



"REED ROCKET EXPRESS SCHOOL NEWS"

April, 2014

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE:

Spring is in the air! The temperature is starting to get warmer and soon we will all be able to enjoy the many activities that take place in and outside of school. Our students are currently beginning to take the Smarter Balance State Assessment in grades 3-7. We are confident that our teachers have worked hard and that our students will be ready to show all that they have learned. The testing window is much larger this year and the assessments will all be taken on a computer. Below you will find the *tentative* schedule along with more information on this assessment as well as a practice tests for you and your child to familiarize yourself with the types of questions on the assessment.

Grades 7 and 8 March 25-April 25

Grades 5 and 6 April 28-May 20

Grades 3 and 4 May 21-June 11

Information- <http://www.smarterbalanced.org/>

Samples- https://sbacpt.tds.airast.org/student/login.aspx?c=SBAC_PT (must be on a chrome web browser)

We are excited to announce that our school mission and vision have been written based on our school's data and the needs of Reed school. They were voted upon by the staff and the PTO. Our Vice Principal will share more about this experience in her message.

We also would like to share that if you have children between the ages birth to 3 the Reed FRC Elementary School is offering a FREE community playgroup that is designed to prepare children in making the transition from Pre-K Early Learners to Kindergarten. For More Information Contact: Mr. Ernie Racine, Reed FRC Coordinator at (203) 574-8180 ext. 101 or email to eracine@waterbury.k12.ct.us

Lastly, the end of the school year is quickly approaching and it will be over before we know it. Please continue to make sure that your children do their homework, get a good night's rest, and come to school ready and prepared to learn because there is still a lot of important work to do in the remaining two and half months of school. Due to all of the snow days we have had this year, our last day of school is now tentatively scheduled for Monday, June 17th. Keep your fingers crossed and let's hope we don't get any more snow!

Mr. Mendoza

Principal

FAMILY RESOURCES CENTER

This is no average April at the FRC

Say bye bye to the cold and hello to having a fresh new and warm start. We at the FRC are excited to finally introduce two After School Programs without interruption, "The Daily Rocket" and "Showtime Football". The Daily Rocket will be Reed's School Newspaper, which started March 24 @ 2:50pm -4pm for the students that have been selected. Now that we are in April things seem to be moving according to plan. Melissa Steffero, Positive Youth Development Leader will be a major contributor to this program as well as Ms. Lopez. This extracurricular activity will make the attempt to improve communication between all age groups at Reed. The paper will provide the student body with a forum of open expression within boundaries established; showcase teamwork, the creative process and responsibility. Showtime Football also kicked off last month on March 28th, 2:50-4pm. Showtime Football Club is geared towards capturing the spirit of timeless screen classics of today; to bring literature and history to life. Open to grades 5-7. Ms. Lopez will be assisting in leading the charge with her outstanding talent and creativity. There will also be a recreational component as well. Fusing the two will no doubt encourage imagination, build confidence and positive health. Applications can be picked up at the Family Resource Center Rm 103. Speak to Mr. Racine. The Reed FRC R.I.S.E Leadership Academy will be coming to an end soon. All the students that took part in the program did a remarkable job. My hope is that they will use their newly acquired or refined social skills and utilize them to the best of their ability in and outside of the classroom. Look for more Parent Workshops, family connection events and student enrichment programs to come your way. As always, REED ROCKETS R.I.S.E. To The Top!

Message from the Desk of Mrs. Tomasella, V.P.

I am excited to announce that the Jonathan E. Reed mission and vision statements have been created! These statements were developed in conjunction with our school leadership team and voted upon by staff and the parents from the PTO. These statements encompass our beliefs and wishes for our students, school, as well as our purpose and efforts for our school. As you know, any successful organization must have a mission/vision to help lead it to academic success.

Our Vision and Mission Statement are as follows

Vision Statement

"Jonathan E. Reed is a forward thinking school that is the center piece of the community. Our vision is to produce major gains in student achievement and resilient well rounded individuals who will be successful today and are prepared for tomorrow."

Mission statement

"Our mission at, Jonathon E. Reed School, is to provide a high quality, comprehensive, and meaningful education for all students. Each student will be expected to succeed within the bounds of their abilities and chosen educational goals. Students will be treated as individuals and equipped with the tools to succeed throughout their academic career. Educators alongside parents will guide students in becoming responsible, respectful, and productive members of society."

Overall, it outlines that our expectations are that students, staff, as well as parents must work together to accomplish our mission. It is clear through these statements which we will live by at Reed that our goal is to get our students to meet their potential and succeed academically and socially. Throughout the school year we will refer to our mission and vision statements to ensure that it is a pillar within our school community.

