

"REED ROCKET EXPRESS SCHOOL NEWS"

February, 2014

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE:

It has been an extremely cold winter season; we ask that you please make sure that your child is dressed appropriately for the weather including warm coats, hats, and gloves. We have noticed that some students are arriving to school prior to the scheduled opening start time and would like to remind parents that the school doors do not open until 8:05, please plan accordingly so that your child does not come to school and have to wait outside in the cold.

At Reed we understand that Life can get very busy, we ask that you please take some time out to make every effort to be involved in your child's education by attending school wide events, communicating with your child's teacher regularly, participating in open house and parent conferences, attending PTO meetings when possible, reinforcing high expectations, and talking to your students everyday about the importance of education. Recent research from Harvard University shows that parental involvement has a large impact on student achievement in the classroom. Harvard recently conducted a study in which they concluded that; *parental involvement is associated with higher student achievement. Harvard found that student success was higher in a variety of areas including standardized test scores, grades and teacher ratings. Students are also more likely to enroll in higher-level programs, pass their classes, attend school regularly, have better social skills and move onto post-secondary education. The types of parental involvement that had the greatest impact on student success were reading and communicating with one's child, as well as holding parental expectations.* (<http://www.hfrp.org>)

PLEASE STAY SAFE AND WARM. SPRING IS RIGHT AROUND THE CORNER!

LIKE US ON FACEBOOK <https://www.facebook.com/#!/Reedrockets>

Mr. Mendoza

Principal

FEBRUARY CALENDAR

February 11	2 nd marking period report cards distributed
February 11	Student of the Month
February 12	Half Day, Professional Development
February 17	No School, President's Day
February 18	No School, Lincoln's Birthday

PTO

The Reed PTO committee would like to thank parents for returning the PTO Parent Survey. Many of the surveys were returned and a few are still coming in each day. This information will be useful in helping determine how the Reed PTO can better serve the school and the community.

Movie Night was a success and a lot of fun. It was nice to have an opportunity to spend time with families, relax, and enjoy a movie. We look forward to hosting more family fun nights.

We are still looking for more parents to be involved in the Reed PTO. This does not require a lot of your time, and no contribution is too small. We just want to hear your voices and ideas. If you are interested in becoming more involved in the Reed PTO, please see Mr. Greene, Mrs. Monti, or contact your child's teacher and we will get back to you.

The next PTO meeting will be Wednesday, February 26. There will be more information about this in the coming weeks.

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

We want to acknowledge the great job the following classes are doing following the cafeteria expectations. These classes have earned an extra reward:

As the year progresses we want to continue reinforcing our Reed Rise Expectations throughout the building. Please review the following with your child:

Reed R.I.S.E Expectations (Respect, Individuals, Self, Environment)

ALL SETTINGS

INDIVIDUALS

- I will keep my hands to myself.
- I will use kind words.
- I will encourage others to do their best.
- I will care for and help others.

SELF

- I will be on task.
- I will be prepared.
- I will be responsible.
- I will always do my best

ENVIRONMENT

- I will pick up trash.
- I will recycle.
- I will keep the school clean.

We would also like to congratulate our January Star Lunchers!!!

- Ms. Weber Kindergarten
- Mrs. Choi Grade 4
- Mrs. Solimine Grade 1

CONGRATULATIONS!

