

FRANK G. REGAN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

2780 North Main Street Waterbury, Connecticut 06704

Telephone: (203) 574-8187 Fax: (203) 573-6647

Principal: Noreen E. Buckley

Secretary: Denise Stribling

Parent Liaison: Patty Poulter

Email Address: www.waterbury.k12.ct.us

Subscribed websites: www.cmttestprepfun.com www.ixl.com www.RazKids.com www.ReadingA-Z.com

Regan Newsletter April 2014

Dear Parents and Families of Regan School,

The calendar states it is April, but this must be an April Fool's joke!!! Will it ever feel like spring?

Our students and staff have been working very hard to continue to increase students reading and math fluency.

Please make every effort to have your students at school on time so students will receive instruction during this very important block. Please be reminded to ask your students what their Learning Targets are each day. These statements will begin with "I can". An example of a learning target for second grade math would be: "I can tell time to the hour using an analog clock."

April Important Dates to Mark on Your Calendar

April 5, 2014 – School Community Meeting at PAL 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

April 10, 2014 – PTO Meeting 6:00 p.m., All Purpose Room

April 14, 2014 – April 18, 2014 - NO SCHOOL, April Break

April 21, 2014 – School Resumes

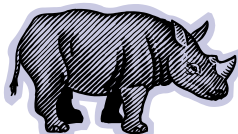
April 21–25, 2014 – Book Fair

April 23, 2014 – Early Dismissal - Parent Conference, 5:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.

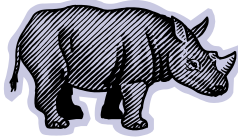
April 24, 2014 – Spring Portraits

Sincerely,

Noreen E. Buckley
Principal



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CLASSROOM NEWS

KINDERGARTEN Team – Mrs. Gutierrez and Ms. Parks

Looks like we are still waiting for that spring weather! We have many fun activities planned for the children. We will be celebrating Earth Day, talking about animal's habitats and plants. In language arts each class will be writing its own story! We have been working hard to get ready for the DRA. Over spring break please keep practicing with them because as soon as we get back the testing begins!

Please keep reading with your child every night. Make sure you are asking them who the characters are in the story and the setting as well. You also want to try and help them to re-tell the story in order from beginning to end. You can also help your child write a sentence about the story or even start to write a story of your own. Each week the class has a new word of the week which will get sent home with the child at the end of the week. Please put the word somewhere in your house and have your child say it before they can enter a room or even open the refrigerator! A list of all the sight words was sent home with your child, so feel free to add more to your house to practice!

In Math students will be exploring adding and subtracting within 10 and basic measurement skills. We have been using different methods to solve addition and subtraction problems, such as using our fingers, drawing pictures, or using counters. Please practice these with your children at home when doing the math homework. We are starting to plan a field trip once the weather gets warmer. We will keep you posted once we get more information! Enjoy your spring break and remember keep reading, reading, reading!

GRADE 1 Team – Ms. Dunn and Mrs. Roden

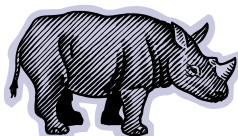
As we move into April, we see our first grade students rounding the corner to second grade! The students have improved in reading, writing and math. But, there is still work to be done! After a restful April break, DRA testing will begin again. Please continue to read together every night. Don't forget to have your child retell when the book is closed after you read.

You can help practice math facts when getting breakfast ready or driving in the car. We appreciate your help and cooperation and look forward to an amazing end to our school year.

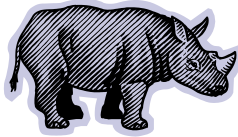
GRADE 2 Team – Mr. Dombrowski and Mr. Homewood

Second grade students in our classes are ready to continue to work efficiently and expand their thinking! Students continue to work on various genres of literature in reading. Our second graders just took the winter DRA's and students continue to grow! Please continue to encourage your child to read at least 10-15 minutes every night. Ask them questions about what they have read so you can be sure that they are practicing "real reading" by reading the words and not just flipping through the pages and just looking at the pictures. We are working hard on finishing Unit 3 and will move our focus onto Unit 4 – poetry and reader's theatre. Report cards will be shortly issued after spring vacation. Also, students are hoping to have parents come in within the next few weeks. Students cannot wait to share their work with you!