CONGRATULATIONS! FEBRUARY STUDENTS OF THE MONTH

Kindergarten

Mrs. Morotto/Ms. Hoagland Aidan Contreras
Ms. Weber Emilio Hernandez

Grade 1

Mrs. Pelletier Alden Lee
Ms. Solimine Myah Valentin

Grade 2

Mrs. Albizu Emanuel Ruiz-Concepcion
Mrs. Hosking Suheylee Quinones

Grade 3

Mrs. Ruiz Leticia Silva
Mrs. Waters Arnaeja Gatling

Grade 4

Mrs. Choi Ivan Lebron
Mr. Smith Gabriel Martinez

Grade 5

Mr. Greene Kazzandra Anaya
Ms. Rinaldi Zhanye Fremond

Grade 6

Ms. Griffin Taires Gamble
Ms. Maturo Kiana Diaz

Grade 7

Mrs. Bonaventura Kelsey Concepcion
Ms. Bramble Elijah Quintero

APRIL CALENDAR

April 1	End of the 3 rd marking period
April 8	Student of the Month
April 14-18	No School, Spring Break
April 23	Half Day, Parent Conferences 5:00-7:00pm
April 24	Half Day, Professional Development



PARENT LIAISON

Parents I would like to remind you about our Community Meeting on April 5th at the PAL Learning Center 58 Griggs St. from 10:00 to 12:00 there will be prizes, food, community vendors.

Just a reminder there is a basket filled with lost items in the café. Parents if your child is missing clothing item please check it out. - Mrs. Monti

MONTHLY CAFETERIA PRICES

(203) 574-8336

LUNCH

Per day

Full Price \$ 1.50

Reduced .40

Milk Only .50

School Hours

Regular School Day	Kindergarten - 7 th grade	8:35-2:50
	Pre K	9:00-2:20
90 minute Delay	Kindergarten - 7 th grade	10:05-2:50
	Pre K	10:30-2:20
Emergency Dismissal	Kindergarten - 7 th grade	8:35-12:00
	Pre K	9:00-10:50
Half Day	Kindergarten - 7 th grade	8:35-1:05
	Pre K	9:00-12:20



FROM THE SCHOOL NURSE

We survived the bitter cold winter and now we welcome spring! This also means allergy season for many of us. If your child needs to take medication at school, please remember it has to be brought to school by a parent and accompanied by a doctor's authorization.

This month will begin scoliosis screening for our students in grade 5, 6 and 7. A notice explaining the screening policy will be sent home. If you received a vision referral for your child please return the form to school after they have been seen by the doctor.

Just a few reminders, all students entering 7th grade next school year must have had a 6th grade physical with the appropriate immunizations. If you have a child in 6th grade who received a physical packet from the nurse's office they have not met this State of Connecticut mandate and need to do so to enter 7th grade. If you have a child in 5th grade this year they can meet this physical requirement if they hand in a physical dated from January of this year, 2014. A physical from the year, 2013 does not meet this requirement for 5th grade students. Any questions please call the nurse's office.

If you have a child in pre-k entering kindergarten next year and they have a physical done this year, 2014, please send a copy in to the nurse's office. This will meet the mandatory physical requirement for kindergarten for next year. - Thank you, Kathleen Sullivan RN phone (203)575-3745 fax (203) 575-3746

PARKING

Parents: Please do not use the bus lane to drop off or pick up your child. This area is reserved for busses only. All parents must use the parent drop off area or the parking lot when they visit the school. This is for the safety of our students. Thank you!



FEBRUARY PERFECT ATTENDANCE STUDENTS

PreK-Mrs. Rinaldi: Kaiden Fusha, Arianna Rolon, Sasha Salazar, Jevon Wiggins

PreK-Mrs. Murphy/Ms. Kachur: Raquelly Guedes E Silva, Isabella Jackson, Abdullah Syed, Miah Vargas

Kindergarten-Mrs. Morotto/Ms. Hoagland: Arla Arana, Christian Hidalgo, Jimmy Richardson, Joshua Smith-Myers

Kindergarten-Ms. Weber: Ayden Cruz, Delianise Estrada, Anthony Fernandez, Dalan Gainer, Danessa Hernandez, Emilio Hernandez

Grade 1-Mrs. Pelletier: Brian Jackson, Joana Bustillo-Palma, Alden Lee, Hailie Ortega-Delgado, Anthony Ramos, Jacob Richardson, Sacora Richardson, Imani Sanchez

Grade 1-Ms. Solimine: Damion Anderson, Isaac Corona, Ne'veah Jackson, Alexaniel Khan-Lugo, Emmalyz Medina, Joniell Negron-Quinones, Ashley Saca-Tello, Sierra Richardson, Rodney Tello

Grade 2-Mrs. Albizu: Malachi Brown, Kaylynn Garcia, Julie Jacob, Kiara Nazario, Kevin Torres, Jessica Vazquez, Mandujano

