



Rockford Elementary Arts Magnet School

7650 County Road 50
Rockford MN 55373
Phone 763-477-5837
Fax 763-477-5025
www.rockford.k12.mn.us

Brenda Nyhus, Principal
Michael Rask, Counselor

A NOTE FROM THE PRINCIPAL 12-10-2021



Dear Parents and Guardians,

It is my first day back after COVID quarantine and I can't even begin to tell you how much I missed your kids and this amazing staff I work with every single day! Such a breath of fresh air! There is an energy in an elementary school that is unmatched in any work environment and I would not trade it for the world!

THANK YOU to everyone who came to or gave your child money to participate in the annual book fair. It is such a wonderful investment to put books in the hands of kids. We had a record number of sales this year and lots of happy smiles!

Next week we have a lot of students sharing their talents through music as our concert season at REAMS begins!

Second graders will perform on Thursday, December 16 at 6:30p.m. in the high school auditorium. Kindergarten will give a holiday concert the next day, Friday, December 17 at 1:30p.m. also in the high school auditorium. The students are super excited to be on the stage once again this year. We hope you can join us for these special events!

Have a fantastic weekend and happy shoveling!!

Warmly,
Brenda Nyhus
Principal, REAMS



News

Snow boots and Phy Ed clas don't mix well

Please remember to send tennis shoes to school with your child on Phy Ed days or have your child keep a spare pair in their locker. Its difficult to participate in Phy Ed class when your wearing heavy snow boots.

Nylon gloves and mittens needed

Thank you to all of the families who have graciously donated cold weather gear for students at REAMS. The shool has plenty of hats and jackets, but is in desperate need of **nylon gloves or mittens** for older students - third and fourth graders. If you have a spare pair of large, child sized nylon mittens or gloves (cloth mittens/gloves absorb water and moisture and do not keep hands warm), REAMS could use them. You can drop them off at the front office, on your way through the parent drop off/pick up line or send them to school with your child. Thank you for your help.



Put it on the calendar

Dec. 16 - 2nd grade Spotlight Concert, 6:30 p.m. High School Auditorium

Dec. 17 - Kindergarten Winter Program, 1:30 p.m. High School Auditorium

Dec. 24 - Jan 2, 2022 - No school. Winter Break.

Peek at the week

RTR Superstars shine bright

The Respect, Trust and Responsibility (RTR) Superstar program promotes a culture of being kind to others, being accountable, honoring uniqueness and always doing the right thing at REAMS. Throughout the week, students who show exemplary acts or behaviors of respect, trust and responsibility are recognized as RTR Superstars and receive a special Star Student token from the school principal.

Congratulations

Kindergarten: Henry Tomberg and Daina valesco Vazquez

First grade: Abby Herkenhoff and Finley Hill

Second grade: Savannah Blasiak and Naveah Boltz

Third grade: Oliver Cancino and Leeva Chanhchanh

Fourth grade: Weston Holovnia and Michael Barrera Castro



Kindergarteners hit lucky week number 13

It's week 13 of Kindergarten! We're gearing up for our first major academic check since assessment days. This week we started FAST, e-reading and e-math assessments and we're so excited to see the progress the kids have made!

We're becoming more efficient readers everyday! We're working hard to memorize our sight words, sound out new words and put it all together to read books. In math we're exploring teen numbers and in writing we're labeling, examining sentence structures and working hard on our journal writing. In Social Studies and Science our theme was hibernation. We read books, watched videos about hibernating animals and sorted animals who hibernate and animals that don't.

On top of all that we're practicing every day for our Holiday Concert which we are excited to present to you on Friday, December 17 at 1:30 p.m. We really hope to see you there, the kids are very excited to sing for you!



Third grade update - multiplication and division equals life long knowledge

Students in Ms. Matheson's class have been working hard to master their multiplication and division facts. This week, students applied their knowledge of these facts in a winter craft to celebrate the snowfall. The directions required students to use numbers from their life, such as the number of adults and kids in their families, to find different products and quotients. Each answer directed students to draw a different illustration. The result was a wonderful collection of unique snow globes!



The ocean inspires first graders

In 1st grade this week, students learned about ocean animals and their habitats. Each day students learned about a new animal that makes its home in the ocean. They also learned about the different ocean zone/layers and what makes each zone unique. In Ms. Gotz's class students created a sea turtle drawing and wrote four facts they learned about this awesome ocean creature. They also got to pick an ocean animal to research on their own by listening to stories, via Epic, on their Chromebooks. It was an exciting week for our ocean explorers in 1st grade.



Fourth grader dive into books

This week, 4th grade reading students are diving deeper into nonfiction text structure. Students are using interactive passages on Readworks to read a story and figure out what text structure the passage is using. Nonfiction text structures are description, sequence/chronological order, problem and solution, cause and effect, and compare and contrast. Then, students need to fill out graphic organizers that correlate to each text structure with information used in the passage. Next week, students will be interacting with text structure in a game of jeopardy to help prepare them for their test!



Students are also practicing vocabulary and spelling words in a game called "Act it Out". Students are put into groups and a certain student is given a word to act out without talking. Other peers in their groups then have to guess which word the student is acting out.



Rockford Area Schools partner with Riverworks Food Shelf

Every year Rockford Area Schools partner with Riverworks Food Shelf to help support the community before the holiday season. Last year, the district raised over \$800 thanks to all of the generous donations! As we plan the upcoming celebrations, Rockford Area Schools is asking you to help those people who are less fortunate. Please make a donation that works for your family to help relieve the stress of others during this time. If you are able to donate, we are asking all families and staff to donate money on-line directly to Riverworks. With the financial support, they will be able to purchase the food to fill their shelves. Please follow the directions below to donate. Any dollar amount helps! Thank you for supporting our community and partnering with Rockford Area Schools. Happy Holidays.

Here's how to give:

1. Go to riverworksonline.org
2. Click on the DONATE tab in the upper right hand corner
3. Click on the DONATE ONLINE tab
4. Click on the FUND drop down menu
5. Select **ROCKFORD SCHOOL THANKSGIVING FUND DRIVE**

Other Opportunities

Give a gift of gratitude- sponsored by the Rockford Education foundation

Not an ISD 883 sponsored event

Thank teachers or staff members with Gratitude Gifts!

- \$10, \$20, and \$50 donation options
- Delivered to the school on December 21.
- All donation support the [Teacher Mini-Grant Program!](#)

Deadline to order: **December 15 at midnight**

Link to order: <https://www.rockfordfoundation.org/gratitude-gifts/>

Lake Sarah Give Kids a Smile Event

Not an ISD 883 sponsored event

Lake Sarah Dental will be hosting our annual Give Kids a Smile Event on Friday, Feb. 4, 2022 from 9 a.m -1 p.m.

We will be providing cleanings, x-rays, exams, fluoride, sealants, fillings and extractions of baby teeth at no cost to children age 1-18 years of age. These services will be provided free of charge and are for families with no insurance or ability to pay for dental care. Our appointment slots will open in December and are scheduled first come first serve. We will not be able to take walk-ins appointments.

Lake Sarah Dental
7500 State Highway 55, Suite 200
Greenfield, MN 55373
www.lakesarahdental.com
763-575-8038