In math, the students have been learning about geometry and measurement. They also mastered how to solve comparison story problems based on interpreting graphs and measurements. As we have been throughout the course of the year we will continue to focus on place value. Emphasis is placed on regrouping in addition and ungrouping in subtraction. Students will continue to make new tens, hundreds, and thousands. In social studies, we are continuing to discuss community and how they can become excellent citizens.



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Your child will continue to receive homework Monday – Thursday. They should be studying their spelling words every night since there will be a spelling test **every** Friday unless otherwise noted! In addition, please encourage your child to read every day for 20 minutes. Ask questions about what he or she read. We also have just made flash cards in the classroom that students will be allowed to bring home and return to school every day for extra practice!

You can also go to these websites for additional help: Spellingcity.com, Primarygradesclasspage.com, Starfall.com, Fasttmath.com, Oswego.org, and RAZ-kids.com. We are looking forward to a great fourth marking period! ☺

GRADE 3 Team – Mrs. Baker and Mr. Mitchell

April showers bring May flowers! Finally spring has arrived. We are also getting a little closer to the SBAC Testing that the students have been preparing for. The students continue to go into the computer lab daily to work on SBAC practice test items. We continuously review in class, as well as try to keep up with the new curriculum.

April Highlights

- English --- Adverbs, conjunctions, writing types (opinion/persuasive, informational and narrative)
- Reading --- poetry/plays, review of previous skills.
- Math --- Continue with multiplication and division fluency, fractions, and measurement
- Science --- Earth's resources, Earth Day,
- Social Studies --- Continue with maps skills

Please continue to have your child practice multiplication facts each night. Every Friday the students have "Fun Fact Friday" in which the two classes compete against one another. This helps the students to prepare and study their multiplication and division facts. Students should also be reading to improve fluency and comprehension. Reading passages/questions are available on raz-kids.com.

GRADE 4 Team – Miss O'Brien and Mrs. Scarmo

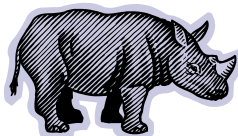
Happy spring! The fourth grade will soon be taking the Smarter Balanced Test. We have been preparing by practicing sample examples on the computer and perfecting our typing skills. We will also be completing our Unit 3 culminating project for ELA. In this unit we have explored themes in literature. Students will create a "Message in a Bottle" to relate a story to the "themes of our lives". We continue to improve our reading fluency by partner reading, echo reading, and readers' theater.

In math fourth graders strive to fluently add, subtract, multiply and divide multi-digit numbers. Your help in encouraging your student to read at home and practice math facts is greatly appreciated.

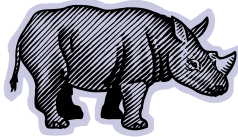
GRADE 5 Team – Mrs. Hart and Ms. Petruzzi

For the first time, students in Grade 5 are approaching April as a testing season. We have started the administration of the Smarter Balanced Field Test, and will continue to run different Math and Reading assessment tasks up to April 22nd. This includes a well-deserved Spring Break, April 14-18th.

The new Unit 4 of the Reading curriculum will cover Historical Fiction and Non-Fiction. We will be reading about the American Revolution, Civil War, and The Great Depression. In Math, we will use our multiplication to



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calculate area and volume, in addition to algebraic reasoning. We look forward to meeting and planning transitions to middle school on Teacher/Parent conferences on April 23rd, 5-7 p.m.

READING DEPARTMENT EXPECTATIONS – Mrs. O’Leary and Mrs. Ciarlo

By the end of First Grade, your child will be expected to:

- Ask and answer questions about key details in a text.
- Read on-level text with purpose and understanding.
- Read on-level text orally with accuracy, appropriate rate, and expression.
- Write opinion pieces, informational/explanatory texts (name a topic and supply some facts about it), and narratives (stories).
- Demonstrate command of the conventions of Standard English grammar and usage when writing or speaking.
- Demonstrate command of the conventions of Standard English including capitalization, punctuation, and spelling when writing.