Grade 2 - Mrs. Hosking: Jarlyn Leiva, Erick Santiago, Maxine Ragland

Grade 3 - Mrs. Ruiz: Marces Bennett, Kevin Concepcion, Ammy Delgado, Brian Dessalines, Aylleene Duarte, Elian Flores-Alvarez, Jenniliz Jorge, Lashawn Nance, Miyah Stigger, Luis Quinones, Ethan Rodriguez, Maribel Ruano

Grade 3 - Mrs. Waters: James Bennett, Isaiah Cancel, Isabella Damelio, Cody Ellis, Louis Nance, Terril Powell, Jorge Quiles, Ethan Ramos, Amaraiah Rivera

Grade 4 - Mrs. Choi: Heidi Cruz, Shamteek Cutts, Klaudio Fusha, Jefferson Lopez, Jerome Minnifield, Kay-Sean Nealy, Ronaldess Parker, Luis Pozo

Grade 4 - Mr. Smith: Tiquan Nealy, Treasure Parks, Angel Rodriguez, Marcus Rountree, Jhason Valsaint

Grade 5 - Mr. Greene: Latisha Anderson, Tatiana Bond, Anthony Conyers, Gustavo Martinez, Karizma Nowell, Michael Torres

Grade 5-Ms. Rinaldi: Jennifer Bustillo, Michael Santiago, Ray Sosa

Grade 6-Ms. Griffin: Claire Feledie, Dominic Hernandez, Donovan Prater, Joshua Ross, Makaela Wages

Grade 6-Ms. Maturo: Nahalia Bennett, Joel Derraben, Luis Jorge, Carolina Nazario, Aaron Prater, Sanaih Prater, Destiny Young

Grade 7 - Mrs. Bonaventura: Oلمان Bustillo, Samantha Mateo, Elijah Quintero

Grade 7-Ms. Bramble: Kelsey Concepcion, Kajohn Cooper, Christina Correa, Joshua Cruz, Jorden Davis, Zakai James, Juan Rivas

Essential Skills-Ms. Hastings: Tiana Reeves, Arrian Espinal, Justin Kalaquin



Whats happening around the school????



Kindergarten We are continuing to blend sounds together to make words. We are also starting to read and write our own sentences using our High Frequency Words and decodable words. In math we are still working hard on adding and starting to talk about different strategies we can use to add. Please continue all your hard work at home practicing these letters, sounds and high frequency words. We will begin to send home books as well! As always, any donations of tissues and hand sanitizer are always appreciated, especially at this time of year. Thank you parents for all of your continued hard work, we couldn't do it without you!

1st Grade First grade has been very busy in Reading, learning about vowel talkers, magic "e", and comparing and contrasting non-fiction texts. In Math, we continue to practice strategies for addition and subtraction, and we are beginning to tell time using digital and analog clocks. Let's continue to hope for springtime weather!!

2nd Grade As we continue to push for reading excellence, we continue to stress the importance of reading with your child for twenty minutes every night. As they read to you, we encourage you to ask your child questions about the story such as; Why did the author write this book? What does this story make you think of? Students should

also be able to retell the events of the story. Please use the reading log and bookmarks that we have created to guide you as you read with your child. If you have any questions please don't hesitate to ask. Thank you for your continued support in helping your child have a successful school year!

3rd Grade Third grade is working on finding the area of a shape. We are always looking for ways to connect what your child is learning in the classroom to the real world. You can help us by having your children find the area of a room in your house. Next time you pick out carpet for your rooms, remind your children that in order to do this you need to know the area. Please continue to read with your child every night and have them summarize the story verbally to you. Then have them write a summary. This is a way you can check to see if your child is understanding what they are reading. **Just a reminder to check your child's folder. There are important notices that go home daily as well as homework and projects.**

4th Grade This month has gone by "As Fast as a Train"! The 4th grade has been using a lot of similes and metaphors lately. We have also been discussing & comparing how different stories may have similar themes. We are getting ready to wrap it all up and for this month's project we will be sending a message in a bottle.

5th Grade Grade 5 students are getting themselves ready for testing in April. We are practicing all of our math, language arts, and computer skills. In math, we are doing a lot of adding, subtracting, multiplying, and dividing of fractions using everyday scenarios. We also want to give a Reed shout out to all of our 5th graders for giving their all on the CMT Science Test. Keep up the good work & keep on reading.

6th Grade Grade 6 students have been familiarizing themselves with the new Smarter Balanced Testing program in preparation for our piloting this year. Parents can access this information on-line as well. We started our new unit on "Researching and the Credibility of Sources" in Reading. Determining facts from opinions, fiction from non-fiction, and the reliability of authors can be quite challenging with such a wide variety of resources on the web. We recently completed an Argumentative Writing assignment focusing on the use of on-line social media and whether or not it hinders real life socialization. The students had quite a variety of interesting claims. Wrapping up our unit on Geometry has shown "measurable" improvements in Math. While "Weather and Winds" are our current focus for Science, maybe we can figure out how to get a few tropical winds to blow in some warmer temperatures around here....in time for our spring vacation!

