. Please help us by making sure the theme of your child's costume is not violent in nature. Students should not wear costumes to school. They are to bring their costumes to school and will be given the opportunity to change before the parade.

On October 29th from 5:30 - 6:30, trick or treat the halls of RPS. It will be a "Spooktacular" event! Hope to see everyone there!



Residency Forms

For all students who have a change in address, please fill out a new Residency Form and supply us with a copy of proof for the new residence. This is to be turned into the office.

The Great Pumpkin Fun Run

Come join your child on Thursday, October 30th, for this walking, jogging event as RPS & LNS celebrate the fall season. Moms, dads, brothers, sisters, and grandparents are welcome to attend! Don't forget to wear tennis shoes!

Kindergarten 7:45-8:30

1st-2nd Grade 8:30-9:15

5th-6th Grade 9:15-10:00

3rd-4th Grade 10:00-10:45



Take Advantage of Tax Credit

Arizona tax law allows married couples filing jointly to take up to \$400 in tax credit or \$200 for singles if they donate to extracurricular activities. This tax credit is available to all taxpayers, even if they don't have children in school. Contributions are donated directly to the school, not to the state or even to the district. Though contributions to public schools have always been tax deductible, a tax credit is subtracted from the amount of taxes you owe. A tax credit is a full refund of your money. You can choose what school/teacher or an extracurricular program you would like it to go to. Teachers use this money to pay for class field trips.

Conferences

Parent Teacher Conferences will be held Thursday, October 22nd and Friday, October 23rd. School will be released Thursday at 11:45, lunches will be served and busses will run.



Pumpkins & Poems will be starting October 26th through October 29th. All RPS students are encouraged to submit a Halloween poem and/or an **uncarved, unpunctured** decorated pumpkin to the school. (Pumpkins with any punctures will not be accepted.) Pumpkins and Poems will be on display around the library until October 29th. Judging will be Wednesday, October 28th and the winners will be announced October 29th. Be creative and have fun. All pumpkins must be taken home October 29th. If they are not picked up on October 29th they will be thrown out that afternoon.



Think, Choose, Act

Lead yourself to who you want to be.

*This month, we're challenging students to envision future goals and take intentional steps toward who they want to be. **We are partnering with you to grow and develop your child's ability to self-direct.** We can model self-direction by celebrating the positive in each day, seeking the good in others, and emphasizing our responsibility to make positive choices.*



1 ENGAGE: Find the Good!

Self-direct your thoughts and share Good Things as a family each day. After school, around the dinner table, or before bed, ask each family member to share something good from the day. We often see what we seek! Let's focus on finding the good.



2 EMPOWER: Make a Plan

If your student doesn't already use a planner, empower them to start using one to manage their time better. Have a weekly meeting with your student to share what they have added to their planners. You can help them add family gatherings, school events, and due dates.



3 EXCEL: Affirm Daily

Practice growing as a family through positive affirmations. At dinner or some point during the day, give affirmations to each other and share the good things you see. Take it to the next level and think of someone you could affirm outside your family. Challenge each family member to affirm or thank a different person every day this month for something they do or who they are. You can even handwrite a note to thank that person and send them the note in the mail.

Conversation Starters

- ♥ What is one way you can be more responsible at home or school?
- ♥ What is an activity you want to continue to improve?
- ♥ How do you feel when you finish a project?
- ♥ What is something you want to learn to do?