How can you help?

- Read with or to your child every day.
- Read stories (*fiction*) and informational (*nonfiction*) books.
- Ask your child simple and difficult questions about the books you share.

Example story: Little Red Riding Hood

Simple (who? what? when? where?): Who did Little Red Riding Hood visit?

Difficult (how? why?): How do you think Little Red Riding Hood felt when the wolf pretended to be Grandma?

- Talk about other books that have similar characters and plots.
- Ask your child to write a story about a picture he/she has drawn.
- Talk to your child as you cook, shop or drive in the car.

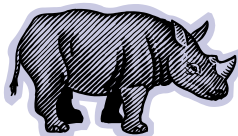
NURSE – Ms. Pelletier

It’s April and Spring better not be fooling us anymore! Even though it is Spring, we must still be vigilant as colds and viruses are still around. Maintaining proper outerwear these coming weeks is important. Remind your child even a light jacket needs to be worn on warmer days – it’s not summer yet.

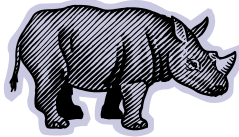
A packet for fifth graders will be sent home this month regarding the health requirements for middle school. I am sending this home now so parents can make appointments now for summer physicals. With Pre-K, K, 6th and 10th grade physical requirements, it is wise to book an appointment now.

It is hard to believe we are now passed the half year mark for school. These last months the children will be testing and proudly reaching and mastering their grade level goals. Let’s continue to encourage them and remind them that rest, good nutrition and always doing their best will bring them true success.

PBIS - "BE MINE BINGO" - PBIS reward for February was earned by approximately 230 students Those students enjoyed a cup of hot chocolate and cookies while playing Bingo!



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PARENT LIAISON – Mrs. Poulter

Message that Going to School Every Day Matters for Success in School and Life

Everyone - including those of you who work in schools, preschools, public agencies, community organizations, faith based institutions, elected officials, and parents themselves - can help spread the word about this important issue. What can you do to help get these messages out in your agency, community or school? Here are some important facts:

- Families should avoid extended vacations that require your children to miss school. Try to line up vacations with the school's schedule. The same goes for doctor's appointments.
- For younger children, you can set a regular bedtime and morning routine. Make sure they get 9 to 11 hours of sleep. You can lay out clothes and pack backpacks the night before.
- For older children, you can help them develop homework and bedtime routines that allow for 8 to 9 hours of sleep. Make sure that when the lights go out, so do the cell phones, video games and computers.
- Get to know the teachers and administrators. With younger children, make sure you introduce your child to teachers before school starts and keep in touch with the teachers. For older students, school officials can help you stay on top of academic progress and social contacts to make sure your child is staying on track.

Bridge to Success

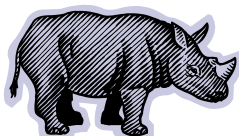
Also attached is a copy of the Community – school meeting in collaboration with PAL, Wilby, North End Middle, Bucks Hill, Kingsbury, Reed and Regan Schools. It is Saturday, April 5th from 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon at PAL Learning Center, 58 Griggs Street, Waterbury. Please try to attend this fun and informative meeting.

Thank you to the families who participated with the “Snacking in the USA” PTO fundraiser. Your support is very much appreciated.

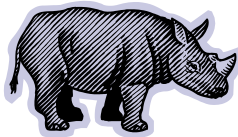
The BOGO scholastic book fair is schedule for the week of April 21-25. If you are able to volunteer and help out please contact me, Patty Poulter, Parent Liaison at 203-574-8187.

We are always looking for more family members on our School Governance Council. You can contact me if you are interested.

Enjoy a wonderful Spring Recess!



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COMMUNITY – SCHOOL Meeting

It is a great time to:

- Learn more about Educational Tips and Activities
- Learn about Community Resource Partners
- Learn about Waterbury Public School Initiatives
- Continue the communication and collaboration between families, schools and community.