DECEMBER STUDENTS OF THE MONTH

Kindergarten

Mrs. Morotto/Ms. Hoagland Arla Arana

Ms. Weber Dalan Gainer

Grade 1

Mrs. Pelletier Hailie Ortega-Delgado

Mrs. Solimine Isaac Corona

Grade 2

Mrs. Albizu Fernando Lopez-Utate

Mrs. Hosking Malaki Wilson

Grade 3

Mrs. Ruiz Ethan Rodriguez

Mrs. Waters Eileen Padilla-Serrano

Grade 4

Mrs. Choi

Luis Pozo

Mr. Smith

Treasure Parks

Grade 5

Mr. Greene

Isaiah Rivas

Ms. Rinaldi

Rosalenny Vasquez

Grade 6

Ms. Griffin

Milagros Muniz

Ms. Maturo

Matthew Ney

Grade 7

Mrs. Bonaventura

Castar Brown

Ms. Bramble

Khari Stevenson

PARENT LIAISON

Dear Parents/Guardian,

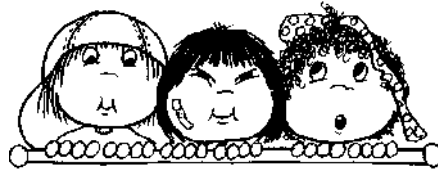
I just want to let you know about some activities coming to Reed. February 13 will be our Family Math Night from 5:30-6:30pm in the cafe. In April we will be having our Reading Night with Felix Rodriguez and Jerry Craft. Watch for the flyer. In the cafe is a basket filled with lost items from students. If your child is missing items please stop in the cafe and see if it is in there. Thank you - Diana Monti, parent liaison (203-754-8180 ext. 140)

FAMILY RESOURCES CENTER

Although it's cold as can be outside things are heating up in the FRC. Coming off the momentum and success of the Dad, Me & Football Family Event last month we have our sites locked on doing more by launching an assortment of activities and events for the funtastic month of February. The Reed FRC will be sponsoring *Reed FRC Recognizes and Always Remembers Black History Month*. FRC will be hosting a Community/Family Event where there will be viewing the movie "42". This film tells the story of Jackie Robinson and, under the guidance of team executive Branch Rickey, Robinson's signing with the Brooklyn Dodgers to become the first African-American player to break the baseball color barrier. The story focuses mostly on the 1947 Brooklyn Dodgers season and somewhat on Robinson's 1946 season with the Montreal Royals, which emphasize his battles with racism and beating the odds.

For our Reed Kindergartners, we will be implementing the Mutt-i-gree Program. Mutt-i-gree curriculum focuses its lesson on helping children to be more aware of their feelings and the feelings of others by understanding dogs and associating those skills to people.

Last but not least the FRC will be starting R.I.S.E Leadership Academy Group. The main goal of the R.I.S.E Group is to assist students in grades 4-7 improve on their leadership and interpersonal skills. This group meets 2x a week. This is our attempt at the FRC to assist Reed Students to meet and exceed their R.I.S.E pledge/expectations and connect with a positive male role model in a smaller setting. Stay tuned for more from the Family Resource Center, the best is yet to come!



FROM THE SCHOOL NURSE

We are still in the midst of cold and flu season so please encourage your child to use good hand washing technique and to cough/sneeze into their arms, not their hands. If your child is sick and has a fever please do not send them to school. The policy for school is 24 hours fever free before a student can return to school. If everyone does their part we can keep others from getting sick.

If you received a referral letter for your child for either vision or hearing, please make an appointment with your doctor for further evaluation. Please return the form to the nurse's office after your doctor completes it. Also, if your child received a physical form please return to school as soon as it is completed.

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!

DECEMBER PERFECT ATTENDANCE STUDENTS

PreK-Mrs. Rinaldi: Leyla Corcoran, Anadia Rodriguez, Kyle Silva, Jevon Wiggins

PreK-Mrs. Murphy/Ms. Kachur: Christopher Lopez, Abdullah Syed, Noel Velo

Kindergarten-Mrs. Morotto/Ms. Hoagland: Sean Ruffin, Joshua Smith-Myers

Kindergarten-Ms. Weber: Dalan Gainer, Hailey Maynard, Jaelynn Sanchez

Grade 1-Mrs. Pelletier: Joanna Bustillo-Palma, Yaniel Flores, Malaysia Gatling, Hailie Ortega-Delgado, Jacob Richardson

Grade 1-Ms. Solimine: Ashley Saca-Tello, Alexander Benedict-Scott, Ne'vaeh Jackson, Tamia Stevenson

Grade 2-Mrs. Albizu: Jaylin Howard, Bobby Jordan, Leeyah Migliore, Makeala Parker, Alanna Resto, Kevin Torres

Grade 2-Mrs. Hosking: Amaris Estrada, Jarlyn Leiva, Michael Ortiz, Maxine Ragland, Erick Santiago

Grade 3-Mrs. Ruiz: Marces Bennett, Kevin Concepcion, Ammy Delgado, Elian Flores-Alvarez, Jenniliz Jorge, Lashawn Nance, Miyah Stigger