7th Grade In 7th grade math students are currently working on module 5 - Algebraic Reasoning: Equations and Expressions. Students are working on balancing one step and two step equations to solve for a variable. Then students will use the distributive property to factor linear expressions or expand linear expressions with rational coefficients. In ELA all of our hard practice will be paying off as we dive into the Smarter Balanced Field Test. On a creative note, I have introduced a different type of monthly book report. Students will be able to choose several different Response to Literature Projects each month, which range from designing a new book jacket to writing a letter to the author or chosen character. I really believe the students will enjoy these activities and I look forward to what they produce. As always if you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me at gbonaventura@waterbury.k12.ct.us or phone ext. 219.

Essential Skills In the Essential Skills class we have been working on the letters W, U, L and V, the numbers 8 and 9 and nursery rhymes. We have also been learning fun facts about our state as part of our Connecticut unit.

Bilingual/ELL/ESL Parents of EL students, Your child will be tested with the LAS Links Form C during the month of April. That test will measure language acquisition skills in academic and social English. Please encourage your child to do his/her best during this testing period. Thanks Mrs. Figueroa-Centeno & Mr. Garcia A los padres de los estudiantes aprendices de inglés Su hijo será probado con el examen "LAS Links" Forma C durante el mes de Abril. Este examen prueba las destrezas de adquisición del lenguaje en el inglés en las áreas académicas y sociales. Por favor anime a su hijo/hija a dar lo mejor de él/ella durante este periodo de prueba. Gracias Mrs. Figueroa-Centeno & Mr. García

Health and Physical Education Students in grades K-5 are working on passing and dribbling skills for March Madness. Students in grades 6th and 7th are learning how to shoot, pass, and dribble a basketball preparing them for the students with parents/staff game with guest player Ryan Gomes who played for several NBA teams. The game will be held March 26th at 5:00pm at Reed School in the gymnasium. There will be food and drinks sold. A flyer was sent home with students.

Art With the temperatures finally beginning to rise, the Pre-K and Kindergarten students will be creating collage pictures to correspond to the letters "V", "C" and "Q" which is part of learning about the country and the city for the month of March. First grade will be creating a small mural to correspond to Dr. Seuss's birthday month of March. These will be a collage of cats taken from his book "The Plethora of Cats". Second grade will create an Ariel view out of paper and oil pastels of snowmen and snowwomen that are now melting. Third and fourth grade will be

creating a numbers piece of art to correspond to the Artist "Demuth" and their math curriculum. The 5th and 7th grades will start to construct a 3 dimensional cube and/or pyramid shape that will show optical illusion and line designs. The 6th grade will be designing Mandalas which represent the universe. Hope everyone has a great start to spring.

Music To celebrate Jewish-American Heritage month, we will be studying the music and impact of Jewish-American artists from George and Ira Gershwin to the Beastie Boys. Also, the spring concert is just two months away, so mark your calendars for May 8th!

Social Studies In 7th grade students have been reading and analyzing the constitution to gain a better understanding of the American system of government. Coming up students will be learning about the Federalist Era, and our first Presidents.

Science This past month in science students experimented with genetics and discovering the alleles that make up the traits they have. Students found out why they have certain eye color and how they have become the individual person they are today. As we finish the genetics lab this week, we look forward to learning about the weather and if we can help this cold and bitter weather go away.

Library March saw lots of fun in the library as we celebrated Dr. Seuss' birthday! One of the great things about Dr. Seuss is that he wrote books for all ages! In April, we look forward to National Poetry Month and our spring BOOK FAIR! In 6th and 7th grade, we will be working on an awesome collaborative project in library, art and music, on the HISTORY OF HIP HOP! Welcome spring!

Reading Our students are building their reading comprehension skills daily using strategies to think about their reading. These strategies include: **Guessing**; what will I probably learn from this text? **Connecting**; what do I already know about this topic, **Wondering**; what questions will this text probably answer? Are there subheadings that I can turn into questions? **Noticing**; what clues do I notice in the way this text is written that might help me, **Picturing**; are there any graphics, such as maps, charts, pictures, graphs? What details do I notice in each graphic? and **Figuring Out**; does it look like this text will be easy or difficult to read? Can I read it quickly, or should I read it slowly? Please discuss these strategies with your child when they are reading at home, too.

Family and Consumer Sciences Family and Consumer Sciences: Students in grades 6 and 7 are finishing up their nutrition units and soon 7th grade will be learning how to write checks and balance a checkbook.