Meet other parents and community members
Parent Liaisons & School Staff

When: Saturday, April 5, 2014

Time: 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 a.m.

Place: PAL Learning Center

58 Griggs Street, Waterbury, CT

Held in Collaboration with Waterbury Public Schools,
Bucks Hill * Kingsbury * Reed * Regan * North End Middle * Wilby High Schools
Police Activity League,
Community Health Center

Brunch will be provided....., Raffle Prizes, and more

SPACE IS LIMITED PLEASE RESPOND PROMPTLY

Please return to your child's Parent Liaison in Elementary / Middle School by: March 28, 2014

Student Name(s): _____ School(s): _____ Grade(s): _____

Parent Name: _____ Telephone: _____

Email _____ Number attending: _____

Transportation needed: Yes: _____ No: _____

For more information contact:

Dianna Monti, Reed School at 203-574-8180 or dmonti@waterbury.k12.ct.us

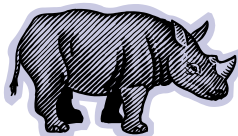
Patty Poulter, Regan School at 203-346-2603 or ppoulter@waterbury.k12.ct.us

Rubis Collado, Kingsbury School at 203-346-2639 or rcollado@waterbury.k12.ct.us

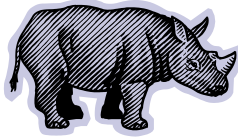
Shirley Petteway, Bucks Hill School at 203-346-2624 or spetteway1@waterbury.k12.ct.us

Rebecca Harmon, North End/Wilby at 203-574-6879 or rharmon@waterbury.k12.ct.us

****Transportation available – please call Shirley Petteway to arrange by March 28, 2013****



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Parent Involvement Policy 2013 -2014

The following parent involvement policy was developed and agreed upon by the staff and parents of Regan School. This policy will be distributed to all Regan School parents.

The Title 1 program, school curriculum, the schools performance profile showing the school's progress toward meeting the learning goals will be communicated to families in a variety of flexible ways including:

- A) Open House / Parent – Teacher Conferences
- B) PTO meetings
- C) Educational Meetings / Workshops
- D) Newsletter, School website, Flyers, Reminder notices sent home with student
- E) Personal contact by phone, email, letter or home visit

Regan's staff will provide opportunities for families to share their expertise, to be involved and share in appropriate decision making through:

- A) Classroom visits
- B) Training workshops
- C) Family Resources
- D) School Committees such as PTO, SGC
- E) Student Programs and Projects
- F) Family Night events / Field Trips

Families will be notified about their child's progress, receive explanations of student assessment results and be provided the response in the following ways:

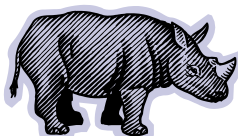
- A) Progress Reports/Report Cards
- B) Conferencing – school, home, phone, letter
- C) DRA Results

A school-parent compact has been developed outlining the responsibility of families, teacher and student for improving student achievement. The school-parent compact will describe the following:

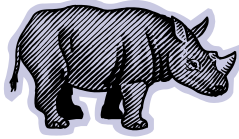
- A) Families' responsibility for supporting student learning
- B) On-going communication between family and teacher
- C) Student's responsibility for learning
- D) School's responsibility for providing a high quality curriculum

Effective family involvement and support partnerships among the school, families, PTO and the community will be ensured by:

- A) Providing material and training
- B) Coordinating and integrating Title 1 strategies with other parent and community organizations.
- C) Developing school/family/community partnerships
- D) Providing information to families in language used at home.
- E) Providing families with opportunities to become involved in school/classroom activities.



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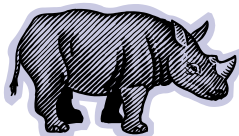
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Mission Statement of Regan Elementary School

Our mission is to educate all students to high academic standards in an environment that cultivates character, fosters pro-social behavior and inspires the love of learning.

Vision Statement of Regan Elementary School

Our vision is for all students to become proficient in effective communication, critical reasoning and logical problem solving. We seek to meet the needs of all learners within a student-centered, data-driven learning community where we continually collect, analyze and act on student performance data to improve teaching and learning.



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