Grade 3-Mrs. Waters: James Bennett, Cody Ellis, Joan Flete, Arnaeja Gatling, Louis Nance, Terril Powell, Amaraiah Rivera

Grade 4-Mrs. Choi: Klaudio Fusha, Jefferson Lopez, Jerome Minnifield, Kay-Sean Nealy, Nelson Nieves, Haley Ortiz, Ronaldess Parker

Grade 4-Mr. Smith: Felix German, Xiovany Moya, Tiquan Nealy, Treasure Parks, Angel Rodriguez, Jhason Valsaint

Grade 5-Mr. Greene: Zareena Agosto, Latisha Anderson, Anthony Conyers, Karizma Nowell, Sierra Sanderson, Michael Torres

Grade 5-Ms. Rinaldi: Aaliyah Aybar, Jennifer Bustillo, Dynaziah Kennedy, Camila Mejias, Alexia Resto, Yahbdiel Ruiz, Michael Santiago, Rosalenny Vasquez, Anthony Zason

Grade 6-Ms. Griffin: Carlton Black, Precious Carrion, Noelia Derraben, Claire Feledie, Joshua Ross, Makaela Wages

Grade 6-Ms. Maturo: Nahalia Bennett, Joel Derraben, Julissa German, Luis Jorge, Joshua Rivera

Grade 7-Mrs. Bonaventura: Jeanly Barreto-Gutierrez, Olman Bustillo, Elijah Quintero

Grade 7-Ms. Bramble: Qianna Brown, Kelsey Concepcion, Christina Correa, Joshua Cruz, Jorden Davis, Khari Stevenson, Juan Rivas

Essential Skills-Ms. Hastings: Arrian Espinal, Justin Kalanquin, Michael Ortiz

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

MONTHLY CAFETERIA PRICES

(203) 574-8336

LUNCH

Per day

Full Price \$ 1.50

Reduced .40

Milk Only .50



Whats happening around the school????

Kindergarten Happy New Year! Kindergarten students have jumped right back into the swing of things and are working very hard! We have almost learned all the letters and sounds of the alphabet and we are now blending these sounds together to make words! 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 is working hard on our reading. We just learned all about Bossy R! The students are currently working on short stories and learning what great authors need to include in their writing. Please practice math facts and make sure your child is returning homework daily. Students should also be reading books from their bookbags nightly. Thank you for the tissue and hand sanitizer donations!

2nd Grade Your child is learning how to show information in various ways. In this math unit, children will learn how to create and read picture graphs and bar graphs. It is important to emphasize to students real world connections. Therefore, you can ask students to collect data on anything around the house. (Compare the number of letters in their family members' names, coins that they may have in their piggy banks etc.) Thank you for your continued guidance and support!

3rd Grade Third grade is beginning to work on opinion writing. Please encourage your child to express their opinion about different things (this shouldn't be a difficult task since children are usually very vocal about how they feel). The goal is to get students to not only write their opinion, but to also support it with valid reasons, so when you are having these conversations with your child remind them to explain why they feel the way they do. For example, you could ask your child: "In your opinion what is better: going to Chucky e Cheese or going to the movies?" If they say, "Chucky e Cheese" then ask them to explain why. They could support their opinion by saying, "because when you go to Chucky e Cheese you get to eat pizza, play games, and win prizes!" You could also encourage your child to write after having these conversations. Third graders do receive bonus homework points anytime they bring in a piece of writing.

4th Grade Projects, posters, technology and global issues have been the point of focus for the month. The students have learned how to tackle an issue, recognize multiple viewpoints and take a position that they can support with facts. They have learned multiple ways to conduct research and are beginning to understand that not all of what you read is factual. We have kicked up the learning in the 4th grade and our students have accepted the challenge!


5th Grade The 5th grade is now completing their ELA unit on biographies. They have studied the components of biographies and read some short biographies in class. They have each been assigned a famous person and are now completing their biographies and a biography cube to present to the class. In Math, we are beginning to work on fractions. Students will connect their knowledge of decimals while we work with fractions in the classroom. It is extremely important that the students practice their multiplication tables at home daily. We are continuing to encourage students to have conversations and explain their thinking out loud. Please work on this strategy at home by encouraging your child to explain their thinking in complete sentences.

6th Grade Grade 6 is wrapping up an enjoyable unit on poetry where they were able to interpret and create some great pieces. They are beginning a unit on rates and ratios in math and will be working on solving real world problems. We encourage the use of Lexia and Fast Math as much as possible in and outside of school.

7th Grade In ELA we are honing our Argument writing skills as well as practicing supporting our Constructed Responses with textual evidence. I'm so excited to see the progress the students are making! We have also starting to explore the Nonfiction genres of interview and biography. Students had the opportunity to create questions to use to interview a peer, and then actually interview that peer. They will later use those responses to write a biography of the other student, which I'm looking forward to reading and displaying. As always if you have any questions or concerns, please let me know. Happy New Year! In math, students are working on ratio and proportion which includes slope, cross products, percent of a number and unit rates.

Essential Skills January has been a busy month in the Essential Skills class. We have been learning the letters E, Y, O, and Z and the sounds they make as well as the numbers 5, 6 and 7 and counting objects to 7. We have also been learning about good nutrition, Dr. Martin Luther King and winter.

Bilingual/ELL/ESL Make sure your child is reading at least 10 extra minutes every night. We have books in our

classrooms that your child might take and return every single day.  Asegúrese de que su hijo está leyendo cada tarde en su casa 10 minutos adicionales. Nosotros tenemos libros en nuestros salones de clases que ellos pueden llevar a casa y devolverlos a la escuela cada día.

Health and Physical Education Students in PreK-2nd grade are working on upper body strength and endurance using various games with a parachute. Students also are learning dodging and fleeing (tag games). Students in grades 4-7 will be doing volleyball skills (bumping, setting, and spiking) in game like situations.

Art Pre-K and Kindergarten are creating animals with Fish as the first subject. They are learning about an oil and wax resist technique through the artist Romero Britto and Dr. Seuss. The 1st grade has been making alphabet spider webs and then will create mini me's of themselves as artists. The 2nd grade will continue to make their own papers to create mobiles that show balance to correspond to the artist Alexander Calder. Grades 3 and 4 will learn about light, dark and complimentary colors by creating a Notan, which is a Japanese cutting design. The 5th grade students will continue to create an optical illusion with 2D and 3D artwork. They will then create a 3D exploding dot design to correspond to the book "The Dot" by Peter Reynolds. The 6th and 7th grades will be making beads through using recyclable magazines to create jewelry, sculptures or mobiles.

Music All of Reed School's musicians are beginning to prepare our spring concert. The concert's theme is music from around the world. If your student submits a creative title for the concert themed, it may be featured at our spring performance!

Social Studies In Social Studies, 7th graders will be learning about America as a new nation. We will be examining the Constitution, along with a variety of other primary sources. Students will be continuing to work on their writing in the content area.

Science In seventh grade, science students have discovered what foods are simple and complex carbohydrates. A laboratory experiment had been conducted using iodine to investigate certain daily foods that people consume. Many students have come to the realization that certain carbohydrates are more efficient to consume than others. Moving forward into the month of February and valentines' students will be learning about the heart.

Library P is for penguin and our Pre-K and ESY classes are learning about our friends from the South Pole. In the primary grades (K-2), we are learning about animals and working toward distinguishing between fiction and non-fiction texts. In grades 3 - 7, we are learning how to tell if sources are reliable. We are doing research, looking at websites and determining if we are gathering accurate information from them.

Reading Parents, your children have been very busy this past month! They have been working hard in the area of Literacy in the classroom and are showing that effort and progress in the many assessments they have taken; specifically Developmental Reading Assessment (DRA) and Acuity (a computer-based assessment). Please ask your child more about these assessments and encourage them to keep up the great work! We ask that you continue reading with or to your child, or even better, listen to your child read. Then, ask him/her questions about what was read. Try to get your child to think about what the author wants them to learn from the story, or the author's reasons for writing the text.

With continued practice and encouragement ...watch how your child will grow, and all the places he/she will go!

Family and Consumer Sciences 6th and 7th grade are beginning their Foods labs making Pancakes (6th grade) and Sloppy Joes (7th grade). They make everything from scratch and are encouraged to take these recipes and make them at home. 7BR earned **ANOTHER** Free Foods Lab and made Homemade Soft Pretzels! They were so good we could have opened a shop at the mall! For more pictures and information visit: <http://gurgafacs.weebly.com>

